Title 1 is proposed for amendment as follows:

State Board of Community Colleges Code
Title 1 – COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHAPTER D. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

SUBCHAPTER 800. CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

1D SBCCC 800.2 General Provisions

(a) The purpose of this Subchapter is to guarantee that all North Carolina Community Colleges follow consistent academic conventions to ensure the integrity of the CPL process and to establish minimum standards for all NC community colleges.

(b) Consistent with the provisions of this Subchapter colleges are authorized to award CPL using the following prior learning methods:

(1) Apprenticeship

(2) ~~Certifications and licensures~~ State or Industry Recognized Credentials/Continuing Education to Curriculum Credit

(3) Courses listed in high school to community college articulation agreements.

(4) Military education and training

(5) Standardized examinations

(6) Challenge exams/Proficiency

(7) Portfolio assessment

(8) Public Safety Training (PST) prefix courses

(c) Colleges may award curriculum CPL when the documentation of prior learning meets or exceeds a demonstration of learning outcomes at the institutions' standards for awarding credit for the corresponding curriculum course. Institutions may award CPL that exceeds the minimum standards established in this Subchapter.

(d) Colleges may only award curriculum CPL that is directly applicable to a student's declared curriculum program of study.

(e) CPL for advanced courses does not negate the requirement to meet requisite learning outcomes.

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(f) CPL may be used to fulfill program requirements except for mandatory institutional requirements. Examples may include, but are not limited to, requirements of external agencies that specifically prohibited the use of CPL to fulfill the program requirements.

(g) CPL cannot be used to satisfy the college's institutional credit requirements, which prescribes the minimum percentage of credit hours a student must earn through instruction offered by the institution awarding the credential. No greater than seventy-five percent (75%) of the credit hours required for graduation from a curriculum program of study may be earned through CPL.

(h) Any CPL awarded by a college shall be reflected in the student's records by the college's Registrar Office without quality points assigned, except for allowances for graded military credit as described in 1D SBCCC 800.6"

(i) Course Credit CPL standards approved by the CCRC shall be considered for transfer to any college in the North Carolina Community College System.

(j) The local board of trustees shall adopt a policy governing the awarding of CPL. At a minimum, the local policy shall be consistent with standards established by this Subchapter. The local policy may include additional opportunities for students to receive CPL. Each college shall publish its CPL policy in the college's educational catalog.

(k) Colleges shall establish a procedure that students must follow to request a prior learning assessment. This procedure shall be published in the college's educational catalog.

(l) To be eligible to receive CPL, students must meet all of the following criteria:

(1) Meet all admission requirements for their program of study.

(2) Be enrolled in a curriculum program to which the credit will directly apply; and

(3) Request a prior learning assessment consistent with the college's CPL procedures and provide all documentation by the published deadlines.

(m) Nothing in this rule shall be construed to supersede limitations imposed by an accreditation, credentialing, licensure, or other external agency on the application of CPL towards credentials under their purview. In such instances, the college shall document the applicable limitations in the student's file.

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History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-5;
Eff. April 1, 2021.

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