



AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND PLANO ISD

East Texas A&M University, a member of the Texas A&M University System, an Agency of the State of Texas (herein called the “University”) and Plano (“ISD” or “School District”), a Texas public school district, on behalf of Plano West Senior High (“High School”). The High School and College may hereafter be individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

WHEREAS the purpose of this Agreement is to outline the collaboration of the Parties, as listed above, in creating a program for the delivery of dual-credit courses and a sustainable model for ensuring college readiness,

NOW THEREFORE, the parties to this Agreement mutually agree as follows:

TERM

The term of this Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2026 and will terminate July 31, 2031. By mutual consent both parties may renew, amend or extend the Agreement in response to changed external conditions (legislation, accreditation requirements, etc.) or to meet the needs of both collaborators.

PROVISION OF COURSES AND APPROPRIATE COURSE OFFERINGS

The University and the School District will collaborate to deliver dual credit courses applicable to the Texas Core Curriculum, or other such academic program of the University as mutually agreed. Dual Credit courses will follow guidelines published by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Administrative Code, and East Texas A&M University policy, 11.99.99.R0.01 Standards and Criteria for Off-Campus and Self-Supporting Courses and Programs.

Extension of these opportunities meets statewide goals established under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s strategic plan (60x30), specifically:



- 1.) Supports the goal of sixty percent of Texans aged 25-34 will have a certificate or degree by 2030.
- 2.) Supports the goal of 550,000 to complete a degree annually by 2030.
- 3.) Supports the goal of all Texans who have completed an academic program doing so with possession of identifiable marketable skills.
- 4.) Supports the goal of student loan debt not exceeding sixty percent of first year wages for those completing a certificate or degree by 2030.

Courses will be readily transferrable in compliance with applicable Texas state statute(s), Texas administrative code(s), and regulations.

The School District will provide a list of high school curriculum equivalencies for those courses being taken as dual credit. This list of equivalencies will be included as “Attachment A,” which is appended to this Agreement. The University and School District will collaborate annually in selection of courses to ensure compliance with state core curriculum, course transfer, and high school graduation requirements.

COURSE COMPLIANCE

The University is responsible for involving full-time teaching faculty in the process of selecting and implementing University courses. This includes ensuring that course goals and standards are understood, and that the same standards of expectation and assessment are applied where University courses are offered. Courses offered for dual credit must include the same content and rigor as courses taught to other college students, utilizing the same curriculum, policies, and instructors with similar if not same qualifications. The University will designate staff/personnel to monitor the quality of instruction to assure compliance with the Course Articulation Agreement (Attachment A) and the standards established by the State, applicable Accrediting Body, the University, and the School District. Provision of dual credit will be in accordance with the provisions of Texas Administrative Code, Title 19 “Education,” Pt. 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D.

ENROLLMENT

Eligible students must demonstrate readiness for college-level work by taking the required college placement exams and meeting the minimum score requirements as determined by the University to enroll in University courses. Those criteria are delineated in Texas Administrative Code Title 19 “Education,” Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule §4.85. School district must supply an official electronic copy of each dual credit student’s high school transcript for admission to the University. Upon mutual agreement, the University will assist with enrollment at least one time per semester for all students who are qualified and who wish to enroll in academic dual credit



courses. Students must complete the first course in a course sequence (i.e. ENG 1301/1302) with a C or better to proceed to the next course.

INSTRUCTORS, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

School District and University will be responsible for evaluating instructor credentials to ensure they meet all state and regional requirements, including, but not limited to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and SACSCOC. School District instructors must meet state certification requirements in their subject area to teach in the state of Texas. University faculty will meet the requirements necessary to teach courses for the University. University is accredited by SACSCOC, and all instructors of records for courses in this articulated program shall be in compliance with criteria as described in SACSCOC Principle 6.2.a. of the SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation.

The University shall supervise and evaluate University faculty instructors of dual credit courses using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the University.

Qualified School District faculty teaching University courses will utilize approved course materials, follow University guidelines on syllabi and other instructional materials, and all such other applicable guidelines and policies.

Additional Requirements:

- 1) All dual credit instructors are responsible for completing all appropriate University employee training.
- 2) All dual credit instructors must participate in University core curriculum assessment activities as required by University policies, procedures and processes.
- 3) Issues arising regarding faculty teaching University courses, quality of such courses, or student issues developing in the context of such courses will be reported by the School District principal as soon as possible to the Associate Provost of the University.
- 4) The University and the School District commit to a collaborative working relationship regarding delivery of dual credit instruction.
- 5) The School District will regard dual credit courses taught for the University by the School District's qualified faculty as a part of that faculty member's contractual teaching load for the School District.



- 6) The University will not compensate qualified School District faculty for teaching University dual credit courses. The University reserves control of course content and maintains such other standard expectations it has of its own faculty for those qualified School District personnel teaching dual credit courses.

HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND FACILITIES

Computers will be provided by School District for use by students and connectivity to the University's course management system will be available for student use.

TUITION AND FEES

Effective January 1, 2024, the University and School District agree to a revised tuition structure reflecting the University's decision to adhere to requirements of the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) Program, promulgated in HB 8 (Texas Legislature, Eighty-eighth Regular Session). FAST provides for state support for dual credit tuition for students identified as economically disadvantaged, as defined by the TEC, Title 2, Section 5.001(4), and on the National School Lunch Program. For the purposes of our Agreement:

- 1) The University will share student names and identification information to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) which will, in turn, share with the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
- 2) The TEA will confirm which students are a part of the National School Lunch Program with the THECB, and the THECB will share that information back to the University.
- 3) The THECB will pay the University the current rate set by the THECB for each student who *is* a part of the National School Lunch Program.
- 4) The District and University will work together to streamline and ensure accuracy of dual credit enrollments, class rolls, and billing:
 - The School District's students will be assessed at a rate no greater than THECB set rate per student for current academic year. The University will provide scholarship support to School District students to meet that expense. The University will not provide scholarship support for a student who takes any course for a third time.
 - The District and University agree to the following tuition structure:
 - No tuition shall be charged for courses taught by District embedded faculty.



- No tuition shall be charged when the University provides faculty to teach in positions for which the District is actively searching for candidates to meet the credentialing requirements established by SACSCOC, THECB, and applicable University policies.
- The District and University agree to the following instructional payment structure:
 - The District will pay the University a rate of \$30 per student, per semester credit hour for each dual credit course taught by University instructors (e.g., \$90 for a three-credit-hour course for one student).

BOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

All textbooks and supplemental materials required for classes will be the responsibility of Plano ISD. The University and the School District commit to working together to manage costs of instructional materials. The University will work with the School District to provide timely notice of required books and materials for each course offered to the School District's students.

Students are eligible for a campus-wide ID to access campus facilities. These can be purchased on campus for \$10.

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

Dual credit students in Academic Good Standing, are eligible for automatic admissions to the University the first semester following high school graduation.

Dual credit students are eligible for freshmen and dual credit scholarships, per terms on the University website at: etamu.edu/admissions/cost-and-aid/scholarships/

Dual credit students are eligible to receive all support services provided to University students.

Dual credit students needing accommodation or support for disabilities must register and provide appropriate documentation to the University's Office of Student Disability Resources and Services. The office can be contacted at 903-886-5150.

Specific support and guidance provided as a part of the program include the following:

1.) Annual dual credit orientation events for parents and students in collaboration with the School District.



- 2.) The University will participate in advising dual credit students and file degree plans in accordance with Texas Education Code Title 3 “Higher Education,” Subtitle A, Chapter 51, Subchapter A, Section 51.9685.
- 3.) Student attendance at the annual fall “MANE Event” showcase on the University campus is recommended.
- 4.) The School District will collaborate with the University in hosting application days to ensure prospective dual credit students apply to the University promptly.
- 5.) The School District will collaborate with the University to host and promote annual dual credit parent and student informational and advising events to guide students towards appropriate course selection, per state law.
- 6.) It is understood by both parties that all students receiving a degree from University must comply with SACSCOC Principle Section 9, items 4 and 5 of the Principles of Accreditation. Principle 9.4 requires that “at least 25% of the credit hours required for an undergraduate degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree” while Principle 9.5 requires “at least one-third of the credit hours required for a graduate or a post-baccalaureate professional degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree. Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.

GRADING POLICY

University grades for dual credit courses will be entered as letters (A, B, C, D, F, Q, W) for University purposes. However, University faculty members will provide School District personnel with numerical representations of those grades at the conclusion of each course. The School District will use those numerical grades for School District grading purposes. The School District accepts responsibility for addressing parent concerns about numerical grades.

The University will conduct two grade checks during the course of the semester. The first grade check is at five weeks (Early Intervention), and the second is at eight weeks (mid-term). Five-week interventions are generally for notification purposes, but if a student is still making a D or F at eight weeks, the University requires the student to drop the course.

INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE AND CALENDAR

The University calendar will be followed, and the courses will be delivered by instructional mode agreed to by both parties. Where conflicts arise between the University and School District schedules, the two parties will work toward a compromise that benefits students. To better ensure course appropriateness and availability, the University and School District will work together to establish dual credit offerings and schedules for the coming academic year each year by May 31.



CONDUCT

Students are required to adhere to University and School District regulations regarding facilities and equipment usage, and the University and School District codes of conduct, as well as the applicable A&M System rules, regulations, policies, and procedures. Failure to do so will subject the student(s) to appropriate action taken by the School District and the University, including without limitation suspension and dismissal. Students are responsible for understanding and following the principles of academic honesty.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

All signatories to the Agreement will be responsible for complying with applicable Federal, state and local laws, rules, and mandatory policies and guidelines.

MODIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement may be modified and amended only by mutual agreement of the parties in writing, and any such modification or amendments shall be attached and become a part of this Agreement as set forth herein.

GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

The validity of this Agreement and all matters pertaining to this Agreement, including but not limited to, matters of performance, nonperformance, breach, remedies, procedures, rights, duties, and interpretation or construction, shall be governed and determined by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas. Pursuant to Section 85.18(b), Texas Education Code, mandatory venue for all legal proceedings against College is to be in the county in which the principal office of College's governing officer is located.

TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The University and School District reserve the right to terminate this Agreement upon service of written notice to the other party 30 days prior to the date of termination. In this event, the date of termination will be the day after the end of the semester during which the 30-day period expires.

(SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW ON NEXT PAGE)



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

On behalf of the School District:

Signed by:
Dr. Selenda Freeman
Dr. Selenda Freeman,
Plano ISD Superintendent
10/31/2025
Date

East Texas A&M University:

Signed by:
Tammi Vacha-Haase
Dr. Tammi Vacha-Haase,
Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs
10/29/2025
Date

Signed by:
Ricky Dobbs
Dr. Ricky Dobbs, Senior Provost, Academic Affairs
10/29/2025
Date

Signed by:
Nikki Shuyler-Steele
Nikki Steele,
Executive Director of Secondary Partnerships & Initiatives
10/29/2025
Date

Signed by:
Chad A. Witter
Chad A. Witter,
Contract Administration
10/29/2025
Date



Attachment A:

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COURSE			INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COURSE			
ETAMU Course #	ETAMU Course Title	ETAMU Credit Hours	State PEIMS Number	High School Course#	High School Course Title	High School Credits
HIST 1301	US History I	3	03340107	251131	United States History Studies to 1877 Dual Credit	.5
HIST 1302	US History II	3	03340107	251131	United States History Studies Since 1877 Dual Credit	.5
ENGL 1301	Composition I (C or better req.)	3	03220300	103231	English III (A) Dual Credit	.5
ENGL 1302	Composition II (C or better req.) *	3	03220400	103231	English III (B) Dual Credit	.5
PSCI 2305	Federal Government	3	03330100	25423B	United States Government Dual Credit	.5
PSCI 2306	Texas Government	3	03380002	95303	Texas Government Dual Credit	.5
ECO 2301	Principles of Macro Economics	3	03310300	25533B	Economics Dual Credit	.5
ENGL 2331	World Literature I *	3	03220400	104331	English IV (Q) Dual Credit	1.0
MATH 1314	College Algebra	3	03100600	155131/ 158131	Pre-Cal (A) Dual Credit	.5
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistics	3	03102530	158131	Statistics Dual Credit	.5
MATH 2312	Pre-Calculus*	3	03101100	155131	Pre-Cal (B) Dual Credit	.5
MATH 2342	Calculus I*	4	03102500		Independent Study in Mathematics (First Time Taken)	.5
MATH 2414	Calculus II*	4	03102500		Independent Study in Mathematics (First Time Taken)	.5
MATH 2415	Calculus III*	4	N110018	159301	Multivariable Calculus Dual Credit	.5
MATH 2320	Differential Equations*	3	IHE11100	159301	Multivariable Calculus Dual Credit	.5
ENGR 110	Intro to Engineering & Technology	3	12756080		Practicum in Engineering	2.0
ENGR 113	Product Design & Development	3	13036800		AC/DC Electronics	1.0
			13036900	102101	Solid State Electronics	1.0

* = pre-requisite course required