

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

POLICY STATEMENT

NUMBER: 77-02

FILE: Exams

SUBJECT: CLEP Exams

The following policy statement, recommended by the Academic Senate at its meeting of December 2, 1976, and approved by the President on December 29, 1976, is as follows:

CSULB does not accept the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) General Field Examinations (except the exam in Mathematics) as alternative ways of certifying achievement in the various General Education categories:

(RATIONALE: ad hoc faculty committees charged with evaluating the CLEP General Field exams and with assessing their suitability for use as General Education instruments on this campus, recommended against employment of the examinations. The reasons for this recommendation include the following:

1. The level of the examination is not, as claimed by their sponsors, at the level of competency of students who have completed lower division work at this University, but is instead reflective of high school level training and general cultural background.
2. The type of competency is not comparable to that which would be achieved by a student who satisfies the unit requirements under the General Education categories.
3. The examinations tend to measure rote recall rather than basic understanding.
4. It is doubtful that the examination even reliably measures the knowledge, skills and competencies at whose evaluation they are prima facie aimed.

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FEB 1977

Academic Senate Office

(FURTHER INFORMATION: This policy statement refers only to the General Field Examinations and not to specific subject examinations. It supplements AS(PEP)72-14 which restricts transfer credit for the CLEP exams. Executive Order 203 mandates acceptance of the Mathematics General Field examination and certain other exams, but leaves to the individual campuses the determination of what use, if any, would be made of the other General Field Examination.)

DEG:bjp

Effective Date: Immediately
1/6/77