Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning

Academic Program Review

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Thomas Edison State College provides flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults.

The College is a nationally renowned leader in the assessment and evaluation of professional training programs for college credit and has created unique academic opportunities in a wide range of industries where technical currency, practical knowledge and applied skills have been leveraged into college credit.
Thomas Edison State College

- One of 12 New Jersey senior public institutions of higher education.

- Accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education.
  - First Accredited in: 1977
  - Completed Accreditation Review: 2012

- More than 100 areas of study. In addition, students can earn undergraduate and graduate certificates as well as noncredit professional certificates.

- Designed around the unique needs of adults wherever they live and work.
  - Programs are offered at 12 times through year, providing maximum flexibility and accessibility.
  - Courses led by distinguished mentors with strong academic credentials, extensive real-world experience and proficiency in teaching adult learners.
  - No residency requirements (except Corporate Choice Program).
  - Accept up to 80 community college level credits in transfer, 120 from 4-year colleges.
Options for earning college credit toward a degree at Thomas Edison State College

- **Academic Program Review credit**
- Online courses
- Guided (Independent) study
- Prior Learning Assessment program
- Testing programs
- E-Pack courses
- Transfer credit from other regionally accredited institutions
What is an Academic Program Review?

- An academic review of specific courses, licenses, certificates, or exams to determine college-level learning

- An evaluation of college credit equivalency and alignment with the College’s degree programs

- Designed for organizations that want to establish a partnership with Thomas Edison State College to assist with employee professional development, recruitment, and retention
How To Vote via Texting

How do you like my presentation so far?

Text a [CODE] to [37607]

- Amazing: [458456]
- Incredibly Amazing: [458471]
- It's Alright: [458472]

TIPS

1. Standard texting rates only (worst case US $0.20)
2. We have no access to your phone number
3. Capitalization doesn’t matter, but spaces and spelling do
How To Vote via Twitter

1. Capitalization doesn’t matter, but spaces and spelling do
2. Since @poll is the first word, your followers will not receive this tweet
How To Vote via PollEv.com

How do you like my presentation so far?

Text a **CODE** to **37607**
Submit a **CODE** to [http://PollEv.com](http://PollEv.com)

- Amazing: **458456**
- Incredibly Amazing: **458471**
- It's Alright: **458472**

**TIP**
Capitalization doesn’t matter, but spaces and spelling do
How To Vote via PollEv.com/username

Submit responses at PollEv.com/username

Text a CODe to 37607

Amazing: 458456
Incredibly Amazing: 458471
It's Alright: 458472

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The Process of an Academic Program Review

1. Organization applies for an academic review of its training program/credential.
2. Thomas Edison State College conducts a review of the training programs with subject matter experts to assess the college-level learning.
3. Thomas Edison State College creates a report that details the credits awarded.
4. The training program is now worth college credit at Thomas Edison State College.
5. Employees/students who successfully complete the training program can apply the credits earned towards a degree at Thomas Edison State College.
Who are the Review Team?

- Subject matter experts from various colleges/universities/professions who have expertise in the learning being reviewed

- A representative from the Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning who will be your direct contact at the College
What is being reviewed?

**Equivalency to college-level learning and/or curriculum**

- course content/materials/syllabus
- depth and breadth of learning
- learning outcomes
- how learning is assessed
- outside projects or assignments
- instructor credentials
- length of course/program
- method of instruction
- maintenance of quality standards (multiple sites)
Agenda for the day of the Review

Might include:

- Overview of organization
- Tour of facility
- Review team reviews course/program materials
- Meet with staff, faculty and students
- Discussion with organizational representatives - when questions come up
- End of day debriefing (results of review)
Criteria for determining level of learning: Bloom’s Taxonomy

Graduate level
Judging or deciding according to some set of criteria, without real right or wrong answers.
Applying prior knowledge and skills to combine elements into a pattern not clearly there before.

Upper division/Baccalaureate
Breaking down information into parts or examining the organizational structure of information.
Applying previously learned information or knowledge to new and unfamiliar situations.

Lower division/Associate
Understanding the meaning of informational materials.
Remembering or recalling appropriate, previously learned information to draw out factual (usually right or wrong) answers.
Results of the Review

For each course reviewed, the organization will receive a report that details:

- College credit recommended/awarded
- Credit not recommended/awarded
- Credit – Pending
- Recommendations
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Maintaining the Credit Award

Organizations must:

- Participate in an annual audit of courses which is no cost to the organization

- Undergo periodic re-review as necessary, based upon the results of the annual review and on the recommendation of the review team
The Competitive Advantage of an Academic Program Review for an Organization

- Improves quality of training program
- Helps to recruit and retain quality staff
  - Recognizes value of continued employee professional development
  - Advances employees toward a degree program
  - Savings of time and tuition dollars
- Links organization to Thomas Edison State College
  - APR provides a pathway for organizations to partner with the College
  - Degree template created using credit award charting student pathway to degree completion
- Review cost maximizes professional development budget for the reviewed organization
How APR adds value to the institution

- College enrollment
- Informing decisions about degree program creation or growth
- Strategic partnerships
Success Stories

- Capital Health System (N.J.) Polysomnography Program
- Chartered Financial Consultant
- Customs Broker License
- Foundation for Educational Administration (NJ EXCEL)
- The Institute of Nuclear Power Operations National Academy for Nuclear Training
- Interservice Respiratory Therapy Program at Ft. Sam Houston
- Maalot Yerushalayim
- New Jersey Direct Support Professional (DSP) Career Path in Developmental Disabilities Level 1 and/or 2 Certificate recipients
- New Jersey Foundation for Educational Administration Expedited Certification for Educational Leadership (NJEXCEL)
- New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Group
- New Jersey Carpenters Apprenticeship Training and Educational Fund
- PC AGE Career Institute
- Starting Points Institute for Early Childhood Educators
- U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) at Fort Benning, GA; Fort Knox, KY; Fort Sill, OK; and SSD-1
- United Parcel Service (UPS)
Success Stories

- 14,063 course registrations in 2011
- 2,025 students
- 1,089 enrolled
- 54% of the students who utilized APR credits enrolled in the College in fiscal year 2011
- Students who used APR credits account for 13% of College enrollment for fiscal year 2011
- Persistence rate of the 2011 cohort of enrolled students who used APR credits at the College to 2012 is 45%
Growing Partnerships

- Building Performance Institute (select credentials)
- Insulator Energy Appraisal Professional (IEAP) Certification
- International Ground Source Heat Pump Association: Accredited Installer Workshop
- LEED Certifications
- Mechanical Insulation: Green Awareness Union Certificate
- North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners: Solar Certifications

- National Elevator Industry Educational Program
- National Institute for Metalworking Skills
- New Jersey Manufacturers Extension Program
- Registered Respiratory Therapist
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Higher Education. For Adults with Higher Expectations.

Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning

The Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning was established to conduct academic reviews of specific training, apprenticeships, courses, licenses, certifications and exams that may result in an award of college credit. The Center works with organizations to assess their specialized training programs that the College has evaluated for college credit, providing a value-added benefit to their employees, clients, and/or students.

Thomas Edison State College can help students finish their degree faster by awarding college credit for training and apprenticeships they have completed.

Students may be able to earn credit for professional licenses and certifications, courses and training completed at the workplace, through corporations, government agencies, professional associations, unions, or through specialized training programs that the College has been evaluated for college credit.

Below is a list of organizations that have their training programs evaluated by the Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning.

- Accredited Installer Workshop issued by the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSPHA)
- The American College
- Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists
- Building Performance Institute, Inc.
- Capital Health System (N.J.) Polysomnography Program
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Chartered Financial Consultant
- Child Development Associate (CDA)
- COPE Institute
- Customs Broker License
- FAA Licenses/Certifications
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Certification Exams (FINRA Series Exams)
Thomas Edison State College
Office for Assessment of Professional and Workplace Learning

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