

## **Questions Asked by Webinar Attendees – 11/13/08**

**Q: Which majors have internships/work experience available (in Arizona) through CollegePlus?**

A: We typically work on a student by student basis for helping them line up internships. Really, they would have eligibility to participate in any internship that is open to other college students.

**Q: Is there a list of graduate schools available showing where CollegePlus! students have been accepted?**

A: We haven't published a list yet, but it includes online, public, and private schools.

**Q: I'm interested in possibly pursuing a variety of foreign languages... is there a degree out there for that?**

A: You could earn a good part of your humanities degree with foreign language training credits. Or you can get a BA in Foreign Language that would incorporate a lot of that training.

**Q: Does CP offer a BA in Foreign Language?**

A: This would be student-specific. This degree would be possible if the student could take local hands-on courses for the language he/she wants to study. The credit could then be transferred to TESC or another distance learning college.

**Q: What is the time for the webinars next week?**

A: There will be a seminar on Tuesday (11/18) and Thursday (11/20) of next week from 8-9 PM CST. Please watch for an email with the details.

**Q: How do you do a music degree with this program?**

A: Music degrees completed through CollegePlus! are comprised mainly of portfolios. A portfolio is carefully documented experience that the student has obtained - such as a performance, music theory, etc. In some cases, classes or performances at a local community college are required.

**Q: Can GI BILL or other state funds for military service (tuition assistance) be applied to CP?**

A: GI Bills cannot be applied to CP specifically, but they can be applied to CLEP and DANTEs exams.

**Q: If you receive Tuition payments from a state fund such as Texas's Hazlewood Act for military veterans, how would those funds apply to CLEP/DANTES or the other forms of ADL?**

A: I'm not entirely sure about the Hazelwood act. I know that active military have CLEPs and DANTEs paid for if they pass the exam. Does this sound like it corresponds w/ the Hazelwood act?

**Q: What if we are interested in a field such as linguistics. I didn't see it on the list. Would we have to get a BA in English and then take more specific classes elsewhere? Are there any linguistic internships that you are aware of?**

A: A BA in English would be helpful or a BA in Foreign Language. Although this isn't an internship, going through a TEFL course and then teaching locally at a volunteer program would be a great "local" linguistic internship that would look excellent on a resume and/or personal statement for grad school.

**Q: Do CP credits transfer to the University of North Texas?**

A: Most CP credits are earned through CLEP and DANTES exams, so you'd have to check w/ UNT to see how many of these they will accept.

**Q: What do you think your chances are going up a person with a degree from a well known college - USC, Harvard ect. vs a DL degree? Seems like an up hill challenge. Does this direction seem better if you're going for a Masters?**

A: Not necessarily. These days employers are doing less "legacy" hiring based on the school and more on the student's coursework and prior experience gained through internships. Since most of our students graduate early and can intern before leaving home to support themselves, their resumes can even excel beyond a student who graduated from a top-tier school who doesn't have as much experience.

**Q: Who is Woody Robertson?**

A: Woody Robertson is a co-founder of CollegePlus! and the VP of Sales/Marketing. For more information, please see <http://www.collegeplus.org/howeare/meetourteam/staff/woodyrobertson>

**Q: Are there any real class room courses at satellite schools or is it all online?**

A: If you have an on-site college or university you would like to attend, that is definitely a possibility. It will be more expensive but you can do it.

**Q: Our daughter just graduated high school in May - how would we begin this choice now?**

A: The best way is to fill out our no cost/no obligation application. You can see our fall promo and a link to the application here: <http://www.collegeplus.org/jam>

**Q: What are the similarities and differences between CollegePlus! and Verity?**

A: CollegePlus! is strictly distance learning while Verity requires most students to go on campus. Also, Verity's distance students do not receive the same level of tailor-made coaching that CollegePlus! students receive. This is information we've received from former Verity distance learning coaches.

**Q: What institution offers the history BA entirely through CLEPs and DANTES?**

A: A BA in History can be completed through Thomas Edison State College with as little as 2 online courses (the rest of the credits would be CLEPs and DANTES). However, a Social Science and History degree can be completed entirely through CLEP and DANTES.

**Q: Would they accept ASL from an accredited university?**

A: Yes, definitely!

**Q: Why would a person go through CollegePlus! and not directly work with Thomas Edison State College?**

A: TESC doesn't offer any coaching for CLEP or DANTEs exams. They only advise students on the courses that they offer through the college. So there is no time or cost savings by going directly to TESC.

**Q: What if you credits from an accredited University are more than twenty years old?**

A: There may be a possibility of them transferring in, depending on the degree granting university or college. Colleges today are rather finicky on accepting older credits, but they do that on a varied basis.

**Q: If a person completes the Social Science and History degree through CLEP and DANTEs, what institution do they receive their degree from?**

A: Thomas Edison State College. While the large part of a degree is comprised of CLEPs and DANTEs, there are other types of tests or courses that would be required, depending on the degree.

**Q: Can we get out transcripts evaluated before we commit to this process?**

A: Yes, to some extent. If you are referring to college transcripts, the only criterion for them being accepted is that they come from a regionally accredited college or university. Otherwise, the college will most likely not accept the credits as transfer credit.

**Q: Is American Sign Language (ASL) accepted as a foreign language at Thomas Edison?**

A: I don't think that TESC will accept ASL as a foreign language. Sorry!

**Q: When will you run promotions and discounts?**

A: Promotions and discounts are run throughout the year. We are running a promotion right now through the end of November that gives you \$150 off CollegePlus! tuition and a free College in the Bag. Please see <http://www.collegeplus.org/jam> for more information.

**Q: How long does the assessment process take to determine what degree to a student would pursue?**

A: That's up to the student. It's shorter if they already know what major they want. The Life Purpose Planning process will help with this decision and is done in the first 3-5 weeks of CollegePlus! coaching.

**Q: Is Charter Oak also accredited and offering the same degrees as TESC?**

A: Yes it is accredited and offers many of the same degrees. If you lived in state or saw other benefits to attending, you could easily enroll there instead of TESC.

**Q: Are there any degrees that would be in Biblical languages, Hebrew and Greek?**

A: The closest degree to these would be a BA in Foreign Language.

**Q: I attended college from 1999-2001 and left my third year to take a job offer. Will my class credits still count? Is there a time limit or expiration on the credit hours that I have already earned?**

A: As long as the credits you earned are from a regionally accredited college or university, they will definitely transfer in. The time limit is usually twenty years, so you have nothing to worry about.

**Q: How does CollegePlus! determine which of the three schools will be best for the student?**

A: Right now only special cases will be considered for Excelsior or Charter Oak. Otherwise, Thomas Edison is the best option for 99% of our students.

**Q: I logged on late and may have missed it, but what is the fee portion for CollegePlus?**

A: \$2699. However, we do run promotions and discounts throughout the year.

**Q: What are the fees for CollegePlus! outside of the Clep/Dante costs?**

A: For 12 months of coaching, CP costs \$2699. The next twelve months is \$995.

**Q: What are the other two schools that were mentioned: Excelsior and Charter Oak? What are there benefits and web addresses?**

A: Yes. <https://www.excelsior.edu/> and <http://www.charteroak.edu/>. At this point there aren't any differences except tuition. Charter Oak may be a bit less expensive but they are not nearly as flexible as TESC is flexible.

**Q: Can you give a brief history of CLEP? How long has this process been around?**

A: Good question! The CLEPs have existed for several decades, since the early 70s. Students have been earning credit this way for decades!

**Q: Do you offer financial aid to students?**

A: Part of this process is eligible for financial aid. Otherwise, it's out of pocket. But the costs are so minimal and staggered throughout the process that this hasn't been a challenge for most families. The part that's eligible for financial aid takes into account about 40% of the degree.

**Q: Where is Thomas Edison State College located?**

A: Thomas Edison State College is located in Trenton, New Jersey.

**Q: What time is the webinar on Tuesday (11/18)?**

A: 8-9 PM CST

**Q: Do you know of anyway a person can earn a degree in Alternative energy?**

A: While alternative energy degrees are rare, we do work with students that want to pursue unusual or non-distance learning friendly degrees through our [College of your Choice program](#). I don't know any specifics about this particular degree, but one of our academic advisors could help you (research) in more detail when you apply.

**Q: Do you mean 3 more years beyond the 2 I already have?**

A: Yes, because you need to go through teacher licensure, which isn't typically a process that can be accelerated.

**Q: I already have a 2 yr degree in engineering and I would like to get a teaching degree. How long would it take?**

A: An education-oriented degree and licensure would probably take about 3 years. A good amount of that time will be taken up w/ your teaching practicum so the coursework will last about 24 months or so.

**Q: I love this concept, but our two children are getting academic and sports scholarships which will pay for their college. So it would actually cost us more to do the CollegePlus! program. I can't rule out the advantage of time not spent under contrary worldviews, but the scholarships are hard to give up and I am praying that they are well grounded. But I am concerned. I would like to use this concept as much as possible to shorten their time on campus. What do you think?**

A: Your situation is understandable and congratulations on your kids' success! You can find out how many CLEP/DANTES credits the school will allow the students to take instead of sitting through classes. Some schools accept as many as 30 credits of CLEP/DANTES. They are usually very open about which exams they'll accept and how many credits they'll accept.

**Q: What exactly are these people using to study for the exams? Are there recommended texts?**

A: There are both recommended texts and study guides. The texts are usually just college textbooks in the subject area but the study guides are exam specific.

**Q: We have considered doing CLEPs, but I don't know if we feel comfortable knowing that we are prepared. This is so new to us. Also, the other question is to know which CLEP tests would actually give them credits towards their degree.**

A: I understand where you're coming from. You can do things to prepare and feel prepared for each exam. Check out the [Official Clep Study Guide](#), a compendium of sample exams for all the CLEP exams that exist. Your second question is the reason we created the CollegePlus! program because we give students their entire degree template are mapped out for them when they enroll. Students have completed this degree process on their own, but most enjoy the guidance of a CollegePlus! coach to complete the process.

**Q: Any response on SAT or ACT scores? Similar to passing AP classes, how does this figure into the process?**

A: The SAT or ACT is not required to enroll in CollegePlus!

**Q: Curious if any teens enter college to work on their masters after completing distance learning degree?**

A: Yes. We have a number of students that have gone on to grad school successfully.

**Q: How does SAT score or merit scholars figure into this? I have heard that depending on the scores, many of the lower level or basic courses will be eliminated.**

A: For these degrees, the SAT is not even required because students enroll in the college toward the end of their degree after they have earned 80 to 90 credits already.

**Q: How is graduation recognized for students who have earned their degree?**

A: Students receive a diploma and certificate once they've completed the requirements to graduate. There is an optional "on-site" graduation ceremony with Thomas Edison State College that some students choose to attend, but most don't.

**Q: Do CP! enrolled students often combine their CLEP and DANTES exam studying with their regular high school curricula, or is that uncommon? Would it be probable for a student following such a plan to complete a bachelor's degree with credit-by-exam in under 2 years?**

A: It's very common to combine using high school curricula. As long as the student is motivated and can put the required time in, completing a degree in less than two years is definitely possible!

**Q: Have you ever had students who were taking part-time college classes and using CP! at the same time? Do you think that the course load would be too difficult in conjunction with a senior year of high school curricula?**

A: Students can definitely do both simultaneously. However, doing both may hamper how many CLEPs the student can do. I maxed out at three classes while working part time and wasn't able to do any CLEPs during that time. However, while I was taking 2 courses, I was able to work 30 hours a week and take 8 CLEPs over 12 weeks. This may be too much for a high school senior to tackle, though!

**Q: What resources does CP! use to help students find internships in their area? And at what time during their enrollment with CP! would a student typically participate in an internship?**

A: There are several websites that the coaches would recommend to the student, as well the book, Peterson's Internships. Many CollegePlus! students participate in internships or part-time jobs at various times during their enrollment.

**Q: I have taken biology, chemistry, algebra II, geometry, and am currently partway through pre-calculus and physics. I'm in the middle of my junior year. Do you think it would be wise to start earning a degree through CP! ASAP (e.g. this semester or next)?**

A: Yes, I would enroll right away since you're such a motivated student!

**Q: You mentioned that students would have eligibility to participate in any internship that is open to other college students, but is that true even if a student is not enrolled in a college, only CP?**

A: Yes, I see your point. There may be some high level internships that require current enrollment but our students who have interned locally haven't run into this issue at all. The fact that they were enrolled in CP and not a traditional college did not inhibit them from interning.

**Q: How can I get a copy of tonight's program?**

A: You'll receive an email tomorrow when we post the recording.

**Q: If my daughter goes to this college, will it transfer to LSU or Texas AM?**

A: A certain amount of credits will transfer to LSU and A&M. Most of our students earn their degree through Thomas Edison State College and then go on to the school of their choice for graduate training. However, if a student adamantly wants to attend a certain university, we can help them with the specific amount of credits the university will allow from this process.

**Q: Is there a deadline to begin CollegePlus?**

A: Students can begin any time of the year. The enrollment process usually takes 1 month.

**Q: Can you get a music degree through CP?**

A: Yes. Music is a fairly popular degree choice at CollegePlus!

**Q: Can you get the music degree thru study at home, or does it require a person to be on campus?**

A: Most of the credits in a Music degree can be obtained at home. Some credits may require you to attend a local college for a very short duration.

**Q: How old do you have to be to enroll in CollegePlus?**

A: While there is no set minimum age, we recommend that students start in their junior year of high school (usually age 16).

**Q: If I'm 13 and homeschooled with straight A's and a semi-easy work load, could I start at a very easy pace??**

A: I would advise starting when you've completed biology, algebra 2, and a little bit of chemistry. However, if you think you could study for these and do accelerated learning simultaneously, then go ahead and apply!

**Q: Is 13 or 14 acceptable to apply to CollegePlus?**

A: It depends on the course load and level of difficulty a student has in high school. Typically, we would recommend starting at 16, however we do have a few students as young as 14. I would recommend applying to CollegePlus! so we can better answer this question.

**Q: Could you provide a list of majors that this would apply to?**

A: Yes. You can see a list at this link: <http://www.collegeplus.org/majors>.

**Q: What about technical training, how does ADL apply to those?**

A: Some degrees are too hands-on in nature to work with distance learning. However, it's very easy to combine distance learning and on-site training if there is a local college or university that the student wants to attend. He/she can then transfer those credits into the distance learning college.

**Q: In the corporate world, degrees are a must, but the number one thing is leadership, influence, people skills. How is ADL capitalizing on what I mentioned above?**

A: Great question! Since most of our students finish early and with no debt, they are able to do internships to get work and leadership experience before they need to find a full time job. This is an excellent option compared to the typical grad who may never have interned and graduated \$29,000 in debt and needs to support himself/herself directly after graduation.

**Q: Can students participate in the internships right from their "first year", so to speak?**

A: Definitely. We've had some students do internships before starting CP.

**Q: How do you find out about internships? Usually they are posted or made available through the local colleges. If you aren't attending there, you wouldn't know, other than cold calling every company in the phone book.**

A: Actually, most of our students have found internships through personal contacts they've made through the church, ministries or jobs they've worked. Although it may help to be attending a local college, our students have not been hindered by this. There are many sorts of internships some officially arranged through colleges granting credit and some through personal acquaintance. In the case of the former, there are directories like the Peterson's Guide to Internships which list over 50k internship options available to students. For the latter, where a student finds a mentor or friend in his or her own community to intern under, the student would document the credits through portfolio. We'll talk a little about this on Tuesday.

**Q: What is Liberal Studies?**

A: Liberal studies is a degree that takes an equal amount of various majors. For instance, instead of thirty credits in business or English, the requirements are a smattering of science, social science/history, and the humanities.

**Q: Is there a traditional Home Economics degree or a Classical Christian Liberal Arts degree?**

A: I'm not aware of a major available in either of these degrees. Since no Christian college will accommodate this process, the availability for Christian oriented degrees is limited.

**Q: How does a person arrange to take CLEP/DANTES tests?**

A: Most CLEPs and DANTEs are taken at your local college, where the tests are administered. Most colleges charge a \$15-25 administrative fee, and usually require an appointment in advance.

**Q: Have the tests changed and been "updated" to reflect a liberal worldview or are they the same tests from the 70s? Do Christian text books (like Apologia) really prepare one for these tests?**

A: For non-worldview related exams, Christian textbooks work just fine. However, some exams require secular textbooks to study with because of the liberal bent of the exams.

**Q: What do we need to include in a music portfolio?**

A: Music portfolios contain documents, an essay, and other examples of previous experience. Each portfolio's requirement varies, depending on the subject.

**Q: Does it matter whether or not I live in the U.S. if I want to use CollegePlus?**

A: We have students studying all over the world using these systems. Due to the fact that a significant amount of credits are earned through exam (CLEP, Dantes), one factor is to consider where the closest testing site is to you. I would suggest visiting <http://www.collegeboard.com/clep> for a listing of testing sites internationally. If you go on our website ([www.collegeplus.org](http://www.collegeplus.org)) and request information, or call us toll free at 866.989.5432, one of our experienced staff would be thrilled to assist you in more detail.

**Q: Do you have to go to the Thomas Edison State College campus to finish any of the degrees?**

A: No, most of the degrees students are interested in (communications, business, etc) require no on-campus time!

**Q: Can my 11th grader benefit from courses already taken for college credit?**

A: Yes, your 11th grader can definitely benefit from his/her prior academic subjects like biology, chemistry, algebra, and English composition, just to name a few.

**Q: You stated that teaching degrees have an unfriendliness toward distance learning. Do you have anyone who has completed a Special Ed degree via this program or a teaching degree?**

A: Unfortunately, no.

**Q: Are the webinars recorded? We will be out of town next week.**

A: Yes, all of these webinars will be recorded and available to watch/listen on the internet.

**Q: In addition to pursuing CollegePlus! for our 13 year old daughter, we have a secondary reason for considering your program. I have not seen this addressed in your material. My husband, who spent a number of years teaching, did not renew his MN teaching license as he was no longer in the education field when it expired. Now, we are wanting to have this licensure renewed. Can he use your program to quickly get the equivalent of 125 clock hours necessary for this requirement?**

A: I'm not sure what you are referring to when you say "clock hours." Does this mean hours teaching in the classroom?

**Q: These are literal clock hours to be accomplished in several ways, most commonly in the college classroom. I'm not sure of the ratio, but I suppose a few semester credits would cover the requirement.**

A: Hmm, I've never dealt with that question before since post-baccalaureate training is outside of our area of expertise. Sorry I can't be of more help!

**Q: Is there an age limit on TESC, and if there is, can you start your degree earlier with another college and then transfer credits?**

A: No, there's no age limit. You could start your degree w/ another college as long as it's regionally accredited.

**Q: Would CollegePlus! accept Sign Language as my second language?**

A: CollegePlus! does not have any language requirements, other than English.

**Q: What college would CP recommend for a music education degree?**

A: Most of our students go through Thomas Edison State College, the college we recommend.

**Q: What is an accredited university?**

A: An accredited university is one that is "recognized" as a legitimate college by an external "third party" accrediting agency. Regional Accreditation is higher than National, because a regional agency/organization has fewer colleges to "supervise" and therefore can provide a more strict monitoring of those colleges in its jurisdiction.

**Q: Do you provide the high school material or is CollegePlus! just providing the college work to go along with what you would regularly do?**

A: CollegePlus! offers a lot of great advice for students who want to combine high school and college. A lot of the resources our students use are high school texts, like Apologia Biology and Chemistry.

**Q: I will pursue the actual course titles (or education classes) that would qualify for the MN teacher's license renewal. When or how should I connect with you to see if these might be classes my husband could CLEP test through CP? We have thought of distance learning through local colleges but would like to see what you could do first.**

A: As soon as you get the list, you can compare it w/ the exam descriptions for CLEP and DANTES, respectively at these links: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/exams.html> and <http://getcollegecredit.com/resources.html#factsheets>. If there are a number that we can help with, then CP enrollment would probably be a good option for him.

**Q: If I have 12 classes left for my BA, can I try to test out of all 12?**

A: It depends on the subject and the degree. Some degrees can be almost be tested out of entirely. Others, such as Music, are limited in the number of standardized tests that can be taken.

**Q: It is important that my daughter is classified as a full-time student so that she will remain on my employer provided insurance -- she has special medical needs. Can her status as a full-time student be documented when using CollegePlus?**

A: Yes, she can remain a full time student using this process. We routinely write a letter for students enrolled in CollegePlus!

**Q: My daughter has already received her AA. Is it possible for her to go through this program to receive her B.S.?**

A: Yes, it would definitely be possible for her to earn her BS. Now, she may only be able use this process for about 40 more credits or so but that will still enable her to accelerate her degree!

**Q: Are there any degrees that can be achieved entirely through CLEP/Dantes or similar tests without taking online courses?**

A: Yes there three: Liberal Studies, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

**Q: My daughter is studying Italian- is there a test to get credit for this or should she change to a different language?**

A: Yes, she can get credit for Italian from NYU. Check out this link: <http://www.scps.nyu.edu/areas-of-study/foreign-languages/continuing-education/proficiency.html>

**Q: Do the CLEP/ Dantes tests apply to high school credit also?**

A: Yes! While the requirements vary by school district, we've never had a school board take issue with the reality that our students are doing college level coursework in high school.

**Q: How do we get onto the webinar next week?**

A: We will be sending out an email tomorrow with the information for registering for the upcoming webinars.