

This deliverable consists of the policy and process whereby students who complete non-credit Manufacturing Skills-Basic training may earn Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Credit toward a college certificate or degree by completing a PLA assessment. This deliverable was developed through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grant Program Round 4 Grant *Winston County Manufacturing Recovery Project TC-26437-14-60-A-28*.

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East Central Community College Winston County Manufacturing Recovery Project



Deliverable – Model PLA Assessment

Strategy 2: Enhance career pathway options for learners and workers.

Action 2.2: Develop a clear pathway bridge from the non-credit Manufacturing Skills-Basic training program to the modified Electrical Technology program and other ECCC CTE programs using Prior Learning Assessments (PLAs) and Career Exploration.

East Central Community College (ECCC) has developed the following process to enable non-credit Manufacturing Skills-Basic completers to receive prior learning credit for its IMM 1934 Manufacturing Skills Basic credit course. IMM 1934 is an elective for the Electrical Technology program as well as other Career and Technical Education programs.

Students must comply with ECCC's Challenge Examination (Experiential Learning) policy:

East Central Community College believes it is important to recognize that learning takes place both inside and outside of a formal classroom setting, especially industry and the military. In order to provide instructional credit for students who have previously mastered outcomes required in a given course, a Challenge Examination Policy has been developed to allow students an opportunity to pass a challenge examination on the subject matter being taught for which prior experiential learning has occurred. Credit awarded for such Challenge Examinations will be posted to a student's transcript subject to his/her meeting admission requirements and enrolling at East Central Community College. The Challenge Examination must be administered by a qualified faculty member or college administrator in accordance with the following:

1. The candidate for the Challenge Examination must be admitted to East Central Community College as a student.
2. The candidate must have discussed his/her interest in taking a Challenge Examination with the appropriate faculty member and demonstrate to that faculty member's satisfaction that he/she has mastered the subject matter in some prior learning environment.
3. The candidate must complete a Challenge Examination Form.
4. The request must be approved by the instructor and Vice President of Instruction before the examination is given.
5. Challenge examinations shall be comprehensive in scope covering content taught in the entire course.

6. If the course being challenged has a laboratory component, the challenge exam must have a performance component which demonstrates mastery of the skills required in the course.

The total credit that may be earned by challenge examinations for any individual program of study may not exceed 15 semester credit hours. Students may take the challenge examination at a cost of \$50 per course challenge. Challenge examination will be administered on pass-fail basis only. A minimum passing score on any challenge examination will be 75% mastery. The successful completion of the challenge examination will result in the posting of a "P" grade to the candidate's transcript. Unsuccessful completion of the challenge examination will result in the student's receiving no grade of any kind. A student may only challenge a given course one time. – ECCC 15-16 Catalog, p. 43-44.

In addition to the written policy, any national credentials embedded in a technical course must be met before receiving credit for the course.

The following steps will be used to document and record credit by examination for IMM 1934:

1. Complete Workforce Development coursework that would equate to the material required by the state curriculum framework for IMM 1934.
2. Completion of the objective checklist by the instructor (found in the model curriculum provided by the MCCB) would indicate mastery of the core objectives of IMM 1934
3. Complete the Experiential Learning Form - Permission
4. Pay the examination fee before reporting to take the exam
5. The instructor will record the grade on the Experiential Learning Form and submit to the Director of Workforce Education.
6. The Director will submit the completed forms to the Office of Admissions and Records, where a score of "P" will be recorded on the student's transcript