PLA/CPL Process Map–Sample College

When planning a prior learning assessment (PLA)/credit for prior learning (CPL) program, or improving your own, a good exercise is to create a visual map of the CPL process for the student as well as for internal staff and faculty. The process map will help you identify the different decision points and transition points where students—or the overall process—could get bogged down. Your goal should be to find ways to simplify the overall process and its various transition points.

Consider what could be automated or centralized. Think through at which points the student may have questions or need support.

Note that there are likely to be different processes for the different methods of CPL that you offer. Make sure that the role of advisers and faculty assessors is clearly outlined for each CPL method. Some methods will be more complicated than others. Portfolio assessment, for example, will have a process that includes how a faculty assessor will be assigned to evaluate a portfolio, determining which tools (e.g., rubrics) assessors will use to determine PLA credit, establishing what conditions need to be met for assessment approval, and establishing processes for providing feedback to the student and/or for an appeals process.

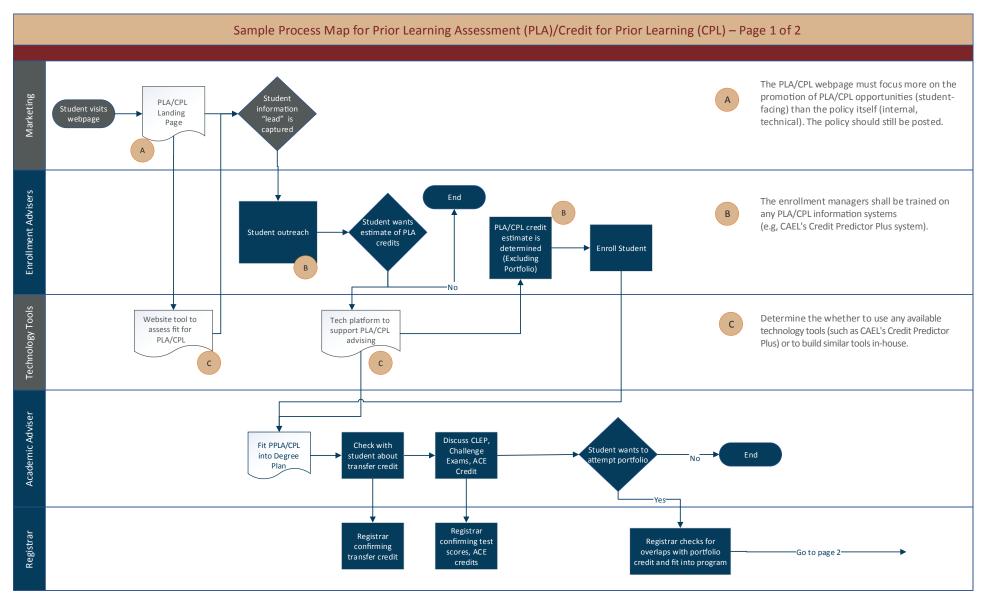
This job aid provides a sample CPL process map. Keep in mind that this sample was developed for a specific institution. Your CPL program will likely be structured differently, and so your map will likely look very different.



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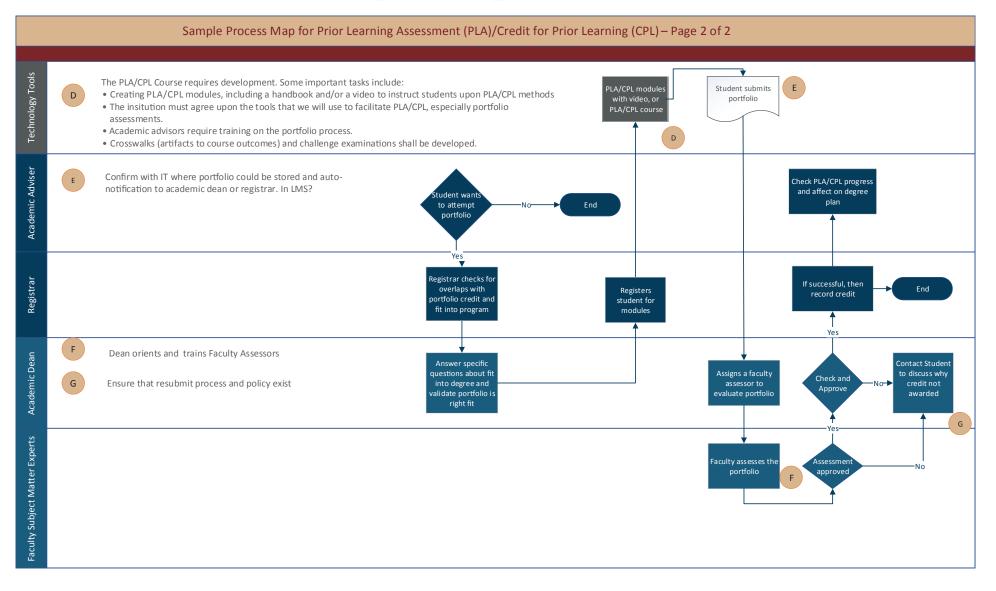
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CAEL Job Aid: A Resource For Getting Things Done

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