

# Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

## CPL Collaboration Project Update

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Indiana Commission for Higher Education

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CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING COLLABORATION

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# PROJECT OVERVIEW



INDIANA COMMISSION ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION

## THE WHY



- ▶ Nearly 40% have some college, but no degree or credential
- ▶ How can we help Hoosier adults further their education or training?
- ▶ Aim to be a top-10 state in terms of:
  - **Postsecondary attainment** for veterans, individuals with disabilities, and the justice-involved
  - **Utilization of credit for prior learning** to honor the work, training, and education already achieved by adult learners

# IMPACT OF CPL: BETTER STUDENT OUTCOMES

CPL compared to non-CPL students:

- ▶ **17%** increase in completion rates
- ▶ **17.6** additional credits earned
- ▶ Strong outcomes regardless of race, ethnicity, and income level

Sources: CAEL/WICHE, *The PLA Boost* (2020); CAEL/WICHE, *The Equity Paradox of the PLA* (2021)



# CHE'S CPL EFFORTS

- ▶ **Phase I (2021):** partnership with CHE, Ivy Tech Community College, Thomas P. Miller and Associates (TPMA), and Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) in developing first 10 declining occupational crosswalks mapped to accelerated paths of studies in demand/growing crosswalks, competency-based models
  - ▶ Professional development was offered to key faculty/staff in how to develop future occupational crosswalks
- ▶ **Phase II (2021-22):** Partnership with CHE, the Governor's Workforce Council, all institutions, TPMA, and CAEL in support of continuing the work from Phase I:
  - ▶ Statewide Taskforce and Issuance of Policy Report
  - ▶ Professional Development
  - ▶ Marketing Plan & Digital Toolkit
  - ▶ Employer Engagement

## PHASE III OF CPL (JUNE-NOVEMBER 2023)

- ▶ TPMA and CAEL continued to provide project management and technical assistance to CHE in supporting CPL Phase III efforts
- ▶ Approximately 75 participants from postsecondary, workforce, state agency partners
- ▶ Taskforce working group activities included:
  - ▶ Determining a statewide data collection strategy to support adult learners
  - ▶ Accelerating vision and plan for the CPL Clearinghouse 2.0
  - ▶ Developing state model CPL policy guidance
- ▶ Professional development offered (webinar, workshop)

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# DRAFT STATE MODEL POLICY OVERVIEW



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# POLICY OVERVIEW

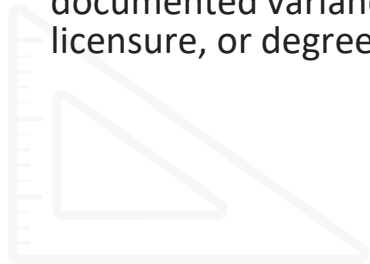
- ▶ Compiled by task force from other state policies
  - ▶ Fewer than 10 states currently have state CPL policy / guidance
- ▶ Focus on areas of common agreement
- ▶ Much implementation left to institutions
- ▶ Divided into 5 sections





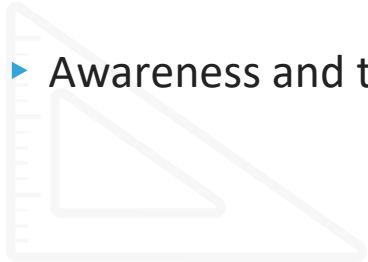
# POLICY OVERVIEW – VALUE STATEMENT

- ▶ Recognizes that learning comes from diverse sources
- ▶ Commitment to nontraditional learners; value of CPL to them
- ▶ "This prior learning is equivalent to the learning outcomes provided in our classrooms, and this equivalency is validated by academically sound and rigorous prior learning assessment methods."
- ▶ CPL is consistent with our diverse institutional missions."
- ▶ "Institutions will strive to deliver CPL in accordance with this framework with a consistent, equitable, and standardized process and as a means to serve credential completion and the public good, with documented variances occurring based on an institution's mission, specialized program accreditation, licensure, or degree requirements."



# POLICY OVERVIEW - PROGRAM AND SERVICE DESIGN

- ▶ Awarding credit
- ▶ Research and goal setting
- ▶ Tuition and fees
- ▶ Program design
- ▶ Student support services
- ▶ Awareness and transparency



# POLICY OVERVIEW – TRANSCRIPTION, TRANSFERABILITY, AND DATA

- ▶ Data collection and reporting
- ▶ Transcription
- ▶ Transfer
  - ▶ Between Indiana institutions
  - ▶ From third party evaluators



# POLICY OVERVIEW – STANDARDS FOR ASSESSING CPL AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

- ▶ Overall Policy
- ▶ Policy Reviews
- ▶ Elements of Institutional Policies
  - ▶ How decisions are made and by whom
  - ▶ Standards for "prior learning" and "equivalent"
  - ▶ Clarity
  - ▶ Student accessibility

# POLICY OVERVIEW – COMMUNITY, WORKFORCE, AND EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ Institutions asked to develop plans, processes, and external messaging
- ▶ Example partnership policies
- ▶ Best practices for developing partnerships



## NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Finalize initial CPL Model Policy Guidance providing for minimum program standards and supporting consistency among the institutions
- ▶ Promote CPL ambassador role at institutions, community partners
- ▶ Implement as possible Phase III taskforce recommendations; TPMA will provide full report by end of 2023
- ▶ Identify Phase IV projects, timeline, funding opportunities

