

## Timeline: Thirty-Five Years of Prior Learning Assessment: 1973 to 2008

Year	Activity/Event
1973 (and earlier)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Commission on Non-Traditional Study</li> <li>◆ Office of External Degree Programs (ETS)</li> <li>◆ Preliminary meeting of Carnegie Corporation/ETS to discuss need for standardized process to assess non-classroom learning</li> </ul>
1974	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Ten task force institutions* and ETS launch CAEL Project (CAEL I) with Carnegie funding</li> <li>◆ Field research begins—54 institutions</li> <li>◆ 182 Institutions join CAEL in the first year</li> <li>◆ First CAEL National Conference to disseminate early research findings (214 attendees)</li> </ul>
1974 to 1977	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ETS-based CAEL Project (CAEL I)</li> <li>◆ Produced 27 publications (handbooks and guides for students and faculty; annotated bibliographies, <i>Principles of Good Practice in Experiential Learning</i> (Willingham) and 50+ working papers, institutional reports, and special project reports</li> <li>◆ Conducted 6 national conferences to disseminate research findings among the members</li> <li>◆ Conducted operational (implementation) models research (12 institutions)</li> <li>◆ Conducted Faculty Development Program (12 institutions)</li> <li>◆ 270 institutional members at end of CAEL I</li> </ul>
1977	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ CAEL II operates independently of ETS</li> <li>◆ Incorporates as 501(c)(3) and relocates to Maryland with Morris Keeton as Executive Director</li> </ul>
1979	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), American Council on Education (ACE), and Council for Higher Education Accreditation endorse PLA and CAEL principles</li> </ul>
1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Kellogg-funded Institutional Development Program (IDP) launched by CAEL</li> </ul>
1981	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ National PLA Survey conducted by CAEL resulting in the publication of <i>Wherever You Learned It: A Directory of Opportunities for Educational Credit</i> (McIntyre)—five regional volumes containing data from 530 institutions that had portfolio programs</li> </ul>
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A collection of institutional models of student portfolios—<i>Creditable Portfolios: Dimensions in Diversity</i> (Rydell) published by CAEL</li> </ul>
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ National PLA Survey conducted by CAEL; 1,493 institutions responded—552 (37 percent) indicated use of portfolio assessment method</li> </ul>
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ First edition of <i>Earn College Credit for What You Know</i> (Simosko) published by CAEL</li> </ul>

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## Timeline: Thirty-Five Years of Prior Learning Assessment: 1973 to 2008 (*continued*)

Year	Activity/Event
1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ First edition of <i>Assessing Learning: Standards, Principles &amp; Procedures</i> (Whitaker) published by CAEL</li> </ul>
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Pamela Tate assumes presidency of CAEL; CAEL headquarters relocate to Chicago, Illinois</li> <li>◆ PLA remains at the core of CAEL's agenda while the organization expands outreach to, and services for, adult learners through workforce development programs</li> </ul>
1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ National PLA survey conducted by CAEL resulting in the publication of <i>Prior Learning Assessment: Results of a Nationwide Institutional Survey</i> (Fugate and Chapman); 1,736 institutions responded</li> <li>◆ Second edition of <i>Earn College Credit for What You Know</i> (Lamdin) published by CAEL</li> </ul>
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ National PLA survey conducted by CAEL resulting in the publication of <i>Prior Learning Assessment: A Guidebook to American Institutional Practices</i> (Zucker, Johnson, and Flint); 1,181 institutions responded and indicated some PLA practices were in place at their institutions</li> <li>◆ Third edition of <i>Earn College Credit for What You Know</i> (Lamdin) published by CAEL</li> </ul>
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ CAEL launched on-line PLA verification program in collaboration with DePaul University</li> </ul>
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, American Council on Education, and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation reissued endorsement of PLA and CAEL standards</li> </ul>
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Fourth edition of <i>Earn College Credit for What You Know</i> (Colvin) published by CAEL</li> <li>◆ Second edition of <i>Assessing Learning: Standards, Principles and Procedures</i> (Fiddler, Marienau, and Whitaker) published by CAEL</li> <li>◆ National survey of PLA policies and practices conducted by CAEL</li> </ul>

**\* The following ten task forces institutions together with ETS formed the first CAEL project. (Those shown in italics have portfolio samples in this book.)**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Antioch College (now University)</li> <li>◆ <i>Community College of Vermont</i></li> <li>◆ El Paso Community College</li> <li>◆ <i>Empire State College</i></li> <li>◆ Florida International University</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Framingham State College</li> <li>◆ Minnesota Metropolitan State College</li> <li>◆ <i>New College, University of Alabama</i></li> <li>◆ San Francisco State College</li> <li>◆ Thomas A. Edison College</li> </ul> |
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