

Section V

Putting the Program Together

WHICH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ACCEPT CREDIT EARNED IN THIS PROGRAM?

All colleges are autonomous and decide what credit they will accept in transfer. Students currently enrolled in degree programs through local colleges or universities should check with their counselor before they enroll in one of these courses. If the college accepts the examination credit (CLEP, DSST, or Excelsior) the students should feel free to take the examination. (Hundreds of colleges and universities accept these examinations for college credit.) When discussing this with the counselor at the local college, students should also ask what is the minimum passing score accepted by the school for the test in question. Although many colleges will award credit based on the American Council on Education's recommended passing score, some will require a higher score. Some colleges may also limit the number of semester hours in college level testing accepted. If so, this may need to be considered in planning which courses to take.

ARE THERE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THAT HAVE MINIMAL CREDIT RESTRICTIONS?

Alternatives are available for those who face restrictions in the acceptance of college-level testing credit through local colleges. Four colleges and universities (Excelsior College, Charter Oak State College, Thomas Edison State College and University of Phoenix-associate degree program only) have established military credit recognition degree programs. At these institutions students receive maximum application of military credit toward completion of their degree and are awarded credit for college level testing with minimal restrictions. In fact, thousands of military personnel have completed entire degrees through these programs without ever setting foot on a college campus. By combining college-level credit earned through military training and experience with credit earned through this program, degree completion requirements can be met easily.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER!

The matrix that follows provides general information on the subject areas acceptable to the colleges and universities in specific areas. You may find it helpful when completing the self-assessment worksheet, which is located at the end of this section. When you complete the self-assessment worksheet, remember the following points:

1. Review the college's requirements.
2. Determine which program best meets your objectives.
3. Note the requirements on the self-assessment worksheet (page 5-3) on the first line of each area under the block labeled "credit" (i.e., Communication – 6 sh).
4. Review the credit earned from experiences in the military (see the unofficial transcripts online at <https://uscged.mmac.faa.gov>).
5. List prior collegiate work in the area provided (i.e., under Communication – one might list 'Oral Communications – 3 sh').
6. List college credit examinations satisfactorily completed.
7. Review this publication and note ways to satisfy the remaining requirements.
8. USCG members should complete CGI form 1562 and forward it to the Coast Guard Institute for a degree plan.

MATRIX OF COURSE CATEGORIES

These categories provide a list of subject areas normally applicable to the college's degree plans. Students are encouraged to use this as a guide when completing the Self-Assessment Worksheet on the following page.

COMMUNICATION:	FREE ELECTIVES:	HUMANITIES:	MATHEMATICS:
English Composition, Speech, Technical Writing, Journalism, Report Writing, Rhetoric	Business/Management, Technical Skills, Home Economics, Military Training Credit, Physical Education (if accepted)	Literature, Visual Art, Music Appreciation, Musical Instrument Performance, Philosophy, Religion, Theology, Theater Arts, Performing Arts, Applied Photography	Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus
NATURAL SCIENCE:	SOCIAL SCIENCES/HISTORY:	TECHNOLOGY:	
Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Astronomy, Physics, Botany, Archaeology, Zoology, Entomology, Geology, Oceanography, Anatomy, Physiology, Meteorology	Anthropology, Demography, Archaeology, Geography, American History, Western Civilization, Political Science, Government, Cultural Studies, Economics, Psychology, Social Psychology, Sociology, Counseling, Women's Studies	Computer Science, Programming, Electronics, Logic, Digital Circuit Design, Engineering, Environmental Technology	

SELF-ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Communication	Level	Grade	Credit	Professional Focus	Level	Grade	Credit
College Credit, Course	LL,UL			& Free Electives	LL,UL		
				(Tech., Military Credit)			
Humanities	Level	Grade	Credit				
College Credit, Course	LL,UL						
Natural Sciences	Level	Grade	Credit				
College Credit, Course	LL,UL						
Math / Quantitative	Level	Grade	Credit				
College Credit, Course	LL,UL						
Social Sciences/History	Level	Grade	Credit				
College Credit, Course	LL,UL						
Total Liberal Arts				Total Free Electives			

Footnote: Automated Degree Planning is available through CG Institute for Coast Guard community ONLY and ARNG Institute for Army National Guard community ONLY.