

Rock Valley College CLEP FAQ's

1. **What is CLEP?**

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) offers you the opportunity to receive college credit for what you already know.

2. **Is CLEP testing a good option for me?**

Students considering taking CLEP exams should consider themselves well-versed in the subject area of the test. Having succeeded in taking honors or advanced courses in the subject area or having extensive knowledge of the course material is suggested.

3. **How do I know what test to take?**

Students interested in taking a CLEP test should first review the Rock Valley College CLEP policy to see what credit will be awarded for each exam. Meeting with an academic advisor prior to testing is suggested. Students planning to attend other colleges or universities should first check with them regarding their CLEP and transfer policy to understand what credit will transfer from RVC.

4. **How many credits do I get for taking the test?**

Students should refer to the CLEP Policy to see what credit will be granted at Rock Valley College for corresponding courses. Please note that each school has its own policy for accepting credit. Therefore, any student who plans to transfer to another school or is taking the test for another school should first contact that school's admissions office to confirm acceptance of CLEP exams. CLEP policies can be found on the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com/clep.

5. **What is the maximum number of credit hours I can earn through CLEP testing?**

Students taking courses at Rock Valley College should refer to the CLEP Policy. Students may earn a maximum of 47 credits at Rock Valley College. No credit will be recorded on a student's transcript until the student has earned at least six (6) credit hours in regular classes at Rock Valley College with the exception of Math and English credits.

6. **Where and when can I take the CLEP tests?**

CLEP exams are offered at the RVC Testing Center by appointment only. To see a full listing of testing dates visit www.rockvalleycollege.edu/clep or call 815-921-2380.

7. **Can I take the exam somewhere else?**

CLEP exams are administered across the country. Students can test at any open CLEP site.

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8. How do I prepare to take the CLEP exam?

Individual subject study guides are available to download through the College Board website (www.collegeboard.com/clep) for a \$10 fee. General CLEP study guides can be purchased at Barnes and Nobles or Borders for around \$25.

9. How is the test administered?

CLEP exams are administered on the computer. All CLEP exams are timed at 90 minutes and are composed of mainly multiple choice questions and some fill in the blank. The two exceptions are 1) College Composition which is a two hour exam consisting of multiple choice and two timed essays and 2) optional handwritten essays which are in addition to the computer test and are timed for 90 minutes.

10. Does CLEP testing affect my college grade point average?

No. If you score high enough to earn credit, you will receive a T(test) credit, not a grade. If you do not score high enough, no credit will be added and nothing will be put on your transcript indicating failure.

11. When should I take a test for college credit?

At least one month prior to starting college. If you plan on taking the College Composition Exam, plan on taking the exam a few months prior to the beginning of the next semester.

12. May I use a calculator?

For the exams which are allowed the use of a calculator, one is built into the test program. Students are NOT allowed to bring their own calculators to the exam.

13. Are there accommodations available for students in need?

If a student has a documented disability, extra time may be given for the exam. Any student requiring accommodations must contact the Testing Center prior to scheduling their CLEP exam.

14. Are the essays required for credit?

Yes, the College Composition test does require two essays, this is the exam offered at RVC to earn English 101 credit. No, optional essays are not required for credit at Rock Valley College.

15. If I still have questions, who can I speak with?

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