



Credit by Exam Without Prior Instruction Frequently Asked Questions

What is Credit By Exam Without Prior Instruction?

Credit by Exam/Exam for Acceleration provides an opportunity to earn grade level or course credit in which no prior formal instruction was completed. Credit by Exam is designed for a small percentage of students who have an academic and emotional need to advance to the next grade level. Credit by Exam is not designed for grade level recovery after being retained in a previous grade level.

What Credit by Exam assessments are administered in Clear Creek ISD?

Clear Creek ISD orders the academic course/grade level Credit by Exam assessments from the University of Texas High School (UTHS). For the world language Credit by Exam assessments (exception Vietnamese), the district orders the ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages® (AAPPL) assessments from Language Testing International.

What are the eligibility requirements to register for a Credit By Exam assessment?

Students must meet all eligibility requirements to register for CBE testing:

1. Students are enrolled in a Clear Creek ISD school.
2. Kindergarten and First grade students must meet the state law age requirement for grade level acceleration-
 - a. Students must be 5 years old by September 1st for Kindergarten acceleration
 - b. Students must be 6 years old by September 1st for First grade acceleration
3. Parents must complete the Acknowledgement form on CCISD's CBE webpage.
4. Parents must complete the Request form and return to school counselor by deadline.
5. School counselors must verify students' eligibility and sign the request form.

When may I request a Credit by Exam assessment for my child?

There is a registration window for each of the four Credit by Exam administrations (Fall, Spring, Summer 1, and Summer 2). Requests are accepted only during the registration window for which you wish your child to attend. Requests must be provided to the child's school counselor by 4:00 PM on the last day of the registration window. Late requests will not be accepted.



Registration windows, deadlines, and administration dates for each of the four Credit by Exam administration windows (Fall, Spring, Summer 1, and Summer 2) can be found on the Credit by Exam page of the Student Assessment webpage at <https://www.ccisd.net/assessment>.

What are the administration dates for Credit By Exam assessments?

Administration dates can be found on the Credit by Exam page of the Student Assessment webpage, at <https://www.ccisd.net/assessment>.

Note: Clear Creek ISD does not provide transportation to or from the administration testing location. Students must be available for all administration dates listed on the Clear Creek ISD Credit by Exam Request form; choosing an administration date is not available due to coordinating the logistics of the administration window.

What time should my student arrive at the testing location?

Parents will receive a confirmation letter from the Department of Assessment and Evaluation Department providing you with the date, time, and location of your child's administration. This information will be provided by email and U.S. Postal Service using the information that parents provide on the child's Credit by Exam request form. You will receive the confirmation letter approximately two weeks before the administration.

What is the testing site location and address?

Testing locations may change, depending on the availability of campuses and the number of students being administered a Credit by Exam assessment. Testing locations will be included in the confirmation letter sent to the parents approximately two weeks before the administration. Parents will receive the confirmation letter via email and the U.S. Postal Service using the information parents provide on the child's Credit by Exam request form.

We will be out of town on the administration dates listed, can my child take the assessment on a different day?

Clear Creek ISD will strictly adhere to the scheduled testing dates. Before requesting a Credit by Exam assessment, ensure your child is available on the administration dates listed on the Credit by Exam Request form you are submitting.

Can I order a Credit by Exam assessment for my child directly from the University of Texas High School or Language Testing International and have it administered online?



Clear Creek ISD accepts only Credit by Exam assessment results for the Credit by Exam assessments that were ordered and paid for by Clear Creek ISD, as well as administered by Clear Creek ISD within Clear Creek ISD's administration windows.

My child is unable to attend the scheduled Credit by Exam administration. Can the Credit by Exam assessments be administered during the next Clear Creek ISD administration window?

No. The Credit by Exam assessment is ordered for the scheduled administration and expires at the close of the scheduled administration window.

A \$25 fee per Credit by Exam assessment will be charged to skyward accounts for students who do not attend their scheduled Credit by Exam administration.

How long does my child have to complete the Credit by Exam assessment?

Students have a maximum of 200 minutes for each Credit by Exam assessment. The assessments have a built-in timer. The timer cannot be paused.

How can my child study or prepare for a Credit by Exam assessment?

Review materials for academic/grade level courses (includes Vietnamese) may be found at the University of Texas High School Credit by Exam Study Guides webpage:

https://highschool.utexas.edu/cbe_study_guides. This information includes a list of required supplies which must be provided to the student during testing. Except for Art supplies, Clear Creek ISD will provide the required supplies to students on the scheduled administration date.

Some Credit by Exam assessments have assignments that must be completed prior to taking the assessment. Many secondary English Language Arts assessments have a required novel to read to be prepared for the exam. Art assessments have drawings that must be completed before the administration of the assessment. Students taking the Art Credit by Exam assessment will need to bring supplies to the administration. This information is provided in the study guide.

Obtaining student textbooks referenced in the study materials is solely the responsibility of the parent.



Review materials for world language assessments (exception Vietnamese) may be found on the AAPPL K-12 Testing webpage: <https://www.languageTesting.com/aappl>.

Is my child allowed to use a calculator on Credit by Exam assessments?

For Credit by Exam assessments that allow a calculator, students will be provided with a TI-84 series handheld calculator at the testing location. Students will not be allowed to take their own calculator into the secure testing environment. The calculator policy for Credit by Exam assessment can be found on the University of Texas High School Credit by Exam webpage at <https://utexas.app.box.com/v/uths-calculator>.

Is my child allowed to use a dictionary on Credit by Exam assessments?

Dictionaries are not allowed on the Credit by Exam assessments.

Are accommodations allowed on Credit by Exam assessments?

Each vendor approves testing accommodations on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Clear Creek ISD Student Assessment Department for further information.

What is my child allowed to take into the testing room?

Students are allowed to take water and a jacket into the testing room. All other items (including food/snacks) brought to the administration will be collected and stored until the student has submitted their Credit by Exam assessment. Exceptions include – art supplies or items needed for medical needs.

What is the Credit By Exam score requirements to accelerate?

Grade Level Acceleration: Students must score a minimum of 80% on each subject area CBE assessments for the grade level they wish to skip.

- Students will be administered the English Language Arts and Social Studies Credit by Exam assessments on the first Credit by Exam administration date (Round 1).
- The Math and Science Credit by Exam assessments will be administered on the second Credit by Exam administration date (Round 2) only if the passing standard is met on both the Credit by Exam English Language Arts and Social Studies assessments administered on the first Credit by Exam administration (Round 1).

Academic Course Acceleration: Students must score a minimum of 80% on each assessment to earn course credit.



AAPPL World Language Course Acceleration: Students must demonstrate a minimum AAPPL score of N4 on all four components (Interpersonal Listening/Speaking, Interpretive Reading, Interpretive Listening, and Presentation Writing) to receive course credit. Credits are awarded at the level of proficiency on the lowest scoring component.

If my child does not score a minimum of 80% on a Credit by Exam assessment, will the score be recorded on the student transcript?

Scores below 80% will not be recorded on the student's permanent transcript.

If my child meets the minimum score of 80% or above, when will my child be moved to the new grade level/course?

Students who meet the minimum score of 80% or above on Credit by Exam assessments administered during the 2025-2026 CCISD administration windows will be enrolled in their new grade level or course for the 2026-2027 school year.

When will my child's Credit by Exam results be available?

Within 2-3 weeks following the Credit by Exam administration, score reports will be sent to the parents. The score reports will be sent to the parent's home address provided on the Credit by Exam request form via US mail, as well as the parent's electronic mail listed on the Credit by Exam request form. A copy of the score report will also be sent to the child's school counselor.

What happens if the Credit by Exam results are not received before the first day of school?

The Credit by Exam schedule is designed with the intention that parents and campuses will receive the Credit by Exam results before the start of the school year. However, if the Credit by Exam results are not received by the first day of school, the student will begin the school year in the current enrolled course or grade level. If the student does meet the criteria to advance to the next course or grade level, the student will be moved to the new course or grade level once the Credit by Exam results are received.

How many times can my child test for a Credit by Exam assessment?

Academic Course Acceleration: Students are allowed two attempts to take the same Credit by Exam course acceleration assessment. Failure to show for the scheduled administration session will count as one of the two attempts allowed.



Grade Level Acceleration: Students are allowed only one attempt for the CBE grade-level acceleration assessment. Failure to show for your scheduled administration session will count as the one attempt.

What is the ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) Credit by Exam assessment?

The ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) is an assessment of standards-based language learning across the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Presentational, and Interpretive) as defined by the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning. The AAPPL assesses Interpersonal Listening/Speaking, Presentational Writing, Interpretive Reading, and Interpretive Listening, and ratings are assigned according to the ACTFL Performance Descriptors for Language Learners.

What is the format of the AAPPL Credit by Exam assessment?

The AAPPL is delivered online. Each student is provided with headphones equipped with a microphone.

What is the content of the AAPPL Credit by Exam assessment?

The AAPPL assesses the ability of a candidate to engage in linguistic tasks on topics of personal, social, and academic relevance across the three modes of communication. Each task, such as writing an email message, video-chatting in the target language, or making selections from something heard or read, takes place in the context of the language classroom. AAPPL's content is refreshed every year, developed by ACTFL in direct collaboration with assessment, pedagogy and language experts.

What are the rules when taking the AAPPL Credit by Exam assessment?

- No paper, pens, pencils, notes, dictionaries, cell phones, cameras, or electronic devices.
- No additional applications (e.g. Word, email, dictionaries) or browser windows can be open during testing.
- The language-specific keyboard layout will be set up on the computer the student uses for the assessment.
- Students have 200 minutes to complete all sections of the assessment.
- ACTFL-certified raters review all written and spoken responses, and any inappropriate responses (vulgar, violent, etc.) will not be scored.
- No food allowed in testing location.