

## Policy Recommendation Credit By Examination (CBE) & Challenge Examinations

**Background** SJSU has no campus policy governing Credit By Exam. Current practices are not in line with most other CSU campuses or with guidelines given by the Chancellor’s Office. CSU Executive Order 1036, Article 1.1 addresses “Campus-Originated Challenge Examinations” stating that “Students who pass campus-originated challenge examinations... shall earn credit toward the degree”

The Office of Academic Programs & Faculty Development of the CSU Chancellor’s Office has informed the individual campuses that “challenge exams” (CBE) should generate Earned Units toward graduation, but should never generate FTES (Full Time Equivalent Students), nor should student (tuition) fees be collected for administration of such examinations. SJSU is among the 11 of 23 CSU Campuses not following these CSU Guidelines (survey data available from the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs). The rationale is that students receive no instruction when challenging a course, and FTES is generated as a measure of faculty instructional time.

**Justification** Currently, SJSU may earn credit by exam in three different ways. The color coding shows in **green** where we are complying with CSU policy, and in **red** where our campus is out of compliance.

**Current Practice**

Type of Exam	Administered by	Earned Units toward graduation	Course registration required & FTES generated	Student fee
AP, CLEP, & IB	External Testing Services	Yes	No	paid externally, unless administered by the SJSU Testing Office
“Waiver Exams” for US1, US2, US3, and Critical Thinking	SJSU Testing Office using exams written by HIST, POLS, & PHIL	No *	No	minimal administrative fee collected by Testing Office



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Resolved That the existing “waiver exam” and “challenge exam” practices be discontinued and that the following be adopted immediately as campus policy for Credit By Exam (CBE)

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