CMU | Prior Learning Assessment
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Is Prior Learning credit right for you?

 If you can answer yes to these questions, it's possible that you can save time and money to complete your degree* from Central Michigan University.

Is each of your work experiences 10 months in length or longer? *Undergraduate credit: You can include experiences from the completion date on your high school diploma.* **Graduate credit:** *You can use experiences only from the previous seven years or the completion date of your latest undergraduate degree, whichever is more recent. See* Easy Reference Guide *for number of potential credits available based on number of months at job.*

Can you document the number of hours devoted to each training experience, the method of evaluation, the contents, instructor's qualifications, and proof of completion? Is each individual training experience at least 45 hours OR can more than one training experience pertaining to a similar subject be combined to equal at least 45 hours? *See* Easy Reference Guide *for number of potential credits available based on number of training hours. See above for timeline of allowable experiences.*

Have you pursued each of your life experiences for several years? (Note: The amount of credit awarded for life experiences tends to be small—usually only 1 or 2 credits—and credit is usually awarded only at the undergraduate level.) *See information in first question for timeline of allowable experiences.*

Can your work, training, and life experiences be verified (in writing) by others*? Employment-verification letters or other documents, completion certificates for workshops, transcripts from other schools you've attended, etc.*

Can you write effectively about your learning experiences in a way that demonstrates the undergraduate or graduate-level concepts, skills, and knowledge you have acquired? *Your primary purpose in the portfolio is to develop arguments to persuade reviewers to grant credit for your prior learning from work, training, and/or life experiences. For each specific learning competency for which you want credit, you must develop an argument, and the best approach is to use a three-part structure for each competency: claim, supporting evidence, and reasoning.* See Writing Assessment Checklist and Competency Titles documents.

Is the learning you claim for each experience different from the learning acquired in the courses that appears (or that will appear) on your college transcripts?

Have you discussed with your advisor if Prior Learning credits will work with your degree* or program plan? *Prior-Learning credits may not be used for • University Program courses; • Competency courses, including math, oral speech, writing and writing-intensive, and quantitative reasoning (QR); or • the 30-semester-hour residency requirement.*

Have your reviewed the Prior Learning Student Handbook and the videos available on the Prior Learning website?

Have you completed Work, Training or Life Experience Worksheets? *Completing these before talking with the Prior Learning coordinator will allow us to answer your questions in a timelier manner and for your specific circumstances.*

*Students in the following degree program automatically are eligible to apply for Prior Learning credits: Bachelor's Master's *[click links to see degree programs] For other Central Michigan Degree programs not listed at the links, please check with your academic advisor on applicability of prior learning credits with your degree program or give us a call.*

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Your success is our success. We are here to help.

Prior Learning Team

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