

Admissions & Registration

Steps for Admission

1. Admissions
2. Financial Aid
3. Academic Assessment
4. Orientation and Registration

For more information and to apply online, go to www.hccfl.edu/hcc-home.aspx.

Admissions Policies

HCC maintains an “open-door” policy. Students may be admitted if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Graduated with a standard diploma from a secondary school
- Earned a high school equivalency certificate or diploma through any state Department of Education or through the military
- Earned a Certificate of Completion, Eligible for College Placement Test (W8A) (graduating class of 2003 forward)
- Completed a home education program pursuant to the requirements of F.S. 1002.41
- Applied as a transfer student
- Applied as a transient student

In order to maintain the college ideals of scholarship and deportment, the right is reserved to deny admission to applicants for any reason, deemed to be in the best interest of the college.

Admissions Requirements

Associate Degree, College Credit Certificate Programs, and Applied Technology Diploma

To be eligible for admission to an associate degree program, college credit certificate, or applied technology diploma (F.S. 1007.263), applicants must have one of the following:

- A standard high school diploma.
- Florida public high school graduates must have met Florida graduation requirements (F.S. 1003.43).
- A high school equivalency diploma, or
- Completion of a home education program pursuant to the requirements of F.S. 1002.41.

NOTE: If the applicant received a special high school diploma such as the Certificate of Completion (W08) or another special high school diploma and wishes to apply for admission as a regular student, a high school equivalency diploma must be earned by successfully completing the GED exam offered through the Florida Board of Education.

There may be additional requirements for limited access programs. Check the webpage at www.hccfl.edu/departments.aspx or in the associate degrees/technical programs section of this catalog.

IMPORTANT: Students who hold education certificates from countries other than the United States should refer to the International Students section in this catalog.

Former Student Returning

Students maintain an active application status by attending HCC at least one term in an academic year. If students have not attended classes for more than one year, they must complete a new HCC application. Former students do not have to pay additional application fees. A former student returning to the college and pursuing a degree or certificate must meet the graduation requirements of the catalog in effect at the time the student returns to continuous enrollment at HCC.

NOTE: Since the college strives to provide the community with up-to-date, postsecondary educational opportunities, HCC’s curricula are constantly reviewed and are often revised. HCC does not guarantee that the college will continue to offer previously required courses made unnecessary by changes in programs.

Transfer Students

If students have attended other postsecondary institutions, they may be admitted as a transfer student. Within 30 days of the beginning of the term, students must provide their high school transcript and transcripts from all colleges previously attended.

Transient Students

Students attending other colleges or universities who wish to take courses at HCC in order to fulfill degree requirements at their home institutions may be admitted as transient students. Prior to registration, if students wish to apply as transient, they must submit an HCC application and documentation from the home institution that:

- Certifies they are in good academic standing.
- Indicates the HCC courses in which students may enroll.
- Affirms that they may use the courses completed and credits earned at HCC to meet the program requirements at the home institution.

Students attending a Florida postsecondary institution should submit this information via the transient form at www.facts.org.

Transient students are not required to provide official transcripts of their previous college coursework. However, if the documentation from their home institution does not indicate the HCC courses in which the students may enroll, applicants must provide unofficial transcripts to verify they meet HCC course prerequisites.

NOTE: HCC students who wish to attend another college as transient students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and must obtain written permission from the appropriate campus dean of student services or his/her designee. Forms are available in each campus advising/counseling office.

International Students

HCC admits foreign students who meet the admission requirements for international students and follow the admission procedures specified below.

To be considered for admission as an international student, a student must (1) demonstrate competency in the English language; (2) document sufficient funds to cover educational costs; and (3) apply at least three months prior to the term of entry.

In addition, the student must complete or meet the following specific admissions criteria:

- Submit an HCC application for admission, along with the \$50 international student application fee, at least three months prior to the term of entry.
- Provide a statement of financial responsibility, which documents funds to cover the cost of tuition, room and board, books, personal expenses, health insurance and travel for at least one year.
- Submit proof of health insurance coverage for one year.
- Obtain a score of 500 or higher on the paper version of TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or a score of 173 or higher on the computerized version or a score of 61 on the TOEFL (internet-based test), level "109" on the E.L.S., or level "6" on the A.L.A.
- Documentation of high school graduation or an equivalent level of education.

Important information for students who have completed high school and/or postsecondary work outside the United States:

Transcript(s) in English (original document in the original language and a certified English translation) from high school and from all previously attended colleges and universities must be evaluated by an agency accredited by NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services). A document-by-document evaluation is required for high school transcripts. A course-by-course evaluation is required for college and university transcripts. Students can obtain the names and addresses of approved providers of this service from the HCC website at www.hccfl.edu or from any campus office of admissions, registration, and records.

NOTE: Students are responsible for all costs associated with obtaining translations and evaluations of their transcript(s).

Articulated Acceleration for High School Students

High school students may earn college credits through articulated acceleration (F.S. 1007.271). These acceleration options are dual enrollment and early admissions. Students who satisfy the following requirements may qualify for admission as a student in one of these categories:

Dual Enrolled High School Students

(F.S. 1007.27, F.S. 1007.271)

Students who enroll as a dual enrolled student can earn college credit by attending college-level courses taught by HCC instructors at an HCC campus before, during, or after high school and during the summer, or at an identified high school during the regular class day. Credits for the courses satisfactorily completed will apply toward both the high school diploma and toward an associate or baccalaureate degree. Dual enrollment courses will not count as excess hours in the 60-hour requirement of an AA or AS degree.

Application fees and tuition are waived and textbooks are provided for Hillsborough County public school students accepted through the dual enrollment program.

Students attending college classes must be mindful that they will be in a learning environment that explores a diverse and open range of ideas that requires a mature understanding of multiple perspectives. All students, including dual enrolled students, must be able to engage in discussions in a mature and responsible manner.

To be eligible for consideration for admission as a dually enrolled high school student, one must meet the following requirements:

- Be in high school.
- Provide a high school transcript showing an unweighted cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
- Provide written authorization from the high school principal or his/her designee.
- Achieve appropriate placement scores on the SAT, ACT, or the written or computerized version of the Florida college placement test (CPT).
- Submit a Special Category Student form.
- Submit an HCC application for admission.
- Submit all required paperwork to the district dual enrollment office no later than thirty working days prior to the start of the semester.
- Meet with an HCC counselor to complete the registration process.

No student will be permitted to participate in dual enrollment classes without having met eligibility and application requirements. Dual enrollment students are allowed one attempt per dual enrollment course.

To remain eligible as a dually enrolled high school student, one must maintain a 3.0 high school GPA and a 2.0 HCC GPA.

Early Admission

Early admission is a form of dual enrollment. Students are admitted through the early admission option of dual enrollment when they register at HCC as a full-time student (12 or more credits) during their senior year of high school.

Credits for the courses completed satisfactorily at HCC will apply toward the high school diploma and toward an associate or baccalaureate degree. Application fees are waived for students accepted through the early admission program. Tuition is waived for early admissions students for all courses taken through this program while they are still in high school.

NOTE: To be eligible for consideration for admission through the early admission program a student must meet the following requirements:

- Be a high school senior.
- Provide written authorization from the high school principal or designee.
- Provide a high school transcript showing an unweighted cumulative grade point average of 3.5.
- Achieve appropriate placement scores on the SAT, ACT, or the written or computerized version of the Florida college placement test (CPT).
- Submit a Special Category Student Form.
- Submit an HCC application for admission.
- Submit all required paperwork to the district dual enrollment office no later than thirty working days prior to the start of the semester.
- If approved for early admission, meet with an HCC counselor to complete the registration process.

NOTE: Home-educated students may take advantage of the dual enrollment and early admissions acceleration options and must be in compliance with applicable Florida laws. In addition to the above requirements, a parent of home-educated students must submit a sworn Affidavit for Compliance in accordance with F.S. 1002.41. Home-educated students should submit an academic plan that identifies the courses they have taken through home school and the courses they intend to take at HCC as a dually enrolled student.

NOTE: Private schools must meet requirements for F.S. 1002.42 and 1003.43 and have an articulation agreement on file with HCC in order for their students to participate in dual enrollment and early admissions programs.

NOTE: Public and private high school students interested in participating in the dual enrollment program must contact their high school counselor for information and to determine eligibility. Students enrolled in home education programs may contact the HCC dual enrollment office for information.

NOTE: When calculating Satisfactory Academic Progress for Title IV, Student Financial Assistance and adherence to any state maximum-hour requirement(s) for an AA, AS, or AAS degree, HCC will not include any courses students complete while they are dually enrolled.

Concurrent Admissions Program (ConAP)

HCC participates in the United States Army Concurrent Admissions Program (ConAP). As a ConAP member, HCC will admit eligible new soldiers upon their enlistment. Moreover, the college guarantees full admission during the soldier's entire enlistment and for two years after the applicant completes active military service.

Soldiers enlisting in the Army Reserve are also eligible for consideration under the ConAP program. However, the admission guarantee for qualified Reservists is deferred until the Reservists complete their initial period of active duty training (about six months).

Admissions Procedures

Application

NOTE: HCC reserves the right to guide the enrollment of its students on the basis of placement tests, pre-registration interviews and past academic performance.

Applications for admission can be obtained and submitted on-line at www.hccfl.edu.

Applicants must register for classes within one year of admission. Otherwise, a new application and transcripts will be required. No additional fee will be charged for the second application.

The following test scores are required for college-level courses (SBE 6A.10.0315(7)):

	ACT Enhanced	CPT	FCELPT	SAT I
Reading	18	83	83	440 (Verbal)
English	17	83	83	n/a
Mathematics	19	72	72	440

NOTE: The minimum required scores on the Florida College Entry-Level Placement Test are subject to change. Students testing into college preparatory course work are subject to certain regulations regarding registration.

Transcripts

HCC must have official transcripts on file from the high school attended and all colleges previously attended. Students admitted without transcripts, or whose transcripts do not arrive within 30 calendar days of the beginning of the regular term, will not be eligible for financial assistance, veterans, or other benefits, or eligible for future registration.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that official copies of the high school transcripts or GED scores and official copies of transcript(s) from all postsecondary schools attended are submitted to the college.

A first-time college student should request that all transcripts and GED scores be sent to the appropriate campus office of admissions, registration and records. Applicants who completed a home education program must provide a signed affidavit affirming completion to the appropriate campus office of admissions, registration and records. Transfer students should request that transcripts from all postsecondary schools attended to be sent to the appropriate campus admissions, registration and records office.

NOTE: A final, official high school transcript is one that includes the official graduation date.

IMPORTANT: If students have completed high school and postsecondary work outside of the United States, they must provide certified English translations, official transcripts, and evaluations of their high school and postsecondary transcripts from a service recognized by the National Association of Credential Evaluations Services (NACES). A course-by-course evaluation is required for all postsecondary transcripts. A document-by-document evaluation is required for high school transcripts. Students can obtain the names and addresses of approved providers of this service from the HCC website at www.hccfl.edu or from any campus office of admissions, records and registration.

NOTE: Students are responsible for all costs associated with obtaining translations and evaluations of their transcript(s).

Fraudulent Credentials

If a student knowingly:

- Makes a false statement,
- Conceals material information,
- Provides inaccurate information on any document submitted to the college,
- Alters a transcript or other academic credential, he or she may be denied admission, suspended or dismissed.

Enrollment Restrictions

Under normal conditions, all students who meet the college's admission requirements will be admitted. At times, however, state enrollment and funding limitations may preclude enrollment of out-of-state and international students. At those times, students will be admitted according to the following priorities:

1. Returning students
2. New students who are Florida residents
 - a. First-time-in-college students
 - b. Transfer students
3. New out-of-state students
 - a. First-time-in-college students
 - b. Transfer students
4. International students

NOTE: Currently enrolled students will be allowed to register for classes before new students.

The college reserves the right to deny admission to applicants whose past actions were disruptive to or interfered with the orderly processes, functions, or programs of another postsecondary institution. In addition, HCC may deny admission to students who are ineligible, for any reason, to resume their studies at another postsecondary institution.

Orientation Program

Students attending college for the first time must attend orientation and, if applicable, take a college placement test. Once the student has been admitted, the appropriate testing, admissions and records, or advising office will provide information about orientation and testing. The college will provide reasonable accommodations to disabled students taking the placement test.

Degree-seeking students must provide assessment/placement test scores from CPT, ACT, or SAT prior to registering for classes. Test scores may be no more than two years old. If the scores are older than two years or if the student has not previously taken one of the aforementioned placement tests, the student may take the test at the appropriate HCC testing office.

Students who have earned a postsecondary degree or completed college-level English and mathematics courses might be exempt from the testing requirement. The college strongly recommends that students who have completed postsecondary work at other institutions bring unofficial transcripts or grade slips with them for advising and registration purposes.

Students admitted as non-degree-seeking are exempt from the testing requirement until 12 credit hours have been attempted unless testing is required by specific course prerequisites.

Residency Requirements

For purposes of assessing registration fees in public community colleges and universities, students are classified as Florida residents or non-Florida residents per F.S. 1009.21 and SBE Rule 6A-10.044. Questions regarding classification should be directed to the campus admission, registration and records office.

To qualify as a Florida resident for tuition purposes, students must be U.S. citizens, permanent resident aliens, legal aliens granted indefinite stay by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or non-resident aliens holding one of the visa types approved by the Florida legislature for in-state tuition rates. Furthermore, students or, if students are dependents, their parent(s) or legal guardians must have established and maintained legal residence in Florida for the 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the first day of classes of the students' first terms of enrollment.

Florida law requires each public community college and or university to determine if a student is independent (provides more than 51% of his or her support as identified on the most current income tax form) or is dependent upon parent(s) or legal guardian(s) for support. Two pieces of documentation will be required to support the student's status.

Dependent students are persons for whom 50 percent or more of their support is provided by a parent or legal guardian as defined by the Internal Revenue Service. Students who depend on out-of-state parents for support are presumed to be legal residents of the same state as their parents.

Living in or attending school in Florida will not, in itself, establish legal residence. Residence in Florida must be for the purpose of establishing a permanent home and not merely incidental to enrollment at a community college or university. Any period of time in which the student resides in Florida for educational purposes may not normally be counted towards residency status.

In determining residency, HCC may require documented evidence such as:

- Proof of purchase of a permanent home in Florida in which the student resides with documentation of the filing of Homestead Exemption.
- Proof of full-time, non-temporary employment in Florida.
- Florida professional (occupational) license issued 12 months prior to the first day of classes of the regular term.
- Florida driver's license issued 12 months prior to the first day of classes of the regular term (original issue or history).
- Florida voter's registration issued 12 months prior to the first day of classes of the regular term.
- Florida vehicle registration issued 12 months prior to the first day of classes of the regular term (original issue or vehicle registration history).
- Florida incorporation.

NOTE: Rent receipts, leases, tax returns, driver's licenses, and Florida school records may be used to establish proof of physical presence in Florida but are not in themselves proof of legal residency.

Students who do not meet the 12-month legal residence requirement may be classified as Florida residents for tuition purposes only if they fall within one of the special categories authorized by the Florida legislature.

Change in residency (reclassification) requires clear and convincing documentation that supports permanent legal residency in this state for at least 12 consecutive months, such as documentation of full-time permanent employment for the prior 12 months or the purchase of a home in this state and residence therein for the prior 12 months while not enrolled.

Residency information is available at the campus admissions, registration, and records office. More residency information can be found on the FACTS website at www.facts.org.

Special Category Exemptions

Students may be classified as Florida residents even though they do not meet the 12-month legal residence requirement if they are:

- Married to legal Florida residents if they are domiciled in Florida and intend to make Florida a permanent home. Students in this category must provide a copy of the marriage license and two documents from the list above to meet the 12-month legal residency requirement for the State of Florida.
- Active duty members (and their spouses and children) of the armed services stationed in Florida or military personnel not stationed in Florida whose home of record or state of legal residence certificate, DD Form 2058, is Florida. Retired military may use DD Form, DD 214.
- Full-time instructional and administrative (and spouse/dependent children) employees of the state public school system, community colleges and other institutions of higher education.
- Dependents that have resided for at least five years with adult relatives other than their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Two documents from the list above must be provided to meet the 12-month legal residency requirement for the State of Florida.
- Dependent children whose parents are divorced, separated, or otherwise living apart if either parent is a legal resident of Florida.
- Students from Latin America and the Caribbean who attend, on a full-time basis, a Florida institution of education and receive scholarships from the federal or state government.
- United States' citizens and their spouses and dependent children living on the Isthmus of Panama who have completed 12 consecutive months of college work at the Florida State University Panama Canal Branch.
- Graduate students of the Southern Regional Board's Academic Common Market attending Florida's state universities.
- Full-time employees of state agencies or political subdivision of the state when the student fees are paid by the state agency or political subdivision for the purpose of job-related law enforcement or corrections training.
- Qualified beneficiaries under the Florida Pre-Paid Postsecondary Expense Program per F.S. 1009.97.
- McKnight Doctoral Fellows who are United States citizens or were enrolled previously at a Florida institution of higher education as Florida residents for tuition purposes who reenrolled at a Florida public institution within 12 months.
- United States citizens living outside the United States who are teaching at a Department of Defense Dependent School or in an American International School and who enroll in a graduate level education program which leads to a Florida teaching certificate.
- Active duty members of the Canadian military residing or stationed in this state under the North American Air Defense (NORAD) agreement, and their spouses and dependent children, attending a community college or state university within 50 miles of the military establishment where they are stationed.
- Active duty members of a foreign nation's military who are serving as liaison officers and are residing or stationed in this state, and their spouses and depend-

ent children, attending a community college or state university within 50 miles of the military establishment where the foreign liaison officer is stationed.

Transfer Credit

HCC will accept transfer credit from other institutions if they are accredited by one of the following regional accreditation agencies:

MSA: Middle State Association of Colleges and Schools

NEASC: New England Association of Schools and Colleges

NCA: North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

NASC: Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges

SACS: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

WASC: Western Association of Schools and Colleges

HCC conducts transcript evaluations for all lower division credit course work even when a prior degree has been earned. Therefore, applicants must provide official transcripts from each postsecondary institution they have attended. Applicants should bring unofficial transcripts or grade slips with them for advising and registration purposes.

For courses taken at accredited institutions, transfer credit will be awarded for courses in which a grade of "D" or better has been earned. Failing grades will be included when calculating grade point averages.

Since certain HCC curricula and programs require that students earn a grade of "C" or better in specific courses required for degrees or certificates, transfer students should meet with advisors to determine if courses taken elsewhere meet degree requirements. Transfer students must complete 25 percent of their degree at HCC.

HCC reviews the content and objectives of courses completed at non-regionally accredited institutions on a course-by-course basis. The transcript office will notify applicants who submit transcripts from unaccredited institutions of the documentation the college needs to complete its review. Applicants must provide HCC with all required documents before the college will begin its review.

Academic committees conduct the reviews of courses completed at non-regionally accredited institutions. If the committees find that courses have academic merit and are relevant to applicants' programs of study, applicants will be awarded the appropriate number of credits.

The transcript office notifies students when evaluations are complete.

U.S. citizens who have attended postsecondary institutions outside of the U.S. should review the information provided in the admissions procedures transcripts section for "International Students."

Registration

Registration is held each term. Students may register through HawkNet - WebAdvisor on the HCC web page at www.hccfl.edu. Students who are unable to complete registration successfully through the Internet may seek assistance from any campus admissions, registration, and records office. The dates for registration are published in the college operational calendar in the front of this publication, and on the HCC web site.

HCC may withhold registration privileges from students who have unpaid fees; who have overdue student loans; who have overdue library books, audiovisual equipment, or physical education equipment; who have failed to provide transcripts or other documents required for admission purposes; and who have been disqualified for academic or disciplinary reasons.

Audit Registration

Students who have been admitted to HCC but who wish to take courses without receiving credit may register as audit students. The following guidelines apply:

- Students must make the choice to audit when they register.
- Students may change from audit to credit or credit to audit only during the first week of the term (the drop/add period).
- Fees for audit and credit courses are the same.
- Students should confirm their audit status with the instructor on the first class date.
- Students auditing classes are not eligible to receive veterans' benefits or financial aid for those classes.
- Students receiving senior citizen fee waivers are registered as auditing students.
- Students auditing classes must meet all course prerequisites including appropriate test scores. (Senior citizens who audit courses do not need to meet course prerequisites.)
- College preparatory courses follow state-mandated guidelines and requirements. Auditing these classes might not be an available option. (For details, see the college preparatory section in this catalog.)
- Attendance is optional.

Course Load and Enrollment Status

All courses carry a specified number of credits. The unit of credit is the semester hour. A three-credit lecture course meets 150 minutes each week during the terms. Courses requiring laboratory work or skill practice may meet for more minutes each week than the credits they confer.

The college strongly recommends that students enrolled for 12 or more credits limit their employment to a maximum of 20 hours per week.

Enrollment status can change during a term. For example, if a student initially registers as full-time and withdraws from a course during a term, the student's course load might fall below 12 credits. The student's enrollment status will be reduced to less than full-time from that point until the end of the term.

Registering as a full-time, three-quarter, or half-time student can affect eligibility for financial aid, veterans' benefits, scholarships, insurance benefits and international student visas. Students receiving financial aid should

speak with a financial aid specialist about the enrollment requirements for receiving aid.

If students provide a written request, the campus office of admissions, registration, and records will inform employers, insurance agencies, and others of their enrollment status. For courses that do not coincide with the Board of Trustees' approved beginning and ending dates of a fall, spring or summer term, course load and enrollment verifications will be based upon the term in which the course begins, regardless of the actual course dates.

Enrollment status is based on the following course-load criteria:

Full-time: taking 12 or more credit hours during a term.

Three-quarter-time: taking nine to 11 credit hours during the term.

Half-time: taking six to eight credit hours during the term.

Less than half-time: taking five or less credit hours during the term.

Course Adjustment

Drop and Add

Schedule adjustments must be made during the drop/add (adjustment) period. The dates for the drop/add period are listed in the HCC operational calendar on the webpage at www.hccfl.edu/current-students/add-drop-dates.aspx. Students enrolled for classes that meet on a non-traditional calendar/schedule should get the drop/add dates from the HCC website.

IMPORTANT: If students stop attending a course but fail to officially drop or withdraw from the course, they will not be relieved of the financial obligation, and they might receive a failing grade.

Withdrawal Policy

Students may officially withdraw from one or all courses without academic penalty. There is an official withdrawal deadline date for each semester. The withdrawal deadlines are listed in the college's operational calendar and the HCC website. For classes that meet on a non-traditional calendar/schedule, the deadline to withdraw is at sixty percent of the class. Students who officially withdraw before that deadline but after the drop/add period are given a "W" grade.

IMPORTANT: Withdrawing from a course or courses may affect enrollment status and eligibility for athletics, financial assistance, veteran's benefits, international student visas, and benefits received from other federal agencies.

If students do not officially withdraw by the deadline, the instructor must assign a letter grade other than "W" to the grade report. If students have serious extenuating circumstances, they may petition the appropriate campus dean of student services for a late withdrawal. Students who officially withdraw from a class may not continue attending that class.

Students are permitted to withdraw from a course only twice. If they register for a course a third time, they will not be permitted to withdraw, and will receive a grade for the course.

Instructors can recommend to the office of admissions, registration, and records that students be withdrawn from

a class for disciplinary reasons or for non-attendance. The college will notify students whom the faculty has recommended, and the students will be given an opportunity to appeal the instructor-initiated withdrawal.

Students may attempt a course only three times (including original grades, repeat grades, and withdrawals). Through the academic appeals process, students with significant extenuating circumstances may petition for a fourth attempt. To begin the academic appeals process, students must contact the appropriate campus dean of student services. All grades from the third and any subsequent attempts will be included in the grade point average calculation.

Students must pay the full cost of instruction (equal to out-of-state fees) for credit classes they attempt a third time and any additional times. If students have serious extenuating circumstances, they may petition the appropriate campus dean of student services for a one-time exemption from paying the full cost of instruction.

Acceleration Programs

Advanced Placement (AP)*

HCC awards college credit for scores of three, four, or five on the College Board Advanced Placement Program examinations given at high schools each May. Once credit is awarded, the student may not repeat the course for a letter grade. No credit will be awarded to students who have previously been awarded CLEP or regular college credit for the same course.

* **NOTE:** To see course equivalencies and related information, refer to www.facts.org.

Certified Professional Secretary

HCC will award 12 semester hours of credit to students who have passed the Certified Professional Secretary Examination and earned the designation "CPS." (For further information, contact the appropriate campus academic dean or the Director of Technical Programs.)

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)*

CLEP provides an opportunity for those who have achieved a college level of education outside the classroom to demonstrate their achievement through testing and to earn college credit.

The advising and counseling staff can assist a student in determining which CLEP examination to attempt. CLEP tests are given at the Dale Mabry and Brandon Test Centers on the published dates. Applications are available at any HCC campus.

Students may earn up to 45 semester hours. The grade of satisfactory "S" is awarded for CLEP credit earned. Once credit is awarded, the student may not repeat the course for a letter grade.

NOTE: A student who is currently enrolled in a course or who has previously completed a course, even though the grade earned was an "F," is not eligible for CLEP credit for that course. A student who has withdrawn or dropped a course is eligible for CLEP credit the following semester.

* **NOTE:** To see course equivalencies and related information, refer to www.facts.org.

Credit-by-Examination

Students may earn credit in approved courses by earning “C” or better on the appropriate HCC examination. Exams are given on dates published in the college’s annual calendar. Credit awarded by examination becomes part of the student’s permanent record, and the grade earned on the examination is used in calculating students’ cumulative GPAs.

A student must obtain approval from the appropriate campus academic dean to take credit-by-examination. In addition to a \$20 non-refundable examination fee, a student who passes the examination will be required to pay a per-credit hour processing fee. A student may obtain the required forms and additional information through the appropriate campus academic dean. A student may not retake a credit-by-exam if a grade of “C” or better has been earned on a previous exam.

A student is not eligible to attempt credit-by-examination for any courses in which the student is currently enrolled. A student who has completed a course and earned a grade of “D” or “F” is eligible to repeat it through credit-by-examination. Grades for courses repeated through credit-by-examination are recorded in the same way as courses repeated through class attendance.

If a student has applied to graduate at the end of the term and intends to take one or more courses through credit-by-examination, that student must notify the graduation clerk in the campus office of admissions, registration, and records (AR&R). In order for credit earned through examination to be used in meeting graduation requirements, a student must submit documentation of the passing grade to the appropriate admissions, registration, and records office three weeks prior to the end of the academic term.

NOTE: Credit earned through credit-by-examination may not be counted toward the requirement that students complete at least 25% of the credit hours applicable to a degree in residence at the college.

DANTES*

A student may earn credits for State designated courses by successfully completing Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) examinations. Once credit is awarded, the student may not repeat the course for a letter grade. No credit is awarded if credit for the same course has already been earned.

* **NOTE:** To see course equivalencies and related information, refer to www.facts.org.

Dual Enrollment*

HCC awards credits for in-state dual enrollment courses (courses which are granted simultaneous credit for both high school and college). These credits are awarded as general education, elective, and/or discipline credits. Dual enrollment courses taken out of state will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Dual enrollment courses will not count as excess hours in the 60-hour requirement of an AA or AS degree.

* **NOTE:** To see course equivalencies and related information, refer to www.facts.org.

Experiential Credit

The college provides for the award of experiential credit in a limited number of technical programs: Nursing LPN-RN transition option, Emergency Medical Services,

Optical Management Technology, Radiography-ARRT option, and Industrial Management Technology. Students in these programs who provide documentation verifying licensure and/or certification within the appropriate field of study will be awarded credit.

Students must obtain approval from the appropriate campus academic dean and pay a processing fee for each request.

HCC awards experiential credit in the following programs to students who meet the appropriate criteria:

Industrial Management Program Enrollees

Students who have successfully completed one of the following Tampa Electric Company training programs and have successfully completed a minimum of 15 credit hours of industrial management courses will be awarded 33 credit hours toward an associate in applied science degree in Industrial Management.

- Controls Analyst
- Lineman Training
- Field Engineering
- Substation Electrician
- Plant Electrician

Students should obtain the experiential credit form from the appropriate campus academic dean, who will assist in completing and processing the form.

International Baccalaureate*

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is a rigorous two-year, pre-university liberal arts program of study for highly motivated, academically oriented secondary students. The IB Diploma is awarded only to students who meet curricular, service, and thesis requirements and score at the prescribed level on internationally standardized subject examinations. Through the IB program, students may be awarded up to 30 credit hours. No grades will be assigned to credits awarded through the IB Program. Students will not receive credit for IB courses that duplicate credit awarded for courses attended at HCC or credit that was awarded through other accelerated programs, (i.e., AP, CLEP, credit by examination, etc.). To determine eligibility for IB credit, the student should contact any HCC campus advisor or counselor.

***NOTE:** To see course equivalencies and related information, refer to www.facts.org.

Nursing Program Enrollees

Applicants for the LPN-RN transition program must have the following: a valid, current Florida LPN license; current CPR basic life support for health care providers; an official transcript from their LPN program; and 6 months full-time employment as an LPN during the past three years. Graduates from Erwin Vocational Technical Center are eligible for articulation credit in lieu of experiential credit. Applicants for the Paramedic transition option must have the following: a valid, current Florida paramedic license; current CPR advanced life support; and 6 months full-time employment as a paramedic during the last three years.

Optical Management Associate Degree Program Enrollees

Students who have earned at least 15 credit hours in optical management courses who provide the college with documentation verifying they hold opticianry licensure will be awarded 12 credit hours toward an associate in applied science degree in Optical Management Technology.

Radiography Program: ARRT Option Enrollees

Graduates of an approved hospital school of radiologic technology for the ARRT option must provide a copy of their certification as radiographers in good standing from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Students will be awarded 53 credit hours of radiography courses.

Paramedic - Emergency Medical Services Associate Degree Program Enrollees

Students who have completed paramedic training at a CoAEMSPs approved paramedic training center and who

possess a valid Florida paramedic certification will be awarded up to 42 credits in EMS prefixed courses required for the College Credit Certificate in the Paramedic EMS program. These credits are also applicable to the Emergency Medical Services Associate Degree Program. No credit will be awarded for advanced cardiac life support (EMS 2551C).

Sign Language Interpretation Associate Degree Program Enrollees

A student who has earned and provides proof of National Certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) and provides proof of current membership in good standing with RID is eligible to be **awarded** 18 credit hours towards the associate degree in Sign Language Interpretation. The eligible student can also **earn** 18 credit hours through credit-by-exam for specifically designated program courses to be applied to the Sign Language Interpretation associate degree.