FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY POLICY

Credits Used to Accelerate Undergraduate Time-to-Degree #340.350

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:	LAST REVISION DATE:	RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT
December 8, 2015	August 5, 2026	Division of Academic Affairs

POLICY STATEMENT

Students may utilize the following measures for accelerated credit. Accelerated credit cannot be applied to meet the 25% residency undergraduate degree credit requirement. If duplicate credit exists among any accelerated credit, the exam/method of completion yielding the most credit will be awarded. Students may earn accelerated credit through a combination of the following:

Dual enrollment credits, defined by Florida Board of Governors regulation 6.006 as "a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a college degree (as opposed to a career or technical certificate)."

Credit-By-Exam may be earned through a variety of mechanisms in accordance to state guidelines. These mechanisms include, but are not limited to, the following: Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education Program (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), DANTES (Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support) Subject Standardized Tests (DSST), and Excelsior College Examinations (UEXCEL).

Additional credit may be awarded for a departmental proficiency examination, prior online coursework (e.g., Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs)), Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), and prior military training and experience.

SCOPE

This policy applies to undergraduate students seeking degree acceleration.

REASON FOR POLICY

To state the conditions under which accelerated credit may be applied towards a degree upon admission to the University.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITIONS
Prior Learning	Theory, knowledge, skills, and competencies acquired formally or informally through life/work experiences that are equivalent to college level coursework.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

N/A

RELATED RESOURCES

N/A

CONTACTS

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT
Office of the Provost 11200 S.W. Eighth Street, PC 526
Miami, Florida 33199
Telephone: (305) 348-2151

HISTORY

Initial Effective Date: December 8, 2015
Review Dates (*review performed, no updates*)**:** April 19, 2024
Revision Dates (*updates made to document*)**:** January 4, 2016; November 17, 2020; February 21, 2023; August 5, 2026.

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY PROCEDURE

Credits Used to Accelerate Undergraduate Time-to-Degree # 340.350a

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:	LAST REVISION DATE:	RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT
December 8, 2015	August 5, 2026	Division of Academic Affairs

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

1) Dual Enrollment: Credit earned through dual enrollment is treated as transfer credit and evaluated under the same policies and standards governing all transfer coursework, including minimum grade requirements and applicability to the student's degree program.
   a) Students submit an official transcript from the postsecondary institution where the dual enrollment coursework was completed, unless the coursework was completed at FIU.

2) Credit by Exam: Credit for Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education Program (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB), Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), Foreign Language Achievement Testing Services (FLATS), DSST (DANTES) and Excelsior College Examination (UEXCEL).
   a) Students admitted in the Fall or Spring term must complete these exams prior to enrollment. Official scores must be reported to FIU before the end of the first term of enrollment. Exception: CLEP and FLATS exams may be taken while the student is enrolled.
   b) Students admitted in the Summer Term must complete these exams prior to enrollment. Official scores must be reported to FIU before the end of the Fall term. Exception: CLEP, FLATS, DSST, and UEXCEL exams may be taken while the student is enrolled.
   c) Equivalent courses earned via exams generally fulfill the same requirements that an FIU course fulfills.
   d) Courses designated as UCC1 or UCC2 (e.g., MAC UCC1, SOC UCC2) meet University Core Curriculum (UCC) requirements but may not meet major requirements since they are not equivalent to specific FIU courses.
   e) Course equivalencies are included in the student's academic record, including the official and unofficial transcript, the Transfer Credit Report, and the Panther Degree Audit (PDA).
   f) There are no grades associated with these exams, and therefore, no impact on a student's cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA).

g) Students with older scores will be awarded credit based on either the new minimum scores and course equivalencies, or the University's policy in effect when the student took the exams. Award will depend on each exam.
h) Exams not listed on the equivalency tables are subject to further review. For equivalency, contact Transfer and Transition Services: course/exam outline(s) are required.
i) Additional Credit-by-Exam options are considered on an individual basis and assessed by discipline faculty.

3) Departmental Proficiency Examination
   a) Departmental Proficiency Examination is only available for courses that do not have credit-by-exam equivalents approved by the Florida Articulation Coordinating Committee (e.g., CLEP, DSST).
   b) Awarding departmental credit by examination is the prerogative of each academic unit.
   c) To receive credit by examination a student must be a regular degree-seeking student and register for the exam at the testing center.
   d) Once the student is awarded credit for the exam, an EM (examination) grade will be recorded on the transcript but will not be used in the calculation of the GPA.
   e) Departmental Proficiency Examinations cannot be used for a course previously attempted.

4) Online Coursework Completed Prior to Initial Enrollment (e.g., MOOCs – massive open online courses)
   a) To receive credit for online coursework completed prior to initial enrollment, undergraduate admitted students must request that Transfer and Transition Services evaluate credit prior to the beginning of the term of enrollment.
      i) Admitted and enrolled students must secure approvals through their assigned academic advisors and, for international students, with the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office.
   b) FIU will accept American Council on Education (ACE)-evaluated online coursework completed prior to initial enrollment.
   c) For courses that are not ACE-evaluated and whose credits are not transferred pursuant to §1007.27(7) F.S. (Common Course Numbering System), the review procedures are as follows:
      i) Students must provide a course syllabus that contains:
         1) Course description
         2) Course objectives and student learning outcomes
         3) Course assignments
         4) Textbook and reading assignments

ii) Students must provide faculty credential information, including degrees earned, subject field, university awarding degree.
iii) Subject matter faculty will review faculty credentials and the syllabus for outcome equivalency
iv) Subject matter faculty may request additional information to determine student demonstrated mastery of competency
v) If the course meets the established criteria, credit will be awarded but will not be used in the calculation of the GPA.

d) Subject faculty reserve the right to require the student to take a challenge exam to demonstrate mastery of competency.

5) Prior Learning
   a) Students may consult with their departmental advisor to receive credit for prior learning experiences.
   b) The optimal method of documenting prior learning is through a departmental exam or portfolio.
   c) Awarded credits are identified on a student's transcript but will not be used in the calculation of the GPA. The evaluation and the basis on which credit is awarded are attached electronically to the student record.

6) Military Credits
   a) If transferring with less than 60 credits: Students may receive military credits towards the UCC, including General Education, and/or lower division electives.
   b) If transferring with more than 60 credits: Students may receive military credits toward upper division coursework as outlined in the Articulation Coordinating Committee Policy Regarding the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Military Training, Courses, and Occupations or at the discretion of the academic department.
   c) College credit will be granted to students with military experience according to ACE recommendations and the standard process and considerations outlined in the Articulation Coordinating Committee Policy Regarding the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Military Training, Courses, and Occupations per publication on the Transfer and Transition Services website.
   d) Students with military experience noted in the Articulation Coordinating Committee's Credit or Clock Hour for Military Experience Equivalency List in effect at the time experience is evaluated for equivalency shall be awarded credit.
   e) If the course to which the military training or coursework is equivalent and fulfills a general education or major course or degree program requirement, the credit should be considered as meeting the requirement(s). Otherwise, appropriate course credit, including free elective course credit will be granted.

f) Transfer credit awarded by a Florida public postsecondary degree granting institution that is applicable toward the student's major shall be accepted, subject to FIU's limit on the amount and level of transfer credit allowed for a given degree. Credits awarded by all other postsecondary institutions shall be accepted if those credits are consistent with ACE recommendations and the current Articulation Coordinating Committee's Credit or Clock Hour for Military Experience Equivalency List.

7) Other
   a) Students with law enforcement experience noted in the Articulation Coordinating Committee's Credit or Clock Hour for Law Enforcement Experience Equivalency List in effect at the time experience is evaluated for equivalency shall be awarded credit.

8) Appeals Process
   a) Students may contact Transfer and Transition Services to appeal the acceptance/denial of credits used to accelerate time-to-degree. Appeals must be based on additional evidence/documentation.

9) The appeals process is published on the Transfer and Transition Services website.