

Competency Certification and Credit for Prior Learning Proposed Concept #1

Increase opportunities and access systemwide for learners to earn credit or certification through demonstrated college/university-level competence.

Current State

- Competence assessment and credit for prior learning is not readily available to students.
- Adult learners who have gained knowledge outside of the traditional academic environment are an increasing demographic on our campuses.
- Students do not want to take courses in which they are already proficient or competent.

Desired Future State

- Campuses have increased opportunities for competence assessment and credit for prior learning.
- Students are earning credit through Competency Based Education and Credit for Prior Learning.
- Minnesota is more competitive in a global and diverse economy.

Benefit to Students, Faculty, Staff, and Beyond

- Students have the potential to lessen time to and reduce cost of a degree.
- Students ability to have all learning validated.
- Increased ability of the system to meet workforce demands.
- Increased enrollment, persistence, and completion in degree programs.
- System expertise is acknowledged and leveraged.

What We Heard

“People deserve credit for what they have learned in life whether it occurred in or out of the classroom.”

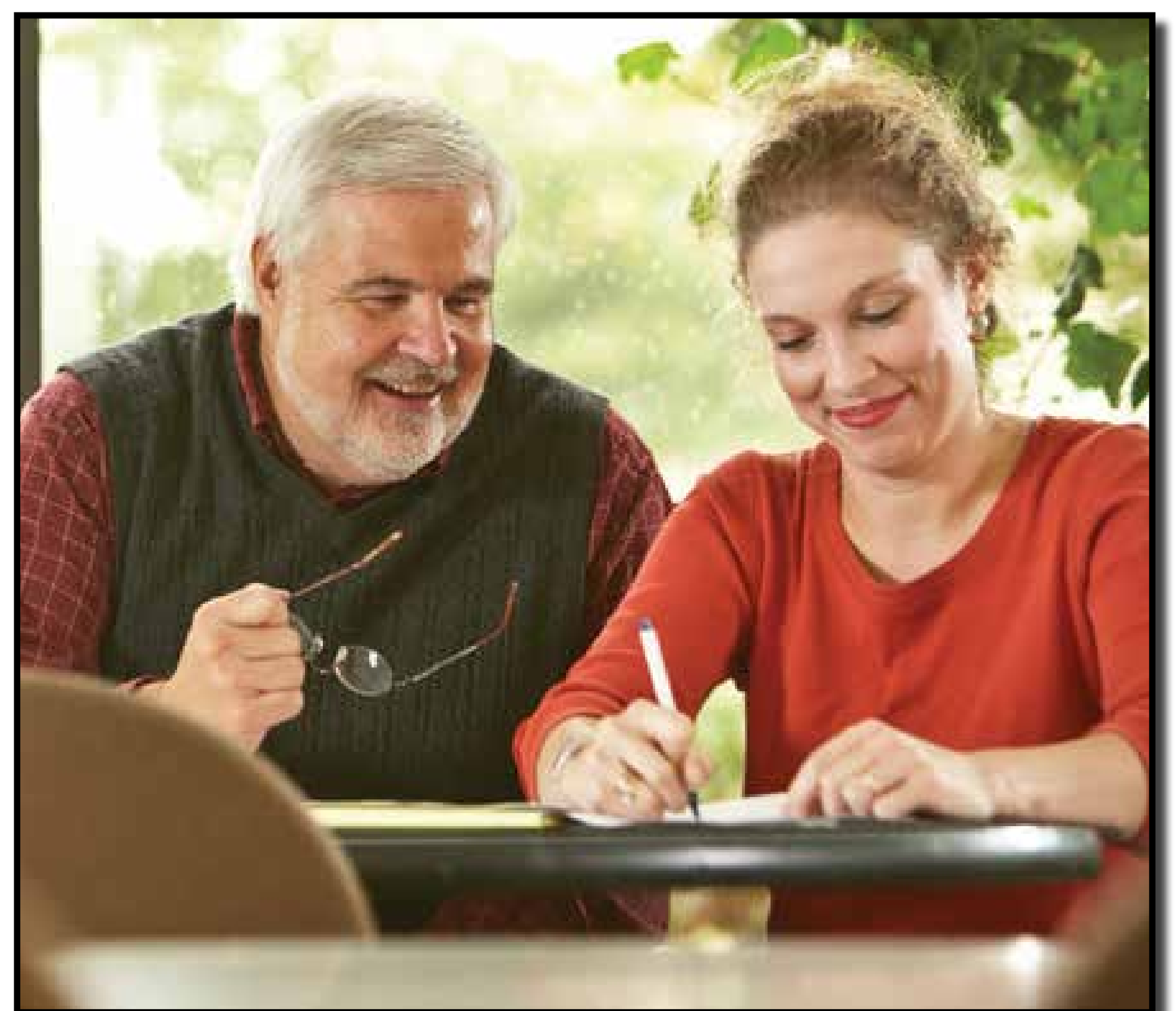
-- University student, surveyed in capstone course in final semester

“A competency based program and the opportunity to earn credit for prior learning allows me to demonstrate my years of owning and managing businesses. The flexibility of a program like this keeps me employed full-time, gives me quality time with my family, and allows me to set aside time for learning and assessment outside the traditional school day.”

-Mid-level Manager, West Central Minnesota area business

“Encouraging self-directed learning creates life-long learners.”

-- University student, surveyed in capstone course in final semester



**CHARTING THE FUTURE
FOR A PROSPEROUS MINNESOTA**

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