



Articulation Agreement
Between
Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M University

This agreement is between the Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) and Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), a member of the Texas A&M University System, and an agency of the State of Texas is intended to (a) permit students who earn an associate's degree at Wharton County Junior College to transfer previously identified credits for their general education core curriculum courses freely to Prairie View A&M to apply towards a bachelor's degree, (b) permit students pursuing a bachelor's degree at Prairie View A&M to easily identify general education courses available to them at WCJC that will fulfill their degree requirements at Prairie View A&M, and (c) permit students who complete their associate's degree or PVAMU's minimum transfer requirements at WCJC and meet general and programmatic admission requirements in place at Prairie View A&M at the time of their entry to complete their bachelor's degree in a time period commensurate with an undergraduate student whose entire program is taken at Prairie View A&M. All sections of this agreement a, b, and c will provide a basic framework to permit students to participate in University and College level transfer programs as outlined in the attached PVAMU Transfer Articulation Program Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Reverse Transfer Credit (MOA).

The Transfer Articulation Program is a series of different articulation MOAs that specify minimum transfer course core and program requirements, but also offer conditionally guaranteed admission to undergraduate academic programs and other specialized incentives at PVAMU. The specific general education courses listed on the Texas Common Course Numbering System website (www.tccns.org), are freely transferable between Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M. This is subject only to the limitation that PVAMU will apply to a specific degree program and no more than 66 credit hours of transfer work from any regionally accredited two-year institution. Prairie View A&M University is committed to developing programs designed to fully implement House Bill 3025 effective September 2011.

Officials of Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M University are committed to developing detailed transfer planning guides for bachelor's degree programs covering not only the general education core curriculum courses, but also other courses in associate's degree programs. These guides may be approved in the future by the Provost or other designated officials of each institution. In all cases, the goals of these guides are to provide students with the most "seamless" transfer articulation possible between the two institutions, and to promote the academic quality of each program.

Representatives of Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M will confer at least on a biennial basis to evaluate the success of this agreement and to consider any requests for amendments. Amendments may be approved by the appropriate designees at each institution.

Any other modifications to this agreement may be made following ninety days written notice from either institution. This agreement shall be in effect for three years beginning October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2016. This agreement is eligible for renewal within ninety days prior to its expiration with written approval of both parties. The total term of the agreement shall not exceed five (5) years. A written

approval notice is required at least ninety days, in advance, if either institution should decide to terminate the agreement. The responsibilities of each partner institution are available in the following Memorandum of Agreement.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Assignment. This Agreement, with the rights and privileges it creates, is assignable only with the written consent of both parties.

Force Majeure. Each party shall be excused from any breach of this Agreement which is proximately caused by government regulation, war, strike, act of God, or other similar circumstance normally deemed outside the control of well-managed businesses.

Governing Law. This Agreement is construed under the laws of Texas. Venue is in Waller County, Texas.

Headings. Headings appear solely for convenience of reference. Such headings are not part of this Agreement and shall not be used to construe it.

Severability. If any provision or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

Notice. Any notices required by this agreement shall be delivered to the following address:

PVAMU: Prairie View A&M University
P.O. Box 519; MS 1300
Prairie View, Texas 77446
Attention: Office of Business Affairs

COPY TO: Prairie View A&M University
P.O. Box 519; MS 1300
Prairie View, Texas 77446
Attention: E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

WCJC: Wharton County Junior College
911 E. Bowling Highway
Wharton, Texas 77488
Attention: Leigh Ann Collins, Vice President of Instruction

Dispute Resolution. The dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by PVAMU and WCJC to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by WCJC that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. WCJC shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the Vice President of Business Affairs at PVAMU, who shall examine WCJC's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with WCJC in an effort to resolve the claim.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

Wharton County Junior College

Betty McCrohan 12-12-13

Betty McCrohan, President

Leigh Ann Collins

Leigh Ann Collins,
Vice President of Instructions

12-12-13

Prairie View A&M University

George C. Wright

Dr. George C. Wright, President

E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith

Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Provost
and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Corey S. Bradford

Dr. Corey S. Bradford
Senior Vice President for Business Affairs

TRANSFER ARTICULATION PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M University

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) and Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) enter into the following agreement governing the matriculation at Prairie View A&M University and participation in the Transfer Articulation Program (TAP), Direct Connect Program. The Direct Connect Program is designed to provide advisors who will visit Wharton County Junior College campuses on a bi-monthly basis to meet with students, faculty and staff to assess transfer credits, to determine their overall preparedness for the academic major, and the entire transfer planning process. The program goals are as follows (a) build relationships with students and WCJC counselors, (b) recruit and admit academically prepared students who are ready to begin upper division course work, and (c) create institutional incentives and a seamless transfer process that significantly increases transfer student enrollment from WCJC. Students admitted into this program are automatically eligible for Reverse Articulation to obtain their Associate's Degree.

During the period of this agreement, Prairie View A&M University will:

The Direct Connect Program Requirements:

1. Student must complete the admission process and meet all university and college level admission requirements by the application deadline.
2. Student must complete a minimum of 45 transferrable college level hours with an overall grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible for the program.
 - a. Only course grades of "C-" or better will be accepted for transfer
 - b. No Developmental Courses will be accepted for transfer
 - c. Student has completed the agreed upon listing of courses that are deemed to be equivalent to PVAMU courses
 - d. Student understands that he/she may need to complete additional pre-requisites as required by the program in which he/she enrolls at PVAMU.
3. Student must transfer to PVAMU not later than two semesters or one year after entering the program with 45 hours and/or Associate Degree to be eligible for the program benefits.
4. Student must meet monthly with the Direct Connect Professional Advisor and provide any official documents as required.
5. At the time of class registration the student must meet the Texas Success Initiative requirements.
6. Tuition assistance is available, in the form of a scholarship for a period up to four semesters for students with 45 transferable hours and a minimum overall GPA 2.5 or higher or an Associate's Degree. Must also be enrolled in full-time status.
7. All transfer scholarships are reserved for first-time PVAMU enrollees pursuing their first baccalaureate degree. In cases of multiple eligibilities, students may receive only one Direct Connect Scholarship.
8. The tuition assistance is only limited to students whom are a US Citizen and a Texas Resident.

The Program Benefits:

1. The student is eligible to pay the same fixed tuition and mandatory fees rate at the time of registration as that of WCJC if they completed an Associate's Degree. The student will receive a PVAMU Associate's Degree Scholarship to offset the cost. This fixed tuition rate and mandatory fees program is in accordance with HB 2999. The tuition assistance is not to exceed the published award amounts and is based upon availability of funds. The student must also be registered as a full-time student.
2. The student is eligible to participate in advance course registration provided they meet the pre-registration requirements at the time of enrollment.
3. The student is eligible to participate in the Reverse Articulation program.
4. As a dual admitted student they will be eligible to enroll in up to 12 semester credit hours at PVAMU prior completing the associate's degree at the WCJC. The student must meet all of the other program requirements in order to utilize this benefit.

During the period of this agreement, Wharton County Junior College will:

1. Provide a visible secured location for the Direct Connect Advisors
2. Publicize the program/agreement among its student and faculty, while also identifying potential students who would benefit from this program.
 - a. Provide PVAMU with a list of students, every semester, which have attained at least 45 transferrable college level hours with a grade point average of 2.50 or higher.
3. Make available to prospective transfer students, through early advisement sessions, information and requirements for admission to PVAMU and a list of PVAMU core curriculum courses and the equivalent courses at WCJC.

Both Prairie View A&M and Wharton County Junior College will:

1. Monitor the academic performance of students enrolling under this agreement, identify problems, and work cooperatively to facilitate the seamless transition between PVAMU and WCJC.
2. Assist in the Advertising and Marketing of the Direct Connect Program
3. Notify each other of any curriculum changes relevant to this agreement, in a timely manner.

Any other modifications to this agreement may be made following ninety days written notice from either institution. This agreement shall be in effect for three years beginning October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2016. It is eligible for renewal within 90 days prior to its expiration. The total term of the agreement shall not exceed five (5) years.

Wharton County Junior College

Betty McCrohan 12-12-13
Betty McCrohan, President

Leigh Ann Collins 12-12-13
Leigh Ann Collins
Vice President of Instructions

Prairie View A&M University

George C. Wright
Dr. George C. Wright, President

Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith
Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Provost
and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Corey S. Bradford 10/14/13
Dr. Corey S. Bradford
Senior Vice President for Business Affairs

REVERSE TRANSFER of CREDIT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

Wharton County Junior College and Prairie View A&M University

This Reverse Transfer of Credit Memorandum of Agreement is by and between Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), a member of the Texas A&M System, and Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) a Texas political subdivision of higher education on behalf of its colleges, which allows students to transfer course work from PVAMU to WCJC to complete the associate's degree.

This agreement assists students who earned credits that applied towards an associate's degree while enrolled at WCJC, but they did not complete sufficient credits to earn their associate's degree and subsequently pursue their education at PVAMU. This agreement is designed to allow these students to transfer their credits earned at PVAMU to WCJC, through an articulation agreement, and provide them the opportunity to complete their community college associate's degree.

PVAMU students will automatically be notified of this agreement, when they have met the following criteria:

1. Have earned at least 24 transferable semester credit hours from WCJC.
2. Have earned a cumulative total (which includes hours transfer in and earned at PVAMU) of at least 60 credit hours from PVAMU.
3. Be in "Good Academic Standing" at both institutions.
4. Transferred to PVAMU with WCJC as the last school attended.

The student, in all of the cases above, must meet at the time of the request all applicable PVAMU's and WCJC's administrative policies, procedures and regulations.

This agreement contains the following attachments:

Attachment 1: A sample of the *reverse transfer credit* notification that will be sent to the student by the PVAMU Registrar's Office once the above stated criteria has been met; and

Attachment 2: A sample of the *Reverse Transfer Credit Release Form* (RTCRF) will be included in the student's notification. Students will need to complete the release form and submit it to the PVAMU's Office of the Registrar for processing. After receiving the release form, the PVAMU Registrar's Office will send the student's PVAMU academic record to the WCJC Registrar's Office for evaluation towards completion of the associate degree.

Each institution will designate in writing an employee who will serve as the point of contact for administration of this Agreement. For WCJC, that employee will be the Registrar. For PVAMU, that person will be Registrar.

Either party may terminate this Agreement on ninety days written notice to the other party unless a breach occurs. A breach of this Agreement includes, but is not limited to a violation of the policies and rules of either party, as appropriate, a misrepresentation or false statement in this agreement by one of the parties or non-performance of the party's duties under this Agreement. In the event of a breach, the breaching party has 30 days to cure the breach. Failure to cure the breach will result in termination of this Agreement. Any other modifications to this

agreement may be made following ninety days written notice from either institution. If this Agreement is terminated during the academic term, students will be allowed to finish their course work under this agreement.

To the extent permitted under Texas law and without waiving any defenses including governmental immunity, each party hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the other harmless from any loss, liability, costs or damages arising from actual or threatened claims or causes of action resulting from the gross negligence or intentional misconduct of such party or its respective officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, members or participants (as applicable), provided that with respect to officers, directors, employees, and agents, such individuals are acting within the scope of their employment or agency, as applicable.

This Agreement begins on October 15, 2013 and will remain in effect for 5 years unless terminated according to the termination or modification provisions within this Agreement, supra.

The individuals executing this Agreement on behalf of WCJC and PVAMU acknowledge that they are duly authorized to execute this Agreement. All parties hereby acknowledge that they have read and understood this Agreement and Attachments I & II hereto. This Agreement shall not become effective until executed by each party.

Wharton County Junior College

Prairie View A&M University

Betty McCrohan 12-12-13

Betty McCrohan, President

George C. Wright

Dr. George C. Wright, President

Leigh Ann Collins 12/12/13

**Leigh Ann Collins
Vice President of Instructions**

E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith

**Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Provost
and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Corey S. Bradford

**Dr. Corey S. Bradford
Senior Vice President for Business Affairs**

ATTACHMENT 1:

[Date]

First Last Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code

Dear [First Name]:

We hope you are enjoying your enrollment at the Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU). It appears that you transferred to PVAMU from Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) without completing your associate degree program. [First Name], we want you to know that PVAMU and WCJC have entered into a partnership that allows students to complete their community college degree program by the reverse transfer of college credits. This means that you could transfer your PVAMU credits back to WCJC, in order to complete your associate degree program requirements.

To take advantage of the PVAMU and WCJC Reverse Transfer of Credits Memorandum of Agreement, you must meet the following criteria:

- Have earned at least 24 semester credit hours from WCJC.
- Have earned a cumulative total (which includes hours transfer in and earned at PVAMU) of at least 66 credit hours from PVAMU.
- Transferred to PVAMU with WCJC as the last school attended.
- Be in "Good Academic Standing" at both institutions.

[First Name], if you meet the above criteria and are interested in this opportunity, please complete and submit the Reverse Transfer of Credit form to:

Prairie View A& M University (PVAMU)
Office of the Registrar, P.O. Box 519; MS 1002
Prairie View, TX 77446 or (936) 261-1051 (Fax)

A copy of the Reverse Transfer of Credit form will be sent to the WCJC Office of Admissions and Registration in order for a degree audit to be performed. Once the audit is completed, a letter will be sent to you **indicating the requirements needed** for the Associate degree from WCJC. The determination as to what PVAMU credits can be transferred to WCJC, and be used to satisfy your Associate degree program, will be decided by WCJC. **By completing and signing the enclosed release form, you give PVAMU permission to release your PVAMU academic record to WCJC.** (Please note the FERPA statement on the Reverse Transfer of Credit form.)

Should you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the PVAMU and WCJC Reverse Transfer of Credits Agreement, please contact our office at (936)261-1068 or 1056.

Sincerely,

Deborah Dungey
Registrar

ATTACHMENT 2:

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU)
and
Wharton County Junior College (WCJC)
Reverse Transfer Credit Memorandum of Agreement
RELEASE FORM

Please complete, sign and mail or fax this release form to:

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), Office of the Registrar, Willie A. Tempton, Sr. Memorial Student Center, Suite 301, 1 L.W. Minor, Prairie View, TX 77446 or (936)261-1051 (fax); mailing address—P.O. Box 519, MS 1002, Prairie View View, Texas 77446.

Date of Birth: _____ PVAMU Student ID #: _____

Degree Major: _____ WCJC Student ID #: _____

Program Major Degree: (e.g., AA, AS, AAS...etc.) _____

Full, Legal Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country of Citizenship: _____ Phone: _____

PVAMU Semester Transferred from WCJC: _____ Email Address: _____

PVAMU Enrollment: **Start Date** (sem/yr) _____ **Last Enrolled** (sem/yr) _____

FERPA Statement:

Under Federal legislation, namely the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, I understand that my educational records cannot be released without my written permission. I authorize the release of my academic records from HCCS to PVAMU, and the release of my academic records from PVAMU to WCJC, in order to share student data information between the two institutions without the violation of FERPA. I understand that I do have the right to rescind this release agreement of my academic records, once a PVAMU student.

I understand the FERPA statement and agree to my student records being shared between PVAMU and WCJC for the purposes of credit evaluation to determine the awarding of a degree, diploma or certificate.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____