

CPL Value Statement

We, the colleges, universities, and postsecondary career-preparation institutions of Indiana, and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE) value the diversity of our students, their identities, their backgrounds, and their learning experiences. We are committed to helping them succeed and recognize that their success supports our educational attainment goals and the economic and workforce goals of Indiana.

Credit for prior learning (CPL) is awarded for college-level learning gained through knowledge, skills, and competencies obtained outside formal classroom environments. We affirm the value of these learning experiences, which are often applied, practical, and workforce-relevant, and equivalent to the learning outcomes provided directly in our institutions. Using rigorous assessment methods, we support the use of CPL in support of our diverse institutional missions, to accelerate credential completion for students, and to signal to students that they belong in college. Research indicates that CPL boosts student retention and credential completion rates, with positive outcomes regardless of race, ethnicity, and income level.¹

Our institutions commit to recognizing and awarding CPL in accordance with this framework and through a consistent, equitable, and standardized process to serve credential completion and the public good, with documented variances based on mission, specialized program accreditation, licensure, or degree requirements.

¹ Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). *The PLA Boost*, December 2020, <https://www.wiche.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/PLA-Boost-Report-CAEL-WICHE-Revised-Dec-2020.pdf>