

The Credential Doctor Is In!

2016 NAFSA REGION III/VII BIREGIONAL CONFERENCE: New Orleans, Louisiana

OVERVIEW INTL EVALUATION	VERIFICATION		EQUIVALENCY	
	Compare Applicant's Biographical Information to Credential		Determine the Program Level Represented on the Credential	
	Verify Accuracy of the English Translation		Ascertain the Equivalency of the Record	
	Establish the Authenticity of the Credential		Calculate Credits or Units	
Verify the Status of the Credential-Awarding Institution		Calculate Grades or Grade Point Average		
REVIEW THE CREDENTIAL	APPLICANT	TRANSLATION	AUTHENTICITY	INSTITUTIONAL STATUS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biographical info Education History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years of schooling, level of schooling original language name of the certificates/diploma earned and date received location of school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practice to have both original and translation to review level and grades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legitimate (official) Is it the required document for degree completion? SEEK/SAVE/ASK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized/Accredited (NOT: Incorporated, Chartered, Licensed, or Registered), Quality, Comparable level, Applicable coursework
EQUIVALENCY: PROGRAM LEVEL	YEAR COUNTING		BENCHMARKING	
	<p>Matches number of years represented by credential to the equivalent number of years in the U.S.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically used in evaluating primary/secondary credentials 		<p>Based on the basic levels of education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum requirement needed for admission to level of study Minimum standards for completing of a level of study 	
CONVERTING CREDIT	SECONDARY	POST SECONDARY		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit: Carnegie units School Year: 36 weeks or 180 days Class Time: 1 academic year = 4 – 5 X s a week or 120 – 180 hours total 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One semester = 15 weeks 15 X 2 semesters = 30 weeks One semester hour of credit is normally awarded for a class meeting one hour (50 minutes) per week for 15 weeks. Lab receives 1 credit for 3 hours. (1/3) Average: 15 – 16 credits per semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarter Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A quarter = 10 weeks 10 x 3 quarters = 30 weeks One quarter hour of credit will normally be awarded for a class meeting one hour (50 minutes) per week for 10 weeks Average: 15 credits per quarter 	

- Challenges with Grade Conversion Practices
 - Mathematical formulas are not reliable
 - Grading systems are not linear
 - Many systems are not continuous
 - Grading systems differ, even within countries (methods of assessment)

- Institutional policies impact credential evaluation, admission, and placement decisions. In order to develop course equating policies and procedures you must thoroughly understand the academic standards of your institution and academic departments.

PHILOSOPHY & POLICIES	ADVANCED PLACEMENT	TRANSFER CREDIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is your institution selective, competitive, moderately competitive, or nonselective? ▪ Are standardized test scores used for admission and/or placement? ▪ Does your school build a specific type of class, or admit all qualified candidates? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In what circumstances is advanced placement awarded? ▪ Who decides the credit given and the minimum score for credit—admissions or faculty? ▪ Does performance have to be outstanding, or just above average, to obtain advanced placement or credit? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Who equates the coursework – admissions or faculty? ▪ Does your institution award transfer credit for D grades? ▪ English courses? ▪ Physical Education/sports? ▪ Military training?

RESOURCES: IDENTIFY – DEVELOP – NETWORK

AACRAO EDGE

<http://aacraoedge.aacrao.org/index.php>

- An overview describing the educational history of the country.
- An educational ladder or ladders to reflect changes in the educational structure
- Grading system(s)
- Sample credentials
- Placement recommendations
- List of postsecondary institutions

College Source

<http://www.collegesource.org/>

Database of 77,644 digital college catalogs, institution profiles, transcript keys, and other critical resources.

NAFSA Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World

<http://www.nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=10822>

- Lists of credentials and additional data (UG/GR)

CHEA

<http://www.chea.org/>

- CHEA-Recognized Accrediting Organizations Directory
- Database of Institutions and Programs Accredited By Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations

Credential Consultants – GRADE

<http://www.credentialconsultants.com/grade/>

- Grading scales
- Recognized institutions
- Connect with experts

Presentation materials from previous conferences

Transcript Research

<http://transcriptresearch.com/pages/country-requirements>

<http://transcriptresearch.com/pages/country-requirements-2>

- Description of required documents by country

ENIC-NARIC

<http://www.enic-naric.net/>

- National Information Centres
- National education bodies
- System of education
- University education
- Quality Assurance in Higher Education
- Post-secondary non-university education
- Recognized higher education institutions
- Policies and procedures for the recognition of qualifications
- Qualifications Framework
- Diploma Supplement Information

The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP)

<http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/professional-development/resources/reference-materials/available-online-resources/>

- Regional Resources
- Associations of Colleges and Universities
- Multi-Country Databases
- Country Resources

Educational Perspectives

<http://www.edperspective.org/credential-evaluation-applications.php>

- Description of required documents by country

Eurybase

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/Eurydice/documents/eurybase/eurybase_full_reports/AT_EN.pdf

- Information Database on Education Systems in Europe

IERF

<http://www.ierf.org/>

- Country Index
- Index of Secondary Credentials
- Index of Educational Terms
- Training opportunities

Eurydice

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/index_en.php

- National Education System Descriptions
- Structures of Education and Training Systems
- National System Overviews

UNESCO Portal to Recognized Higher Education Institutions

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/resources/unesco-portal-to-recognized-higher-education-institutions/>

- This portal offers access to on-line information on higher education institutions recognized or otherwise sanctioned by competent authorities in participating countries.

World Higher Education Database (WHED)

<http://whed.net/home.php>

- Education Systems
- List of Universities

EducationUSA

<http://www.educationusa.info/highered.php#.UDz75cGPXI>

- Find an Advising Center
- Collaborate with our Regional Educational Advising Coordinators (REACs)
- Open Doors Data
- Higher Education Fair
- Conferences with EducationUSA
- EdUSA Connects
- Higher Education Institutions (HEI) E-News
- U.S. Higher Education Resource Section

WES

http://www.wes.org/wes_tools/index.asp

- WES Country Profile
- Grade Conversion Guide
- Education Systems
- Document Requirements
- Document Verification