

### 3.4.4

The institution has a defined and published policy for evaluating, awarding, and accepting credit for transfer, experiential learning, advanced placement, and professional certificates that is consistent with its mission and ensures that course work and learning outcomes are at the collegiate level and comparable to the institution's own degree programs. The institution assumes responsibility for the academic quality of any course work or credit recorded on the institution's transcript. **(Acceptance of academic credit)**

USC Columbia clearly articulates the acceptance of academic credit in the *Undergraduate Bulletin* and *Graduate Bulletin* published by the university. These policies were developed by the University Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council of the faculty. The State of South Carolina has an articulation agreement that outlines credit transfer among state schools. The university has outlined procedures for students who want to transfer in credit from the College Entrance Examination Board Advanced Placement Examinations, International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examinations, and The College Level Examination Program. Credit from regionally accredited institutions is transferable; how the credit applies toward a specific degree program is decided in the unit of the degree sought. Graduate level credit may be transferred with limitations at the master's and doctoral levels. The credit must be approved by the program and the Graduate School. USC Columbia also has clearly defined procedures for international students who want to transfer credit from a school outside of the United States. Policies and Bulletins are published and available on the web for all students and potential students.