I. Introduction

A. The Board of Trustees of Rio Hondo College authorizes the College to grant appropriate semester unit credit to any student who is currently enrolled and successfully passes an assessment.

II. Requirements

A. Individual departments and/or specialty areas may elect to grant course credit to enable students who can demonstrate proficiency in bodies of subject matter, to plan a relevant educational program that will exclude courses in which essential levels of mastery of subject matter material in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the curriculum committee have been previously attained.

B. To challenge a course and receive credit for prior learning, a student must be registered in the College and be in good standing. Course(s) must be listed in the College catalog. Students may be exempt from this if they are requesting to challenge and receive credit by assessment for a high school / Regional Occupational Program (ROP) and Career Technical Education (CTE) articulated pathway.

C. Students may not be enrolled in the course for which they may want to challenge and receive credit for prior learning; students may receive credit by completing courses in high school ROP, CTE, and articulated programs.

III. Limits on credit by assessment

A. Students shall be given course credit to a limit of twelve Rio Hondo College units upon the successful completion of assessment(s), which may be applied to an Associate degree. Once the student has completed an upper division course at Rio Hondo College, the student is eligible for an additional four units of course credit through credit by assessment. These courses shall not count as units in residence.

B. Upon completion of six upper division units at Rio Hondo College, students shall be given course credit to a limit of twelve upper division Rio Hondo College units upon the successful completion of assessment(s), which may be applied to a Bachelor’s degree. These courses shall not count as units in residence.

C. Credits acquired by assessment are not applicable to meeting of such unit load requirements as Selective Service deferment, Veteran’s or Social Security benefits.

IV. Credit by external assessment

A. After completing twelve units in residence, a student will be awarded credit by external assessment with passing scores from the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Advanced Placement (AP) assessments. Specific course credit and/or general education credit will be granted
toward the Associate degree and/or transfer. Details on scores and how credit is applied can be found in the Rio Hondo College catalog.

V. Academic records

A. The student’s academic record must clearly indicate that the credit(s) have been earned by assessment of prior learning.

VI. Sources/references

A. Education Code Section 79500

B. Title 5 Sections 55050 and 55052