

Questions Asked by Webinar Attendees – 11/18/08

Q: Would any of the CollegePlus! degrees be a good base/start in my pursuit of some degree in sign language? How would I use CollegePlus! to test out of basic requirements?

A: Communications would be a great place to start! If you know of a school you want to enroll in, CP could help with the exams you can transfer in to a particular college. You could enroll in our [College of Your Choice](#) program in that case. That's where we coach you through specific exams that will transfer to the college you'll attend for ASL.

Q: Do you have any resources available for a student interested in pursuing sign language in the future?

A: No, I'm not aware of any offhand. I'm sure any study textbooks would work for ASL.

Q: Is a degree in any sign language concentration available through CollegePlus!, or would I need to test and then enroll in another school?

A: You would need to test and enroll in another college or university for ASL training.

Q: Will I get a transcript of this conversation e-mailed to me as well as the powerpoint presentation from the Webinar?

A: The questions and answers will be available with the recording of the webinar.

Q: I passed Spanish but TCU did not accept them although I did pass. They required that I still needed to take the class at there university.

A: Requirements for foreign languages vary from college to college. Thomas Edison, the college we work with, has very flexible credit transfer policies as long as the credit is from a regionally accredited college. Most private colleges, however, require a large number of credits/classes to be taken at their college.

Q: From a financial point of view, how much would it be wise to have saved before enrolling in a music major? Also, what does your payment plan look like? Could I pay as I go?

A: You can pay for many of the expenses as you go. We generally recommend that you plan to spend roughly \$5-6k during the first year of enrollment. The rest of the degree expenses will be spread out throughout the process. Please fill out our [free application](#), and one of our Advisors could more fully discuss this and personalize this to you. A music degree has a number of options as to which areas you focus (composition, counterpoint, performance, etc.) and the expenses are different for each. An Advisor would be able to more fully explain your options. Don't forget to use the Promo Code WEB1108.

Q: So music degrees must take longer since local colleges won't let a younger student take classes there?

A: No. Most Music credits that are not "exam credits" are earned through portfolios (documentation of experience or performance). The on-site classes that you refer to could be accomplished through an appeal letter from CollegePlus! to the local college.

Q: How young would you suggest someone take this test? My son will finish with Algebra 2 after 9th grade.

A: He can take an exam at any time as long as he has a government issued photo ID. There is no age limit.

Q: Does the transcript from TESC notate which courses were credited by test, and has that been an issue for kids trying to get into masters programs (if a large portion of thier credits were done by test)?

A: Yes the CLEP and Dantes credits are listed on the transcript as pass/fail. However, we've had hundreds of students go on to grad school and it has never been a problem for a student to take a TESC degree on to a grad school of choice as long as their prep exam (GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, etc) scores are on par with their peers. The same is true for any student. The prep score is the key. Also, the fact that our CollegePlus! students are different than the norm and have often had significant internship experience adds great credibility to our students. Again, we've experienced no problems going on to grad school.

Q: If a homeschool student CLEPs out of a class(s) in high school, like a foreign language (for example) will that carry over to CollegePlus?

A: Absolutely!

Q: Do CollegePlus! students need to take the SAT or the ACT?

A: No, we do not require these to enroll in the CollegePlus! program.

Q: Can you elaborate a little on the first six weeks "assessment testing" when you start CollegePlus? What exactly is this and how does it work?

A: We use a resource called [Life Purpose Planning!](#) Our coaches have been certified in the process of walking a young person through the discovery of three big things: audience, message and medium. We are passionate about this and would love to chat further if you are interested.

Q: Is that suggested 4-6 hours per day just for the CollegePlus! portion of a student's day?

A: This is for the total study time and can easily be adjusted to the student's schedule.

Q: Can a homeschool student who is taking dual credit classes in community college also carry over that college credit with CollegePlus?

A: Absolutely! As long as the credits are from a regionally accredited college, and fit into the requirements for the degree of your choice, they will transfer.

Q: After applying with CollegePlus!, at what point would a student need to choose a major (if they don't know yet)? Does that choice have to be set in stone?

A: No... your major does not have to be set in stone! After enrollement we set aside the first six weeks to look at the student's individual life purpose - who they are and what God is calling them to do! These discoveries shed light on the best major for each student and we tailor the degree to their passions and purpose.

Q: How do you find out if a college (whether a community college, state, or private) is "regionally accredited"? Can you elaborate on what this means to be regionally accredited?

A: Most colleges will list their accreditation status on their website (usually in their "about us" or accreditation statement section.) You can also contact the college directly and ask them. There are two forms of accreditation: Regional and National. Regional is higher than National because Regional accrediting agencies have fewer colleges to oversee, and therefore can provide a more "strict" supervision of each college.

Q: If a high school student takes Calculus 1 as a dual credit course, will they need to take any other college math courses if they are NOT majoring in math? Would they still need to take a CLEP for math if they have taken Calculus 1 as a dual credit class?

A: Most likely, no, as long as the Calculus 1 credits come from a regionally accredited college.

Q: After enrolling with CollegePlus!, I understand that you suggest a student spend 4-6 hours per day with their CollegePlus! portion of their studies. How often or frequently does the CollegePlus! mentor communicate with the student? Is this done via phone, email, how?

A: Students and coaches talk twice a month (via phone or Skype) and have access to email between that time. In between coaching calls, students can email, instant message the coach.

Q: Being homeschooled and wanting to combine high school and college credits, would my hs diploma would still need to be attained by a GED?

A: No. CollegePlus! students from a home education background do not need a GED to complete college credits. Besides, who needs a hs diploma when you get or have a college degree?

Q: Is geometry included on the Math test?

A: The college mathematics exam breakdown includes a 15% review of algebra and geometry. Check out http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/ex_cm.html for a complete breakdown and description.

Q: What kind of internship do you suggest for someone who wants to be a writer?

A: I worked at a local newspaper as an unpaid intern one summer and one winter. They paid me in the winter so it worked out great!

Q: Why take Natural Science when you can get same credits taking biology?

A: You may take one or the other, but sometimes both are required for certain degrees. For students without a biology background, natural sciences is a little easier, since it is more broad and generalized than biology.

Q: If you get a degree in liberal arts that is solely by exam, how do you get evaluated for a masters program?

A: They'll take a number of things into consideration like GRE/GMAT score and leadership/volunteer initiative. They may require you to take a few specific courses for that degree but that hasn't happened to any of our grads.

Q: Should CLEP scores be banked or should you send them to TESC for banking if you plan to finish there?

A: TESC won't accept the scores until the student has applied and is accepted so you need to bank them until actually enrolling.

Q: Are there degrees that can be earned solely through credit by exam? Are they from TESC?

A: Yes, and yes. The BA in Social Sciences and BA in Liberal Studies are two degrees that can be earned solely through credit by exam. See <http://www.collegeplus.org/infopacket/majorsdegreecosts> for more information.

Q: The Comex books- do you recommend the most recent books or are the 1998 editions pretty similar?

A: The 1998 editions are just fine.

Q: The comex books- is there a more complete name, where do you purchase them?

A: Comex is a series of comprehensive study guides covering five CLEP exams: English Composition, Mathematics, Social Science, Natural Science, and Principles of Management. We sell them as a set or individually: <http://shop.globallearningstrategies.org/category.sc?categoryId=5>

Q: Do you receive a GPA from taking CLEP exams? Does Thomas Edison require a certain grade?

A: Thomas Edison requires a 50 for CLEP exams. CLEP exams do not give a GPA but since they are lower level, most graduate programs don't take lower level credits into consideration when computing GPA. Since students do coursework for the last part of their degree, the GPA they get from those courses is what admittance committees consider on the grad level.

Q: Are the 3 degrees that are obtained solely through tests from Thomas Edison?

A: No. However, a majority of the credits (usually over 50%) are earned through the testing methods, such as CLEPs and DANTES. TECEPs (Thomas Edison's tests) comprise up to 10% of a degree in some cases.

Q: I want to enroll next year for my junior year, is it ok to start to take a couple of exams? If so which do you recommend taking first?

A: Yes, it is always a good idea for students to get a feel for exam formats, etc. I recommend taking Analyzing and Interpreting Literature first, since it mainly requires the ability to read, not necessarily knowledge of specific works.

Q: You posted SAT/ACT tests are not necessary. Would this be still true if on-site courses were needed at a university to complete the degree?

A: Yes.

Q: Did they say a person needs 2 picture forms of ID to take a CLEP?

A: Two forms of ID are required, but only one needs to have a picture. A driver's license and a social security card are a good example of two forms of ID.

Q: Are AP test available to high school graduates?

A: No, you would most likely need to be in high school. Since CLEP exams allow you to obtain credit, they are more effective than AP exams, which are designed for the main purpose of advanced placement in college courses, not credit completion.

Q: How fluent do you need to be to do the Spanish Clep I?

A: While you don't need to be 100% fluent, you do need a good understanding of the grammar of Spanish, etc. During the test, you will listen to phrases/questions in Spanish, and choose a correct response (multiple choice questions).

Q: I don't believe I got the link for the last webinar. Is there a website I can go to?

A: Yes! Visit - <http://www.collegeplus.org/minicourse> and scroll down to the bottom of the page.

Q: What was the name of the guide to poetry Woody mentioned?

A: Norton Anthology Guide to Poetry.

Q: Does College Plus have an R.O.T.C. program?

A: No, since we're entirely distance learning, ROTC isn't really an option for our students. However, OCS is an option after they graduate.

Q: Would CollegePlus! consider offering an Economics degree any time soon?

A: Students can earn an economics degree if they can attend courses locally at a college or university. These exams can transfer to Thomas Edison for a BA in Economics.

Q: Do all the different U.S. military branches recognize and accept CollegePlus! degrees?

A: Yes, because our degrees actually come through fully accredited schools like Thomas Edison College (www.tesc.edu) which is regionally accredited.

Q: Are there provisions in the Clep test program for special ed - longer times?

A: Yes. This needs to be "verified" with the testing center and/or the College Board.

Q: Are the majors restricted to the ones shown on the website?

A: No, we do work with students that want to get a degree outside of that list. Usually this means testing out of a few general degree requirements, then enrolling in the college of your choice. See <http://www.collegeplus.org/collegeofyourchoice> for more information. However, most of the distance learning, cost effective degrees listed on our site, are earned through Thomas Edison State College.

Q: Can I get a BSAST in Aviation Flight Technology?

A: While this is not a default distance learning friendly degree (see <http://www.collegeplus.org/majors>), we do work with students that want something that outside of that realm. See <http://www.collegeplus.org/collegeofyourchoice> for more information.

Q: I joined late. Is this Webinar recorded and/or do you send out a copy of this presentation? Thank you.

A: Yes, we will send out an email with a link to the video and audio recording of these webinars.

Q: Do you have a Canadian mentor that we can talk to?

A: Yes. Send us your contact information to info@collegeplus.org or phone: 830-885-5432 and we will pass that on to one of our two Canadian mentors (one male mentor, and one female).

Q: We are interested in getting info on how this works for Canadians. I have 2 homeschooled sons in Grade 11.

A: Usually it depends on if there is a testing center near to where you live. See this link - http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_clep/searchCLEPTestCenter.jsp for a list of testing centers in your area. Also, if you [apply](#) to CollegePlus! (free, no-obligation), we'd be happy to go over your situation in more detail. We can also get you in touch with one of our Canadian mentors or students.

Q: This may be jumping ahead of the subject, but I'll ask anyway. I'm already a strongly independent learner (in high school), having been homeschooled all my life. If I forego my second semester of junior year (spring 2009) and my entire senior year to enroll in CollegePlus! and use credit-for-exam for a bachelor's degree, do you think the quality of my overall education will suffer?

A: No. You would not be "skipping" high school, but "adding" to it by testing out of subjects you are taking (or have already taken) in high school.

Q: Does the two-year timeframe for a bachelor's degree through CollegePlus! include vacations?

A: Yes, it does for the holidays and other times during the year. You won't have to work yourself to death.

Q: Which majors have been the most popular for CollegePlus! students?

A: BSBA (Bachelor of Science in Business Administration) General Management and Communications are two of our most popular majors. Other popular ones are English and Music.

Q: Have you had students get into Pharmacy or Law school with a BS from TESC?

A: Yes. We have a decent amount of students that have gone on to law school, or are intending to go on to law school. However, I am not certain on the number of students that have gone into Pharmacy.

Q: Does CollegePlus! help the student find internship jobs, even if they live in Arizona?

A: We can definitely help students, regardless of where they live.

Q: Are the degrees only through Thomas Edison?

A: No, we do work with students that want to get a degree through another college. Usually this means testing out of a few general degree requirements, then enrolling in the college of their choice. See <http://www.collegeplus.org/collegeofyourchoice> for more information. However, most distance learning, cost effective degrees are earned through Thomas Edison State College.

Q: Is it possible or necessary to CLEP out of a foreign language? Is a foreign language required in a common degree?

A: Yes, it is possible CLEP out of a foreign language. Most common degrees do not have a foreign language requirement.

Q: I was told by my Junior College that DANTES is military only?

A: This varies from college to college. Most colleges offer DANTEs to the public, but some limit them to only military members or enrolled students.

Q: What Masters Degree areas of study are available solely from credit by exam?

A: Unfortunately, most, if not all Masters Degrees need to be solely completed through online or on-site courses.

Q: I'm new to this...what's a CLEP, DANTE and TECEP? Are they required?

A: There different methods of earning credit by exam. Yes, they are required. See <http://www.collegeplus.org/howitworks/creditbyexam> for more information on all three.

Q: I'm looking for a degree in criminal justice. How long do u think it would take and how much?

A: It depends on a student's motivation/commitment level. Some are able to finish their degrees in one year, but most finish in two years. Criminal Justice would cost an estimated total of \$15,500 (this cost includes everything).

Q: So you study at home and then go to a local place to take these tests? If you don't do so well can you study and re-take them later?

A: Yes, and yes. CLEPs and DANTES can be repeated once every 6+ months until you pass. TECEPs (Thomas Edison tests) may be re-taken only once, however.

Q: How much money do I need to start?

A: This question is answered in detail at <http://www.collegeplus.org/whatitcosts>. We'd invite you to check this out. However, as a general rule, the student should plan to spend roughly \$4-5k throughout the first year of study. The upfront expense would be roughly \$1,400. Again, don't hesitate to request information or apply. They're both free with no obligation and will give you a ton of information.

Q: What kind of stuff is required to complete a course - computer hardware...printer...access to a library...that kind of stuff?

A: Most of the study is done using textbooks and resources (some of which you may already have as indicated). For the actual exam, you will go onsite to a local testing location. Therefore, other than internet access on occasion to order your books (say off of Amazon, etc.), you really won't need a computer. A library could be used for ordering books.

Q: What is considered a common degree?

A: Most degrees are considered common in regards to foreign language requirements, except Humanities and Foreign Language.

Q: If I enroll, order some books, do this thing at home, and six months later decide this isn't for me, what should I do?

A: Just disenroll from the program. We do have a 120 day limit on any type of refund so it's best to decide early if you want to disenroll.

Q: The estimate for that criminal justice degree for 2 years and \$15,500 is a bachelor's degree?

A: Yes.

Q: How much time would be suggested per day that would need to be spent on school?

A: 4-6 hours per day, excluding Sundays.

Q: How long would you think a music degree take?

A: It depends on a student's motivation/commitment level. Some are able to finish their degrees in one year, but most finish in two years.

Q: Where would you take a "hands on" class for a music degree?

A: At your local community college or university (in most cases).

Q: Do students have to do CollegePlus! during high school or can they do it after they graduate?

A: No. Students can start CollegePlus! after high school graduation or combine high school and college by starting CollegePlus! in their junior year of high school.

Q: How about colleges accredited by DETC?

A: This accreditation still isn't as accepted as the regional accreditation. It wouldn't be wise to spend a lot of time with a college like this unless they offered specific courses you couldn't find elsewhere.

Q: Is foreign language required for the Entrepreneur degree at TESC?

A: No.

Q: What other type of picture ID can be obtained for someone too young for a driver's license?

A: Each state has a government issued photo ID option which usually costs \$8-10. Passports can also be used.

Q: Is it possible to complete an entire degree without having to go to an actual college?

A: Absolutely! Many of the degrees completed through CollegePlus! do not require on-site classes. A few degrees, like Biology, Natural Sciences, etc. require on-site classes.