



February 2019

## EHANCING STUDENT PATHWAYS TO DEGREE COMPLETION

New processes in **Prior Learning Assessment** will offer Collin College students new opportunities to earn college credit! The Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) process is designed to value students' non-formal and informal learning experiences and award them college credit through a verifiable process. These experiences may come from student's military training, certifications and licensures, non-credit courses, and professional corporate training, among others. The PLA process is specific to each program, determined by faculty in that

## **Benefits of PLA**

- Offers students the ability to earn college credit for learning acquired outside of a formal classroom setting.
- Recognizes students' vast learning experiences through a prior learning assessment process.
- Helps students complete their degree or certificate sooner at a lower cost.

program, and may or may not result in award credit. Regardless of whether the assessment is taking place in the classroom or as part of a PLA process, assessing student learning should be a rigorous academic process.

Moreover, in line with the THECB 60X30TX goals to increase the number of Texans who have a degree or certificate while reducing student debt, the Collin College PLA process will offer students the ability to complete their degree or certificate sooner and at a lower cost.

- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility
- American History (6)
- Communication (6)
- Creative Arts (3)
- Government/Political Science (6)
- Language, Philosophy and Culture (3)
- Life & Physical Sciences (6)
- Mathematics (3)
- Social & Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Component Area Option [distributed across the components] (6)

## **CURRICULUM ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE**

**PROPOSED NEW PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATES FOR COLLIN COLLEGE STUDENTS:** Members of the Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB) continue to review and recommend new programs and certificates to Academic Leadership. The AAS in Insurance Management was reviewed and recommended to Academic Leadership during the February CAB meeting.