

AP, IB, CLEP, Dual Credit & Community College Courses

Advance Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Credits

While AP, IB, and CLEP credits may be used to meet undergraduate degree requirements, they cannot be counted on to satisfy professional school prerequisites. Some professional schools may limit the amount or type of AP, IB or CLEP credit used to satisfy their program prerequisites, or not accept any at all. These courses provide significant preparation for college but using these credits when applying to professional school means you have credits instead of grades. This can present a problem for professional schools.

Your Options and Making an Informed Decision

You have options and need to consider which will be the best for you and your plan of study. This is something to discuss with your academic advisor and with a pre-professional advisor. Consider the courses you are required to take for your major, the prerequisite courses for your healthcare field, and which courses you thrive in when deciding what you think will be the best plan.

- **Option 1:** Choose not to use your earned AP credits to satisfy your prerequisite courses. Take those classes at Purdue.
 - ✓ No issues satisfying professional school prerequisites
 - ✓ Content will be review—earn strong grades
 - ✗ No new knowledge gained
- **Option 2:** Use your AP credit to satisfy your prerequisite requirements for schools that accept AP. Take upper-level courses in those same subject areas to demonstrate advanced understanding of the subject.
 - ✓ Demonstrate advanced understanding of subject while satisfying schools that do not accept AP
 - ✓ Upper level courses may be part of your major
 - ✗ If not in your major, consider your anticipated performance in these fields of study
- **Option 3:** Assume AP courses will satisfy prerequisite courses and do not take additional upper-level courses in the same subject areas.
 - ✓ Be content applying only to schools that accept AP credit to satisfy prerequisite courses
 - ✓ Take any additional courses needed during junior and senior year
 - ✗ Knowledge loss. National exams will cover material from AP courses taken three years prior in high school.
- **Option 4:** Research schools' admissions requirements. Attend our Health Programs Expo and talk to school representatives.
 - ✓ Take time to make the right decision for yourself
 - ✓ We provide opportunities to meet with school representatives. Call schools and check their websites—be informed before repeating classes.

Purdue, Your AP and IB Credits, and Professional School Required Courses

Determine the Purdue course credit you can receive based on the AP course credit and test score you will have.

- [Advanced Placement Credits at Purdue](https://www.admissions.purdue.edu/transfercredit/collegeboardap.php) <https://www.admissions.purdue.edu/transfercredit/collegeboardap.php>
- [International Baccalaureate Credit at Purdue](https://www.admissions.purdue.edu/transfercredit/ibcredit.php) <https://www.admissions.purdue.edu/transfercredit/ibcredit.php>

Once you know what credit to expect, you can refer to the Career section of the Pre-Professional Advising website to look at the courses typically required for the field you want to enter.

- [Pre-Professional Advising Career Guides](https://www.purdue.edu/preprofessional/careers/Index.php) <https://www.purdue.edu/preprofessional/careers/Index.php>

Dual Credit Courses

Professional schools will typically accept dual credit to satisfy their prerequisite courses as long as you submit the original college transcript with grades when applying to professional school.

Community College Courses

Some professional schools will not accept community college credits or are somewhat biased against these courses. When possible, it is better to take all required courses (especially science) at a 4-year bachelor's degree granting institution. When in doubt, discuss the competitiveness of this option with professional programs where you will apply before taking these courses.

Discuss your options with a Pre-Professional Advisor if you have questions.

Planning for your Giant Leap

purdue.edu/preprofessional