

# CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING (CPL) Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)

## Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) FAQ

### How long do I have to work as a phlebotomist to earn CPL?

Prospective or admitted students must have 6 months of documented phlebotomy experience to earn credit for the Phlebotomy and Pre-Analytical Variables course. Prospects or admits who have PBT or MLT certification may also apply for credit for the same course.

### Do the clinical rotations I completed in my previous program count toward CPL?

Clinical rotation experience completed as part of MLT degree requirements cannot be used to earn CPL. Applicable experience must be post-degree for prospects or admits who have MLT certification

### What documentation can be used to provide evidence of experience?

Building a portfolio for CPL evaluation may sound like a daunting task, but your personnel profile likely contains much of the information needed to verify experience. Training and competency documentation that shows you have necessary experience on specific topics are excellent examples of documents that can be used to build your portfolio. In certain situations where documentation may be difficult to produce, a narrative along with supporting documentation, for example, an SOP, may be used.

### If I earn CPL for the hematology (or any other subject) class, does this mean I don't have to take to hematology (or any other subject) in the program?

Any CPL earned for courses other than the Phlebotomy and Pre-Analytical Variables course applies to clinical rotation experience only. Students must still complete didactic courses covering hematology, clinical chemistry, microbiology, and immunohematology to ensure they have knowledge at the 4-year degree level to meet program requirements.

### When should I apply for CPL?

Generally, students apply for CPL after being admitted and prior to the start of the MLS program. Prospective students may want to speak with the MLS program director, Dr. [Brenda.Barnes@allencollege.edu](mailto:Brenda.Barnes@allencollege.edu) or (319) 226-2082, about their specific situation if they are unsure if they qualify for CPL.