



INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN XAVIER UNIVERSITY AND CINCINNATI STATE TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Preamble

Xavier University and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from Cincinnati State Technical and Community College to Xavier University to pursue and achieve their educational goals. To ease the transfer process and promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, we hereby enter into the following Institutional Articulation Agreement, ("Agreement") in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations of the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy (HB 95).

Parties

Xavier University ("XU" as used herein) is a part of the 500-year-old Jesuit Catholic tradition of academic excellence in the liberal arts. Its mission is to educate each student intellectually, morally and spiritually. It creates learning opportunities through rigorous academic and professional programs integrated with co-curricular engagement. In an inclusive environment of open and free inquiry, Xavier University prepares students for a world that is increasingly diverse, complex and interdependent. Driven by its commitment to educating the whole person, promoting the common good, and serving others, the Xavier community challenges and supports all of its members to cultivate lives of reflection, compassion and informed action.

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College ("CS" as used herein) a state community college created pursuant to O.R.C. Chapter 3358 and fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. CS has been dedicated to meeting the educational needs of the Southwestern Ohio community for more than 40 years, providing student-focused, accessible, quality technical and general education, academic transfer, experiential and co-operative education and workforce development. The college offers more than 100 degree programs and certificates, and is noted for its cooperative education program- one of the largest of its kind among two-year colleges in the U.S.

Provisions

1. XU and CS agree to work together to maximize the acceptance and application of transfer credit. Degree program-to-degree program agreements, referred to as "Joint

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Academic Pathways," will outline selective admission requirements, course equivalencies, and other information affecting students who enroll in a particular academic program. Joint Academic Pathways must be consistent with the tenets of this overarching institutional Agreement. Acceptance and application of transfer credit will be determined in accordance with the relevant Joint Academic Pathways program and the provisions of this Agreement. When students seek to transfer credit(s) that are outside of the Joint Academic Pathways, XU will review those transfer credits on a course-by-course basis following XU's standard transfer policies.

2. XU and CS shall endeavor to increase the persistency of our students toward completion of associate and baccalaureate degrees by providing CS students interested in matriculating to XU with an array of resources described below while they are completing their associate degree at CS.
3. **Enhanced Academic Transfer Advising for XU Bound Students**
 - a. CS and XU will work together to ensure students understand how their earned credits apply to their Associate's degree at CS and to their attainment of a Bachelor's degree at XU.
 - b. During the term of this Agreement, CS shall make available to XU Advisers computer and office space within CS's Academic Transfer Center so XU Advisers can be on campus to advise CS students interested in attending XU upon their completion of an Associate's degree at CS.
 - c. XU shall provide Cincinnati State's Academic Transfer Center Director course equivalent information regarding CS's courses and their XU equivalents. XU shall update this information annually and provide the most current equivalencies to CS for the upcoming academic year no later than July 1.
 - d. XU shall report to CS's Academic Transfer Center Director the number of transfer students from CS to XU for the previous academic year no later than July 1.

4. **Confidential Information**

- a. XU and CS shall each make reasonable efforts to maintain in confidence information of the other which has been designated as confidential. Such a designation shall be made in writing delivered to the other in advance of the disclosure of such information. All employees of a party who have access to confidential information of the other party shall be bound by written obligations with their employer to maintain such information in confidence. Each party agrees to enforce confidentiality obligations to which its employees are bound.
- b. XU and CS shall each comply with its obligations under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) with respect to

any student records provided by or received from the other in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

5. Privileges and Connections for Qualifying CS Students Bound for XU

- a. **Path to Xavier.** This section establishes a direct-admission program for qualified Cincinnati State students who:
- Complete a transfer-oriented associate degree (such as an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or other designated transfer degree) with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0,
 - Complete at least 15 credit hours in residence at Cincinnati State with a minimum GPA of 3.0, and
 - Satisfy the Ohio Transfer 36 (OT36) requirements as part of their degree program.

Students meeting these criteria will be granted direct admission with junior standing to Xavier University non-selective-entry bachelor's programs. Students may matriculate on either a full-time or part-time basis. They will work with both Cincinnati State and Xavier Transfer Admissions Counselors to ensure a seamless transfer process.

- b. **Joint Academic Pathways.** CS and XU will jointly identify specific associate degree programs at CS that fully articulate into bachelor's degree programs at XU on a 2+2 basis. These program pathways may include, but are not limited to, those currently under development. Additional Joint Academic Programs may be added in the future upon mutual agreement of the institutions.
- **Definition:** Students who complete the designated associate degree at CS will be admitted to XU with junior class standing and can complete the corresponding bachelor's degree with two (2) additional years (four semesters) of full-time study, provided they remain in sequence with all required courses.
 - **Program Maps:** Detailed 2+2 academic maps will be maintained for each approved program, showing required courses at CS and the aligned courses at XU.
 - **Advising:** Both institutions will ensure joint advising from the start of the student's program at CS so that students stay on track for timely completion of their degree.
 - **Review:** The 2+2 program maps will be reviewed annually to confirm accuracy, account for curriculum changes, and maintain seamless transferability.

- c. **Tri-State Community College Scholars.** XU offers the Tri-State Community College Scholars Scholarship to qualified students from any community college in Ohio, Kentucky, or Indiana. For purposes of this agreement, Cincinnati State students who:

- Successfully complete an associate degree at CS,
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and
- Enroll full-time in a bachelor's program at XU are eligible for this scholarship.

The award is renewable for up to two years (four semesters), provided the student maintains a minimum 3.0 GPA at XU and completes 24 credit hours per academic year toward their degree.

Students enrolling in XU's Accelerated Degree Completion (ADC) programs and part-time students admitted through the Path to Xavier program are not eligible for the Tri-State Community College Scholars Scholarship. These students remain eligible for direct admission under section 5a.

6. Transfer Student Resources and Activities

XU and CS recognize the need for Transfer Students to be supported in their transition from CS to XU and will endeavor to provide resources towards that goal.

- a. XU admission Materials will continue to be distributed, supplemented with print materials and website presence promoting programmatic activities of the Center for Pathways Advising and Student Success. Such materials and activities may include, video, print, or online materials, participation in on-campus shadowing programs, and peer mentoring activities. CS Advisers will have access to and knowledge of these materials and activities and shall communicate their availability to transfer students.
- b. Xavier Adult & Transfer Recruitment Office shall serve as a central point of contact for CS students with questions related to advising, credit evaluation and application to degree programs prior to full matriculation at XU. CS advisers will have knowledge of these points of contact and shall communicate their availability to transfer students.
- c. CS shall designate an individual or Office to serve as a single point of contact for articulation and transfer questions and issues arising out of this Agreement; to act as liaison with XU; and to assist in the creation and communication of transfer activities, documents, and resources.

7. Veterans and Service Members

Both CS and XU have services available to students who are Veterans, in accordance with Ohio HB 488. Students identified as Veterans and Service members will have access to the

services available to them. Upon matriculation to XU, Transfer Students' benefits and certifications shall be transferred from CS to XU for use in completing a bachelor's degree.

8. International Students

International Students who have graduated from CS or have completed college level coursework in English Composition and who have completed 30 or more credit hours of college level coursework, will be exempted from English proficiency testing upon matriculation to XU. Unless the CS transcript indicates that college credit was awarded for international coursework, the international transfer Student will not be required to submit international transcripts to XU for admission purposes under this Agreement.

International students enrolled at CS who transfer to XU will be evaluated for institutional scholarships under the same criteria as domestic transfer students. International students transferring from CS who meet all program requirements shall be eligible for the Tri-State Community College Scholars Program. CS international transfer students who do not qualify for the Tri-State Community College Scholars Program shall be considered for XU's standard transfer merit scholarship.

9. Associate's Degree Completion & Reverse Transfer

- a. Under this Agreement, XU and CA will advise their respective Transfer Advisors to encourage CS students to complete their Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree at CS before transferring to XU.
- b. Should a CS student transfer to XU prior to completion of an AA/AS degree, CS shall provide the opportunity for the student to subsequently complete the AA/AS degree *in absentia* using XU course credit. In this interest, all course work completed at XU will be accepted and applied to AA/AS degree requirements at CS consistent with the criteria used for native CS students, commonly referred to as "reverse transfer." The same course may also apply toward baccalaureate degree requirements at XU.

10. Transfer Policies and Procedures

- a. XU and Cincinnati State shall adhere to Ohio Articulation & Transfer Policy (HB 95) as it applies to this agreement.
- b. All collegiate-level credit transferred from CS shall be accepted toward the Transfer Student's class standing and shall be articulated to specific XU courses when possible. Per XU policy for Transfer Students, the CS GPA does not transfer.
- c. Transfer Students who have not completed their AA/AS degree, or who have earned a cumulative grade point average below 3.0, or those who have been dismissed previously from another institution of higher education will be

considered for admission according to the admissions policies and standards of XU.

- d. Due to curriculum structures and the variability in student enrollment patterns, XU cannot guarantee that students who transfer under the provision of this Agreement will complete all the requirements to graduate from XU within two years or by earning only an additional 60 semester hours at the XU.
- e. Collegiate level courses completed at CS with a "C" or better grade will be accepted for Transfer Students with an earned AA/AS degree. It should be noted that the Transfer Student may be required to retake any course in which s/he received a grade of "C" from CS where there is a higher minimum grade required for students pursuing the same academic program at XU. The application of this rule shall be the same for both native XU students and Transfer Students.
- f. Due to federal regulations, financial aid will be disbursed to a student by only one institution. Financial aid for a CS student will end when a student ceases taking classes at CS. Transfer students must reapply for financial aid upon transfer to XU and must comply with the deadlines and policies at XU.

11. Mutual Marketing Efforts to Reach Students

- a. CS shall appropriately include this Agreement in any listing of articulation and transfer agreements to which it is a party and shall communicate this information through a web portal designed to disseminate transfer information to students, staff, and faculty. Other methods of communication, when appropriate, might include and are not limited to inclusion in the college catalog, program specific materials, and graduate mailings.
- b. XU shall include appropriate references to this Agreement in any listing of articulation and transfer agreements to which XU is a party and shall communicate this information, and afford the appropriate training, when necessary, to staff and faculty to support Transfer Students.

12. Mutual Use of Tradenames, Trademarks & Logos

- a. CS is hereby granted a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use XU's tradenames, trademarks, and logos consistent with XU's brand standards during the term of this Agreement for the sole purpose of promoting the transfer of students from CS to XU as provided for in this Agreement.
- b. XU is hereby granted a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use CS's name, tradenames, trademarks, and logos consistent with CS's brand standards during the term of this Agreement for the sole purpose of promoting the transfer of students from CS to XU as provided for in this Agreement.

- c. XU and CS shall confer and coordinate their respective marketing efforts to maximize the impact of such efforts and to assure that one party's use of the other's tradenames, etc., complies with the other's brand standards.
- d. Upon termination of this Agreement, the limited licenses set forth in this section will immediately terminate and CS and XU shall (i) cease all such aforementioned use; and (ii) discard, destroy or delete any printed and electronic materials containing the name, tradename, trademark, or logo of the other party. Neither party shall use the name, tradename, logo, or trademark of the other party in any way that would cause confusion in the public mind as to the relationship between the parties, and, except for the limited license set forth in this section, neither party shall by virtue of this Agreement gain any right, title, or interest in any name, tradename, trademark, or logo of the other party.
- e. Neither party may assign or transfer its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. In no event, shall the license or use of XU's or CS's name, tradename, trademark, or logo be assigned to a parent, affiliate, or successor company formed by the merger or reorganization or similar corporate transaction of XU or CS with any other company.

13. Term

- a. This Agreement has an initial term commencing November 1, 2025, and continuing through June 30, 2028. Thereafter, this Agreement may be renewed for additional three-year terms, unless either party gives the other a minimum of thirty (30) days prior written notice of non-renewal. Should the terms of this Agreement come into conflict with one or more policies established after the effective date of this Agreement, XU and CS agree to review the Agreement for modification(s) to avoid conflict between this Agreement and any new policy. In either event, care will be taken to ensure that any modifications to this Agreement will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of this Agreement.
- b. XU and CS each reserve the right to terminate this Agreement without cause on the condition that the terminating party shall provide no less than 12 months' notice to the other.
- c. While this Agreement is active and for a period of three years after its completion, the parties agree to maintain auditable records of all policies and processes pertaining to this Agreement and make such records available to the other party upon request.

14. Compliance with Applicable Laws

XU and CS shall adhere to applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

15. Notices

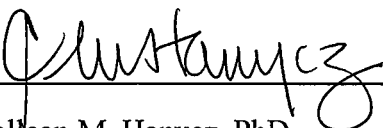
Any notice required to be given by XU pursuant to terms of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given if mailed by certified or registered US Mail, return receipt requested, or by electronic mail to the email address of the Provost, as of the date of receipt. Any correspondence sent by US mail should be addressed to the Provost at CS as follows.

Contact: Robbin Hoopes, JD
Provost
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
3520 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45223-2690
robbin.hoopes@cincinnatiastate.edu

Any notice required to be given by CS pursuant to terms of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given if mailed by certified or registered US Mail, return receipt requested, or by electronic mail to the email address of the XU Provost (provost@xavier.edu) as of the date of receipt., Any correspondence sent by US mail should be addressed to the Provost at XU as follows:

Contact: Rachel Chrastil, PhD
Provost
Xavier University
3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207
chrastilr@xavier.edu

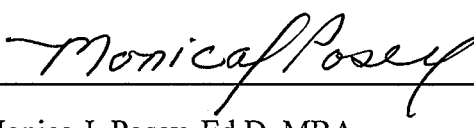
This agreement is in effect as of: _____ (date)



Colleen M. Hanycz, PhD

President

Xavier University



Monica J. Posey, Ed.D, MBA

President

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College

XAVIER UNIVERSITY

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