

## Memorandum of Understanding

# San Jacinto College and



Western Governors University Texas

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between San Jacinto College (SJC) and Western Governors University, Texas (WGU Texas).

### **Purpose**

- This MOU formally recognizes that both institutions are active educational partners, committed to providing greater educational opportunities to students transferring between our two institutions. This partnership is committed to providing seamless transfer to advance individuals in their personal educational goals and advance the educational mission of SJC.
- 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, SJC and WGU Texas 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 SJC campuses or locations.

### **Transfer Elements**

## Treatment of College associate degree transfer

This MOU establishes the principles that all articulated associate degrees at San Jacinto College transfer to WGU Texas. All transferrable courses that are completed at SJC with a letter of "C" or higher are accepted and applied toward the appropriate college degree (with the exception of licensure programs or state requirements where a grade of "B" or better may be required). Credits from transferrable courses completed with a letter grade of "C-" or lower will not transfer.

Articulated associate degrees will be identified, maintained and available through the WGU landing page.

SJC graduates must comply with all WGU Texas application processes.

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

## Treatment of College coursework without an earned associate degree

Students who transfer to WGU Texas 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 WGU degree requirements.

## **Obligations of WGU Texas**

- WGU Texas will offer College graduates, faculty and staff a five percent (5%) tuition discount for up to four (4) academic terms.
- WGU Texas will create a custom landing page to link your students and staff to the WGU Texas website.
- WGU Texas will provide print materials to disburse to interested students.
- Articulation tables are provided for all programs that are a natural transfer to WGU Texas, are to be used by counselors and faculty to share with students and staff interested in enrolling at WGU Texas.
- WGU Texas will provide webinar training to SJC faculty and staff to ensure understanding of the partnership and articulation pathways.
- Graduates and staff of SJC will be eligible to apply for scholarships offered through the WGU 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 San Jacinto College

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

## **Joint Obligations**

- SJC and WGU Texas agree to exchange data and documents as agreed that will assist in the maintenance and improvement of the transfer arrangements identified in this MOU.
- WGU Texas and SJC agree to maintain regular communication to ensure program and transfer challenges are addressed.
- WGU Texas and SJC 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 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.
- WGU Texas will collaborate with SJC 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, WGU Texas agrees that SJC 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 WGU Texas.

**WGU Texas** 

Steven Johnson, Ph.D.

Chancellor

San Jacinto College

Brenda Hellyer, Ph.D. Date

Chancellor

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