

# **CLEP<sup>®</sup> Notes**



### ARTICLES

# Best Practice: California State University and CLEP

By adopting a comprehensive CLEP policy, CSU highlights the relevance and practical value of liberal learning as part of a general education curriculum.

Read more >

#### CAEL and Lumina Release a New Study on Prior Learning Assessment

The results of the study show that PLA, of which CLEP is the most widely used form, offers a powerful and sound academic tool for adult students. Read more >

## College Composition: Resources for Students

College Composition and College Composition Modular exams launch on July 1, 2010. Let your students know that they can earn credit before next semester. Read more >

#### New and Updated CLEP Resources for Colleges

Our annual CLEP publications for students have been updated for 2010-11. Read more >

### - SAVE THE DATE

CLEP will host a session titled "Research Findings on Prior Learning Assessment and Its Impact on Adult Student Retention and Graduation Rate" at the Career College Association (CCA) Annual Convention and Exposition, Las Vegas, Nev., June 9–11, 2010.

CLEP will present at the ACCUPLACER<sup>®</sup> National Conference, Boston, Mass., June 24– 26, 2010. Best Practice: California State University and CLEP

On May 14, 2010, the California State University (CSU) system announced a revised coded memorandum that expands CLEP credit-granting policy. This new policy allows CSU students to earn credit for successful scores on CLEP exams. Reviewed and approved by the CSU General Education Advisory Committee and Academic Senate, the memorandum established passing scores, minimum units of credit granted, and CSU General Education–Breadth certification.

In adopting a comprehensive CLEP policy, CSU wanted to highlight the relevance and practical value of liberal learning as part of a general education curriculum. CSU also faces significant financial and enrollment pressures to graduate more students with fewer resources. CLEP provides an academically sound tool to accomplish both goals. Able students are awarded credit for their knowledge, allowing them to place into appropriate and engaging course work. Simultaneously, classroom space in introductory-level courses is freed up for the students who really need it, addressing CSU's enrollment management concerns.

We're excited that California has joined Florida, Minnesota, Kentucky and North Dakota in setting a systemwide CLEP policy. State articulation makes it easier for students to take advantage of CLEP, and eases transfer between institutions.

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#### CAEL and Lumina Release a New Study on Prior Learning Assessment

A new study, *Fueling the Race to Postsecondary Success* (.pdf/2.98MB), found that adult students who took advantage of prior learning assessment (PLA) had better academic outcomes than non-PLA adult students across nearly all types of institutions and demographics. Not only were they much more likely to earn a degree, and earn it faster, they also earned more institutional credits and took fewer remedial courses overall.

The study, conducted by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) and the Lumina Foundation, examined the records of more than 62,000 students aged 25 and above at 48 colleges and universities.

The results of the study show that PLA, of which CLEP is the most widely used form, offers a powerful and sound academic tool for adult students. In a recent article, *Inside Higher Ed* notes that "credit earned through prior learning assessments offers an opportunity to entice adults back to college with the prospect that they can build on learning they've already gained and reduce both the time and money they might have to expend to earn a credential."

Learn more:

• College board press release — New Study: Students with Prior Learning Credits Are More Likely to Persist in College and Graduate Faster

College Board CLEP Notes

• CLEP and Prior Learning Assessment (.pdf/48K)

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#### College Composition: Resources for Students

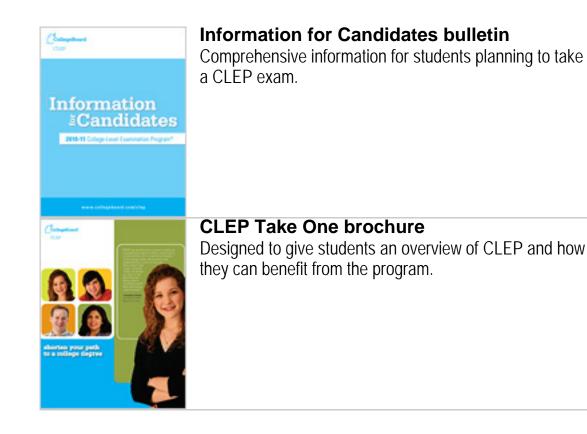
Our new College Composition and College Composition Modular exams will launch a little over a month from now, on July 1, 2010. We encourage you to let your students know about the new exams now, so they can use their composition skills to earn credit before next semester. Our College Composition page for students will offer a free study guide (.pdf/973K) for download until September 2010, so students can test their skills before signing up for the exam. *Requires Adobe Reader (latest version recommended)*.

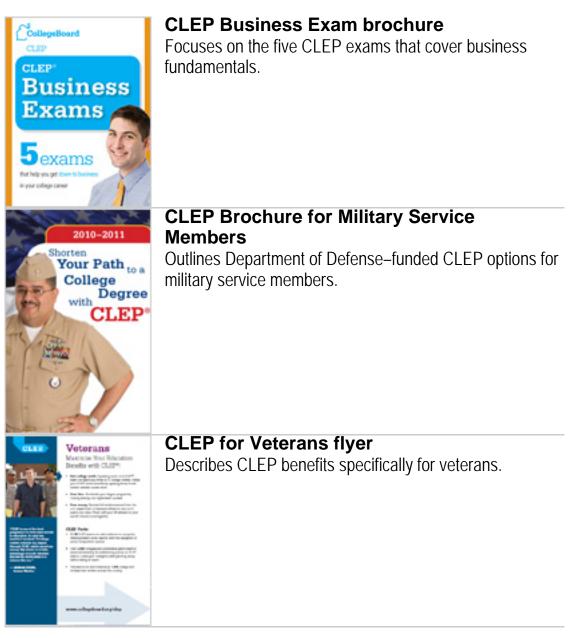
We also suggest that you update your website, college catalog and other publications to reflect your policy. And don't forget to bring your advisers up to speed: they can take advantage of a short, self-paced tutorial at www.collegeboard.com/ clepcomposition.

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#### New and Updated CLEP Resources for Colleges

Our annual CLEP publications for students have been updated for 2010-11. These include:





All publications include the new exam fee of \$77 (effective July 1, 2010) and information on our new College Composition and College Composition Modular exams. They can be ordered for free from the CLEP website at www.collegeboard.com/clepresources.

Read more about tips for distributing CLEP publications to staff and students.

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