



Memorandum of Understanding

South Texas College

and

Western Governor's University – Texas

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between South Texas College (STC) and Western Governor's University - Texas (WGUT).

Purpose

- This MOU formally recognizes that both institutions are active educational partners, committed to providing greater educational opportunities to students transferring between the two institutions. This partnership is committed to providing a seamless transfer to advance individuals in their personal educational goals and advance the educational mission of both colleges.
- Both institutions enter into this MOU in recognition of their mutual commitment to furthering the quality, affordability, and accessibility of higher education.
- Under the terms and conditions of this MOU, participating graduates will maximize as much of their community college coursework and credits as outlined by the transfer articulation pathways.
- Through ongoing communication between their faculty and staff, STC and WGUT will work together to address transfer obstacles that may present themselves throughout the partnership.
- The MOU provides a structure through which transfer articulation is supported for all degree programs that are an equal or natural transfer between institutions. These articulations will include students from all STC campuses or locations.

Transfer Elements

Treatment of College associate degree transfer

- This MOU establishes the principles that allow for the transfer of credits earned by graduates from STC whose program have an articulated pathway to WGUT. All transferrable courses that are completed at STC with a letter grade of "C" or higher are accepted and applied towards the appropriate college degree (with the exception of licensure programs or state requirements where a letter grade of "B" or better may be required). Credits from transferrable courses completed with a letter grade of "C-" or lower will not transfer.
- Associate degrees with articulated pathways to WGUT will be identified, maintained, and available through the WGUT landing page.
- STC graduates must comply with all WGUT application processes.

- While WGUT expects that STC graduates and staff will be prepared for WGUT's rigorous programs, all applicable admission requirements must be met, and WGUT will retain sole discretion in admission decisions.

Treatment of College coursework without an earned associate degree

- Students who transfer to WGUT with less than an associate's degree or non-articulated degree will have their courses evaluated on a course-by-course basis and may be required to take any additional courses necessary to satisfy WGUT degree requirements.

Obligations of WGUT:

- WGUT will offer STC graduates, faculty and staff a five percent (5%) tuition discount for up to four (4) academic terms.
- WGUT will create a custom landing page to link STC students, faculty and staff to the WGUT website.
- WGUT will provide print materials to distribute to interested students.
- Articulated pathways are provided for all programs that are a natural transfer to WGUT, and are to be used by counselors and faculty to share with students and staff interested in enrolling at WGUT.
- WGUT will provide webinar training to STC faculty and staff to ensure understanding of the partnership and articulation pathways.
- Graduates and staff of STC will be eligible to apply for scholarships offered through the WGUT Community College Partnership Scholarship. Scholarships are valued at up to \$2,000.00. Recipients will receive a \$500.00 tuition credit each term, renewable for up to four (4) terms based on satisfactory academic performance.

Obligations of South Texas College

- STC will highlight the partnership and education benefits of WGUT through standard internal communication channels with faculty and staff.
- STC will establish a web link from its internal web page to the WGUT partner landing page.
- STC will include information about WGUT's programs and services in communications sent to pending graduates and prospective transfer students.
- STC will provide WGUT with timely curriculum updates of all articulated associates degrees.

Joint Obligations

- WGUT and STC agree to exchange data and documents as agreed that will assist in the maintenance and improvement of the transfer arrangements identified in this MOU.
- WGUT and STC agree to maintain regular communication to ensure program and transfer challenges are addressed.
- WGUT and STC agree to seek other opportunities to partner, such as through the co-branding of programs.
- In the case of reverse articulation transfer requests initiated by students, both institutions will exchange admission, grades, and retention data after obtaining appropriate permission from the students involved and in compliance with all federal, state and local laws.
- All educational records created, disclosed, or maintained pursuant to the terms of this MOU are confidential and shall be created, disclosed, and maintained pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Right to Privacy Act (FERPA).

- Each party assures that it will not discriminate against any individual based on race, religion, creed, color, gender, age, disability, veteran status, national origin, or other protected status.
- Except as permitted by this MOU, neither institution shall use the name or marks of the other institution in connection with any product, service, promotion, news release, or other publicity without the prior written consent of the other.
- WGUT will collaborate with STC in the development, distribution, and accuracy of all transfer articulation pathways.
- Transfer articulation pathways developed by the articulating institution are not valid without a signed MOU.

Term of MOU

This MOU shall be effective upon the date of the last signature and serves as the basis of the partnership between the institutions. The MOU may be modified by mutual written consent or terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other institution. In the unlikely event the partnership is terminated, WGUT agrees that STC graduates and staff then receiving any educational benefit described in this MOU will receive the full value of that benefit towards their studies as long as they remain in continuous good academic standing at WGUT.

Western Governor’s University - Texas

South Texas College

Steven Johnson, Ph.D. Date
Chancellor

Dr. Shirley A. Reed Date
President

Contact information

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