

Are Enough Adult Learners Experiencing What Your Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Programs Have to Offer?

More than one in five working American adults have some college credit but no degree. Many weigh the decision to resume their pursuit of an education without the benefit of knowing their prior learning and/or work expertise could be worth credit at a college or university.

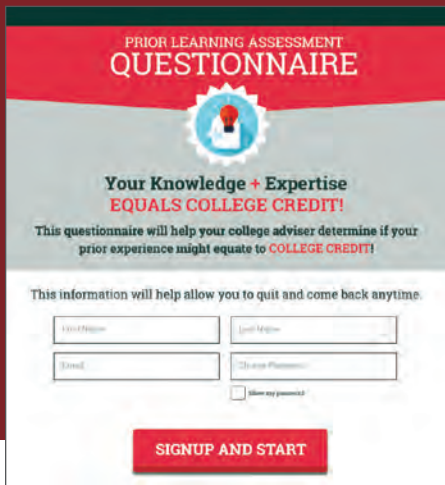
The innovative PLA Accelerator helps you promote Prior Learning Assessment more effectively at your institution by engaging and empowering your adult students to self-identify tests, certifications, and expertise cultivated in the workplace that could be creditworthy. The more adult learners know about your PLA programs, the more likely they are to fulfill their dreams of college completion at your institution.

Learn more at cael.org



HOW IT WORKS

The PLA Accelerator is an interactive questionnaire that streamlines the PLA intake process, making it easy for students to share their education, work, and life experiences. Students then receive a summary PLA Report ready for submission to an advisor for review.



The screenshot shows the sign-up page for the Prior Learning Assessment Questionnaire. At the top, it says "PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE" with a lightbulb icon. Below that, it reads "Your Knowledge + Expertise EQUALS COLLEGE CREDIT!". A sub-headline states: "This questionnaire will help your college adviser determine if your prior experience might equate to COLLEGE CREDIT!". A note says: "This information will help allow you to quit and come back anytime". There are four input fields: "First Name", "Last Name", "Email", and "Create Password". A checkbox for "Show my password" is present. A red "SIGNUP AND START" button is at the bottom.

The Result

Advisors and/or faculty can review students' exam and certification transcripts, along with other life experiences that might be creditworthy, to make fully informed college credit recommendations that are then emailed directly to the student. As an administrator, you can track the PLA recommendations, by date and type, for your entire institution.

Students

- Complete a consistent, guided, mobile-optimized, and co-branded online questionnaire that navigates through questions about their learning experiences, capturing the full spectrum of what might qualify for college credit.
- Receive easy-to-understand PLA recommendations from institutional staff.
- Can instantly see qualifying college credit opportunities when the institution has aligned standardized exams and certifications with college courses.

Administrators

- Receive turnkey marketing support, training, and CAEL membership.
- Can track and analyze PLA recommendations by advisor and time period.
- Benefit from improved engagement with adult learners by offering the streamlined PLA Accelerator to ALL students.

Advisors

- Can track current and prospective adult student data regarding PLA readiness, including recommendations they've made for their students.
- Increase effectiveness and efficiency of face-to-face meetings.



Link Learning and Work

Recognizing that adult learners are the backbone of the U.S. economy, CAEL helps forge a clear, viable connection between education and career success, providing solutions that promote sustainable and equitable economic growth. CAEL opens doors to opportunity in collaboration with workforce and economic developers, postsecondary educators, and employers, industry groups, foundations, and other mission-aligned organizations. By engaging with these stakeholders, we foster a culture of innovative, lifelong learning that helps individuals and their communities thrive. Established in 1974, CAEL, a Strada Education Network affiliate, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) membership organization.