



CMI

College of the Marshall Islands

Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

P.O. Box 1258
Uluga Campus
Majuro, Marshall Islands, MH 96960

Tel: (692) 625-3394/3291/4931
Fax: (692) 625-7203

CMI POLICY NO. 382

Recognition of Prior Learning

Status:	Approved
Effective Date:	March 30, 2021
Approval Date:	March 30, 2021
Steward:	Board of Regents
Approval Authority:	Board of Regents

Policy Statement

Students may be awarded credit for prior learning on the basis of verified achievement of learning outcomes specified in the approved curriculum outlines for specific courses. Credit is not awarded for experiences alone. Verification of achievement of learning outcomes may be conducted via examination, portfolio review, or other appropriate assessment tool. Credit may also be awarded for achievement of specific credentials or certification with standardized learning outcomes.

Reason for the Policy

The College of the Marshall Islands recognizes that students enter college by a variety of paths. Recognizing extra-institutional learning not only validates students' past experiences but also ensures that they can focus on meaningful learning experiences while enrolled. It further encourages students to make connections between lived experience and formal learning.

Definitions

Prior learning: knowledge or skills gained outside of a traditional academic context.

Learning outcomes: articulations of the knowledge or skills students acquire upon completion of an experience or course of study. For the purposes of this policy, learning outcomes refer to the student learning outcomes defined in approved course outlines



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Assessment tool: techniques used to measure a student's skill or knowledge. For the purposes of this policy, assessment tools should measure the specific defined outcomes.

Statements of Elaboration of Policy

Verification

Initial verification of achievement of learning outcomes is carried out by faculty. Faculty are considered qualified to verify achievement of learning outcomes if they are qualified to teach the equivalent course. The Dean responsible for the program area ensures that this verification is carried out in accord with appropriate academic standards and without bias. Where available, approved department-wide examination papers should be used.

External Certification or Credentials

Credit for external certifications or credentials should be approved by the Curriculum Committee and may be considered prior to any students applying. The list of external certifications or credentials approved for credit shall be maintained by the office of the Dean of Academic Affairs and published in the catalog.

Records

Course equivalencies achieved through Recognition of Prior Learning shall be designated as such on student transcripts, and all records of the process shall be maintained in student files.

Letter grades will not be assigned, and credit awarded for prior learning shall not be part of the GPA computation.

Maximum Prior Learning Credit Equivalencies

Students may not complete more than 49% of a program through Recognition of Prior Learning.

Appeals

A student may appeal the outcome of the verification of learning outcomes in writing to the Dean responsible for the program. If the appeal is substantive, a different member of the faculty from the one who carried out the initial verification will carry out a second verification.

Fees

Payment shall be made at time of application and will not be refunded if it is determined that the learning outcomes have not been achieved.



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Cross References to Related Policies

This policy replaces the Credit by Examination Policy.

Responsible Officer

The Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs oversees implementation of this policy.

Key Offices to Contact Regarding the Policy and its Implementation

Initial application for Recognition of Prior Learning should be made to the Dean responsible for the program. Academic departments may be contacted regarding faculty qualifications for verification of learning outcomes, and the Registrar may be contacted regarding recording of awarded credits.

President's Signature

Dr. Irene Taafaki

March 30, 2021

Date