OPPORTUNITIES TO EARN CREDIT

PRIOR LEARNING PORTFOLIOS
Through the prior learning portfolio process, credit requests are evaluated by specific content experts for credit recommendations. Upon completion of your work, your final portfolio is presented.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION
College credit may be achieved through recognized examination programs including DANTES and CLEP. Details are available from Midstate’s Prior Learning Assessment Office.

CORPORATE TRAINING
Corporate training, seminars and workshops approved by the American Council on Education may transfer as credit to be used in your degree plan.

MILITARY TRAINING
Military training approved by the American Council on Education may transfer as credit to be used in your degree plan.

TRANSFER CREDITS
Courses completed at other accredited colleges or universities will be evaluated for possible credit in your degree.

A student may earn up to 25% of the total credits for a degree through prior learning experience, in addition to transfer credits. Please refer to the current catalog for more information.

INFORMATION MEETINGS
Learn more about how you can spend less time and money earning your degree. Contact the Prior Learning Assessment Office or visit the calendar on our website for the time and location of the next PLA information meeting. Group presentations available upon request.

NEXT STEP
Contact Midstate College today. Personalized academic advising is the key to creating your optimal degree plan. An advisor will answer questions about designing your academic program and provide you with information about admissions, transfer credits, financial aid, scholarships and prior learning assessment.

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TIME IS VALUABLE

Accelerate your education through Midstate College’s Prior Learning Assessment Office. You can earn credit toward your degree by documenting the knowledge you have gained during years of work and life-long learning. Corporate and on-the-job training, community service, volunteer work, seminars, military training, workshops, travel, study and independent research are among the many areas that can be evaluated for credit toward your degree.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Focus on what you know. Learn how to document it. Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) gives you the tools to jump-start your degree.

Step 1
Development of your education plan begins in the Prior Learning Assessment Office, the first step in the PLA process, where you will:

- clarify your educational goals and priorities;
- develop a personal plan with specific objectives; and
- discover how many college credits you may earn for your prior learning.

Step 2
Next, the Portfolio Development Workshop teaches you how to articulate your experiential learning and provides instruction for developing a portfolio of individual submissions. You will describe, analyze and document your knowledge of subjects within an academic framework.

Step 3
Portfolio Development Workshop consists of individualized tutorials where you receive one-on-one instruction and guidance. The PLA Director will meet with you regularly and review your work.

SIX WAYS TO EARN COLLEGE CREDIT

1. **Prior Learning Portfolio**: Document your experiential learning with a portfolio presentation.

2. **Credit by Examination**: Verify your mastery of a subject through recognized testing programs (CLEP, DANTES, etc.).

3. **Corporate Seminars and Workshops**: Apply toward your degree when approved by the American Council on Education.

4. **Military Training**: Convert training to college credit when validated by the American Council on Education.

5. **Classes from other accredited institutions**: Submit your transcripts to be evaluated (Transfer Coordinator will determine which credits are transferable).

6. **Midstate coursework**: Complete on campus or online.

The Prior Learning Assessment Office offers programs and services to assist you with:

- reducing the time it takes to finish your studies;
- decreasing the cost of your undergraduate degree;
- improving your writing and research skills;
- learning more about what you already know;
- discovering how your learning from past experience can equal college credit; and
- receiving credit for your documented college-level learning.