



Articulation Agreement
Between
The University of Texas at Tyler
And
Trinity Valley Community College

Parties

This Agreement is between The University of Texas at Tyler ("UT Tyler") whose main address is 3900 University Boulevard, Tyler, Texas, 75799 and Trinity Valley Community College ("TVCC") whose main address is 100 Cardinal Drive, Athens, Texas, and extends to all campuses within the TVCC system or district. UT Tyler offers coursework leading to baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. TVCC offers coursework leading to associate of arts and associate of applied science degrees, certificates of completion, and occupational skills achievement awards in various career-related fields. UT Tyler and TVCC herein after referred to as the "Institutions" enter into this Agreement in the spirit of cooperation and mutually recognize each other as quality Institutions of higher learning.

Statement of Purpose

UT Tyler and TVCC, are dedicated to providing greater educational opportunities and services for students transferring between the two Institutions. The purpose of this Agreement is to foster engagement between pre-transfer students from TVCC to UT Tyler through information sharing, student support services, and transfer pathways from TVCC to UT Tyler for the completion of a baccalaureate degree.

Additionally, this Agreement seeks to provide guidelines and areas of responsibility to ensure that students at TVCC can transfer completed coursework to UT Tyler without loss of credit or recognition of approved courses applied toward the award of a bachelor's degree. This agreement further provides guidelines and outlines areas of responsibility ensuring that students at UT Tyler can transfer completed courses to TVCC without loss of credit or recognition of approved courses toward the award of an associate degree.

UT Tyler and TVCC agree to cooperate in this objective to the mutual benefit of students.

Responsibilities

1) UT Tyler's Responsibilities:

- a) Encourage Completion of Degree. UT Tyler will encourage TVCC transfer students to complete the appropriate associates degree either before matriculation to UT Tyler or by reverse transfer of course credit following admission to and enrollment at UT Tyler.
- b) Transfer Credits. UT Tyler agrees to accept transferable core curriculum, fields of study, and other lower division courses from TVCC, to the extent it is within the Texas common course numbering system.
 - i) ***Patriot Pathways (“Pathways”)***: Students transferring to UT Tyler are eligible to receive degree credit for courses listed in Pathways to be created and provided to TVCC by UT Tyler . An example has been attached to this Agreement as Appendix A for reference.
 - ii) ***Location***. UT Tyler will honor transferable courses taken at any TVCC location and by any delivery method.
 - iii) ***Standards***. UT Tyler will enforce the same standards and criteria for admission to UT Tyler for all students who desire to transfer to UT Tyler and to the intended major degree sequence as designated in the UT Tyler catalog.
- c) Advising Services. UT Tyler will provide academic advising services to pre-transfer students through Undergraduate Prematriculation Advising.
- d) International students. UT Tyler will work to ensure a smooth transition for TVCC’s international transfer students to UT Tyler.
- e) Financial Aid. UT Tyler will provide transfer students with information regarding the availability of transfer scholarships for eligible students as well as any other financial aid opportunities at UT Tyler.
- f) Reverse Transfer. UT Tyler shall follow the credit transfer for associate degree procedure in Tex. Educ. Code § 61.833 and any applicable rules.
- g) Publication. UT Tyler will:
 - i) Provide annual communication regarding UT Tyler admissions policy and procedure updates, campus recruitment events, and scholarship opportunities.
 - ii) Post the agreed upon Patriot Pathways on the UT Tyler website.

2) TVCC’s responsibilities

- a) Courses at TVCC. TVCC will ensure that all of its courses related to this Agreement are taught by qualified faculty holding appropriate and acceptable degrees and/or credentials as outlined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (“SACSCOC”) Comprehensive Standards or appropriate regional accreditation standards.
- b) Identify students. TVCC will provide UT Tyler a list of students who meet the stated criteria below to UT Tyler’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions on an annual basis. The list will include the information below with the goal of allowing UT Tyler to make those students aware of scholarship, financial aid, and the potential to satisfy degree requirements by transferring coursework between Institutions. TVCC agrees to provide notices and or obtain permissions for the disclosures as required by applicable laws, including but not limited to FERPA and GDPR.
 - i) Directory information, including email address and date of birth;
 - ii) Major area of interest;
 - iii) Denote those currently enrolled with a projected transfer date on or after Spring 2024;
 - iv) Denote those students having completed 15 or more semester hours, who have an overall GPA of 2.00 or better; and
 - v) Denote those students pursuing the following degree plans: associate of arts, associate of applied science, certificates, or undeclared.
- c) Counselor. TVCC will provide contact information for a TVCC transfer counselor to UT Tyler Undergraduate Admissions and update this information as personnel changes occur. The Counselor will be responsible for invitations to TVCC transfer events.
- d) Cooperation. TVCC will cooperate fully with UT Tyler in awarding associate’s degrees via a reverse transfer by utilizing the developed plan whereby transcript information for students, who transferred to UT Tyler prior to earning an associate's degree, is sent back to TVCC by UT Tyler and processed in a timely fashion with results reported back to UT Tyler. Reporting of students will begin as soon as this Agreement is fully executed.
- e) Marketing & Outreach. TVCC will:
 - i) Link to UT Tyler Transfer Student Admissions on its relevant webpages;
<https://www.uttyler.edu/admissions/transfer/>
 - ii) Encourage students to utilize the pre-matriculation academic advising services and resources offered through UT Tyler while attending TVCC.

- iii) Inform students who are nearing graduation of transfer opportunities and what needs to be accomplished to meet UT Tyler transfer requirements.
- iv) Provide information, within legal guidelines, about prospective transfer students with the goal of making students aware of scholarship and other financial aid opportunities and the potential to satisfy associate and bachelor's degree requirements by transferring course work between Institutions.

3) **Mutual and Coordinated Responsibilities.** The Institutions agree to:

- a) Communication and Marketing. To cooperate in communicating information about this Agreement.
 - i) Coordinate visitation trips to UT Tyler and assist, advertise, promote, and facilitate transfer events.
 - ii) Coordinate UT Tyler's attendance at TVCC's campus events (such as transfer fairs).
 - iii) Coordinate information to advertise and inform potential transfer students. Each Institution will assume responsibility for appropriate marketing to reach their respective student populations and will annually review marketing materials to ensure currency.
- b) Patriot Pathways.
 - i) The Pathway example outlined in Appendix A details the course-by-course transfer of courses and/or specific programs. A course-specific pathway should be considered for each transferrable program. Pathways may be approved and added after the initial execution of this Agreement.
 - ii) If added, Institutions will review the Pathways annually during the summer, and render effective September 1 to align with the new UT Tyler catalog.
 - iii) Changes to Pathways must be in writing and signed by an authorized party at each Institution.
- c) Reverse Transfer Process. To facilitate TVCC's ability to offer reverse transfer associate degrees in accordance with the State of Texas 60X30TX Strategic Plan Initiative, the Offices of the Registrar at UT Tyler and at TVCC agree to the following procedure:
 - i) ***The Registrar at UT Tyler will:***

- (1) Identify students meeting the following criteria:
 - (a) Student has earned 15 or more college-level transfer credit hours at TVCC.
 - (b) Student does not have an associate's degree.
 - (c) Student has 60 total earned hours (transfer and UT Tyler hours combined).
 - (d) Note: Eligible students will approve or deny permission via ApplyTexas to send transcripts and student contact information to TVCC.
- (2) At the end of each semester, UT Tyler will:
 - (a) Provide participating student's transcripts to TVCC for review for an associate's degree. Transcripts will be sent to the Registrar's Office at TVCC.

ii) The Registrar at TVCC will:

- (1) Evaluate UT Tyler transcripts.
- (2) Contact TVCC students regarding any other requirements for the awarding of the associate's degree.
- (3) Award associates degrees based on current requirements.
- (4) Each term, provide the Office of the Registrar at UT Tyler with an electronic file reflecting awarded associate degrees and official transcripts by:
 - (a) Designating on the original list from UT Tyler the month and year for each participant who has earned an associate's degree.
- (5) E-mail updated, original participant list and transcripts with the awarded degree back to UT Tyler Registrar.

Terms of Agreement and Termination

1. This Agreement shall remain in effect for a period of three (3) years, or until one (1) or both institutions deem it necessary to amend or terminate it. The desire to amend or terminate the Agreement must be submitted in writing to the President of the allied institution. The continuance of this agreement after the three-year period, is contingent upon written agreement of the Presidents of both Institutions.
2. This agreement will be filed with the Offices of Academic Affairs at UT Tyler and TVCC.

3. All required notices, demands, requests, and other communications shall be presented in writing and shall be deemed to have been given when personally delivered, mailed or emailed to the administrators of the corresponding institution.
4. This Agreement may be amended at any time in writing upon signature of authorized representatives of both Institutions.
5. This Agreement is non-exclusive, and allied Institutions may enter into similar agreements with any other collaborator.
6. This Agreement is subject to termination by either party upon sixty days written notice of a material breach to the breaching party. Alternatively, this Agreement can be terminated at any time without cause by mutual consent of the parties or by either institution with notice by May 1 that the program will not be offered for the next academic year.
7. The laws of the State of Texas (U.S.A.) shall govern the interpretation and application of this Agreement. Any dispute arising out of this Agreement, or its operation, performance or nonperformance shall be resolved in accordance with Texas law and venue shall be solely and exclusively in the courts located in Smith County, Texas, U.S.A.

This Articulation Agreement providing assurances of seamless transfer for approved certificates and degrees specified in Appendix A and core completion, as well as alignment and promotion of advising, student support services, financial aid and scholarships will be authorized upon approval and signature of both institutions.

This Agreement shall take effect upon execution by both signatories.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Institutions hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their authorized officers the last day and year written below.

Signatures:

The University of Texas at Tyler

Trinity Valley Community College

Referred to herein as "UT Tyler"

Referred to herein as "TVCC"

DocuSigned by:
Amir Mirmiran

Jason Morrison

Amir Mirmiran, Ph.D.
Provost & EVP for Academic Affairs

Jason Morrison, Ed.D.
President

9/15/2023

9-12-23

Date

Date

Appendix A
