

Welcome!

We are delighted to introduce the first issue of the American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT[®]) newsletter, *CREDIT[®] Check*. Our aim is to publish this newsletter on a quarterly basis to advise you of program updates and upcoming events, as well as to report on previous events. We also will share resources to assist you with successful participation in the program.

In this issue we will begin to explore the history of the program, introduce you to the Center for Education Attainment and Innovation and its leadership team, and share new tools and resources.

If you have ideas about what you would like to see included in future issues of our newsletter, please contact us at creditinfo@acenet.edu.

We hope you enjoy this first communication to you about what we are doing in the CREDIT[®] world.

Celebrating 40 Years of Success

These are exciting times at ACE. Did you know that the CREDIT[®] program began in 1974? Since then, CREDIT[®] has successfully worked with thousands of corporate learning programs offered by businesses and industry, labor unions, associations, government agencies, and military services.

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The Center for Education Attainment and Innovation

The mission of the Center for Education Attainment and Innovation at ACE is to advance innovative and effective practices that promote postsecondary attainment among nontraditional learners. Improving postsecondary education attainment is critical to our nation's global competitiveness and quality of life.

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CREDIT[®] Tips and Advice

We answer FAQs about the hows and whys of ACE CREDIT[®].

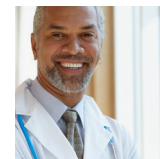
This issue:

"Why does ACE need to look at our record-keeping process?"

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Celebrating 40 Years of Service

ACE credit recommendations are designed to provide adult learners the opportunity to receive academic credit for courses completed outside the traditional

college or university classroom. ACE credit recommendations carry benefits for each of the program's three primary types of stakeholders.

For the **organization**, CREDIT® offers:

- Validation of high-quality training being offered through the organization
- Cost-effective workforce training
- Improved employee performance and reduced turnover

For the **adult learner**, CREDIT® offers:

- Attainment of educational and career goals
- Accelerated pathways to degree completion
- Upward employment mobility

For the **postsecondary institution**, CREDIT® offers:

- Access to new, highly motivated learners
- Consistent quality, less duplication, and lower costs in the admissions process
- Improved networking with the business community and government agencies

With ACE CREDIT® recommendations, extra-institutional learning experiences may qualify for transfer credit toward postsecondary credentials.

This service helps adult learners earn degrees by aligning workplace learning with college and university degree programs. The CREDIT® service not only facilitates access to higher education but also improves employee satisfaction and retention

and reduces the need for tuition assistance dollars.

To ensure that the program continues to meet the needs of the organizations and learners it serves, ACE has repositioned the program within its newly created Center for Education Attainment and Innovation.

In the coming issues we will continue to provide you with snapshots of the history of CREDIT®.

Faces of CREDIT®



Cathy A. Sandeen
Vice President for
Education Attainment
and Innovation

Cathy Sandeen is vice president for education attainment and innovation at ACE, a position she began in January 2013. In this role, she oversees ACE's national agenda to support the return of the United States to preeminence in postsecondary educational attainment, including coordination among national and international leaders from across higher education, foundations, business, and government. She also directs ACE's Center for Education Attainment and Innovation, including major grant programs, federal contracts, fee-for-service activities,

partnerships, and the development of new initiatives.

Sandeen has over 22 years of experience in continuing education and professional development at three University of California campuses. From 2006 to 2012, she served as dean of continuing education and UCLA Extension at the University of California Los Angeles. Prior to joining UCLA, she served for six years as vice provost and dean of University Extension and Summer Session at University of California, Santa Cruz and held several positions at University of California, San Francisco.

Sandeen has served in leadership positions at the University Professional Continuing Education Association (UPCEA) and other professional organizations, and has published and presented on various aspects of serving the needs of nontraditional students. She is the 2009 recipient of UPCEA's Research and Scholarship Award.

Sandeen earned a PhD in communication from the University of Utah and an MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management. She was an ACE Fellow in 2010–11.

Upcoming Events



In-House Workshop

Do you have a large team working on your CREDIT® project or would you like to

participate in a workshop that is designed to address concerns specific to your organization? CREDIT® can provide a workshop in which we bring the experts to you. Contact us at creditinfo@acenet.edu to see how an In-House Workshop may benefit your organization.



Webinar

Virtual Reviews—Are They Right for My Organization?

June 11, 2014 1:00 p.m. EST

This information session will provide an overview of the virtual review process. It will address questions such as:

- How does my organization qualify for a virtual review?
- What are the technical requirements for participation?
- How do I manage feedback and interaction with the review team?
- Are my course materials secure in a virtual environment?

To register for this free webinar, contact creditinfo@acenet.edu.

The Center for Education Attainment and Innovation

Fewer than 50 percent of Americans between the ages of 25 and 34 have attained a two-year degree or more higher education. By the year 2020, it is anticipated that 65 percent of U.S. jobs will require some level of post-secondary education. Yet today it is estimated that 37 million Americans have some college experience, but no degree. ACE and the Center for Education Attainment and Innovation are committed to raising awareness of this issue.

ACE has a historic commitment to helping institutions serve post-traditional learners. That means we are well-positioned to support the increasing number of Americans who take nontraditional paths to a post secondary education credential, and who are key to our national goal of increasing the attainment rate and keeping America competitive on the world stage. ACE is committed to rais-

ing awareness of this issue among its members and other audiences, and to providing leadership in spearheading and highlighting initiatives, policies, and practices that move more Americans to and through postsecondary degree, certificate, and credential programs.

With big data, predictive analytics, competency-based education, “gamification,” credit for prior learning, alternative credentials, massive open online courses (MOOCs), and a plethora of technology-enhanced pedagogy, the higher education landscape is evolving quickly, and new educational innovations are emerging on a near daily basis. ACE is committed to helping its members and other audiences chart a course among the various options to improve the possibilities for post secondary attainment, in alignment with both the individual’s and the institution’s goals.

Faces of CREDIT®



Deborah Seymour
Assistant Vice President
for Education Attainment
and Innovation

Deborah Seymour is assistant vice president for education attainment and innovation with ACE. Seymour joined ACE in August 2013. In this role, she supports ACE’s strategic priority to increase postsecondary attainment in the United States and provides strategy, leadership, and management oversight of the Center’s programs, which include CREDIT®, College and University Partnerships, Military Programs, and Veterans’ Programs.

Seymour has over 25 years of academic, nonprofit, and

private-sector experience in higher education. She has worked in product management for multiple college and university programs; design and development of academic programs in English as a second language, education, management, law, and nursing; online program design for multiple universities; and a number of international and domestic academic partnerships. She has over 15 years of university-level teaching experience and adult program development. For nearly 10 years, Seymour held a range of positions at Laureate

Education, Inc., an organization that owns and operates a large number of universities around the world. Seymour led development for the School of Humanities at the University of California, Irvine, and provided leadership and strategy for the Charles Simon Center for Adult Life & Learning at the 92nd Street Y in New York City. Seymour earned a BA from Hunter College of The City University of New York, and a master of philosophy and a PhD in linguistics from The Graduate Center, City University of New York.

Success Profiles



Chris Hammann
ACE's Adult Learner
of the Year

Chris Hammann, 43, an employee and student at Northern Kentucky University, is ACE's Adult Learner of the Year.

Hammann, a Marine Corps veteran of two military conflicts and a married father of three from Cincinnati, was presented with the award at ACE's 2014 Annual Meeting in San Diego, during the morning plenary session on Tuesday, March 11.

The Adult Learner of the Year Award is presented annually by ACE to an individual who has benefited academically or professionally from the use of ACE credit recommendations for workforce or military training.

ACE CREDIT® and Military Evaluations are opportunities for credit to be awarded for prior learning. The programs evaluate employers' workplace education and training programs, or military courses and occupations, and recommend academic credit when that learning is college-level.

"Chris exemplifies the qualities that this award sets out to honor: perseverance, the capacity to overcome great odds, and the ability to inspire others to set high postsecondary achievement goals," said Cathy A. Sandeen, ACE's vice president for education attainment and innovation. "Like so many nontraditional students, he successfully juggles extraordinary family and work responsibilities even as he strives to gain his degree."

Hammann will receive a \$500 scholarship to help continue his education.

He is currently a junior at Northern Kentucky pursuing a degree in social work, and is president of the Norse Veterans Student Organization, while also working full time as a heavy equipment operator at the university.

"I don't know if I am a role model for other adults, but I hope I am demonstrating that it is never too late to go after your dreams," Hammann said. "Education has helped me see myself and the world around me with different eyes. Finishing my degree will allow me to help others realize their potential, and I am determined to cross the stage to accept my diploma."

Do you have an employee or student who has a phenomenal story? Please share their success with us at creditinfo@acenet.edu.

ADULT LEARNER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Adult Learner of the Year Award is presented annually by ACE to an adult learner who has benefited from the use of ACE CREDIT® recommendations to earn a college degree or advance a career. The award honors the outstanding endeavors of an adult learner who has benefited academically and professionally from the use of ACE CREDIT® recommendations for corporate or military training.

This year's Adult Learner of the Year will receive a \$500 scholarship from ACE to continue his or her education. Award winners demonstrate:

- Continued success in academic, professional, personal, and community endeavors
- Extraordinary achievement in their community or workplace while successfully balancing the demands of family, career, and education
- Inspiration of others to set high lifelong learning goals

For more information, please [contact us about Adult Learner of the Year Award](#).

CREDIT Services

The ACE Credit College and University Network

Did you know that ACE has a network of more than 2,000 higher education institutions that consider ACE credit recommendations for transfer to degree programs?

By recognizing ACE credit recommendations, network members advance adult learners' post-secondary success and in turn are recognized by millions of adults affiliated with ACE CREDIT®'s government, corporate, association, and labor union partners. The network provides assistance to individual institutions and statewide systems by offering templates, resources, and webinars on ACE credit recommendations, prior-learning assessment, and degree completion programs.

Find colleges and universities that consider ACE credit recommendations for military and workforce training.

In the coming issues we will share more about the network and some of the exciting developments with our college and university partners.

Marketing Toolkit for Clients

ACE has developed a marketing toolkit to assist you with informing your constituents about your successful review. The primary purpose of the toolkit is to provide clear guidance on promoting ACE CREDIT® recommendations, including approved marketing language, trademark/logo policies, dos and don'ts, and press releases.

Please contact creditinfo@acenet.edu to request a copy of the Marketing Toolkit for Clients.



CREDIT® Tips & Advice

Why does ACE need to look at our record-keeping process?

Security, accuracy, and confidentiality of learner records are critical to the integrity of the evaluation process. Organizations should be prepared to demonstrate a systematic process for securely maintaining participants' files and records, including course participation, assessment results, and completion. ACE CREDIT® will be looking for a policy regarding the retention and release of individual learner records; administrator and instructor records; modifications to records; and record security (physical or electronic). Internal audits should be conducted on a regular basis. In addition to providing the policies, organizations may be required to provide evidence of adhering to these practices. The absence of these policies and practices may halt the review process.

We are ready to provide answers to your most pressing questions. Send your questions to creditinfo@acenet.edu.

In the Next Issue

- Staff Spotlight: Meet the Center for Education Attainment and Innovation directors
- What are content, scope, and rigor?
- Celebrating 40 years of service: A history lesson on ACE CREDIT®
- Introducing the new course evaluation handbook

We welcome your
feedback on this newsletter.

Please contact us at
creditinfo@acenet.edu.