

**GENERAL ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
AND
DALLAS COLLEGE**

This General Articulation Agreement (“GAA” or “Agreement”) is entered into by and between Dallas College (“Dallas College”), a Texas political subdivision of higher education, located at 1601 Botham Jean Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75215 and Stephen F. Austin State University (“SFA”), a public institution organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, located at 2102 Alumni Dr, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. The College and SFA may hereafter be individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

To facilitate the process of student transfer, SFA and Dallas College have agreed to the following:

General Admission:

1. Students from Dallas College who follow the recommended program of study - the common core and transfer curriculum - and who meet all other admissions requirements and deadlines pertaining to application for admission, orientation and registration, and payment of tuition and fees shall be eligible for admission to SFA. Transfer students must meet the same standards and criteria for admission to a major degree sequence as a native SFA student. They will abide by the policies and procedures, along with any revisions thereof that apply to all students at that institution.
2. Transfer students from Dallas College must adhere to SFA’s admission requirements based on the catalog year in effect at the time the student first enrolled at Dallas College, provided that the student maintains continuous enrollment there.
3. Transfer students from Dallas College must follow the graduation and degree plan set forth in the SFA catalog in effect at the time of the student’s initial enrollment at Dallas College, provided that the student maintains continuous enrollment in as defined by the SFA catalog.
4. Official written notifications (e.g. requirements in school catalogs) of prerequisite, course, or program changes by Dallas College and SFA will automatically revise the particular section of this agreement without the need for further action or additional signatures by the appropriate Dallas College and SFA representatives.

Guaranteed Admission:

Students from Dallas College with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale entering under the terms of this GAA are guaranteed admission in SFA. Students from Dallas College who meet the general admission requirements of SFA with a completed Core Curriculum or Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree, will receive guaranteed admission to SFA.

While admission to SFA does not guarantee admission to all degree granting programs, majors, minors or fields of concentration, incoming Dallas College transfer students shall be able to compete for admission to specific programs on the same basis as students native to SFA.

Acceptance of Transferable Credits and Core Curriculum:

1. Dallas College shall endeavor, through articulated Transfer Pathways entered in accordance with this GAA, to partner with SFA which shall accept at least 60 (sixty) transferable college-level credits.
2. Transfer students will receive academic credit for transferable college-level courses only completed with a grade of “C” or better, unless stated otherwise in SFA’s catalog.
3. Remedial/developmental or technical/vocational courses will not be included for transfer in this GAA unless specified in an articulated Transfer Pathway or in a separate Program-to-Program Agreement by Dallas College.
4. SFA will accept transferable college-level courses from Dallas College without regard to institutional modality including, but not limited to, online courses and programs, Dual Enrollment credits, including those dual enrollment credits earned through Early College High School classes.
5. SFA and Dallas College will work cooperatively to create a mutually acceptable articulation appeal process for reviewing credits not accepted in transfer admission at SFA.
6. Completion of the Core Curriculum selected by Dallas College, a 42 (forty-two) semester credit hour general program of study, will transfer as a block and will satisfy lower-division general education requirements at SFA unless a specific core curriculum is established in a transfer pathway agreement, as mandated by Texas Statutes for all public higher education institutions.
7. Students of Dallas College transferring with an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree shall not be required to take additional general education/core courses at SFA (with the exception of the courses required on the chosen SFA program of study); unless a specific core curriculum is established in a transfer pathway agreement.

Acceptance of Dallas College Associate Degrees:

1. This GAA establishes the principle that the following Associate Degrees: Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS) and Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) will transfer to SFA as a block. A transfer associate degree is treated as a whole: the components are not examined separately to determine transferability.
2. While a transfer associate degree will transfer as a block, it is for the purpose of guaranteed admission. The needed courses and course alignment in order to achieve the acceptance AND application of a transfer associate degree (AA, AS, AAT) or an Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS) in its entirety to a specific discipline at SFA will be specified in detail in an articulated Transfer Pathway or in a separate Program-to-Program Agreement between Dallas College and SFA.

Pre-Admission:

1. Dallas College students are eligible to apply for the benefit of Pre-Admission status at SFA upon the student's initial enrollment at Dallas College, or at any time thereafter.
2. Pre-admission students who have a SFA I.D. card will have access to SFA Libraries. Pre-admission students will have the right to purchase tickets and attend student events on SFA campus.
3. SFA on-site admissions events will be held on a Dallas College campus at least once a year.

Honors Program:

Dallas College and SFA will develop a smooth transition for qualified students wishing to enter SFA Honors Program. Acceptance to SFA Honors Programs requires a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or better on all college work. SFA Honors Program will work with Dallas College to determine an appropriate number of semester hours (up to 12 hours) of honors credit with a grade of "B" or better earned at Dallas College that will count toward 24 hours required for Honors Program recognition upon graduation from SFA.

Transfer Information:

1. The Dallas College Office of Transfer and Articulation Services and SFA will work together to provide appropriate transfer information (specific transfer pathways will be developed with faculty from the Schools of Dallas College and faculty from SFA). These Course Equivalency Guides will utilize the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) to identify the courses to be completed at Dallas College that will apply toward prerequisites or requirements for a major at SFA. (Note: Course Equivalency Guides provide information of general transferable courses but do not guarantee the definite applicability of those courses into specific degree plans.)

2. By creating these Course Equivalency Guides, SFA and Dallas College assure students that courses listed in these Course Equivalency Guides are freely transferable between both institutions. (The applicability of courses into specific degree plans are guaranteed exclusively by articulated Transfer Pathways.)
3. SFA will create a web page at SFA's website with detailed information regarding any type of transfer agreements and transfer process for students of Dallas College. The website will include the following information:
 - Overview of general pre-transfer and admissions process.
 - Overview of post-transfer services and supports.
 - Financial resources for transfer students.
 - Encouragement to students to complete the associate degree before transferring for admissions, financial aids, and academic advantages.
 - Indication to the existence of specific agreement(s) and an official list of all articulated Transfer Pathways approved by Dallas College and SFA.
4. Dallas College and SFA shall review articulated Transfer Pathways each academic/catalog year for updates/revisions.

Scholarships:

SFA will provide additional opportunities for students of Dallas College to learn about SFA scholarships. SFA will work with Dallas College to host events for Rising Star Scholars, Phi Theta Kappa Scholars, Veteran, Dallas Promise students and others interested in learning about how one can afford to complete a bachelor's degree.

Reverse Transfer

Transfer of credit from SFA to Dallas College allows students to complete requirements for the associate degree in accordance with the Section 61.833 of the Texas Education Code.

Reverse transfer of credit is specifically designed to allow students to receive the advantages pursuant to completion of the associate degree when they leave Dallas College and prior to completion of the baccalaureate degree. Student records and other student information will be exchanged between SFA and Dallas College for this purpose in accordance with applicable law.

SFA will provide Dallas College with information on transfer students to help Dallas College officials determine students who could benefit from reverse transfer of courses and Dallas College will provide SFA with information about degrees awarded as a result of reverse transfer, subject to applicable state and federal laws.

Dallas College and SFA will work together to establish a timeline for record exchange, including original submission and the schedule of repeated academic record submissions. Separate academic records for students will be maintained at each institution.

Any student who transfers from Dallas College with 30 college-level credit hours and has subsequently completed a minimum total of 66 credits toward degree requirements at SFA, which may qualify the student for an associate degree at Dallas College, is eligible for “reverse transfer” from SFA.

Therefore, SFA will assist Dallas College by providing the following services:

- a. After grades have posted for Fall, Spring or Summer semesters, SFA will review its student records and determine which students are eligible for the reverse articulation of credit pursuant to the following criteria: (i) the SFA student previously transferred coursework from Dallas College, (ii) the student has indicated an interest in reverse articulation of credit and (iii) the student completed at least 30-semester-credit hours at Dallas College and additional semester credit hours at SFA to total 66 semester hours. SFA will securely transmit official electronic or paper transcripts of these students’ transcripts to the following office:

Dallas College Office of Degree Audit
Attention: REVERSE TRANSFER
1601 Botham Jean Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75215-1816
vmontero@dcccd.edu

b. Upon receipt of SFA transcript information, Dallas College’s Office of Degree Audit will conduct a degree audit of each eligible student and evaluate all coursework that may apply to the completion of the student’s associate degree at Dallas College. Students who meet all degree requirements of Dallas College are eligible to receive an associate degree from Dallas College at no additional cost to the student. Dallas College will notify each student that he or she is eligible to receive an associate degree and eligible to participate in the college graduation ceremony.

c. Upon request by the student, Dallas College will securely transmit official electronic or paper transcript of students’ transcripts to SFA.

General Provisions:

1. Marks and Intellectual Property. Each Party understands and agrees that all trademarks, service marks, logos, symbols, slogans, domain names and trade names (collectively “Marks”) are the properties of their respective owners. A Party’s Marks may only be used with that Party’s prior written consent which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Prior written consent must also be obtained for any materials produced and distributed by a Party which contain the name, image, and likeness of the other Party and/or specifically reference this GAA and/or makes a general representation about the other Party’s institution. Except as otherwise provided herein, each Party owns and retains all right, title and interest, worldwide to its respective name, tradenames, trademarks, service marks, trade secrets, patents and other intellectual property rights and each Party agrees that no transfer, grant or license of rights under any patent or copyright

or to any intellectual property, proprietary information and/or trade secret is made or is to be implied by this Agreement except as may be expressly stated otherwise herein.

2. Governing Law and Venue. The GAA and all the rights and obligations and terms and conditions hereof will be construed, interpreted and applied in accordance with and governed by and enforced under the laws of the State of Texas.
3. Amendments. This GAA may not be amended or modified except by a written instrument executed by both parties and approved by the Dallas College Provost or designee.
4. Severability. The invalidity or illegality of any part of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or force of any other part hereof.
5. No Financial Implication. No financial implications concerning the transfer or exchange of cash, equipment, or real estate is intended or implied by this GAA. SFA and Dallas College are separate and independent institutions of higher education and intend to remain so. The administrators of SFA and Dallas College are authorized to prepare and implement plans of action and procedures necessary to effect this GAA.
6. Non-exclusivity. This Agreement in no way prohibits either party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
7. Exemptions, Privileges, and Immunities. It is expressly agreed and understood between the Parties that nothing contained herein shall be construed to constitute a waiver by either Dallas College or SFA of its right to claim such exemptions, privileges, and immunities as may be provided by law. None of the terms of this GAA shall be deemed to be waived, in whole or in part, by either Party unless such waiver is in writing and executed by authorized representatives of both Parties. No waiver of any provision of this GAA shall be deemed a waiver of, or render unenforceable, any other provision of this GAA.
8. Each Party and its directors, officers, shareholders, members, principals, participants, employees, and agents shall comply with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and codes, including the identification and procurement of required permits, certificates, approvals, and inspections, if any, related to the performance of this GAA.

Communication and Data Exchange:

1. The Dallas College Office of Transfer and Articulation Services serves as the liaison office to establish routine communication mechanisms with SFA for addressing issues or problems associated with student transfer.
2. SFA will provide notification to Dallas College, at or before execution of the GAA, of selection criteria for limited access programs.
3. Dallas College and SFA will comply with, and will be responsible for requiring their respective officers and employees to comply with, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations; and the rules and regulations of their respective governing boards, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 34 CFR pt. 99, as each may be amended from time to time (“FERPA”), the Health Insurance Portability and accountability Act

(HIPAA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended; and applicable provisions of the Texas Education Code and Texas Government Code. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties understand and agree that nothing herein shall impose upon a Party the duty to comply with laws, rules, and regulations to which they are not otherwise subject.

4. SFA and Dallas College agree to exchange annual data reports and documents in a mutually agreeable fashion that will contribute to the maintenance and improvement of these transfer arrangements and promote effective cooperation between the two institutions. The institutions will exchange admissions, academic performance and retention data after obtaining appropriate permission from the students involved and in compliance with all federal, state and local laws.
5. Dallas College will provide names and contact information of students to SFA each fall of graduates and current Dallas College students with at least 30 SCH (Semester Credit Hour) and with "Transfer" intentions disclosed to enable the sharing of transfer information. Information will be shared in accordance with applicable law.

Joint Obligations:

1. SFA and Dallas College will work to identify ways to strengthen Transfer Pathways for transfer and degree attainment for students.
2. Official list of programs for all associate degrees for which articulation agreements and pathways have been approved by both Dallas College and SFA will be made available at both institutions.
3. No transfer articulation materials developed by an articulating institution are valid without an agreement signed by Dallas College.

Evaluation:

The Parties shall establish an evaluation process of the program(s) supported by this GAA, with appropriate representatives of both Parties participating in the evaluation process. Additionally, either Party may request additional reviews regarding curricular or programmatic changes and other institutional alterations and conditions. The Party initiating such additional review shall communicate any request or findings to the other Party in a timely manner. The information obtained from these evaluations shall be used to improve the transfer process for the benefits of students.

GAA Continuation and Termination:

The terms and conditions of this GAA and specific course competencies may also be subject to review any time institutional plans, curricular or programmatic changes, or any other changes are to be made by either Party. Each Party will inform the other, in writing, of any institutional plans, curricular or programmatic changes, or any other changes that may have an impact on the contents of this GAA as soon as reasonably possible. Any such changes will either be integrated into subsequent agreements between the Parties or will be addressed through a written amendment to this GAA, whichever is most appropriate. Both Parties reserve the right to amend or revise this GAA. These changes must be submitted in writing and signed by an authorized representative of each Party to be effective. Notice(s) shall be directed to the appropriate parties at the following addresses:

Dallas College	Stephen F. Austin State University
Name: Jessica Stubsjoen	Name: Lorenzo Smith
Address: 1601 Botham Jean Blvd.	Address: P.O. Box 6079, SFA Station
City, State, Zip: Dallas, Texas, 75215	City, State, Zip: Nacogdoches, Texas, 75962
Email: JRStubsjoen@dcccd.edu	Telephone: 936.468.2707
	Email: Lorenzo.Smith@sfasu.edu

Each Party reserves the right to designate in writing to the other Party any change of name, change of person, or address to which the notices shall be sent.

Subject to prior termination or revocation (as provided herein), this GAA shall become effective upon July 7, 2021 and will remain in effect for a period of five years at which time it may be renewed or modified by mutual written consent of both Parties. This GAA may be terminated upon 180 days prior written notice to the non-terminating Party.

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of the Parties have executed this GAA on this the 7th day of July, 2021.

E-SIGNED by Lorenzo Smith
on 2021-07-07 21:15:31 CDT

Dr. Lorenzo Smith
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Stephen F. Austin State University

July 07, 2021

Date


Shawnda Floyd (Jul 6, 2021 08:29 CDT)

Shawnda Floyd, Ed.D., J.D.
Provost
Dallas College

Jul 6, 2021

Date

Robert Wendland

General Counsel
Dallas College

Jul 6, 2021

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL ARTICULATION
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
DALLAS COLLEGE
AND
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY**

This First Amendment (“Amendment”) is made and entered into by and between Dallas College (“College” or “Dallas College”) and Stephen F. Austin State University (“SFA”). The College and SFA may hereafter be individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

WHEREAS, the College and SFA entered into that certain agreement entitled General Articulation Agreement dated July 7, 2021 (“Agreement”);

WHEREAS, the Parties now wish to amend the Agreement to modify and replace the provisions addressing reverse transfer and communication and data exchange between the Parties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Amendment to Section titled, “Transfer Information.”** Section “Transfer Information” is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

“Transfer Resources and Pathways Information:

1. The Dallas College Office of Transfer, Articulation, and Alternative Credit Programs and SFA will work together to provide appropriate transfer information (specific pathways may be developed collaboratively with SFA and all responsible parties, as needed). These pathways will identify the courses to be completed at Dallas College that will apply toward prerequisites or requirements for a major at SFA.
2. By creating these pathways, SFA and Dallas College assure students that courses listed are freely transferable between both institutions.
3. SFA will manage a web page at SFA’s website with detailed information regarding any type of transfer agreements and transfer process for all transfer students, including Dallas College students.
4. Dallas College and SFA shall review articulated Transfer Pathways each academic/catalog year for updates/revisions.”

2. **Amendment to Section titled, “Scholarships.”** Section “Scholarships” is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

“Scholarships

SFA will provide additional opportunities for students of Dallas College to learn about SFA scholarships. SFA will work with Dallas College to host events or provide guidance to students interested in learning about how one can complete a bachelor’s degree at SFA.”

3. **Amendment to Section titled, “Reverse Transfer.”** The Section titled, “Reverse Transfer” is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

“Reverse Transfer

Transfer of credit from SFA to Dallas College allows students to complete requirements for the associate degree in accordance with the Section 61.833 of the Texas Education Code.

Reverse transfer of credit is specifically designed to allow students to receive the advantages pursuant to completion of the associate degree when they leave Dallas College and prior to completion of the baccalaureate degree. Student records and other student information will be exchanged between SFA and Dallas College for this purpose in accordance with applicable law.

SFA will provide Dallas College with information on transfer students to help Dallas College officials determine students who could benefit from reverse transfer of courses and Dallas College will provide SFA with information about degrees awarded as a result of reverse transfer, subject to applicable state and federal laws.

Dallas College and SFA will work together to establish a timeline for record exchange, including original submission and the schedule of repeated academic record submissions. Separate academic records for students will be maintained at each institution.

Any student who transfers from Dallas College with 30 college-level credit hours and has subsequently completed a minimum total of 66 credits toward degree requirements at SFA, which may qualify the student for an associate degree at Dallas College, is eligible for “reverse transfer” from SFA.

Therefore, SFA will assist Dallas College by providing the following services:

- a. After grades have posted for each fall semester, SFA will review its student records and determine which students are eligible for the reverse articulation of credit pursuant to the following criteria: (i) the SFA student previously transferred coursework from Dallas College, (ii) the student has indicated an interest in reverse articulation of credit and (iii) the student completed at least 30-semester-credit hours at Dallas College, did not earn associate degree, and has completed additional semester credit hours at SFA to total 66 semester hours. SFA will securely transmit official electronic or paper transcripts of these students’ transcripts to the following office:

Dallas College Office of Degree Audit

Attention: REVERSE TRANSFER
1601 Botham Jean Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75215-1816
DegreeAudit@dallascollege.edu

- b. SFA agrees to send transcript information no more than 14 business days after grades are posted each fall term for students who are eligible for the reverse articulation of credit. Transcript information can also be sent at similar times for each Spring and Summer semesters.
 - c. Upon receipt of SFA transcript information, Dallas College's Office of Degree Audit will conduct a degree audit of each eligible student and evaluate all coursework that may apply to the completion of the student's associate degree at Dallas College. Students who meet all degree requirements of Dallas College are eligible to receive an associate degree from Dallas College at no additional cost to the student. Dallas College will notify each student once their associate degree has been awarded and posted to their Dallas College transcript.
 - d. Upon request by the student, Dallas College will securely transmit official electronic transcript of students' transcripts to SFA."
4. **Amendment to Section titled, "Communication and Data Exchange."** Section "Communication and Data Exchange" is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

"Communication and Data Exchange

- 1. Transfer, Articulation, and Alternative Credit Programs at Dallas College serves as the liaison office to establish routine communication with SFA for addressing issues or problems associated with student transfer.
- 2. SFA will provide notification to Dallas College, at or before execution of the Agreement, of selection criteria for limited access programs.
- 3. The Parties acknowledge and agree that any student data and information exchanged between the Parties must be exchanged in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 34 CFR pt. 99, as each may be amended from time to time ("FERPA"). Pursuant to FERPA, protected student information and data may be exchanged between schools, school systems, or institutions of postsecondary education, without obtaining prior written consent of the student, where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(B) and 34 C.F.R. § § 99.31(a)(2).
- 4. Additionally, Dallas College and SFA will comply with, and will be responsible for requiring their respective officers and employees to comply with, all other applicable federal, state, and

local laws and regulations; and the rules and regulations of their respective governing boards, including, but not limited to, the Health Insurance Portability and accountability Act (HIPAA); Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended; and applicable provisions of the Texas Education Code and Texas Government Code. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties understand and agree that nothing herein shall impose upon a Party the duty to comply with laws, rules, and regulations to which they are not otherwise subject.

5. SFA and Dallas College agree to exchange annual data reports and documents in a mutually agreeable fashion that will contribute to the maintenance and improvement of these transfer arrangements and promote effective cooperation between the two institutions. After obtaining appropriate permission from the students involved and in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, the institutions will exchange data including but not limited to admissions information, such as credits awarded towards program upon completion of the transfer process, academic performance, retention, and bachelor's degree completion (including time to degree).

SFA agrees to request from Dallas College names and contact information of graduates and current Dallas College students with at least 30 SCH (Semester Credit Hour). Requests can be made through an online data analysis request form, submitted to the Dallas College Office of Strategic Research and Analytics. The request form can be found at: <https://webapps.dcccd.edu/forms/dmr> .

A copy of this signed Agreement must accompany the request. Information will be shared in accordance with applicable law. Questions about submitted data requests can be addressed to: sra@dallascollege.edu.”

5. The Parties agree that this Amendment shall be considered a part of the Agreement referred to above and incorporated by reference for all purposes.
6. Except as provided in this Amendment, all terms used in this Amendment that are not otherwise defined shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms in the Agreement.
7. This Amendment shall be subject to any and all other provisions of the Agreement, and, with the exception of the parts or provisions of the Agreement which have been modified by this Amendment, all other provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and are not modified or amended by this Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Parties have executed this Amendment on the 26th day of January, 2023 .

APPROVED:
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE

APPROVED:
DALLAS COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY

Lorenzo M. Smith

Lorenzo M. Smith (Jan 27, 2023 09:50 CST)

Dr. Lorenzo Smith
Provost and Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Jan 27, 2023

Date

Shawnda Floyd

Shawnda Floyd (Jan 27, 2023 10:05 CST)

Shawnda Floyd, Ed.D., J.D.
Provost

Jan 27, 2023

Date