Memorandum of Understanding
by and between
the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
and
Southern New Hampshire University

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office whose address is 1102 Q Street, 6th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95811, and Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) whose address is 2500 North River Road, Manchester, NH 03106, concerns associate degrees for transfer and the continued seamless transfer of California community college students to SNHU. This MOU is effective between the Chancellor’s Office and SNHU as of the date executed by authorized representatives of both parties.

SNHU, a private university accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), enters into this MOU with the Chancellor’s Office, the system-wide office for the California Community Colleges, to be bound by the terms of the MOU, and any other commitments made here. The purpose of this MOU is to provide guaranteed admission, ensure acceptance of prior coursework, and to facilitate the transfer of California community college students who have completed the identified California community college Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) to a similar major at SNHU.

This agreement is intended to articulate and promote the ADT’s listed to provide academically prepared California community college students with additional opportunities to transfer to four-year institutions that will help them succeed and achieve their educational goals, and to provide SNHU with enhanced opportunities to enroll California community college students in SNHU programs.

Accordingly, SNHU and the Chancellor’s Office agree to the following:

I. Admission

SNHU recognizes that ADT students have received a rigorous, quality education at the California community colleges and are prepared to succeed at SNHU. SNHU will extend a guaranteed admission to all California community college students who have obtained an ADT in a similar major pathway, and have met SNHU’s additional institutional requirements, if any, as expressly identified in subsequent sections of this MOU. SNHU’s guarantee of admission shall be in place upon acceptance of this MOU. The ADT guarantee
of admission does not displace or supplant any existing or future campus-based admissions guarantees.

II. Transferability of Credit

With respect to students wishing to complete their education at SNHU, a minimum of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units will be transferable to SNHU and core courses will align to the major provided the student received a passing grade/grade equivalent to a C or better in the applicable major course (with the exception of licensure programs or state requirements where a grade of B or better may be required).

II. General Education Requirements

With respect to students wishing to complete their education at SNHU, SNHU agrees to accept an ADT in lieu of SNHU’s lower division general education requirements. The unique SNHU general education required course – IDS 400 will be included in the remaining 60 credits at SNHU.

III. Articulation

California community college Associate Degrees for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T) will be articulated by SNHU at the degree level to comparable SNHU majors. SNHU will publish transfer information for the California community college Transfer Centers. Students awarded an Associate in Art for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) and accepted for admission in a similar SNHU program will enroll at SNHU at junior standing, and require no more than 60 additional semester units and 90 additional quarter units at SNHU to complete a bachelor’s degree within the similar program, as listed below.

- AS-T Environmental Studies to BS Environmental Science
- AS-T Administration of Justice to BS Criminal Justice
- AS-T Business Administration to BS Business Administration
- AS-T Computer Science to BS Computer Science
- AA-T Psychology to BA Psychology
- AA-T Communication Studies to BA Communication
- AA-T History to BA History
- AA-T Journalism to BA Communication
- AA-T English to BA Creative Writing
- AA-T Sociology to BA Sociology
- AS-T Public Health to BS Public Health
- AS-T Social Work and Human Services to BA Human Services
IV. Catalog Rights

The students’ academic requirements for SNHU graduation are based on the Catalog year that is assigned initially to the student's first term of continuous enrollment in a community college.

V. Student Advising

SNHU will provide additional pre-enrollment information and advice to California community college students through in-person, online, and telephonic advising, including around the ADT and additional coursework that may be required of all students prior to graduation.

California community colleges will be encouraged to consider that SNHU has the opportunity to come onto the campuses to engage with potential California community college transfer students about potential pathways, including the ADT, and financial aid available. SNHU’s Academic Quality Accreditation, and Support Office (AQAS) will maintain articulation agreements with California community colleges and a list of active partnerships will be made available on the SNHU website.

Student advising and mentoring are a hallmark of an independent higher education and will be available by discipline to students once enrolled at SNHU. Materials for potential students will be available online and degree program guides may be printed.

VI. Financial aid and Tuition Discount

SNHU is committed to providing access through need-based financial aid and guidance for qualified students. SNHU will examine ways to provide the most affordable access to students transferring via the AS-T and AA-T, and will provide financial aid counseling regarding all financial aid options. SNHU will share this information with the Chancellor’s Office and campuses as part of the guidance and promotional materials. Consistent with California community college accreditation requirements, the California community colleges will continue to educate their students on best use of financial aid monies, including the preservation of aid for use at California independent higher education institutions.

During the term of this MOU, California community college alumni, employees, and family members (spouses, domestic partners, children, siblings and parents) who identify a California
community college on their online Global Campus tuition discount application will receive a 10% tuition discount. In addition, California community college alumni, employees, and family members who enroll in SNHU’s COCE graduate program will receive a waiver of the application fee normally required by SNHU. This discount will only to course enrollments of alumni, employees, and family members that follow execution of this MOU.

Programs offered at military tuition assistance levels are not subject to this reduction.

SNHU may change its tuition rates at any time at its sole discretion and the reduction will be calculated based on the current tuition in effect for the applicable academic term for the enrolled program. Eligible alumni, employees, and family members will not be entitled to any other reduction, and are subject to all other admission and continuation requirements as set forth in the respective SNHU policies and catalogs.

VII. Data collection and analysis

Under this agreement, SNHU will minimally provide Chancellor’s Office annual data of California community college transfer students. The data will include the number of students admitted and enrolled from each California community college, the number of students who transferred with and without an associates degree, top programs of enrollment at SNHU, and the number of degrees conferred to California community college transfer students. Additionally, upon launch of SNHU’s Banner system (estimated by end year 2021), SNHU will provide to the Chancellor’s Office annual aggregated, de-identified data related to ADT admissions, enrollment, persistence, and graduation. SNHU will work collaboratively with Chancellor’s Office to identify agreed upon data that can be calculated and analyzed. Chancellor’s Office will work with SNHU to track students entering via the ADT.

The data elements required are the following:

a. ADT degree titles accepted (Example: Associate in Arts in Journalism for Transfer);
b. SNHU major/concentration pathways per ADT accepted (Example: 60-unit guarantee pathways only);
c. SNHU major/concentration pathways effective terms (Example: Fall 2020);
d. total students newly enrolled in ADT pathways for reporting term(s);
e. total students enrolled in ADT pathways for reporting term(s) (Example: includes newly enrolled and continuing students);
f. completion rates for ADT students;
g. persistence (first-to-second term) data for newly enrolled ADT students;
h. total institutional units completed by ADT students; and
i. institutional gpa of ADT students.

VIII. Marketing and communications

SNHU acknowledges Chancellor’s Office equity in the established Associate Degree for Transfer brand, and that consistent use of the brand’s existing marketing and awareness materials will strengthen the Chancellor’s Office’s brand and will ensure brand identity and consistency in messaging when marketing to students. SNHU will align its marketing and communication efforts to the brand, including the use of toolkits, brochures, flyers, logos, customizable social media posts, and other resources developed by the Chancellor’s Office. SNHU may, at its own cost, modify such materials to incorporate the Associate Degree for Transfer brand and messaging into SNHU’s general enrollment marketing efforts, but shall do so in a manner that conforms to the Chancellor’s Office’s Associate Degree for Transfer brand guidelines.

The Chancellor’s Office supports and will encourage California community colleges to collaborate with SNHU so that partnership information is available to students, faculty, and staff, including the ADT similar programs at SNHU. SNHU will also work in collaboration with the Chancellor’s Office to assist in dissemination of information to students, faculty, and staff at California community colleges, including transfer via the ADT to SNHU. California community colleges will be encouraged to publicize locally Chancellor’s Office support for this agreement to inform students, faculty, and staff of the MOU’s benefits. Information will be encouraged through established internal California community college communication channels (such as student and employee newsletters, website pages, and listservs).

SNHU and the Chancellor’s Office will co-promote the ADT program in the A Degree with a Guarantee website (http://adegreewithaguarantee.com), individual campus websites related to the ADT, marketing materials, social media and other communication channels, and other avenues to disseminate information to students, faculty, and staff. Depending on the availability of funds, SNHU may have an opportunity to be included in the California Community Colleges’ statewide associate degree for transfer website, “ADegreeWithAGuarantee.com,” which includes the “Find a College/Degree” tool. SNHU agrees that to be eligible for inclusion, SNHU must submit data in a format and in a manner determined by the Chancellor’s Office. This data shall be provided twice annually, on or before December 1, and June 1.
The parties grant to each other a non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use each other’s trademarks and servicemarks in furtherance of the articulation and coordination detailed in this MOU, and in a manner solely for the purpose of identifying and communicating the existence of the relationship to the parties respective applicant, students, family, and alumni. Use of trademarks, servicemarks, and logos will comply with use policies of the originating institution. The parties shall discontinue the use of the licensed marks and return any and all files and materials containing the licensed marks supplied by the owner at termination or expiration of the MOU. Neither party grants to the other any interest in the other party’s trademarks. Should either originating institution request, in writing, that a particular use of the originating institution's trademarks and/or servicemarks be discontinued, the non-originating institution shall cease and desist such use of the trademarks and/or servicemarks.

IX. Term and Other Miscellaneous Provisions

SNHU acknowledges that all students have a right to participate fully in community college educational processes, free from discrimination and harassment, and that community colleges have an affirmative obligation to combat racism, sexism, and other forms of bias, and a responsibility to provide equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, SNHU shall afford all persons, regardless of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other basis that is contained in the prohibition of hate crimes set forth in Penal Code, section 422, subdivision (a), equal rights and opportunities.

This MOU is effective between the Chancellor’s Office and SNHU as of the date executed by authorized representatives of both parties. Any party may terminate this agreement at any time, for any reason (e.g., with or without case), upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other parties.

In the unlikely event the partnership is ended, California community college ADT students who are in the admission process, and those receiving any educational benefit described in this agreement, will receive the full range of the benefits offered by this agreement, provided they remain in good academic standing at SNHU.

This agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties pertaining to the transaction and may not be amended, unless in writing and signed by both parties. The agreement supersedes all prior agreements, representations, warranties, promises, or commitments, whether written or oral, with respect to the subject matter contained in this agreement.
SNHU retains and reserves all of its rights, title, and interest, including all intellectual property rights, in and to the courses and related materials and information they or their affiliates provide in connection with this agreement.

Except as expressly provided, this MOU is entered into solely between, and may be enforced only by and against SNHU and the Chancellor’s Office.

NO PARTY MAKES ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY WITH RESPECT TO THIS MOU AND ITS SUBJECT MATTER, AND EACH PARTY EXPLICITLY DISCLAIMS ALL REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. IN NO EVENT WILL ANY PARTY BE LIABLE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, EXEMPLARY, PUNITIVE, OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, HOWEVER CAUSED, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. THE FOREGOING LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY WILL APPLY NOTWITHSTANDING THE FAILURE OF ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF ANY LIMITED REMEDY IN THIS AGREEMENT.

This agreement may be executed in several counterparts, all of which taken together shall constitute one single agreement

On behalf of the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office

Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor Nov 16, 2020 Date

On behalf of SNHU University

Gregory W. Fowler Dr. Gregory Fowler, President-Global Campus Nov 16, 2020 Date

Jennifer Batchelor Dr. Jennifer Batchelor, VP Academic Programs-Global Campus Nov 16, 2020 Date