



Title	Transfer Credit
Policy No.	D.3.11
Approval Body	Board of Governors and Education Council (jointly)
Policy Sponsor	Vice President, Academic & Research
Last Revised/Replaces	
Effective Date	March 14, 2017

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

Vancouver Community College (VCC; the College) recognizes that students may have successfully completed course work at another formally recognized educational institution and/or through a professional organization or other agency and/or by recognized foreign credential assessment and/or by formal recognition of course equivalency in a VCC approved course outside the program area. Credit for such learning will be formally acknowledged and noted on a student's formal transcript.

SCOPE AND LIMITS

Under the College & Institute Act Section 25(1) joint approval of the Board of Governors and the Education Council is required concerning the following matters: curriculum evaluation for determining whether courses or programs, or course credit, from another institution, university or other body are equivalent to courses or programs or course credits, at the institution, or if courses or programs, or course credits from one part of the institution are equivalent to courses or programs or course credit in another part of the institution.

This policy applies to all current or prospective VCC students requesting equivalency of completed course work.

STATEMENT OF POLICY PRINCIPLES

1. VCC will, when requested by a student and in accordance with established articulation agreements and/or affiliation agreements and/or foreign credential assessment and/or approved course equivalency in a VCC course outside the program area, grant credit for a course successfully completed.
2. Only transferable courses with a passing grade equated to the VCC grading system can be applied towards the requirements for a VCC credential. Some programs may require a higher grade than a Pass grade.
3. The College will be guided by the Principles and Guidelines for Transfer endorsed by the British Columbia Council on Admissions & Transfer (BCCAT) and published in the British Columbia Transfer Guide.

4. Transfer credit in combination with PLAR will not exceed a maximum of 75% of a program. Individual programs may set different maximum standards.
5. Receiving transfer credit(s) may impact a student's course load and affect full-time program status and eligibility for financial support or scholarships and awards.
6. Courses transferred from another institution are not included in the calculation of the institutional grade point average (GPA). However, the transfer of credits and the transfer of GPA become part of the student's permanent record at VCC.

DEFINITIONS

BC Transfer Guide: Many credit courses offered at recognized post-secondary institutions in BC have been evaluated for equivalency by British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT). These equivalencies are published in the BC Transfer Guide.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR): Assessment by valid and reliable means and by a qualified specialist, of what an individual has learned outside of courses and programs at VCC. Assessment will normally result in credit (assigned or unassigned) being granted to satisfy the graduation requirements of a program offered by the College. Refer to PLAR policy (D.3.5).

Transfer Credit: refers to the granting of credit for a course successfully completed at another formally recognized educational institution and/or through a professional organization or other agency and/or by recognized foreign credential assessment and/or by formal recognition of course equivalency in a VCC approved course outside the program area. Credit for such learning will be formally acknowledged and noted on a student's formal transcript.

Block Transfer Credit: the granting of a block of credit for the completion of a group of courses or certificate or diploma, which is recognized by the receiving institution, and which can be related in a meaningful way to part of a program.

RELATED LEGISLATION & POLICIES

Legislation

College and Institute Act

Policies

- C.1.1 Grading, Progression and Withdrawal
- C.1.3 Granting of Credentials
- C.2.1 International Students on Study Permits
- D.3.5 Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition
- D.3.6 Admissions
 - D.3.6.1 Flexible Admissions
- D.3.10 Indigenous Education Enrolment
- D.4.1 Students with Disabilities

RELATED PROCEDURES

Refer to D.3.11 Transfer Credit Procedures