

Veteran **Stephanie Dickerson** came to Central Massachusetts for a job in the power industry, continuing the career she had while in the Navy. After deciding she wanted to make a career change and become a programmer, Stephanie used her GI Bill and chose to attend QCC for a program in Computer Information Systems.

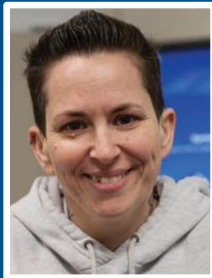


Stephanie discovered that through QCC's Credit for Prior Learning process, she could use her prior life experiences, schooling and knowledge to take several challenge examinations to earn college credits.

"Life experience is something that I believe is quite valuable to have; it's one thing to learn something, then another to put it into practice."

Stephanie was able to shorten her degree/certificate-earning process, received her Computer Information Systems, Database Certificate and began working for a small software company.

Jennifer Crossen started working in human services when she was 22 years old. Today she is an Assistant Residential Director at a treatment program for deaf adolescents who are challenged by severe social and emotional difficulties. Jennifer, who is deaf herself, said QCC provided her with the accommodations she needed, in addition to credits for her prior life experiences.



"As I applied to QCC, I looked into what the courses were about and felt I had already mastered some of them. So I pulled in a portfolio and a narrative of why I felt I should receive prior learning credits."

Jennifer received credits for four of her courses, giving her a great start towards her degree.

"I would recommend students take their first step in going back to school by looking over all their courses to see what they can apply for as prior learning credits."



CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING (CPL)



OFFICE INFORMATION

Students interested in Credit for Prior Learning should contact our office to set up an appointment.

Location: Administration Building, Room 272A

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Email: careerservices@qcc.mass.edu

Phone: 508.854.4439

Fax: 508.854.4426

CPL provides opportunities to earn academic credit for prior learning to students enrolled in QCC certificate and degree programs.¹



For more information, call 508.854.4439 or email careerservices@qcc.mass.edu



COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS

Advanced Placement (AP), CLEP, and DSST— these exams are done through national services.

Cost – Fees are paid to each individual service.

Transcript Notation – Credit (Cr)

Challenge Examination — After receiving approval through the Credit for Prior Learning proposal process, the student will be given the opportunity to earn credit for an existing QCC course by taking a test that has been developed and administered by a QCC instructor.*

Cost – \$75 per credit (nonrefundable)

Transcript Notation– Pass (P)

www.QCC.edu/CPL

CREDENTIALING

The process of awarding academic credit for courses, trainings, workshops, and/or examinations taken outside accredited college programs. Successful completion of this learning results in a credential, which may be in the form of a certificate, transcript, or license. Course credit is determined by faculty review, or based on nationally recognized credit recommendations from the American Council on Education (ACE).*

Cost – \$75 per credit²

Transcript Notation – Pass

A transcript notation denotes how a course will appear on your transcripts. Depending on the way a credit for prior learning is earned, will determine how it is notated on your transcript. Transcript notations include: Credit and Pass.

¹ Restrictions apply to Criminal Justice students for Credit for Prior Learning

² QCC non-credit courses and military credentialing – no fee

* Please note that some restrictions may apply when transferring to another institution

For additional information about Credit for Prior Learning: visit <https://myexperiencecounts.mass.edu/>

PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT

After receiving approval through the credit for prior learning proposal process, Career Services will meet with student and provide appropriate guidelines. The final portfolio will contain a collection of documents, reflective writing which will showcase competencies, formal training and general knowledge attained through prior work, or general life experience.

Once portfolio is submitted a faculty member will review and assess for college level learning.*

Cost – \$75 per credit

Transcript Notation – Pass