

Joint Services Transcript (JST)

The proposed policy change is to make Joint Services Transcript (JST) credit similar to CLEP or Advanced Placement (AP) credit, where the student has the option to decline the credit after it is reviewed within their first semester at MSU. Students may request to transfer these credits to MSU. The student would make the decision to remove credit within the first semester of their enrollment at MSU. After the first semester, requests for JST credit will be handled on a case by case basis and requires the approval of the major department and the Registrar's Office (RO).

The proposed policy shift came as a result of an effort to get Colleges and Departments to offer transfer credit for students entering the university with advanced training in the military that show up on the JST. The American Council for Education (ACE) provides guidelines about the equivalence between military training and higher education coursework but most training credit may not have a direct course equivalent at MSU and does not match current course descriptions.

As a result, when awarded much of this credit has been applied towards General University Credit (GCU). JST credits could also be awarded in an area that is not aligned with the students' degree program, which means that the student would bring in excess course credits which could result in: 1) advancing their student status and fee rate without benefiting them toward degree completion, and 2) lead to financial aid problems in terms of their satisfactory progress toward a degree because they will have exhausted their electives.

Currently, if the JST is reviewed and credit is awarded, MSU does not allow students to remove or "deny" the credit awarded. APUE, Student Veterans Resource Office, Registrar's Office, and Financial Aid are supportive of extending the ability to rescind or deny a transfer credit to students with military service. Treating JST credit similar to the current policy for CLEP and AP students removes a significant barrier to veteran students' matriculation through the university and overall success.