

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
RED OAK HIGH SCHOOL, NAVARRO COLLEGE, AND EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE HAWK SCHOLAR ACADEMY**

In accordance with and under the authority of the Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Part I, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule §4.85 and the Rules and Regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), high school students may enroll in college or university courses and receive simultaneous academic credit from both the college or university and the high school. In order to ensure the transferability of dual credit courses and to facilitate communications and understanding between Red Oak Independent School District (ROISD), Navarro College (NC), and East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) the following provisions are agreed upon by ROISD, NC, and ETAMU with regard to the Hawk Scholars Academy.

The Hawk Scholars program is open to high-achieving Red Oak High School freshmen and sophomores who have demonstrated excellence in the classroom, who possess a strong intellectual ability, a good work ethic, and the emotional maturity to be successful in college. The intent of the program is for Red Oak ISD to obtain courses through NC which will count as an associate's degree as opposed to unarticulated general elective credits. In order to qualify for this program, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Students must have maintained an 85 or higher average, or equivalent GPA in the year preceding enrollment in the program.
2. Students must pass the reading and writing portion of the college placement test, also known as the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) test or meet exemption standards in reading and writing in accordance with THECB rules.
3. Students must be recommended by the junior high (for incoming freshmen) or high school Principal.
4. Students must maintain a 2.5 college grade point average to remain eligible for automatic admission to A&M-COMMERCE and they must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. to continue taking college courses through NC.
5. Students must meet Dual Credit eligibility for ETAMU as outlined in **the Dual Credit Agreement**.
6. Students must complete all required dual credit admissions paperwork for NC and meet published payment deadlines.

Collegiate Scholars students may enroll in approved dual credit high school courses through Navarro College beginning in their freshman or sophomore year of high school. These classes may be taken at the high school or at Navarro College campus. All students will meet with an NC advisor each semester and they are expected to complete the Associate of Science in General Studies through Navarro College by the end of their senior year.

Students must submit an application to ETAMU by their junior year in high school and meet with an ETAMU Advisor. At that point, they may enroll in ETAMU upper-division courses as needed that apply to the student's major area of study and they may continue to take classes through NC until they have earned the associate degree.

Students should be advised that ETAMU requires the Apply Texas Application and doesn't require an application fee. By choosing to participate in this program, students and their parents agree to the following:

- Information may be shared freely between the institutions – This includes transcripts, paperwork, and discipline reports.
- Students must meet the discipline guidelines of ROISD when taking classes at ROISD. If the students are taking classes at NC or ETAMU, they will be held to the discipline guidelines at those institutions. This includes applicable "Acceptable Use Procedure" (AUP) protocols for online courses.
- Cheating will not be tolerated, nor will excessive disruption of instruction. Students may be withdrawn from this program and/or from the respective institutions for inappropriate behavior.
- Because the classes are taught at the college level, students may be exposed to content that is considered more mature in nature than what might be allowed in typical high school courses.

- Students will be given ample opportunity for advising, however, NC and ETAMU are not responsible for loss of transferability if students enroll in courses that are not recommended by the advisor. Also, NC and/or ETAMU are not responsible for additional coursework required due to students who change majors.
- Provisions outlined in existing dual credit MOUs with ROISD will still apply to students enrolled in the Hawk Scholar Academy.
- Students who exit the program, but still meet dual credit eligibility, may be allowed to participate in the traditional dual credit program at the high school.

Upon high school graduation, all students who complete the Associate of Science degree at NC and complete the Freshmen Apply Texas Application will be evaluated as a freshman with college work. Students who are admitted by the general academic scholarship deadline and submit test scores that meet university minimum test scores that meet our scholarship requirements will be considered for scholarships as funding is available.

Administrators from ROISD, NC, and ETAMU will meet annually to assess the program and review the provisions of this agreement.

This agreement shall become effective on June 1, 2025 and shall remain in effect until terminated by one or more parties. Termination can be processed when ROISD, NC, or ETAMU gives written notice to the other institution 180 days prior to the requested termination date.

Should the agreement be terminated at any time, all parties will make a good faith effort to provide currently enrolled students with opportunities to complete the associate degree and transfer seamlessly into ETAMU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the collaborators have duly approved this Agreement, as of the Effective Date:

On behalf of the School District:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Red Oak ISD Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Navarro College

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Richard Sanchez,  
District President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

East Texas A&M University

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Tammi Vacha-Haase, Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Ricky Dobbs, Senior Provost, Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nikki Steele, Executive Director of Secondary Partnerships & Initiatives

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leilani A. White, Contract Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Appendix A)

The following eligibility requirements will be used to determine which Mane Freshmen Achievement Scholarship will be offered:

Requirements	Mane Tier and Amount	Duration
Entering with 60 earned credit hours or more OR an Associate's degree; Minimum GPA of 3.0 in dual credit coursework	Mane 1- \$4,00 per year/\$2,000 per semester	Up to 4 long semesters or graduation (whichever comes first)
Entering with 31-59 earned credit hours; Minimum GPA of 3.0 in dual credit coursework	Mane 2 - \$2,500 per year/\$1,250 per semester	Up to 4 long semesters or graduation (whichever comes first)
Entering with 30 earned credit hours; Minimum GPA of 3.0 in dual credit coursework	Mane 3 - \$1,000 per year/\$500 per semester	Up to 6 long semesters or graduation (whichever comes first)

**Additional Phi Theta Kappa Scholarships for 1<sup>st</sup> Time Entering Freshmen**

1 <sup>st</sup> time entering freshmen who are members of Phi Theta Kappa and enter with a minimum of 30 earned dual credit hours. Minimum GPA of 3.0 in dual credit coursework	Additional \$1,000 per year/\$500 per semester	Up to 4 long semesters or graduation (whichever comes first)
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**RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Maintain a minimum 3.0 semester and institutional cumulative GPA
- Successfully enroll and complete a minimum of 15 credit hours each Fall/Spring semester and 30 credit hours each academic year
- Have no break in enrollment or eligibility

Freshman, admitted to Texas A&M University-Commerce by April 15 are automatically reviewed for one of three Freshman Access and Success Scholarships. Eligibility for a Freshman Access and Success Scholarship is based on the student's class rank.

Scholarship	ACT/SAT*	Amount	Duration
Presidential	Top 10%	\$2,750 per year	Up to 8 semesters
Blue and Gold	11-25%	\$1,250 per year	Up to 8 semesters

\*Sat-combined Critical Reading and Math scores

**RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Maintain a minimum 3.0 semester and institutional cumulative GPA
- Successfully enroll and complete a minimum of 15 Texas A&M-Commerce credit hours each Fall/Spring semester and 30 Texas A&M-Commerce credit hours each academic year
- Have no break in enrollment or eligibility

A&M-Commerce also offers additional Premier Scholarships for those highly qualified students who are ranked in the top 10 of their senior class or achieve high test scores. We offer the following three programs for your consideration if you fall in this category:

The Honors College provides a personalized, challenging college experience alongside an amazing four-year scholarship package including tuition, fees, housing, partial meals and money for textbooks. Fifty new students are admitted to the program each year. Typically, Honors College students: > Graduate in the top 10% of high school class > Have an ACT composite score of 27 and/or > SAT score of 1200 (critical reading and math only)

The Regents' Scholar Program (RSP) is a unique academic experience focused on leadership development and international study as part of a four-year scholarship that assists with tuition, fees and housing. RSP students receive leadership training and experience that allows them to have a positive impact upon the lives of others on campus and in their future professions. Thirty new students are admitted to the program each year.

The First-Year Leadership Class (FLC) is a living-learning community that equips students with personal leadership skills and is a competitive scholarship opportunity for top freshman student leaders. Students develop skills to take initiative, better their surroundings and serve as agents of positive change on campus and beyond. FLC inspires participants to take an active role on campus and in the community through fun, hands-on activities and eye-opening discussions.