

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

American Council on Education (ACE) College Credit Recommendation

For Students:

What is ACE?

Founded in 1918, the American Council on Education (ACE) is a major coordinating body for the nation's higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents and more than 200 related associations nationwide. The American Council on Education College Credit Recommendation Service (CREDIT®) connects workplace learning with colleges and universities by helping students gain access to academic credit for formal courses and exams taken outside traditional higher education. For more than 30 years, colleges and universities have trusted ACE CREDIT to provide reliable course equivalency information to facilitate their decisions to award academic credit.

How do I (a student) get college credit for my PLTW courses?

Students can review a list of PLTW university partners on our Student Opportunities page (<https://www.pltw.org/experience-pltw/student-opportunities>) to find universities that award college credit.

What type of credit is this?

The ACE recommendations are made for transfer credit, which means that students can apply for credit at one institution and transfer it to another institution. It is up to the receiving institution to determine how the credit transfers (ie: an elective or not).

What if my college or interest won't accept the recommendations?

You can still apply for college credit at another institution and transfer it. You would still need to communicate with the colleges to ensure that the credit is on your transcript and will be accepted.

What are the criteria needed to be awarded the credit?

Students who wish to pursue college credit for PLTW courses must take the End-of-Course assessment and receive at least a 370 or above, which equates to a passing score of 70% or above.

How much does it cost to get the credit?

Each college determines the cost for the credit. Students should review the Student Opportunities page to get contact information and other information about how to apply for the credit.

What courses at the university does the credit equate to?

While ACE provided the credit recommendations, ultimately it is up to each university to award the credit. Faculty will typically review the recommendations and determine the appropriate courses that align to their courses of study.

For Schools

What was the review process?

The review process consisted of five faculty members from various universities representing both two-year and four- year institutions. Faculty were required to have at least five years of experience at an accredited university. At least two faculty members were required to come to consensus on the recommendation. ACE provided the faculty with resources and tools to ensure a high level of rigor within the courses that would be aligned with college level coursework.

What courses were reviewed and what were the credit recommendations for each course?

Courses reviewed were recommended for three (3) credit hours in lower division courses (introductory freshmen level). Ultimately, it is up to the university to determine the university course alignment.

Biomedical Sciences

- Principles of Biomedical Science
- Human Body Systems
- Medical Interventions

Engineering

- Principles of Engineering
- Digital Electronics
- Civil Engineering and Architecture

Computer Science

- Cybersecurity

How does the school get involved in this process? (guidance counselors, teachers, etc.)

Schools want to ensure that the courses are offered to students and guidance counselors can effectively guide students into PLTW courses that award college credit. Teachers can ensure students take the End-of-Course Assessments.

For Universities

What is the first step for universities to award college credit for PLTW courses?

University faculty can connect with PLTW to discuss the process. Typically, faculty will review the recommendations and any additional PLTW documents to determine what courses align with the credit recommendations.

How does a university obtain a student's score/transcript?

Students, teachers, program coordinators, or site coordinators can share the student's score report. Universities can also become a PLTW recruiting partner to receive scores and information from students who have consented to share for the purposes of recruitment.

General Questions

Where can I find the ACE recommendation information?

This information can be found in the ACE National Guide at <https://www.acenet.edu/National-Guide/Pages/default.aspx>. Simply type in Project Lead The Way in the search bar.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

Contact the PLTW Solution Center at 877.335.7589 or solutioncenter@pltw.org.