ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY
Policy to Award Credit for Transfer, Credit for Prior Learning, and Non-ECSU Coursework

Preamble

Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), through its Office of Admissions and Office of the Registrar, coordinates Transfer Credit, Transient Credit, and Credit for Prior Learning (CPL). ECSU will grant credit for any course from an institution accredited by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agency*, completed with a grade of “C” or better, that corresponds with a course in ECSU’s curriculum in content and credit value.

Definitions

“Transfer Credit” pertains to credit hour(s) earned at accredited institutions before the student has already matriculated at Elizabeth City State University or credit hour(s) earned through UNC Online.

“Transient Credit” pertains to credit hour(s) earned at other accredited institutions after the student has already matriculated at Elizabeth City State University. These may include hours earned at community colleges as well as other accredited institutions of higher learning.

“Credit for Prior Learning” pertains to credit hour(s) granted for the demonstration of learning gained through previous work, military service, or other activities that are not college coursework.

1. Limitations on Credits

   a. ECSU will accept up to 65 credit hours of transfer credit from an accredited two-year institution provided the student has earned a grade of “C” or better in each course.

   b. Students who have attained junior status will not be allowed to transfer credit for any college work completed after that time in a two-year institution without prior approval.

   c. There is no limit on credit hours accepted from a four-year institution, provided the student has earned a grade of “C” or better in each course.

   d. ECSU will accept up to 24 credit hours of transient credit.
e. ECSU will accept up to 24 credit hours of credit for prior learning. Students must earn a minimum of 30 credit hours through regular enrollment in courses at ECSU. Of those 30 credit hours, 15 must be earned through courses that are 300 level or higher in the major field.

2. Transfer Credits

a. A preliminary evaluation of transfer credits is completed at the time the student is accepted.

b. All official records received from each institution previously attended by a Transfer Student are reviewed.

c. Credit earned through credit for prior learning at the institution previously attended will be considered equivalent to credits earned through coursework for the purpose of transfer.

d. After conducting the review, a final evaluation of student records is made to determine the number of credits that are acceptable.

e. The academic department in which the transfer student majors will make the final decision on the transfer credits towards his/her graduation requirements at ECSU.

3. Transient Credit

a. ECSU is not obligated to accept any credit from another institution unless a student has obtained initial approval from the Department Chairperson. A Permit for Transient Study form must be completed and submitted to the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for approval.

b. No student with a cumulative grade point average below 2.0 on a 4.0 scale will be allowed to take courses at another institution for credit at ECSU.

c. No grade below “C” will be accepted from another institution; quality points will be honored on the 4.0 point grading scale.

d. Students taking courses at other institutions for credit at ECSU must request that an official transcript be mailed from the other institution to ECSU’s Office of the Registrar upon completion of the course.

e. Students who have attained senior status may not thereafter attend a junior college, community college, or a technical college or institute and receive credit toward
graduation at ECSU, unless authorized by the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

4. **Credit for Prior Learning**

a. Credit for Prior Learning may be awarded in any of the following ways:

   i. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) general examinations. Three credit hours will be awarded for successful completion of a general examination in Natural Science, Mathematics, English Composition, and Social Sciences/History. Students may be awarded credit for multiple CLEP general examinations.

   ii. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) subject examinations. Three credit hours will be awarded for successful completion of a CLEP subject examination. Students may be awarded credit for multiple CLEP subject examinations.

   iii. Dantes Standardized Subject Tests (DSST) examinations. Three credit hours will be awarded for successful completion of a DSST examination. Students may be awarded credit for multiple DSST examinations.

   iv. American Council on Education (ACE) Military credit. Credit will be awarded for military training, certifications, and service according to the standards and recommendations set forth in the ACE Military Guide.

   v. American Council on Education (ACE) CREDIT. Credit will be awarded for non-military training and certifications according to the standards and recommendations set forth in the ACE National Guide.

b. Credits earned through any of the methods in (i) satisfy general education and degree requirements in the same manner as equivalent coursework.

c. ECSU will advise students about the opportunity to receive credit for prior learning through multiple channels.

d. The Office of the Registrar will support students with completion of credit for prior learning.

e. The Office of Institutional Research is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of ECSU’s credit for prior learning policy.

f. ECSU will not charge students a fee for the awarding of credit for prior learning. Students are responsible for the costs related to credit for prior learning that are imposed by third parties.
*Accepted institutional accreditors include but are not limited to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Higher Learning Commission (HLC), Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). Other U.S. Department of Education recognized accreditors which are not listed above may also be considered acceptable.