

# What you need to know to Start Earning College Credit

An A.A.S. degree is a great path for someone to follow who is planning on directly entering the workforce after earning the degree. Technical college courses are specific to the technical workforce degree and may not apply to other degrees designed to transfer to bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees.

Depending on your program, your Meridian coursework may connect to an Associate of Applied Science degree (technical workforce degree) at participating colleges. Upon completing 12-15 credit hours at an institution, students should provide a Meridian transcript and/or certifications to their college advisor. College credit hours vary by college and Meridian programs.



INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY

## Where do I start?

1. Gain knowledge of degree especially with Prior Learning Credit. Prior Learning Credit is based upon students' demonstration of knowledge and skills gained through training and experience.
2. A student must apply to be a degree seeking student at OSUIT before you ask for a PLA at [OSUIT.edu/admissions](http://OSUIT.edu/admissions). ACT score is not a factor for enrollment.
3. Review the PLA's opportunities available for the OSUIT degree you are interested in. Meet with an OSUIT degree advisor to discuss options.
4. If you are requesting PLA through industry certifications or portfolio review, gather your evidence. (Certifications, reference letter and samples of work.)
5. An instructional challenge exam can only be taken once, so make sure you are prepared.
6. A \$5.00 per credit hour will be charged for the exam if taken at OSUIT. One can also provide certification score if taken elsewhere. Some skill assessments may require an additional fee. All PLA's if passed, will receive a grade of P/F.

## What students need to know.

1. Prior Learning experience may come from employment/military experience, volunteer opportunities, industry certification, and technical center experience and / or portfolio development. Not all programs/degrees will accept portfolios. Please review Prior Learning Assessment opportunities at [osuit.edu/pla](http://osuit.edu/pla).
2. FYI-Non- military students may also utilize DSST to test out of general education courses.
3. General education needed for degree can also be transferred through concurrent enrollment, AP exam or CLEP test.
4. Cannot transfer program certifications unless it is within same career major. Up to 75% of college credit may be comprised of Transfer Credit, PLA Credit or a combination of both.
5. PLA credit hours can be transcribed upon completion of 12 college bearing coursework. It does not have to be all general education courses.

## Prior Learning Assessment Information

1. Different for each degree and program.
2. Use OSUIT website for questions or contact the Career Planning Center. Students can also reach out to their OSUIT coordinator /advisor for help.



## Where do I start?

1. Complete an aligned career major at Meridian Technology Center. All programs at
2. Meridian Technology Center qualifies for the Associate in Applied Technology - Industry Certification Option degree. Degree is offered at Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater campuses.
3. Apply online at [www.noc.edu/application](http://www.noc.edu/application).
4. Upon completion of career major at MTC, take a Meridian Transcript to NOC.
5. Once accepted, meet with the enrollment advisor to create an NOC degree plan and identify the general education needed to complete the program. Ask for the A.A.S in Applied Technology - Industry Certification Option.
6. After completing 15 credit hours of NOC general education courses, 15-30 technical hours could be transcribed on a NOC transcript at no charge. Technical course grades will be transcribed as either pass or fail.



## Where do I start?

1. Apply online at [cowley.edu/apply](http://cowley.edu/apply). Traditional / adult students: Complete the Admissions Application. High school students: Complete the High School Student Application for Admissions.
2. Send all high school transcripts to Admissions and previous college transcripts to the Cowley Registrar. Dual enrollment high school students should also send transcripts to [dualenrollment@cowley.edu](mailto:dualenrollment@cowley.edu) or contact Timothy Kennedy, [timothy.kennedy@cowley.edu](mailto:timothy.kennedy@cowley.edu).
3. Send all ACT/SAT scores to Admissions or take placement tests.
4. Enroll in classes. Admissions representatives will help you pick a class schedule that meets your needs.

## What students need to know.

1. The Associates of General Studies Degree from Cowley College was developed for students who have obtained contact hours at a technology center. Graduating students must complete general education courses and transfer a minimum 600 clock hours to meet requirement for degree. (up to 32 technical hours).
2. A minimum of 15 credit hours with a least a 2.0 cumulative GPA must be completed at Cowley County in order for a degree to be granted. Students may take general education courses from Cowley County online to complete degree.
3. Degrees offered: Applied Technologies-Associate of General Studies Degree and Associates of Applied Science Degree-Cosmetology.
4. High School students can take advantage of Cowley county's FASTTRACK program dual enrollment program. Start earning college credit while still in high School. Can be taught on campus or online. Accelerate tuition is \$90 per credit hour with general and online course fees waived. For requirements for FASTTRACK program, please <https://cowley.edu/learn-at-cowley/dual-credit-enrollment>

Additional Information can also be found at [ShowWhatYouKnowOk.org](http://ShowWhatYouKnowOk.org).

Questions regarding the process, please visit the Career Planning Center.