 

**South Texas College and Aspen University
Program-to-Program Transfer Memorandum of Understanding**

South Texas College is a community college located in McAllen, Texas that offers more than 120 degree & certificate options, including associate degrees in a variety of liberal arts, social science, business, math, science, technology, advanced manufacturing, and allied health fields of study. South Texas College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

South Texas College’s Associate Degree in Nursing is approved by the Texas Board of Nursing and is accredited by ACEN: Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. Comments about this program may be directed to ACEN at 3343 Peachtree Road, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326. Phone: (404) 975-5000. Website: [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org)

Aspen University is a post-secondary higher education institution dedicated to offering any motivated college-worthy student the opportunity to receive a high quality, responsibly priced distance-learning education for the purpose of achieving sustainable economic and social benefits for themselves and their families. Aspen University is accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC). The Accrediting Commission of the DEAC is listed by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (<http://www.chea.org>).

Aspen University’s School of Nursing and Health Sciences offers Registered Nurses the opportunity to earn their BSN, MSN and DNP online. The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master’s degree program in nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Aspen University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacnursing.org/CCNE>).

Both institutions acknowledge that each are institutions committed to providing quality educational opportunities and services, each institution shall not discriminate, and is dedicated to serving students from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, disability, color, age, national origin, medical disabilities/conditions (as defined by law) or any basis prohibited by law.

South Texas College and Aspen University wish to establish this transfer memorandum of understanding (MOU) whereby students graduating from South Teas College’s Associate Degree in Nursing program and having earned no less than a “C” grade in any course, who possess an unencumbered Registered Nurse (RN) license, and who meet the other application requirements of Aspen University, shall:

1. be awarded 60 nursing course credits in recognition of possession of an unencumbered RN license,
2. be awarded up to 30 general education transfer credits (see attached appendix), as determined by courses taken at STC,
3. be pre-approved for acceptance into Aspen University’s 10 course (30 credit) Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program (RN to BSN).
4. receive a 10% tuition discount for the RN to BSN program.

Aspen University’s RN-to-BSN degree requires a total of 120 credits: 30 general education credits plus 60 nursing course credits plus the 30 upper-level credits earned in the Aspen University RN to BSN completion program. Per item 2 above, if fewer than 30 general education requirement transfer credits are earned in South Texas College’s Associate Degree in Nursing, it will be necessary for students to:

1. submit transcripts confirming the completion of the balance of 30 general education courses earning no less than a “C” grade in any course from other accredited institutions, or
2. complete additional general education courses with a “C” grade or better at South Texas College at Aspen University, or at another accredited institution.

**Aspen University’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program (RN to BSN) is a 100% online program consisting of 10 courses with start dates every two weeks. The tuition and fees for this program after the 10% discount will be $9,575. This cost does not include the cost of textbooks (estimated to be approximately $1,500 for the program) or costs incurred from course retakes.**

**For the RN-to-BSN program Aspen University offers, as an option to traditional financial aid, a payment plan of $250 per month. The monthly payment plan is a private education loan with 0% fixed rate of interest (0% APR) and no down payment. Each month one payment of $250 is made until the program is paid for.**

Both institutions agree to collaborate in communicating the contents of this transfer MOU and the benefits of Aspen University’s RN to BSN program to current South Texas College nursing students. Such communications may include and are not necessarily limited to periodic emails to the nursing students, mentions in student newsletters, displaying links to Aspen University’s website on South Texas College’s internal intranet or website, informational webinars and videos, site visits by Aspen University representatives, and/or other activities as appropriate.

This transfer MOU is predicated on the current courses as specified in South Texas College’s Associate Degree in Nursing as of the date of this MOU and that they will remain unchanged. As such, this MOU shall remain in force for one (1) year and will be reviewed for renewal every two (2) years. Any changes to the South Texas College Associate Degree in Nursing curriculum, unless submitted to Aspen University for review and accepted by Aspen University by written acknowledgement, will result in the immediate suspension of this MOU.

Either party to this MOU may terminate this MOU for any reason upon 30 days written notice delivered to the below signatory.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, South Texas College and Aspen University have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the date below.

South Texas College Aspen University

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Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

