Credit by Examination Overview

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College-Level Examination Program - CLEP
DANTES Subject Standardized Test - DSST
CREDIT BY EXAMINATION PROGRAM
KEY COMPONENTS

- Policy
- Publicity
- Advising
- Testing
COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM
WHAT IS CLEP?

• Credit-by-exam program that validates knowledge students already have and translates that learning into college credit that is commonly recognized.
• More than seven million exams taken since 1967.
• 1,880 colleges administer the CLEP.
• 2,900 colleges grant credit for CLEP exams.
• 177,000+ exams administered in 2015-2016, including almost 57,000 administered to military service members.
• Exam fee is $80 (increasing to $85 at the end of June)
Composition and Literature
- American Literature
- Analyzing and Interpreting Literature
- College Composition
- College Composition Modular
- English Literature
- Humanities

Science and Mathematics
- Calculus
- College Algebra
- Precalculus
- College Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Natural Sciences

World Languages
- Spanish Language
- German Language
- French Language

History and Social Sciences
- American Government
- History of the United States I
- History of the United States II
- Human Growth and Development
- Introduction to Educational Psychology
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- Principles of Microeconomics
- Introduction to Psychology
- Introduction to Sociology
- Social Sciences and History
- Western Civilization I
- Western Civilization II

Business
- Information Systems and Computer Applications
- Principles of Management
- Financial Accounting
- Introductory Business Law
- Principles of Marketing
GENERAL EXAMS VS. SUBJECT EXAMS

- College Mathematics
- Humanities
- Natural Sciences
- Social Science and History

Subject Exams

General Education Equivalent

Specific Course Equivalent
Top 10 CLEP Exams by 2015 Pass Rates*

Spanish: 90%
College Composition Modular: 86%
Analyzing and Interpreting Lit: 82%
College Composition: 80%
French: 80%
Information Systems: 70%
German: 69%
College Math: 68%
Sociology: 68%
Principles of Marketing: 68%

*2015 Department of Defense Civilian and Enlisted average pass rate data. 176,811 total test scores were used in this computation.
RIGOR AND DEVELOPMENT

- All CLEP exam are accredited by American Council on Education
- Standing faculty committees oversee ongoing test development, shape content, review data, set exam policies (nation-wide surveys of faculty are conducted regularly)
- More than 600 faculty contribute to the development of and standard-setting for CLEP examinations

- CollegeBoard partnered with Educational Testing Services (ETS) to create exams
- All exams go through multi-step validation process
  - Items are relevant to purpose of the exam
  - Items are fair and lead to a decision
  - Items are non-biased for all types of test takers
  - Items are rigorously field tested prior to going live
  - Developed by subject matter experts with requisite experience
  - Content is fair for the length of the exam
  - The exam does what it is supposed to do
  - Ongoing review of item and test performance
STRUCTURE AND SCORING

- **Structure**
  - 33 computer-based exams
  - Multiple choice with listening section on world languages and essays or optional essay
  - Most are approximately 90 minutes in length
  - Freshman and Sophomore level credit awarded

- **Scoring**
  - Immediate score reports (except exams with essays)
  - Exams are scored on a converted scale of 20-80. A score of 50 is considered a passing score by ACE. This is an equivalent to a grade of a C.
  - Student must wait 3 months to retest
WHAT IS DSST?

- A form of Prior Learning Assessment.
- Offers students a cost effective, time saving way to use their knowledge acquired outside the classroom to accomplish their educational goals.
- Originated with the United States Depart of Defense's Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) program.
- Set up to help Military and DOD translate prior learning into college credit.
- Over 2,000 colleges recognize the DSST program and award college credit.
- Exam fee is $80, except Fundamentals of Cyber Security which is $90.
DSST EXAM TITLES

Physical Science
- Astronomy
- Health and Human Development
- Environment and Humanity: The Race to Save the Planet
- Principles of Physical Science I

Business
- Principles of Finance
- Human Resource Management
- Organizational Behavior
- Principles of Supervision
- Introduction to Computers
- Introduction to Business
- Money and Banking
- Personal Finance
- Management Information Systems
- Business Mathematics
- Business Ethics and Society

Mathematics
- Fundamentals of College Algebra
- Principles of Statistics

Social Sciences
- Art of the Western World
- Human/Cultural Geography
- History of the Soviet Union
- A History of the Vietnam War
- The Civil War and Reconstruction
- Foundations of Education
- Lifespan Developmental Psychology
- General Anthropology
- Substance Abuse
- Introduction to Law Enforcement
- Criminal Justice
- Fundamentals of Counseling

Humanities
- Ethics in America
- Introduction to World Religions
- Principles of Public Speaking

Technology
- Technical Writing
- Fundamentals of Cyber Security
• **Structure**
  - 34 computer-based exams
  - Multiple choice and essays or optional essay
  - Speak section for the Public Speaking
  - Most are approximately 2 hours in length
  - Upper and lower level credit is awarded

• **Scoring**
  - Immediate score reports (except exams with essays and public speaking)
  - Exams are scored on a converted scale of 200-500. A score of 400 is considered a passing score by ACE. This is an equivalent to a grade of a C.
  - Student must wait 90 days to retest
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CLEP &amp; DSST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLEP</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• CollegeBoard</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Computer Based, requires internet before and after administration - not during</td>
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<td>• Lower level credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Different types of exams - General and specific</td>
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<td>• 90 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Register and pay prior to the exam date</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Scores are automatically sent to the student's selected institution</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DSST</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Prometric</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Computer Based, but requires internet to test</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mix of upper and lower level credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Different types of exams - more specific subject exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Register and pay at testing station</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Students must request and order their official score report, cost money</td>
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IDENTIFYING TEST-TAKERS

- **High School Students/Graduates**
  - AP exams are/were not available or they missed the exam
  - Home-schooled students
- **Undergraduate College Students**
  - First-year students looking to accelerate their college path
  - Juniors or seniors who have not met lower-division requirements
  - Students who are fluent in Spanish, French, or German….Math, Biology, etc.
- **Transfer Students**
  - Credit recovery options needed due to accreditation or transfer issues
  - International students who need to translate their overseas credit
- **Adult Students**
  - Military service members - CLEP and DSST exams are free
  - Veterans - Depending on benefits, exam fees can be reimbursed
  - Prior Learning Assessment option for workplace learning
- **All students struggling to finance their education**
MILITARY BENEFITS
Funded by DANTES

Active Duty Military
- Air Force
- Army
- Marine Corps
- Navy
- Cost Guard
- National Guard and Reserve Component

Spouses and Civil Service Civilian Employees
- Air Force Reserve
- Army Reserve
- Cost Guard

DoD Civilian Employees
- Air Force

Pay no out-of-pocket expense at fully funded test sites.
Exam fees only paid at non-funded test sites.
RESOURCES

FREE

clep.collegeboard.org (CLEP only)
getcollegecredit.com (DSST only)
Library - online database
Library - CLEP study guide (available for check out)
petersons.com

PAID

clep.collegeboard.org (CLEP only)
getcollegecredit.com (DSST only)
instacert.com
speedyprep.com
AFTER TESTING

**CLEP**

- Immediately after testing - student receives unofficial score report.
- Office 'transcript' is sent to admissions - processing time 5 to 7 weeks.
- Admissions uploads 'transcripts' and Registrar updates student's record.
- Student can reorder official copies at a cost - will include all CLEP exams.

**DSST**

- Immediately after testing - students can print unofficial score report or login and print unofficial score report.
- Students will need to order and pay to send official 'transcript.' Military funded will not have to pay.
- Admissions receives, processes, and uploads official 'transcript.'
- Registrar updates student's record.
- Student can reorder official copies - will include all DSST.
Texas A&M-San Antonio Testing Center

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ONLINE SCHEDULING & ONLINE PAYMENTS