



LIFE EXPERIENCE CREDIT POLICY

PURPOSE

To establish criteria by which students may be given academic credit for knowledge obtained outside of study in an accredited institution.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Life Experience Credit (LEC) is credit given in recognition of knowledge obtained in some way other than study in a two or four year accredited college. The knowledge must be equivalent to what would be learned in a LIU Post undergraduate course, and the applicant must be able to demonstrate such knowledge. It is the learning, not the experience itself, for which credit is awarded.

LIU undergraduate degree candidates who have completed at least six (6) undergraduate credits may be eligible for LEC. LIU graduate degree candidates may be eligible to apply for undergraduate LEC that is a prerequisite to acceptance in, or graduation from, a program leading to a graduate degree, or required for professional certification in the candidate's graduate area. To be eligible, a student must have completed six credits in a graduate degree program at LIU.

Student may demonstrate knowledge gained through life experience in the following ways:

- **Written examinations** given by the department; sometimes in the form of a final examination, typically given in the relevant class.
- **Demonstration of skills** through performance or presentation of a portfolio. This method could be used in evaluating skills in such areas as foreign language, writing, art, music, and dance.
- **Written presentation with documentation.** This method may include an essay identifying what the learning is and should demonstrate the relationship of the learning to a particular course at LIU. Include in the presentation documents and other materials that verify this learning. For example, real estate and insurance brokers, nurses, and medical technicians may have taken in-service courses and been awarded licenses or certificates of proficiency, which may be presented as supporting evidence.

The evaluator who determines LEC is a faculty specialist in the field; the evaluator decides what method of demonstration is appropriate; what evidence is necessary; and how much evidence is required to make a decision.

If Life Experience credit is approved, the student is notified to pay a fee of \$250 per credit granted. Once the fee is paid at Enrollment Services, the University Registrar's office posts the credits to the student's record.

The following additional criteria apply to the awarding of LEC:

- LEC is not awarded for graduate level courses.

- LEC does not count towards the residency requirement for graduation with honors.
- LEC is not awarded for Accounting, English Composition or Criminal Justice courses.
- A maximum of six (6) LEC credits will be awarded in foreign language.
- Students may not use LEC earned in a foreign language to fulfill a core curriculum requirement.
- The number of credits granted through LEC for a baccalaureate degree may not exceed 60. If a student also earns CLEP credit, the maximum combined LEC and CLEP credits may not exceed 60.

POLICY TYPE: STUDENT AFFAIRS