

# AP, IB & CLEP Credits and the Pre-Med & Pre-Dent Student

While AP, IB, and CLEP credits may be a great preparation for college, professional schools—especially medical and dental schools—may not consider these as adequate preparation for their programs. Although you can receive Purdue credit for these courses (see website:[http://www.purdue.edu/Admissions/Undergrad/academics/acc\\_index.shtml](http://www.purdue.edu/Admissions/Undergrad/academics/acc_index.shtml)), you may not want to use AP, IB, or CLEP credits to replace required courses for professional school.



## How the professional schools view it:

- Professional schools feel that high school courses rarely provide the depth or breadth of college courses.
- Opting out of some of the required courses in college may lead students to not take the heavy science load professional programs need to see.
- These courses/exams are seen as creating an opportunity to take more courses in that area—not a chance to get out of taking classes in college.
- Professional programs are often much more open to these credits in math and English, but are more reluctant about taking science credits.

## You need to make an informed decision about this. Your options are:

- Do not make use of your credits in science and repeat those courses in college.
- Accept your credits, but use this as an opportunity to take upper level courses. If your credits are in your major—this probably isn't a problem. If they aren't, then you should consider taking upper level courses in that area to “replace” the ones for which you received credit.

## Things to think about:

- Do you feel prepared to move to the higher level course? Many students find they don't have a strong enough background to start in the higher level course.
- Do you feel that the AP course prepared you for the aptitude test and the rigors of professional school?