

**South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE)  
Policies on Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate, and  
Cambridge Assessment International Education Credit Awards**

**Advanced Placement Credit Award Policy**

Each public institution of higher education shall give credit in appropriate courses for scores of three or higher on pertinent Advanced Placement examinations.

As used above, the phrase “appropriate courses” means those courses offered by the institutions which parallel the content covered by the AP exam. The phrase “pertinent examination” means those examinations whose content parallels that of the institutional course.

1. In no instance shall an institution be required to award more than six to eight credits in any one discipline area.
2. For purposes of this policy, *history* is defined as consisting of two disciplines:
  - a. American History; and
  - b. Non-American History
3. Because of the major overlap in course content between the two English AP exams, English Language and Composition and English Literature and Composition, the awarding of AP credit in English should be treated separately from that of other disciplines as follows:
  - a. if a student receives a score of “3” or “4” on either English AP exam, credit would be awarded for English Composition I (ENG 101)<sup>1</sup> or an introductory composition equivalent;
  - b. if a student receives a score of “3” or “4” on each English AP exam, or a “3” on one and a “4” on the other, credit would be awarded for English Composition I and II (ENG 101 and 102) or their introductory composition equivalents; or
  - c. if a student receives a score of “5” on either or both English AP exams, credit would be awarded for both English Composition I and II (ENG 101 and 102) or their introductory composition equivalents.
4. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the AP Seminar and Research courses, institutions are encouraged to award general elective credit for scores of 3 or higher on those AP exams; however, if the institution offers a comparable course, credit may be awarded for that course.

---

<sup>1</sup> This document uses the South Carolina Technical College System’s course titles.

### **International Baccalaureate Credit Award Policy**

Each public institution of higher education shall give credit in appropriate courses for scores of four or higher on any higher-level IB course examination.

The amount of college course credit awarded for a higher-level IB course will be equivalent to the credit hour value of the college course for which the IB credit is being accepted.

N.B. An IB minimum score of four on higher-level exams is broadly recognized as equivalent with an AP score of three, and therefore supports statutory intent.

### **Cambridge Assessment International Education Credit AICE Award Policy**

Each public institution of higher education shall give credit in appropriate Cambridge International courses for scores of E or higher on a Cambridge International Advanced AS and A Level examination.

1. The amount of college course credit awarded for a higher-level Cambridge Assessment International Education AS and A Level examination will be equivalent to the credit hour value of the college course for which the Cambridge Assessment International Education credit is being accepted.
2. Institutions shall provide justification for each case where the minimum threshold for granting credit is above the minimum indicated above. Such justifications must be approved by the CHE.

The *Policies on Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate Credit Awards, and Cambridge Assessment International Education* shall be referenced in the institution's academic catalogue and made available to the public on the institution's website.

Advanced Placement Policy initially approved by CHE July 1985

Revision approved by CHE January 1995

Revision approved by CHE May 5, 2016

International Baccalaureate Policy initially approved by CHE October 4, 2007

Revision approved by CHE May 5, 2016

Cambridge International Policy approved by CHE March 4, 2021