



TO: Chief Executive Officers
Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers
Chief Business Officers
Academic Senate Presidents

FROM: Raul Arambula, Dean, Educational Services & Support

RE: Policy Change: International Baccalaureate (IB), College-Level Examinations Placement (CLEP) Examinations, and Advanced Placement (AP) Examination Chart Updates

This memorandum is to provide guidance regarding title 5, § 55052.5 regulations that went into effect May 1, 2021 pertaining to IB and CLEP examinations. Title 5, § 55052.5 requires the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in collaboration with the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges, to develop and require each community college district to implement a uniform policy regarding IB and CLEP credit.

In accordance with the regulation, the policy stipulates that any student who passes an International Baccalaureate Organization IB examination or a CLEP examination with a minimum passing score in the subject matter (see Appendices B & C), is awarded general education area credit. Where no general education area credit matches are available, the college may award elective credit. Each community college shall also note on the student's academic record that the credit was earned through an IB or CLEP examination.

The text for title 5, § 55052.5 is attached as a reference (Appendix A). Also included for reference is an updated Advanced Placement (AP) Examination chart (see Appendix D), which also requires a uniform policy per title 5, § 55052.

If you have any questions regarding this guidance, please contact Dean Raul Arambula (rarambula@CCCCO.edu) and Specialist Bob Quinn (bquinn@CCCCO.edu).

cc: Daisy Gonzales, Deputy Chancellor
Marty Alvarado, Executive Vice Chancellor, ESS
Aisha Lowe, Vice Chancellor, ESS
Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaunessey, Vice Chancellor, ESS
Dolores Davison, ASCCC President
CCCCO Staff

Appendices:

- Appendix A: Title 5, § 55052.5
- Appendix B: IB Examination Passing Scores Chart
- Appendix C: CLEP Examination Passing Scores Chart
- Appendix D: AP Examination Passing Scores Chart

Appendix A: Title 5, Section 55052.5

§ 55052.5. International Baccalaureate and College Level Examination Program Examinations.

The Chancellor, in collaboration with the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges, shall develop policy guidelines on the minimum passing scores for the International Baccalaureate and/or College Level Examination Program examinations. The policy guidelines shall be distributed to community college districts on an annual basis.

The governing board of a community college district shall adopt policies to grant credit for satisfactory completion of International Baccalaureate and/or College Level Examination Program examinations typically recognized by colleges and universities as measuring competencies comparable to those achieved in baccalaureate level courses or general education areas.

The faculty in the appropriate discipline must approve International Baccalaureate and/or College Level Examination Program examination scores deemed to constitute satisfactory performance for direct course credit and/or general education area credit. Credit may be awarded for the California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum, California State University General Education Breadth, or local community college general education requirements, as most appropriate. Where no direct course or general education area matches an International Baccalaureate or College Level Examination Program exam, the college may award elective credit. Requirements may be met by such examinations in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the curriculum committee established pursuant to section 55002.

The student's academic record shall be clearly annotated to reflect that credit was earned through an international baccalaureate and/or college level examination program examination.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700 and 70901, Education Code. Reference: Sections 70901 and 70902, Education Code.

Appendix B: IB Examination Passing Scores Chart

IB Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Areas	Minimum Semester Units¹
Biology HL	5	Natural Science	3
Chemistry HL	5	Natural Science	3
Economics HL	5	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Geography HL	5	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
History (any region) HL	5	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3
Language A Literature HL	4	Humanities	3
Language A Language and Literature HL	4	Humanities	3
Language B (any language) HL	4	Not Applicable	0
Mathematics HL	4	Language & Rationality	3
Physics HL	5	Natural Science	3
Psychology HL	5	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Theatre HL	4	Humanities	3

¹ Minimum Units: 3 semester/4 quarter

Appendix C: CLEP Examination Passing Scores Chart

CLEP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Areas	Minimum Semester Units²
American Government	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
American Literature	50	Humanities	3
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	50	Humanities	3
Biology	50	Natural Sciences	3
Calculus	50	Language and Rationality	3
Chemistry	50	Natural Sciences	3
College Algebra	50	Language and Rationality	3
College Algebra – Trigonometry	50	Language and Rationality	3
College Composition	50	Not Applicable	0
College Composition – Modular	50	Not Applicable	0
College Mathematics	50	Not Applicable	0
English Composition (no essay)	50	Not Applicable	0
English Composition (with essay)	50	Not Applicable	0

² Minimum Units: 3 semester/4 quarter

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CLEP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Areas	Minimum Semester Units
Financial Accounting	50	Not Applicable	0
French Level I	50	Not Applicable	0
French Level II	59	Humanities	3
Freshman College Composition	50	Not Applicable	0
German Level I	50	Not Applicable	0
German Level II	60	Humanities	3
History, United States I	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
History, United States II	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Human Growth and Development	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Humanities	50	Humanities	3
Information Systems and Computer Apps	50	Not Applicable	0
Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	Not Applicable	0
Introductory Business Law	59	Not Applicable	0
Introductory Psychology	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Introductory Sociology	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Natural Sciences	50	Natural Sciences	3

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CLEP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Areas	Minimum Semester Units
Pre-Calculus	50	Language and Rationality	3
Principles of Accounting	50	Not Applicable	0
Principles of Management	50	Not Applicable	0
Principles of Marketing	50	Not Applicable	0
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Principles of Microeconomics	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Social Sciences and History	50	Not Applicable	0
Spanish Level I	50	Not Applicable	0
Spanish Level II	63	Humanities	3
Spanish with Writing I	50	Not Applicable	0
Spanish with Writing Level II	63	Humanities	3
Western Civilization I	50	Humanities or Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Western Civilization II	50	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3

Appendix D: AP Examination Passing Scores Chart

AP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Areas	Minimum Semester Units³
Art History	3	Humanities	3
Biology	3	Natural Sciences	4
Calculus AB	3	Language and Rationality	3
Calculus BC	3	Language and Rationality	3
Chemistry	3	Natural Sciences	4
Chinese Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Comparative Government and Politics	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Computer Science A	3	Not Applicable	0
Computer Science Principles	3	Language and Rationality	3
English Language and Composition	3	Language and Rationality	3
English Literature and Composition	3	Language and Rationality and Humanities	6
Environmental Science	3	Natural Sciences	4

³ Minimum Units: 3 semester/4 quarter (except Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics I & II, Physics C mechanics, Physics C electricity/magnetism: 4 semester/5 quarter), and (English Literature & Composition: 6 semester/8 quarter).

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AP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Area	Minimum Semester Units
European History	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3
French Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
German Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Human Geography	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Italian Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Japanese Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Latin	3	Humanities	3
Macroeconomics	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Microeconomics	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Music	3	Humanities	3
Physics 1	3	Natural Sciences	4
Physics 2	3	Natural Sciences	4
Physics C (mechanics)	3	Natural Sciences	4
Physics C (electricity/magnetism)	3	Natural Sciences	4
Psychology	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3

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AP Examination	Passing Scores	CCC Title 5 GE Area	Minimum Semester Units
Seminar	3	Not Applicable	0
Spanish Language and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Spanish Literature and Culture	3	Humanities	3
Statistics	3	Language and Rationality	3
U.S. Government and Politics	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
U.S. History	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3
World History Modern	3	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3