
Procedure: Credit for Competency/Proficiency

1. World Languages Credit for Competency/Proficiency

A. Definition:

For purposes of this procedure, a world language is defined according to the definition used by the Higher Education Coordinating Board as “[a]ny natural language that has been formally studied [...], including American Sign Language (AMESLAN, the language of the deaf community), and languages no longer spoken, such as Latin and ancient Greek. However, neither computer 'languages' nor forms of deaf signing aside from AMESLAN are acceptable.”

B. Demonstrating Competency/Proficiency in a World Language

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will manage the assessment process so that students seeking competency based credit can demonstrate competency/proficiency across language skills. Assessments will be aligned to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines in order to ensure consistency across languages. The Muckleshoot Tribal School will select the appropriate assessment instrument(s) from the following:

1. Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) in reading, writing, and speaking (and listening, if available) for all languages for which it is available (as of 2017, Spanish, French, German, Russian, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, Hebrew). STAMP is offered by Avant Assessment (<http://avantassessment.com>).
2. American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) assessments Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) or Oral Proficiency Interview Computer Based (OPIc) and Writing Proficiency Test (WPT) — for languages for which STAMP is not available or for which ACTFL assessments are deemed to be more appropriate. ACTFL assessments are offered through Language Testing International (<http://www.languageesting.com>).
3. Appropriate assessments for American Sign Language such as the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI).
4. For languages that do not currently have any other nationally available proficiency based assessment, The Muckleshoot Tribal School will work with local language communities and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) World Languages Program to develop a collection of evidence process, such as LinguaFolio, that is aligned with ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

C. Determining Competency and Credit Equivalencies

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will award one or more credits based on the student demonstrating an overall proficiency level according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines as follows:

1. Novice Mid – 1 credit (Carnegie Unit)
2. Novice High – 2 credits
3. Intermediate Low – 3 credits
4. Intermediate Mid – 4 credits

Since students may demonstrate varied levels of proficiency across skills, credits will be awarded based on the lowest common level of proficiency demonstrated across the skill areas.

(Example: If a student demonstrated Intermediate Mid level proficiency in Speaking, but Novice Mid in Reading and Writing, then credits would be awarded based on the lowest common level of demonstrated proficiency: one credit for Novice Mid. The student would not receive individual credits for separate

language skills. In this example, the student would not receive four credits for Intermediate Mid in Speaking and one credit each for Novice Mid in Reading and Writing. The total award is one World Language credit.)

2. Other Potential Credit for Competency/Proficiency

A. Definition:

For purposes of this procedure, other potential competency credits must align with district approved curricular areas such as math, science, English, social studies, art, and/or Career and Technical Education.

B. Demonstrating Competency/Proficiency in a Curricular Area:

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will manage the assessment process so that students seeking competency based credit can demonstrate competency/proficiency across curricular content areas. Assessments must be nationally recognized assessments or pre-approved assessments by the Muckleshoot Department of Education. The Muckleshoot Tribal School will select the appropriate assessment instrument(s) from the following:

- Advanced Placement (AP) exams that students are not earning standard classroom credit. All Advanced Placement (AP) testing in current curricular areas for which it is available. Advanced Placement (AP) if offered by the College Board (<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org>).
- College-Level Examination Program Credit (CLEP) is awarded to students who achieve acceptable scores on the CLEP examinations. The general exam subjects include English, humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences/history.
- DANTES Subject Standardized Test - A nationally recognized exam, the DANTES subject test are administered through the Educational Testing Service and covers a wide range of technical business and academic subjects.
- Challenge exams may be developed, approved by MTS administration and administered by MTS faculty. Students may be eligible to challenge a course if they feel confident that they have mastery over the material, have never taken and failed the course, and if there is no standardized competency exam (such as CLEP) available. Students are required to show mastery at 80% proficiency or higher in order to pass a challenge examination.

C. Determining Competency and Credit Equivalencies

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will award one half or more credits based on the student demonstrating an overall proficiency level according to the College Board Guidelines as follows:

- AP Level 3 – .5 credit (Carnegie Unit)
- AP Level 4 – 1 credit
- AP Level 5 – 1.5 credits

3. Potential Retrieval of Credit through Competency/Proficiency

A. Definition:

For purposes of this procedure, retrieval of credit through competency/proficiency means that students who has meet standard on a required state assessment may retrieve credit for a course that they previously did not pass. The course must align to the particular assessment.

B. Determining Competency and Retrieval of Credit Equivalencies

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will award one half or more credits based on the student demonstrating an overall proficiency level according to the College Board Guidelines as follows:

- a. At standard – .5 credit (Carnegie Unit)
- b. Above standard – 1 credit

4. Offering Testing Opportunities

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will manage the assessment process so that students have multiple (3) opportunities to take or retake the assessment(s) required to demonstrate proficiency. Assessments must be offered in a proctored setting with appropriate technology and in alignment with the sponsoring company’s assessment requirements. The Muckleshoot Tribal School will approve the site(s) where the assessments are offered, which could include individual schools, district buildings, community colleges, universities, educational service districts, or other community settings.

5. Paying for Assessments

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will set a fee for the assessments to cover administrative costs, test fees, and/or proctoring. Fees may vary depending on the assessment costs. The Muckleshoot Tribal School will offer financial assistance to students who demonstrate need, or as prescribed by Tribal Council.

6. Reporting Results

The Muckleshoot Tribal School will receive official test results for each student participating in the assessment process. The Muckleshoot Tribal School will provide a letter to the student with a copy of the test results and an indication of how many world language credits, if any, may be awarded. If requested by the student, the school counselors will record the world language credits earned on the official transcript. Credits will be awarded with a grade of “Pass.”

Approval Dates

MTS School Commission: 12/13/2017
Executive Committee for Education: 12/19/17
Muckleshoot Tribal Council: 1/12/18