

TRANSFER OF CREDIT TO SIERRA COLLEGE

Advanced Placement Examination

Sierra College accepts Advanced Placement (AP) examinations with scores of three or higher. Currently enrolled students may be awarded up to seven units of credit per examination. Credit is awarded for a Sierra College course or courses; as general education credit; or as elective credit.

Students automatically receive credit for AP examinations if official College Board Advanced Placement scores are sent to the College (Sierra College CEEB Code=4697). Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating grade point average. AP credit will not be used to alleviate a substandard grade.

If a student does not want credit, a written request asking that credit be removed from the transcript must be submitted to an Admissions and Records office.

Advanced Placement Examination	Sierra College				Transfer GE	CSU	UC	
	Course(s)	Course Units	Sierra GE Area(s)	Total Units Granted	Cal-GETC and CSUAI Area(s)	Units for GE	CSU Minimum Admission Units	UC Minimum Admission Units
History: United States	HIST 17A, HIST 17B	6	B or C	6	3B or 4 and US-1	3	6	5.3
History: World	HIST 50	3	B or C	3	3B or 4	3	6	5.3
Human Geography	GEOG 2	3	B	3	4	3	3	2.7
Italian Language and Culture	ITAL 2	4	C	4	3B	3	6	5.3
Japanese Language and Culture	JPN 2	4	C	4	3B	3	6	5.3
Latin	XFER ¹	3	C	3	3B	3	6	2.7
Music Theory	XFER ¹	3	C	3	N/A	N/A	6	5.3
Physics 1	XFER ¹	4	A (w/lab)	4	5A and 5C	4	4 ⁵	5.3 ⁵
Physics 2	PHYS 10, PHYS 10L	4	A (w/lab)	4	5A and 5C	4	4 ⁵	5.3 ⁵
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	PHYS 110, PHYS 110L	5	A (w/lab)	5	5A and 5C	4	4 ⁵	2.7 ⁵
Physics C: Mechanics	PHYS 105, PHYS 105L	5	A (w/lab)	5	5A and 5C	4	4 ⁵	2.7 ⁵
Precalculus	MATH 29	4	D2	4	N/A	3	3	N/A
Psychology	PSYC C1000	3	B	3	4	3	3	2.7
Spanish Language and Culture	SPAN 2	5	C	5	3B	3	6	5.3
Spanish Literature and Culture	XFER ¹	3	C	3	3B	3	6	5.3
Statistics	STAT C1000	4	D2	4	2	3	3	2.7

¹XFER indicates there is not a Sierra College course equivalent.
²UC credit for all Studio Art examinations is limited to 5.3 semester units.
³CSU limits credit for Calculus to one examination. UC credit for all Calculus examinations is limited to 5.3 semester units; students who take the Calculus BC examination and earn a subscore of 3 or higher on the Calculus AB portion will receive credit for the Calculus AB examination, even if they don't receive a score of 3 or higher on the BC examination.
⁴UC credit for all English examinations is limited to 5.3 semester units.
⁵CSU credit for all Physics examinations is limited to 6 semester units; UC credit for all Physics examinations is limited to 5.3 semester units.
 Sierra College students will automatically receive the above-referenced AP credit if official scores are sent to the college. Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating the grade point average. Sierra College notifies students of the credit granted. AP exam credit will not be used to alleviate a substandard grade.
 NOTE: Each campus in the California State University system and University of California system determines how it will apply AP examinations toward credit in the majors.

2025-26 AP Exam Chart 04/28/25 LC

Advanced Placement Examination (AP)								
Students shall earn credit for Advanced Placement examinations for which scores of 3, 4, or 5 are earned. This table provides specific AP credit applicability for Sierra College, California State Universities (CSU), and Universities of California (UC), expressed in semester units.								
Advanced Placement Examination	Sierra College				Transfer GE	CSU	UC	
	Course(s)	Course Units	Sierra GE Area(s)	Total Units Granted	Cal-GETC and CSUAI Area(s)	Units for GE	CSU Minimum Admission Units	UC Minimum Admission Units
Art History	ARHI 110, ARHI 120	6	3	6	3A or 3B	3	6	5.3
Art Studio: 2-D Design	ART 2	3	3	3	N/A	N/A	3	5.3 ²
Art Studio: 3-D Design	ART 3	3	3	3	N/A	N/A	3	5.3 ²
Art Studio: Drawing	ART 4A	3	3	3	N/A	N/A	3	5.3 ²
Biology	BIOL 11	4	5 (w/lab)	4	5B and 5C	4	6	5.3
Calculus AB	MATH 30	4	A or D2	4	2	3	3 ³	2.7 ³
Calculus BC—score of 3 or 4	MATH 30	4	A or D2	4	2	3	6 ³	5.3 ³
Calculus BC—score of 5	MATH 31	4	D2	4	2	3	3 ³	2.7 ³
Calculus BC (AB Subscore)	MATH 30	4	A or D2	4	2	3	3 ³	2.7 ³
Chemistry—score of 3 or 4	XFER ¹	5	A (w/lab)	5	5A and 5C	4	6	5.3
Chemistry—score of 5	OR CHEM 1A							
Chinese Language and Culture	XFER ¹	3	C	3	3B	3	6	5.3
Computer Science A	CSCI 10	3	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	3	1.3
Computer Science Principles	XFER ¹	3	D2	3	N/A	3	6	5.3
Economics: Macroeconomics	ECON 1A	3	B	3	4	3	3	2.7
Economics: Microeconomics	ECON 1B	3	B	3	4	3	3	2.7
English Language and Composition	ENGL C1000	4	D1	4	1A	3	6	5.3 ⁴
English Literature and Composition	ENGL C1000, ENGL 1B	4	D1 and D2 or C	4	1A or 3B	6	6	5.3 ⁴
Environmental Science	XFER ¹	4	A (w/lab)	4	5A and 5C	4	4	2.7
French Language and Culture	FREN 2	4	C	4	3B	3	6	5.3
German Language and Culture	GER 2	4	C	4	3B	3	6	5.3
Government and Politics: Comparative	POLS 2	3	B	3	4	3	3	2.7
Government and Politics: United States	POLS C1000	3	B	3	4 and US-2	3	3	2.7
History: European	HIST 4B	3	B or C	3	3B or 4	3	6	5.3

Transfer students are cautioned that, regardless of Sierra College policy, some institutions determine Advanced Placement credit based on their own local policies and may recalculate credit. For further information please consult a counselor.

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Sierra College accepts College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) examinations with minimum scores of fifty. Currently enrolled students may be awarded three units of credit per examination upon submission of official results. The exception to this is for examinations in languages other than English, as detailed in the following table. Credit is awarded as general education or elective credit.

Sierra College students automatically receive credit for CLEP examinations if official scores are sent to the College. Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating grade point average. Students are notified when credit is granted. If a student does not want credit, a written request asking that credit be removed from the transcript must be submitted to an Admissions and Records office.

For information on California State University (CSU) CLEP policies, please see the CSU Systemwide Credit for External Examinations page (<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/17947386/latest/#autoid-e77y7>).

University of California (UC) campuses do not accept CLEP examinations.

CLEP cannot be used to satisfy Cal-GETC (<http://catalog.sierracollege.edu/student-resources/general-education/california-general-education-transfer-curriculum-cal-getc/>).

Transfer students are also cautioned that, regardless of Sierra College policy, some institutions determine CLEP credit based on their own local policies and may recalculate credit. For further information please consult a counselor.

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) This table provides specific CLEP credit applicability for Sierra College.									
College Level Examination Program (CLEP)	Min Score	Total Semester Units Granted	Sierra GE Area(s)	Sierra GE Attribute	College Level Examination Program (CLEP)	Min Score	Total Semester Units Granted	Sierra GE Area(s)	Sierra GE Attribute
American Government	50	3	4	AA4	Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	3	n/a	n/a
American Literature	50	3	3	AA3	Introductory Business Law	50	3	n/a	n/a
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	50	3	3	AA3	Introductory Psychology	50	3	4	AA4
Biology	50	3	5	AA5	Introductory Sociology	50	3	4	AA4
Calculus	50	3	2	AA2	Natural Sciences	50	3	5	AA5
Chemistry	50	3	5	AA5	Pre-Calculus	50	3	2	AA2
College Algebra	50	3	2	AA2	Principles of Accounting	50	3	n/a	n/a
College Algebra - Trigonometry	50	3	2	AA2	Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3	4	AA4
College Composition	50	0	n/a	n/a	Principles of Management	50	3	n/a	n/a
College Composition - Modular	50	0	n/a	n/a	Principles of Marketing	50	3	n/a	n/a
College Mathematics	50	0	n/a	n/a	Principles of Microeconomics	50	3	4	AA4
English Composition (no essay)	50	0	n/a	n/a	Social Sciences and History	50	0	n/a	n/a
English Composition With Essay	50	0	n/a	n/a	Spanish, Level I*	50	6	n/a	n/a
English Literature	50	3	3	AA3	Spanish, Level II*	63	12	3	AA3
Financial Accounting	50	3	n/a	n/a	Spanish, Level III*	63	9	3	AA3
French, Level I*	50	6	n/a	n/a	Trigonometry	50	3	2	AA2
French, Level II*	59	12	3	AA3	Western Civilization I	50	3	3 or 4	AA3 OR AA4
French, Level III*	59	9	3	AA3	Western Civilization II	50	3	4	AA4
Freshman College Composition	50	0	n/a	n/a					
German, Level I*	50	6	n/a	n/a					
German, Level II*	60	12	3	AA3					
German, Level III*	60	9	3	AA3					
History, United States I	50	3	4	AA4					
History, United States II	50	3	4	AA4					
Human Growth and Development	50	3	n/a	n/a					
Humanities	50	3	3	AA3					
Information Systems and Computer Applications	50	3	n/a	n/a					

Sierra College students will automatically receive CLEP credit if official scores are sent to the college. Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating the grade point average. Sierra College notifies students of the credit granted. If a student does not want credit, a written request asking that credit be removed from the transcript must be submitted to an Admissions and Records office.

2025-26 CLEP Exam Chart
04/28/25 LC

International Baccalaureate Examination

Sierra College accepts International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level examinations with minimum scores of four or five, depending on the exam. Currently enrolled students may be awarded three units of credit per examination upon submission of official results. Credit is awarded as general education credit.

Sierra College students automatically receive credit for IB examinations if official scores are sent to the College. Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating grade point average. Students are notified when credit is granted. If a student does not want credit, a written request asking that credit be removed from the transcript must be submitted to an Admissions and Records office.

Transfer students are cautioned that actual IB transfer credit (including possible differences in units to be awarded beyond those used for Cal-GETC certification) awarded for these and other IB exams at admission is determined by the CSU and UC.

Please see

The UC Policy for IB Credit (<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/ap-exam-credits/ib-credits.html>)

or

The CSU Systemwide Credit for External Examinations page (<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/17947386/latest/#autoid-e77y7>)

International Baccalaureate (IB)
Students may earn credit for International Baccalaureate Diploma or Certificate for which scores of 4 or 5 are earned. The following table provides specific credit applicability for Sierra College, California State Universities (CSU), and Universities of California (UC), expressed in semester units.

Sierra College				Cal-GETC		Sierra College				Cal-GETC	
International Baccalaureate (IB)	IB Score	Sierra GE Area(s)	Total Units Granted	Cal-GETC and American Institutions Area(s)	Semester/Quarter Units for GE	International Baccalaureate (IB)	IB Score	Sierra GE Area(s)	Total Units Granted	Cal-GETC and American Institutions Area(s)	Semester/Quarter Units for GE
Biology HL	5	5	3	5B	3/4	Mathematics HL	4	2	3	2	3/4
Chemistry HL	5	5	3	5A	3/4	Physics HL	5	5	3	5A	3/4
Economics HL	5	4	3	4	3/4	Psychology HL	5	4	3	4	3/4
Geography HL	5	4	3	4	3/4	Theatre HL	4	3	3	3A	3/4
History (any region) HL	5	3 or 4	3	3B or 4**	3/4	Sierra College students will automatically receive credit for International Baccalaureate Diploma or Certificates if official scores are sent to the college. Grades are not assigned and the credit is not used in calculating the grade point average. Sierra College will notify the students of the credit granted. If a student does not want credit, a written request asking that credit be removed from the transcript must be submitted to an Admissions and Records office.					
Language A1 (any language) HL	4	3	3	3B	3/4	* The IB curriculum offers language at various levels for native and non-native speakers. Language B courses are offered at the intermediate level for non-natives. Language A1 respectively. ** IB exam may be used in either area regardless of where the certifying CCC's discipline is located.					
Language A2 (any language) HL	4	3	3	3B	3/4						
Language A Literature HL	4	3	3	3B	3/4						
Language A Language and Literature HL	4	3	3	3B	3/4						
Language B (any language) HL*	4	N/A	0	6A	3/4						

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International Transcript Acceptance

Students wishing to receive credit at Sierra College for courses completed at an international institution must request and pay for an evaluation of their international transcript(s) through a current member of one of the following:

- Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. (AICE) (<http://www.aice-eval.org/>)
- National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) (<https://www.naces.org/members/>)

The evaluation must include a course by course review which determines semester unit value, grade and lower/upper division status. In most cases, students are granted elective credit only for lower division course work completed at international institutions. No credit is granted for upper-division courses. Students wishing to be granted credit for specific Sierra College general education/learning skills or major courses must submit course descriptions in English with course substitution petitions.

International coursework from non-United States regionally accredited institutions cannot be used to meet California State University General Education-Breadth requirements, Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum requirements, and Associate Degree for Transfer requirements. Although international courses may be accepted by four-year universities, evaluation of such courses is determined independently by each transfer institution.

Military Service Credit

A veteran who was on active duty one year or longer and received an honorable discharge may request that 5 units of military training credit be applied to the Health Education/Physical Education associate degree requirement. Credit has no bearing on the student's GPA and may not transfer to a four-year university. To request credit, students must submit a copy of their DD-214 to an Admissions and Records office or the Veterans Resource Center. Students must submit an application for admission before military credit may be awarded.

Veterans receiving VA educational benefits through the Sierra College Veterans Resource Center must apply for military credit by the end of their second semester of enrollment, regardless of the number of units completed at Sierra.

Transcripts from Other Colleges and Universities

Sierra College accepts official transcripts from United States institutions that are accredited by one of the following accrediting organizations (formerly known as Regional Accrediting Organizations):

- Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)
Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)

Transcripts are evaluated for acceptance of all lower-division degree-applicable credit courses. Once an official transcript is received, it becomes the property of Sierra College. Qualifying transcripts shall become part of the student's permanent academic record. Appropriate units and subject content will be applied to major and general education areas to meet Sierra College graduation requirements and may not be removed. When course repetition occurs, the last grade and credit earned from an accredited institution will be included in the computation of the grade point average. Students should meet with a counselor to determine which courses fulfill Sierra College's degree and/or certificate requirements.

To ensure timely and accurate posting of transfer courses, students should submit their sealed official transcript(s) to a campus Admissions and Records office early in the application process. A Transfer Credit Request should also be submitted.

Transfer credit is also used to fulfill prerequisite requirements.

High School Articulation

High school articulation is a collaborative process linking curriculum between institutions to assist students in making smooth transitions from secondary to postsecondary levels without experiencing delays or duplication of learning. High school articulation agreements have been developed with many area high school and ROP programs which make it possible for students to gain college credit for specified courses once they have enrolled at Sierra College.

Reference: Sierra College Board Policies/Administrative Procedures Chapter 4.