Policy Narrative

North Idaho College evaluates credit for prior learning (CPL) to enable professional-technical students to enrich or accelerate their programs of study. CPL credit is awarded for the achievement of an advanced level of knowledge and/or skill outside of college coursework. The learning must be documented, demonstrable, college-level, currently applicable, and be equated to specific course outcomes in the college curriculum.

CPL credit is awarded for prior learning through the use of published procedures and through portfolio assessment. CPL is awarded for learning that is acquired through work experiences, correspondence and extension courses, civic, community, and volunteer work; participation in formal courses; military training, and in-service training sponsored by associations, business, government, and industry.

A student interested in a professional-technical program at North Idaho College may receive CPL only if the learning: 1) is evaluated by appropriately qualified teaching faculty through formal procedures, 2) meets the outcomes of specific courses at the college, 3) relates to the student’s education program, and 4) meets the standards of quality as set forth by the Idaho State Board of Education and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. CPL credit is limited to a maximum award of 25% of the credits needed for a specific degree or certificate program. Students can make application for CPL by completing the procedures described in detail in the North Idaho College Handbook for Credit for Prior Learning. CPL is applicable to professional-technical education programs that lead to employment and generally will not transfer to other institutions.

This policy does not pertain to Challenge for Credit, College Level Exam Program (CLEP) Credit, Foreign Language Placement Credit or Advanced Placement (AP) Credit.