

## PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) in Pennsylvania is a joint collaboration by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry. PLA is defined as a validated process to evaluate knowledge and skills students gain from life experiences. When these prior learning experiences demonstrate college-level learning and align with college course competencies, postsecondary institutions may award college credit. (Evaluation of prior learning completed 10 years before the request date is based on review by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, appropriate Department Chair and Registrar's Office.)

Johnson College has entered into a Prior Learning Assessment Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Education to apply PLA standards in the following manner.

### CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

- **AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)** - Students who have completed advanced courses in high school or vocational-technical school may be eligible for advanced placement. Students seeking advanced placement should indicate their intention to the Admissions Office prior to the beginning of the semester. Such students will be required to complete an application for advanced placement and to take a competency exam. Upon completion of the exam (a grade of "B" or above is required for advanced placement), students will be notified and the information will be entered on their transcript but not calculated into their GPA. Advanced Placement scores from the College Board may be substituted for the College's advanced placement exam.
- **Advanced Placement Mathematics** - The Mathematics faculty will review previous academic records of students who test at or above an 85 in the Algebra Accuplacer placement test to determine if they are sufficiently prepared for advanced placement into MAT 201 (College Algebra & Trigonometry). Students requiring six (6) MAT credits who opt for the advanced placement into MAT 201 will have the opportunity to register for an elective MAT course to enhance their transcript. Students in the Distribution & Supply Logistics Technology program of study are required to complete 3 credits, MAT 121, as part of their degree requirements.
- **CLEP (College Level Examination Program)** – Students who have completed CLEP exams prior to attending Johnson College should submit their exam scores at the time of application to the College (a grade of "B" or above is required). The appropriate Department Chair and the Registrar's Office will review the test to determine applicability to awarding credit for Johnson College coursework.
- **ECE (Excelsior College Examinations)** – Students who have completed Excelsior exams prior to attending Johnson College should submit their exam scores at the time of application to the College (a grade equivalent to "B" or above is required). The appropriate Department Chair and the Registrar's Office will review the test to determine applicability to awarding credit for Johnson College coursework.

- **DSST (DANTES (Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support) Subject Standardized Tests)** – Students who have completed DSST exams prior to attending Johnson College should submit their exam scores at the time of application to the College (a grade equivalent to “B” or above is required). The appropriate Department Chair and the Registrar’s Office will review the test to determine applicability to awarding credit for Johnson College coursework.
- **Johnson College Challenge Examination** – Please review requirements under Johnson College Challenge Examination link.

## **SERVICE MEMBERS OPPORTUNITY COLLEGE**

Johnson College is recognized as a Servicemembers Opportunity College for members of the Military Services also including the National Guard, the Coast Guard and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The Director of Enrollment Management serves as the contact person for service members and may be reached at [mide@johnson.edu](mailto:mide@johnson.edu).

### **Credit for Military Experience – Educational Programs**

Students who have completed educational programs offered by branches of the American armed services may be granted academic credit for their coursework. Students should submit an official transcript of their coursework as part of the admissions process. Transcripts will be evaluated according to the guidelines stated by the American Council on Education ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services in determining the value of learning acquired in military service. Upon review by the appropriate Department Chair and the Registrar’s Office, credit may be awarded for appropriate learning acquired in military service at levels consistent with ACE Guide recommendations and/or those transcribed by the Community College of the Air Force when applicable to a servicemember’s program of study. Applicants who have served in the armed services must submit a certified copy of form DD-214, Report of Separation.

### **Credit for Military Experience – Military Workplace Learning**

As an SOC institution, Johnson College assists servicemembers and veterans to incorporate credits into their degree programs based on collegiate-level learning achieved not only through formal school training but also through occupational experience and nationally-recognized non-traditional learning testing programs (see Credit by Examination).

Johnson College recognizes the value of specialized military training courses. The appropriate department chair and Registrar’s Office will review and if appropriate award credit for Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) and Navy Rates and Ratings as recommended by the ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services. Students must submit an official transcript of their military training courses for evaluation.

## **WORKFORCE TRAINING**

Johnson College recognizes the knowledge and skills that students may acquire as result of training in the workplace. The American Council on Education (ACE) National Guide to College Credit for Workforce Training is used to determine if the knowledge and skills demonstrate college-level learning. Credit recommendations from ACE may be used to obtain college credit or for advanced placement.

Students seeking credit for Workforce Training should send an official transcript from the ACE Transcript Service to the Registrar's Office for review. The appropriate Department Chair and Registrar will review such transcripts on a case-by-case basis.

If a student has participated in Workforce Training that is not recognized by the American Council of Education, they may seek validation of that training for credit through use of the Johnson College Challenge Exam procedure.