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June 11, 2021

Mrs. Frances Barrones-Johnson  
Superintendent  
Triumph Public High Schools RGV  
1218 S. Presa  
San Antonio, TX 78210

Dear Mrs. Barrones-Johnson

Dual Credit Programs have made a lasting, positive impact on high school students since its inception in 1997. The Dual Credit Program offers our students unique and incredible opportunities for access to higher education and workforce training. These students then successfully transition into a postsecondary education setting or entrance into the competitive workforce sector.

Over the years, the success of the program has been a collaborative effort of partnership and commitment to student success. Through the identification of critical needs and opportunities, the program continues to meet the academic rigor and standards of excellence required, and has served as a tool for developing college readiness and provided students with a clear pathway to college. By working together, we can continue to strengthen the framework of the program to better lead students to the successful completion of their academic goals.

Enclosed is an electronic copy of the 2021-2022 Dual Credit Programs Interlocal Agreement between South Texas College and Triumph Public High Schools RGV. This Interlocal Agreement is the agreement that encompasses all dual credit programs, including Designated High Schools and the Academies Program as required by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

Please print and sign two copies of the agreement. Upon execution of the contract, contact Lorena Martinez, Administrative Assistant for Dual Credit Programs at (956) 872-3520 or via email at [lmart206@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:lmart206@southtexascollege.edu). She will make arrangements for pick up of the interlocal agreement.

I thank you for your continued support of our partnership and dedication to the success of the program.

Respectfully,

David C. Plummer, M.B.A., Ed.D.  
Interim President



## **Interlocal Agreement**

### **South Texas College Dual Credit Programs**

**SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE** (herein called the “College”) and **TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS RGV** (herein called the “School District”) enter into the following Interlocal Agreement (IA), and for the terms of which WITNESS THE FOLLOWING:

#### **TERM**

This IA shall be in effect from August 23, 2021 to August 23, 2022, and posted during this term on the College’s and School District’s respective internet websites.

#### **OVERVIEW**

The College is committed to serving the students and communities of South Texas through collaborative work with school districts in the College’s service area. A major initiative promoting a college-going and college graduation culture is the **South Texas College Dual Credit Programs**, which complies with the rules set forth by the State of Texas (TAC Title:19 Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.84) for dual credit partnerships between secondary schools and Texas public colleges to offer dual credit to qualified students; therefore,

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The College prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any employee, applicant for employment, student or applicant for admission on the basis of any protected class or any other basis prohibited by law. Protected classes at the College include: race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status or any other basis prohibited by law.

Discrimination is defined as prohibited conduct directed at an employee or student on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, including pregnancy and parental status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by law, that adversely affects the employee’s employment or that adversely affects the student.

For more information, please visit [Board Policy #4216 Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking and Retaliation Prohibited](#).

#### **1) IA PURPOSE**

The purpose of this IA is to outline the roles and responsibilities of the College and the School District that participate in the Dual Credit Programs. This IA is the agreement that encompasses all programs and initiatives under the Dual Credit Programs as required by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). An additional IA is required by the Texas Education Agency for Early College High Schools, T-STEM and P-TECH schools.

#### **2) RECOGNITION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNER**

The School District, when reporting and publicizing high school *students’ completion* of dual credit **courses, degrees, or certificates**, will recognize all Higher Education partners, including South Texas College. Furthermore, when the School District advertises and/or publicizes including but not limited to, designations, awards received, tuition saved, and articles written in social media, television commercials

and print ads for dual credit, the School District will recognize South Texas College as their Higher Education partner. The following statement must be included in all the School District's publications and/or advertisements in regards to the Dual Credit Programs:

"[ISD name] collaborates with South Texas College, our Higher Education partner, to offer college credit hours, college certificates and degrees, while saving families hundreds of thousands of dollars by waiving tuition and fees."

In addition, the School District shall adhere to the format and style of all advertising, marketing, reporting, and publicity materials, which includes billboards, print ads, and television commercials, as set forth in the College's ***Branding, Marketing, and Advertising Guidelines for South Texas College Dual Credit Programs*** at [www.southtexascollege.edu/go/dual-credit-marketing](http://www.southtexascollege.edu/go/dual-credit-marketing) (see Exhibit B for Sample Recognition). Failure to follow this provision will result in a non-compliance notification as stated in Section 9 of this document.

### 3) **ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

Regular academic policies and procedures applicable to regular college courses and students will also apply to dual credit courses and dual credit students. A degree plan with a defined sequence of courses will be available through DegreeWorks for all dual credit students.

#### a) **Eligible Courses**

Academic courses offered by the College for dual credit are developed based on the guidelines published in the Academic Course Guide Manual. Workforce courses are developed based on the guidelines published in the Workforce Education Course Manual. The College does not offer kinesiology, guided studies, competency-based or developmental courses for dual credit.

#### b) **Faculty Qualification, Selection, Supervision, and Evaluation**

The College has established an approval process for selecting and/or approving qualified School District faculty (those approved will herein be called "Dual Credit Faculty") to teach dual credit course(s). Each approved Dual Credit Faculty will be supervised by the College's respective department chair or designee and be evaluated and monitored to ensure quality of instruction and compliance with the College's policies and procedures in accordance with the standards established by the State of Texas and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). For a comprehensive view of the Faculty Credentials and Qualification, Selection, Supervision, and Evaluation process, refer to the ***Dual Credit Programs Instructional and Quality Standards Manual - Academic Affairs Division***.

- i. The School District will collaborate with the College to ensure that the School District instructor applying to teach in the Dual Credit Programs meets the credential requirements as stated in the College's ***Board Policy #4151 Academic and Professional Credentials for Faculty***, which includes the criteria used by the College to determine teaching eligibility.
- ii. The College will ensure that College Faculty requested to teach dual credit courses at the School District sites have met acceptable national criminal background checks.
- iii. School District faculty approved as Dual Credit Faculty must be cleared by the College's Office of Human Resources to teach any dual credit courses.
- iv. Dual Credit Faculty will submit all required reporting documents such as rosters, learning outcome results, syllabi/section outlines, and grades by the deadlines set by the College.

- v. New Dual Credit Faculty approved for the upcoming Academic Year must satisfactorily complete the LMS Fundamentals and Academic Continuity Certifications offered through the College's Distance Learning Department prior to teaching dual credit courses.
- vi. College and Dual Credit Faculty teaching dual credit courses should check their class rosters during the first week of classes by accessing Starfish through JagNet to make sure that all students attending the class are enrolled in the dual credit course. Refer students not on the roster to the appropriate School District counselor and the Dual2Degree Department. Any student not listed on the roster by the 12<sup>th</sup> day of class (Census Day) will not be enrolled in the dual credit course.
- vii. New Dual Credit Faculty approved for the upcoming Academic Year must satisfactorily complete the DELTA Online Academy course offered through the College's Office of Professional and Organizational Development during the first semester teaching dual credit courses. Dual Credit Faculty not completing this Academy will not be allowed to continue teaching the following academic year. This Academy focuses on relevant College policies and procedures, resources, faculty responsibilities, and maintaining a college environment in the classroom.
- viii. The School District will allow release time from School District duties for all Dual Credit Faculty to attend required College departmental meetings, discipline and course-specific College professional development training, and the two Dual Credit professional development days organized by the College held on the Saturday before each full semester begins. The department chairs will provide the meeting schedule to the Dual Credit Faculty before the beginning of the semester, so that the Dual Credit Faculty can coordinate their teaching responsibilities at the high school in order to attend required department meetings.
- ix. College Faculty and Dual Credit Faculty teaching college-level courses are expected to communicate with students who need academic assistance and direct them to the appropriate College or School District support services. College provides students access to college resources, and support services at no cost.
- x. The School District will forward any concerns regarding Dual Credit Faculty or College Faculty teaching the college-level course to the College Department Chair for investigation. To address and resolve the concerns, a meeting shall take place between the College Department Chair (and/or designee) and the School District Principal (and/or other designated high school administrator) to discuss the issues and reach a decision that is mutually agreeable.
- xi. The Dual Credit Faculty or College Faculty assigned to teach a dual credit course is charged with the duties and responsibilities of the instructor of record. In cases where the course is a Distance Learning course taught at the partner school, as stated in [Board Policy #3115 Distance Education](#), the instructor of record, not an assistant, is the one responsible for delivery of instruction and evaluation of student progress. Online students shall be informed that they are able to access the online course at any time, not only during a designated time at the high school.
- xii. Even though Dual Credit Faculty are full-time employees of the School District wherein they teach the college course(s), they are expected to follow all the College's policies as applicable during the instructional time designated for dual credit courses. Since Dual Credit Faculty are employed by both the College and the School District, they are



confronted with unique challenges; nonetheless, they should have the same rights, responsibilities, and privileges as College Faculty teaching a dual credit course at a high school site. They must fulfill their responsibilities as Dual Credit Faculty while acting in accordance with the expectations, policies, and responsibilities required by their School District and Principal.

xiii. **Dual Credit Faculty Rights and Responsibilities when teaching a College-level Course for the College:**

- **College-Level Course Work:** The rigor of college-level course work can often require additional time outside of class for students to meet course learning objectives and outcomes; therefore, Dual Credit Faculty should not be coerced to decrease the amount of out-of-class work assigned to students.
- **Issuing of College Grade:** Dual Credit Faculty should not inflate the college letter grade, which might differ from the high school numeric grade.
- **Contact Hours Pertaining to Dual Credit Students:** Just as Dual Credit Faculty are expected to meet the required number of contact hours per semester, students enrolled in dual credit courses are required to maintain regular and punctual attendance in classes and laboratories. In accordance with the College [\*Board Policy #3335 Student Attendance\*](#), the student is responsible for communicating with faculty members concerning any absence. The student may be required to present evidence to support an absence, and make-up work for class absences will be permitted only as specified by the faculty in the course syllabus.
- Dual Credit Faculty must not be coerced to take unreasonable measures to help a student who, in the estimation of the Faculty member, is failing the course due to the student's classroom performance, lack of participation and/or excessive student absences.

c) **Location, Facilities, Teaching Environment, and College Courses**

The location of dual credit courses will be held at approved instructional sites in accordance with SACSCOC standards.

i. **Facilities**

The School District will work with the College to ensure that the School District's facilities meet the expectations and criteria required for college classes and are appropriate for college-level instruction by the first day of class including the following:

- School District will ensure that College Faculty and dual credit students have appropriate access to all available instructional facilities, resources, and essential technology;
- School District will permit access to the College's electronic learning resources when the course is taught at the School District; and
- School District offering science courses will meet the laboratory safety standards and have material/equipment required for College courses available in all labs in which classes are being taught to comply with the College science program requirements.

ii. **Teaching Environment**

The School District will ensure that the classroom environment is conducive to college-level learning by:

- Designating a classroom for the dual credit classes;
- Displaying the signs provided by the College outside of the classroom that indicate "College Course is in Session";

- Assuring no interruptions take place in the College dual credit class while in session, such as removing students for high school activities, or making announcements except for official business or emergencies. Interruptions for official announcements must be minimized; and
- Accepting the faculty member's attendance requirements as stated in the course syllabus and as supported by [Board Policy #3335 Student Attendance](#). This policy provides guidelines related to student attendance and authorizes faculty to drop a student, prior to the withdrawal deadline, when in the opinion of the faculty, the student would have difficulty in successfully completing the course.

iii. College Courses

Faculty teaching dual credit courses must use the College's approved Learning Management System. The College maintains security measures to protect faculty and students while learning in an online environment. More detailed information can be accessed on the Dual Credit Programs webpage at the following link:  
<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/dual/index.html>.

iv. Course Delivery

The School District will ensure that all dual credit courses taught by Dual Credit Faculty are conducted through face-to-face instruction, except when a State of Emergency is activated, it is when a Dual Credit Faculty may be approved to conduct online instruction to adhere to the College's Instructional Contingency Plan, using the College's Learning Management System.

d) Course Curriculum, Instruction, and Grading

School Districts that participate in the Dual Credit Programs at the College will comply with procedures and guidelines as published in the *Dual Credit Programs Principal Agreement*, and *Dual Credit Programs Instructional and Quality Standards Manual*, including the following:

i. Academic Instructional Calendar

Dual credit classes will follow the College Academic Calendar. Exceptions may be arranged through collaboration between the College and the School District. When the requested exception involves the Final Exam Schedule for long semester classes, the College Department Chair and Division Dean should be involved in any decision. The College requires that the Division Dean approve any exception. Notification of conflicts between mandatory State testing and final exams must be made well in advance of final exams. College courses and exams should take reasonable priority over School District activities.

ii. Monitoring Instruction

The School District will work with the College so College personnel will have the opportunity to monitor the quality of instruction in compliance with the College course syllabus and the standards established by the State of Texas, SACSCOC, and the School District.

iii. Books and Supplemental Materials

The School District will provide textbooks for each registered student, equipment, and supplemental materials required for the cohort (S sections) classes. The College will consider the use of free or low-cost open educational resources in courses offered under the program for School District. College-approved textbooks purchased by the School District as required for a college course are allowed to be used for four (4) years. Chairs may

request a change of textbooks earlier than four (4) years, if the textbooks are for technology-based courses or with reasonable justification. Required textbooks and materials shall be available to each registered student on the first class day. Exceptions must be discussed with the Dean of Dual Credit Programs and the Department Chair.

iv. Transportation

The School District will provide transportation to students enrolled as required, deemed necessary, and appropriate under State law and School District rules and procedures. Students enrolled in dual credit courses at the College may be transported by the School District.

v. Grading Procedures

All Dual Credit Faculty will follow the College Grading System as stated in the College's [Board Policy #3310](#) *Grading System: Credit Programs*, as well as the grading criteria in the department approved syllabus.

vi. Submission of College Grade

The primary responsibility for assigning College grades in a course belongs to the faculty member, and in the absence of compelling evidence of discrimination, differential treatment, or procedural irregularities, the judgment of the faculty member responsible for the course must remain determinant. College and School District officials will not interfere with the faculty member's responsibility for assigning College grades. The final course grade submitted for the College will be a letter grade, and for the high school a numeric grade based on a standard 100-point scale, which will be provided by STC Faculty, upon request. Request must be submitted by the School District to the STC Faculty before the end of the College's finals week. The final course grade recorded for the College will be a letter grade and for the high school a numeric grade that may differ from the College letter grade.

vii. Grade Appeal

The School District will direct students to follow the College's Grade Appeal process. An electronic copy of these documents may be accessed on the Academic Affairs Department webpage at the following link:

[https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/grade\\_appeals/](https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/grade_appeals/).

viii. Reporting Required Critical Student Performance Information

The College has developed guidelines for sharing critical student performance information when needed for high school reporting.

STC Faculty

- Will only provide final course numeric grades based on a standard 100-point scale to the School District, upon request. Request must be submitted by the School District to the STC Faculty before the end of College's finals week.
- Will not be required to submit midterm course grade
- Will provide the following Starfish Early Alert Surveys:
  - Fall 2021 and Spring 2022: First Week Attendance Verification, and two Progress Surveys (Weeks 5-6 & Weeks 11-12)
  - Summer 2022: First Week Attendance Verification, and one Progress Survey (Week 3)

Dual Credit Faculty

- Guidelines indicate reporting requirements and responsibilities of the Dual Credit Faculty regarding parent inquiries, progress reports, and discipline matters which

are found in the *Dual Credit Programs Instructional and Quality Standards Manual*.

e) Dual Credit Policies

- i. Board Policy #3230 Dual Credit Programs with Partnering School Districts
  - Lists general provisions that partnering School District must comply with; and
  - States that tuition and fees for dual credit students sponsored by partnering School District will be charged as approved by the College's Board of Trustees.
- ii. Board Policy #3232 Dual Credit Student Eligibility Requirements
  - Outlines the dual credit student eligibility requirements;
  - Stipulates limitations on what courses and how many hours may be taken;
  - Mandates student compliance with Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP); and
  - Levies the independent student tuition and fees for students enrolled in (non-S) section(s) with approval by the College.
- iii. Board Policy #3320 Academic Progress Standards
  - States expectation that students meet academic standards for coursework at the College;
  - Defines levels of academic status GPA criteria; and
  - Explains student academic progress standards including probation, suspension, and readmission.
- iv. Board Policy #3322 Student Financial Aid - Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
  - Cites Federal regulations that require the College to monitor Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for all students, including dual credit students, in order to determine financial aid eligibility; and
  - Cites regulations that require the evaluation of quantitative (67% course completion rate and maintaining at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA) standards, as well as completion of a degree or certificate within 150% of normal time frame.

4) **STUDENT ENROLLMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES**

a) Student Eligibility

The College requires the School District to follow all College enrollment procedures and guidelines for dual credit students. All procedures and guidelines are outlined in the College's *Dual Credit Programs Enrollment and Support Services Manual*. An electronic copy of this document may be accessed on the Dual Credit Programs webpage at the following link:

<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/dual/index.html>.

All students must meet dual credit admissions and eligibility requirements as outlined by the THECB laws and regulations, the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.85, and as stated in the College's Board Policy #3200 Student Admissions. The School District will work with the College to make certain that all dual credit students are enrolled by the first day of class to help ensure student success and will comply with the College Dual Credit Programs Admission and Registration Timeline. An electronic copy of this document may be accessed on the Dual Credit Programs webpage at the following link:

<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/dual/index.html>.

High school students are eligible to participate in the Dual Credit Programs upon meeting the Texas



Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment minimum passing scores established by the THECB and the College dual credit course pre-requisites as published in the College's ***Dual Credit Programs Enrollment and Support Services Manual***.

Dual credit students must comply with the College's Academic Progress Standards as outlined in [Board Policy #3320](#) and [Board Policy #3322](#). Federal Financial Aid SAP requirements measure all students' GPA and progression regardless of whether or not they receive aid and these requirements are applicable to dual credit students who are still in high school.

b) *Collaboration and Outreach Efforts*

The College provides informational sessions for students and parents regarding dual credit opportunities, benefits, cost, and resources. Sessions are available throughout the academic year upon request by the School District. The College disseminates the most current dual credit information regarding enrollment, resources, and requirements for the program on the College's dual credit website.

c) *Course Load*

As stated in the College's [Board Policy #3232](#) ***Dual Credit Student Eligibility Requirement***, dual credit students may not enroll in college-level courses until the Spring semester of their 9th grade, and then limited to no more than two (2) dual credit courses for that semester from an approved list of recommended courses. All 10th grade students will be limited to only two (2) dual credit courses per Fall and Spring semester. All 11th and 12th grade students should not exceed four (4) dual credit courses per Fall and Spring semesters. Summer session enrollment is limited to two (2) dual credit courses for Summer Term I/III and two (2) dual credit courses for Summer Term II.

Dual credit students shall be limited to courses within their declared major and corresponding degree plan. Students who declare a major leading to Career Technical Education (CTE) certificate or Associate degree, may also enroll in academic dual credit courses, limited to English 1301, Mathematics/Natural Science Electives, Humanities Electives, Social and Behavioral Electives, and other Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Electives needed to complete their Certificate and/or AAS degree, while not exceeding the limitation on dual credit courses per semester described below. Students may attempt a maximum of 68 credit hours, with the exception of students pursuing the Associate of Science in Engineering. The Dual Credit Programs is subject to all applicable College policies and procedures.

*Non-S Section Enrollment*

Students who want to enroll in regular (non-S) section(s) must submit a request and be approved by the Dean of Dual Credit Programs and School District Partnerships. Students can only be enrolled in courses within their declared major. Any student approved to enroll in a regular (non-S) section(s) will not be assessed the independent student tuition and fee rates based on the Board Approved Tuition & Fee Schedule. Dual credit students who do not receive approval to enroll in a regular (non-S) section(s), may still enroll, but will be assessed the independent student tuition and fee based on the Board Approved Tuition & Fee Schedule.

Non-S section requests for 10 or more students in the same course type during the same semester will require an "S" section to be created by the School District. Criteria is available on the Dual Credit Programs website, which includes the eligibility of enrollment of only 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

d) *Student Composition of Class*

As outlined in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule 4.85, the school district may not enroll both dual credit and non-dual credit students in the same section unless creation of a high school credit-only class is not financially viable for the high school and only

under one of the following conditions:

- i. If the course is required for completion under State Board of Education High School graduation requirements, and the school is otherwise unable to offer such a course.
- ii. If the high school credit-only students are College Board Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate students.
- iii. If the course is a career and technology/college workforce education course and the high school credit-only students are eligible to earn articulated college credits.

#### *Dual Credit Sections*

Dual credit sections assigned to an STC Faculty and/or Dual Credit Faculty must have a minimum of ten (10) students enrolled in Academic sections and seven (7) in Career Technical Education sections. Dual credit sections with less than the minimum enrollment will be cancelled by the advertised semester deadline. Dual Credit Programs will work with the School District to determine options to combine dual credit courses with partnering school districts approval, if available.

e) *Advising*

The College and the School District offers college advising services for dual credit students, in addition to a College Advising Training Program for High School District Counselors held by the College.

The College offers advising services for dual credit students regarding transferability and applicability to baccalaureate degree plans of all college credit offered and earned.

In active collaboration with the College, the School District shall take whatever actions deemed reasonably necessary by the College to fully comply with the advising mandates delineated in TX SB 25 (2019) and TX SB 1324 (2019).

f) *Pathways Alignment*

The College provides a comprehensive guide to the alignment of High School endorsements, dual credit courses, post-secondary pathways, credentials at the institution, and industry certifications.

g) *Counseling and Student Accommodations*

The College and the School District will adhere to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008.

The School District will provide classroom accommodations for dual credit students. If the class is taught at the high school by a Dual Credit Faculty, the School District's high school will be responsible to provide the classroom accommodations. If the class is taught by a STC Faculty at the high school, the College Counselor will coordinate class accommodations with the high school's Special Education Counselor. All procedures and guidelines are outlined in the College ***Dual Credit Programs Enrollment and Support Services Manual***. An electronic copy of this document may be accessed on the Dual Credit Programs webpage at the following link:

<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/dual/index.html>.

h) *Student Complaints*

Grievance or Complaint procedures for handling student complaints, regarding college courses, are applicable to all students including those enrolled in dual credit courses. Dual credit students with complaints shall follow the procedures as stated in the College's ***Board Policy #3313, Student***

***Grievance or Complaint, and [Board Policy #4216](#) Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking and Retaliation Prohibited.*** A student may report a grievance or complaint at the following link: <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/report/index.html>.

i) ***Student Conduct***

All students, including dual credit students, are subject to discipline and appropriate sanctions, ranging from verbal or written warning to suspension and expulsion from the College and all related programming, under the College's Student Handbook and Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct is an articulation of the College's commitment to maintaining an environment that recognizes and supports the rights of its students, while providing a guide for defining behaviors the College considers inappropriate. Procedures, including a list of violations, potential sanctions, and a list of individual rights for each student, are listed in the College's Student Handbook, Chapter 2, Code of Student Conduct. Dual credit students who receive a sanction of suspension or expulsion from the College must be removed from the college course and placed in a high school credit course or a traditional high school setting by the School District; and in accordance with Texas State law shall have a transcript notation of suspension or expulsion placed on their official record. On request by the student, the College may remove the notation from the official transcript. Further, the College reserves the right to refer cases to the Behavioral Intervention Team for review and threat assessment. An electronic copy of this Student Handbook and Code of Conduct may be accessed on following link: [https://www.southtexascollege.edu/pdf/student\\_code\\_of\\_conduct.pdf](https://www.southtexascollege.edu/pdf/student_code_of_conduct.pdf)

j) ***Transcription of Credit***

The College and the School District will transcript dual credit courses for both college credit and high school credit immediately upon student completion of the performance required in each course.

k) ***Commencement Ceremonies***

To become eligible to participate in the College Commencement Ceremonies held in May, December, or at such time determined by the Board of Trustees, dual credit students must be enrolled in all final coursework for their declared program and all coursework must be completed at the end of the semester of graduation. Dual Credit students who are eligible to participate cannot defer participation to a later Commencement Ceremony date, except when a State of Emergency is activated. The College Registrar is the Graduation Determination Official and has the final authority to determine dual credit eligibility for graduation and ceremony participation. Dual credit students must meet all graduation requirements as outlined in College Policy to be eligible for graduation and participation in the Commencement Ceremonies.

5) **FINANCE SUPPORT SERVICES**

a) ***Faculty Stipend***

School District instructors approved by the College to be Dual Credit Faculty and approved to teach college level courses will be paid a stipend by the College per class, per semester, as outlined in the College ***Dual Credit Programs Instructional and Quality Standards Manual***.

b) ***Tuition & Fees***

The School District will be charged tuition and fees as outlined in ***Exhibit A: Board Approved Tuition & Fees for Dual Credit Students Sponsored by Partnering School Districts for FY 2021-2022***. The College's Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjust tuition and fees as deemed necessary during the year.

c) ***Invoicing***

The College will invoice the School District that sponsors the student for the applicable charges, in

accordance with the ***Board Approved Tuition & Fees for Dual Credit Students Sponsored by Partnering School Districts for FY 2021-2022***, as approved by the College Board of Trustees (see Exhibit A).

d) **Faculty Charges**

When the College provides the faculty, including via distance learning, the School District is responsible for the mileage and faculty cost as stipulated in the Dual Credit Course Agreement (DCCA). School Districts cannot cancel dual credit courses with assigned College Faculty after August 6, 2021 (Fall 2021 semester), January 4, 2022 (Spring 2022 semester), May 23, 2022 (Summer I semester), and June 29, 2022 (Summer II). Should a School District cancel dual credit course(s) with an assigned College Faculty after the advertised deadline, a Late Dual Credit Section Cancellation Fee will be assessed.

This agreement is outlined in the ***Dual Credit Programs Instructional and Quality Standards Manual***. An electronic copy of this document may be accessed on the Dual Credit Programs webpage at the following link: <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/dual/index.html>.

6) **DATA SHARING**

FERPA allows protected student data to be exchanged between the College and School District for students that are dually enrolled without the consent of either the parents or the student under § 99.34. If the student is under 18, the parents still retain the right under FERPA to inspect and review any education records maintained by the School District, including records that the College disclosed. The College and the School District are expected to meet FERPA requirements to maintain the privacy of student data.

The School District agrees to provide directory information for all 11th and 12th grade students enrolled in the district for recruitment purposes. The School District will provide an electronic secure file to the Director of College Connections and Admissions for Traditional students by the end of September. The file will include student names, school emails, home phone numbers, and home addresses.

The College will provide data reports to the School District via standard reports as per identified timelines. These reports have been developed in an effort to provide required data in a timely manner to our partners with a signed IA.

The School District shall provide a primary and secondary contact, at the District and at each high school, to receive data via a secure process from the College. These contacts will be responsible for distributing data securely within their assigned area and within FERPA guidelines. Any data received from the College shall not be shared outside the District without prior authorization from the College.

The School District may request data outside of the scheduled report distribution schedule provided:

- An IA has been executed and is active between the School District and the College
- The data request is submitted, at minimum, three (3) business days prior to the requested delivery date

**PLEASE NOTE:** Requests are **NOT** guaranteed to be delivered by the requested delivery date and may be delayed depending on the data team's existing request volume. Requests will be prioritized depending on identified need.

The School District may submit an e-mail request for reports to: [dcdatrequest@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:dcdatrequest@southtexascollege.edu).

7) **HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT. DATA PRIVACY & SHARING AGREEMENT**

The School District will collaborate with the College to ensure that all School District faculty applying to teach in the Dual Credit Programs meet the credential requirements as stated in the College's **Board**



**Policy #4151 Academic and Professional Credentials for Faculty**, and submit all required documents for the approval/hiring process to the Human Resources Department as well as agree to full information sharing in the event of an investigation of a personnel matter regarding Dual Credit Faculty.

- a) Any non-academic incidents or complaints against Dual Credit Faculty teaching a College course are required to be reported to the College's Office of Human Resources to the attention of the Director and/or Employee Relations Officers for investigation.
- b) The School District will comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.) regulations as stated in the College's **Board Policy #4216 Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking and Retaliation Prohibited** and the School District Title IX policy in resolving incidents and complaints. An electronic copy of the College's Board Policy may be accessed on following link: <https://admin.southtexascollge.edu/president/policies/pdf/4000/4216.pdf>.

**Title IX Statement:**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. s1681 et seq) and it's implementing regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 107 (Title IX) state: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Title IX resources, policies, and procedures, including the names and contact information of the Title IX Coordinator and the Title IX Deputy Coordinators for the College are located at the following link: <https://www.southtexascollge.edu/about/notices/title-ix.html>.

- e) The School District will designate a specific School District official that is certified as a Title IX Investigator/Coordinator to serve as the authorized liaison with South Texas College Office of Human Resources, Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and/or Title IX Coordinator. The School District official and the College's representative(s) will work collaboratively and timely to share any and all information necessary in the event of an investigation of a personnel matter (see Exhibit C).

**8) INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (IA)**

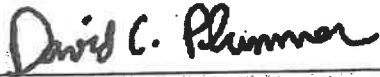
This IA may be amended by mutual written agreement of both parties.

The College and the School District reserve the right to terminate this IA, by notice from either party in accordance with this IA or by operation of law. The College or the School District may terminate the IA no fewer than ninety (90) days prior to the intended date of termination. To be effective, notice must be submitted in writing, signed by the College President or the School District Superintendent and personally delivered to the other party to this IA.

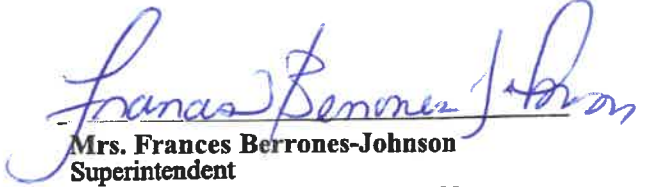
**9) NOTIFICATION OF NON—COMPLIANCE AND TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

Failure to act in accordance with any provision in this IA will result in a Notification of Non-Compliance (Notice), which may be initiated by either party. The Notice shall be in writing and shall state in particular the alleged non-compliance. The Notice will be provided to the College President and School District Superintendent for review and action. Failure to correct non-compliance may result in termination of this agreement.

EXECUTED IN TWO (2) Original counterparts on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.



David C. Plummer, M.B.A., Ed.D.  
Interim President  
South Texas College



Mrs. Frances Berrones-Johnson  
Superintendent  
Triumph Public High Schools RGV

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
South Texas College

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Trustees  
School District

# EXHIBIT A

## TUITION AND FEES FOR DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS SPONSORED BY PARTNERING SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR FY 2021-2022

	Board Approved FY 2019-2020	Board Approved FY 2020-2021	Board Approved FY 2021-2022
<b>DUAL CREDIT TUITION:</b>			
Per credit hour tuition for in-district dual credit students sponsored by partnering school districts	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>DIFFERENTIAL TUITION PER CREDIT HOUR FOR COURSES OFFERED ON A SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE CAMPUS OR FACULTY:</b>			
Associate Degree Nursing	75.00	0.00	0.00
Emergency Medical Technology	55.00	0.00	0.00
Occupational Therapy Assistant	55.00	0.00	0.00
Patient Care Assistant	35.00	0.00	0.00
Pharmacy Tech	55.00	0.00	0.00
Physical Therapist Assistant	55.00	0.00	0.00
Radiologic Technology/Sonography	65.00	0.00	0.00
Respiratory Therapy	65.00	0.00	0.00
Vocational Nursing	75.00	0.00	0.00
<b>COURSE FEES:</b>			
Electronic Distance Learning/VCT Course Fee per credit hour (Summer 2020 Sessions - Fee waived) (Fall 2020 Session - Fee waived)	10.00	10.00	10.00
Hybrid Course Fee per credit hour	0.00	0.00	0.00
NAH and Other Course Fees: <i>Liability Insurance/Exams/Booklets/Badges/Special Program ID/Certificates/Pinning Ceremony/Other Activities</i>	Recovery of costs and processing fees	Recovery of costs and processing fees	Recovery of costs and processing fees
<b>INCIDENTAL FEES:</b>			
Fee per credit hour for dual credit students attempting a course three or more times	125.00	125.00	125.00
Dual Credit Late Processing Fee per course per student after Census Day	200.00	200.00	200.00

Board Approved\_DualCreditTuitionandFeesFY2021-2022\_February 23, 2021

## Exhibit B

### Sample Recognition



**PSJA Career & Technical Education**  
@PSJACTE

...

Congratulations to our @PSJAISD students earning their Electrician Assistant Certificate! Any current 10th grade students interested in joining the program next year, please contact your high school counselor.  
@PsjaCollege @stcdual #PSJACTE #CareerReady



2:07 PM · May 14, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



**Sharyland ISD**  
@SISDnews

...

Go Cobras!!! Congratulations SA3 Class of 2021 🎓  
South Texas College ⭐



10:05 PM · May 27, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



**Rio Grande City CISD**  
@rgccisd

...

Important information from Preparatory for Early College High School.



11:03 AM · Feb 23, 2021 · Twitter Web App



## EXHIBIT C

### School District Title IX Investigator/Coordinator

As stated in Section 7C, the School District will designate a specific School District official that is certified as a Title IX Investigator to serve as the authorized liaison for South Texas College Office of Human Resources. The School District official and the College's representative(s) will work collaboratively and timely to share any and all information necessary in the event of an investigation of a personnel matter.

The School District Liaison contact information is as follows:

School District Name: Triumph Public High Schools (Rio Grande Valley)

High School Name: TPHS-McAllen, Mercedes, San Benito and Brownsville

Liaison's Name: Daniel Hall

Position Title: HR Manager and Risk Management

Contact Phone Number: 210-227-0295

Email: daniel.hall@triumphpublicschools.org

This form must be completed in its entirety and submitted to:

Title IX Coordinator  
Mary Elizondo, CPA, MBA, CFE, CGMA  
Vice President - Finance and Administrative Services  
3201 West Pecan Blvd. X224  
McAllen, TX 78501  
956-872-3558  
[TitleIX@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:TitleIX@southtexascollege.edu)

For any questions, please contact:

Laura Requena, MBA, MPAcc, PHR, SHRM-CP  
Director of Human Resources  
2501 West Pecan Blvd.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
956-872-3646  
[HR\\_Administrators@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:HR_Administrators@southtexascollege.edu)