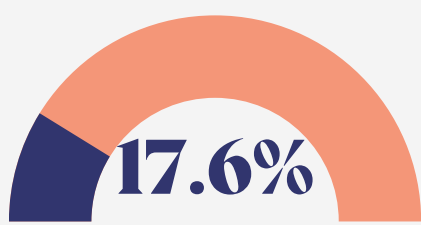
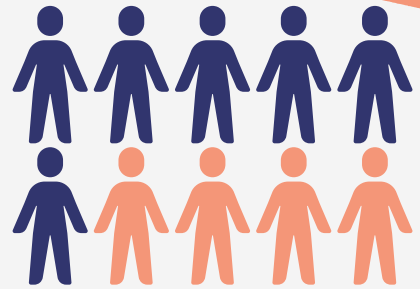


# IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CPL and PLA

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) and Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) are closely related. The process for recognizing and awarding credit for learning acquired outside of the classroom is often referred to as Prior Learning Assessment.

## INCREASES DEGREE COMPLETION

- Adult learners by 17%
- Hispanic/Latino students by 24%
- Black/African American students by 14%
- Pell Grant recipients by 19% (Lane, P. & Leibrandt, S. 2021, February 9)



## ADDS REVENUE

“Adult students with PLA earned, on average, 17.6 more traditional course credits than the adult students without PLA credit. (Klein–Collins et al. 2020)

### Workforce needs

Recognizing prior learning, helps to align programs with the needs of the workforce, ensuring that graduates possess the relevant competencies sought by employers and can reduce time to degree completion by 9–14 months (Klein–Collins et al. 2020); contributing to the overall economic development of the region.

### Equity

Many adult learners, particularly those from underrepresented groups or non-traditional backgrounds, may have acquired substantial knowledge and skills through life experiences. Recognizing and awarding credit for their prior learning provides a pathway for them to access and succeed in higher education, bridging the gap between their existing expertise and formal academic credentials.

### The Time to Review is Now

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission Advisory Committee is reviewing rules for CPL to potentially remove the 25% of degree and certificate CPL limit to align with the new recommendations from the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). What will your organization decide?

"About 50% of institutions surveyed set a credit maximum between 25%–74% of the degree." (Kilgore, W. 2020, July 14)

## REFERENCE LIST

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3. Lane, P. & Leibrandt, S. (2021, February 9). Recognizing Prior Learning in the 21st Century: A synthesis brief. Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.
4. Kilgore, W. (2020, July 14). An examination of prior learning assessment policy and practice as experienced by academic records professionals and students. American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.
5. <https://www.oregon.gov/highered/policy-collaboration/Pages/credit-prior-learning.aspx>