

# Testing for College Credit: CLEP and DSST Programs

## CLEP and DSST tests: What are they?

Through College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) you can get credit for college-level knowledge you've acquired through experience or self-study. Most of the tests are multiple choice but there are essay requirements for some English examinations and a speech is required for the DSST Public Speaking. Servicemembers can take the exams free of charge while others are charged fees.

## Easier than passing a class?

Many people are attracted to credit by examination because they believe it will be easier than taking a class; however, the tests ensure academic standards and are very challenging.

## How can I get started?

Prior to testing, you need to know the college's CLEP/DSST acceptance policy and any passing score requirements. The Army recognizes passing a CLEP/DSST exam as valid college credit for promotion point purposes; however, not all colleges accept the credit toward degree completion. Consider whether the time you spend preparing for the examination is worthwhile if your college doesn't accept it.

Preparation is key! There are no funded retests for Servicemembers. Study materials for specific exams are available at most installation Libraries. Free full-length practice exams are also available at [www.petersons.com/dod](http://www.petersons.com/dod) or use the links from your AKO account under Self Service → My Library. If you are consistently scoring above 75% on a practice exam, you're probably ready to test. Find program materials at [www.collegeboard.com/clep](http://www.collegeboard.com/clep) and <http://www.getcollegecredit.com/resources.html>.

## Costs?

Costs for non-Servicemembers or for Servicemembers retesting are \$77 for CLEP and \$80 for DSST. Non-military ID cardholders also pay a \$25 administration fee.

## Where do I go to take the test?

At JBLM, CLEP and DSST examinations are administered by Pierce College. The testing schedule and registration information is available in the Pierce College office at Stone Education Center, room 145, online at [www.pierce.ctc.edu/military](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/military) or by phone: 253-964-6567. All tests are computerized.

## BUYER BEWARE...Watch out for scams!

There have been numerous complaints regarding companies selling highly questionable test preparation products and services specifically targeted at military members and their Families. You must beware of:

- Salespersons who want to sell you test prep services for tests with payment up front or on credit.
- Direct sales contact at your home.
- Promises that you can get college credit without enrolling in college.
- Book lists that include dictionaries or encyclopedias.

Before you buy any test prep service or invest hundreds or thousands of dollars, check it out with your local education center. Numerous free and low-cost test preparation alternatives are available either at the Education Center, the library, or through college bookstores.

# Exam Titles and Pass Rates

CLEP Test Title	Recommended Passing Score	Recommended Credits	Pass Rate %
American Government	50	3	24%
American Literature	50	6	17%
<b>Analyzing &amp; Interpreting Literature</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>67%</b>
Biology, General	50	6	33%
Calculus w/Elementary Functions	50	6	26%
Chemistry, General	50	6	8%
College Algebra	50	3	17%
College Algebra - Trig	50	3	0%
College Mathematics	50	6	39%
College Composition (w/ Essay)	50	6	55%
<b>College Composition Modular (w/o Essay)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>71%</b>
English Composition (w/o Essay)	50	6	29%
English Composition (w/ Essay)	50	6	41%
English Literature	50	6	27%
Financial Accounting	50	3	13%
French Language, College Level	50	6	52%
<b>Freshman College Composition</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>62%</b>
German Language, College Level	50	6	56%
History of the U.S. I	50	3	29%
History of the U.S. II	50	3	30%
Human Growth & Development	50	3	23%
Humanities	50	6	30%
Info Sys & Computer Applications	50	3	54%
Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	3	18%
Introductory Business Law	50	3	25%
Introductory Psychology	50	3	47%
Introductory Sociology	50	3	43%
Microeconomics	50	3	25%
Macroeconomics	50	3	26%
Natural Sciences	50	6	41%
Precalculus	50	3	35%
Principles of Accounting	50	3	0%
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3	20%
Principles of Management	50	3	30%
<b>Principles of Marketing</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>61%</b>
Principles of Microeconomics	50	3	17%
Social Science and History	50	6	40%
<b>Spanish Language, College Level</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>86%</b>
Trigonometry	50	3	0%
Western Civilization I	50	3	47%
Western Civilization II	50	3	42%

DSST Title	Recommended Passing Score	Recommended Credits	Pass Rate %
A History of the Vietnam War	44	3	33%
An Introduction to the Modern Middle East	47	3	42%
Art of the Western World	48	3	34%
Astronomy	48	3	59%
<b>Business Ethics and Society</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3U</b>	<b>70%</b>
Business Law II	44	3U	49%
Business Mathematics	48	3	0%
Criminal Justice	400	3	28%
<b>Environment and Humanity: The Race to Save the Planet</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>63%</b>
Ethics in America	400	3	35%
Foundations of Education	46	3	55%
Fundamentals of College Algebra	400	3	13%
Fundamentals of Counseling	45	3	57%
General Anthropology	47	3	39%
Here's to Your Health	400	3	48%
Human Cultural Geography	48	3	42%
<b>Human Resource Management</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Introduction to Business</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>72%</b>
Introduction to Computing	400	3	57%
Introduction to Law Enforcement	45	3	59%
Introduction to Modern Middle East		3	34%
Introduction to World Religions	400	3	33%
Lifespan Developmental Psychology	46	3	33%
Management Information Systems	400	3U	45%
Money and Banking	48	3U	21%
Organizational Behavior	48	3	50%
Personal Finance	400	3	43%
Physical Geology	46	3	10%
Principles of Finance	46	3U	18%
Principles of Financial Accounting	47	3	21%
Principles of Physical Science I	47	3	59%
Principles of Public Speaking	47	3	57%
Principles of Statistics	400	3	32%
<b>Principles of Supervision</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>91%</b>
Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	45	3U	38%
Substance Abuse	400	3	39%
<b>Technical Writing</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>73%</b>
The Civil War and Reconstruction	47	3U	40%
Western Europe Since 1945	45	3	45%
*U – indicates that test is for upper level (300-400) credit. As new versions of each test are introduced, the scoring system changes to a 400 minimum passing score.			