
Memorandum of Understanding

Thomas Edison State College and Mercer County Community College

Articulation Agreement

The central mission of Thomas Edison State College (the College) is to serve higher education and the public interest as a center of innovation, information, policy formulation, and advocacy on behalf of adult learners. It is also the College's mission to make available educationally valid learning opportunities which serve as alternatives to college classroom study and which are appropriate to the varied needs and learning styles of adults. Thomas Edison State College provides flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults.

Mercer County Community College is a comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution focused on learning and student success. The college welcomes students of all ages from a wide variety of backgrounds, abilities, interests, levels of education, and economic circumstances to a challenging and supportive environment dedicated to meeting the educational needs of 21st century global citizens and lifelong learners. Mercer responds to a broad array of community needs, offering programs and services for employers, continuing education and training for the workforce, enrichment for youth, and cultural opportunities for people in the region.

This undertaking by the College and Mercer County Community College is intended to provide Mercer County Community College students a pathway to the baccalaureate degree programs at Thomas Edison State College. It is in this spirit that the College and Mercer County Community College agree to this undertaking, as set forth below.

Academic Programs

All academic programs and credit-earning options are open to students of Mercer County Community College.

Degree candidates must complete the specific degree requirements and adhere to academic policies in effect at the time of their enrollment.

The College will accept, toward a baccalaureate degree, a maximum of 80 semester hours of credit in transfer from two-year junior/community colleges and an unlimited number of credits from other regionally accredited colleges and universities. College courses taken as remediation or to develop basic skills will not be accepted toward degree requirements.

The College will provide degree template(s), as needed, to determine how credits from Mercer County Community College meet baccalaureate degree requirements. This information will reflect educational, professional and vocational courses and/or educational equivalencies between Thomas Edison State College courses and all regionally accredited institutions.

Undergraduate Enrollment

Students of Mercer County Community College will start their education at the College by paying an application fee. The College will provide a complete review of all academic credentials presented to the College upon receipt of proper and complete application form, and application fee.

This evaluation is the basis for the student's program plan and advisement services. Students enrolled at the College will engage in a formal process of program planning designed to guide the student in selecting from among the credit-award options available for degree completion. Upon enrollment, students will be supported in the program through the College's academic advisement process.

The College will evaluate each degree candidate for advanced standing relative to the completion and assessment of degree requirements as set at the time of enrollment. Credit will be awarded for the courses as established for the respective programs that have been completed prior to enrollment in the College in accordance with the College's transfer policy at the time of enrollment.

Students of Mercer County Community College may enroll in the College regardless of their age.

Publications and Marketing

The College and Mercer County Community College will jointly promote this undertaking to students of Mercer County Community College. All materials mentioning this undertaking must be approved by both the College and Mercer County Community College prior to their publication and distribution. This includes such publications as any and all newsletters, press releases, electronic posting(s) or other publications mentioning the undertaking.

Liaisons and Communication

Mercer County Community College will identify a contact person within their organization who will serve as a liaison with the College regarding this undertaking. The liaison will be able to answer basic questions about the College for students from Mercer County Community College, and provide such students with copies of the Prospectus and appropriate degree templates.

The College will identify a contact person who will serve as the liaison with Mercer County Community College for this undertaking.

The liaisons at the College and Mercer County Community College shall maintain a minimum of one annual contact to discuss the program and the administration of this undertaking.

The College will provide to the Mercer County Community College liaison Prospectuses, Registration Bulletins and other College materials as needed and/or as requested.

Any formal communication should be directed to:

Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176
Dr. Susan Gilbert, Dean
School of Business and Management

Mercer County Community College
1200 Old Trenton Road
West Windsor, NJ 08550
Judy Ehresman, Dean
Business and Technology Division

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees related to application, enrollment, and services are to be paid directly by students to the College. They will choose from one of two tuition payment plan options: i.e., the Comprehensive Tuition Plan or the Enrolled Options Plan.

The tuition and fee schedules go into effect July 1 of each year. While tuition and fees are generally established annually, they are subject to change without prior notice.

Mercer County Community College understands that some degree programs may require courses that are not offered by the College. If a student takes course(s) at another institution, the student will be responsible for any and all costs incurred at that institution. Such courses are subject to the transfer policies in place at the time of the student's enrollment.

Program Assessment

The effectiveness of the partnership will be assessed on an annual basis. A process and the criteria for this assessment will be mutually determined by Thomas Edison State College and Mercer County Community College. This report will be completed in collaboration by both organizations.

Duration of the Agreement

This Memorandum of Understanding is in effect for a three-year period beginning on the date of its signature by the duly authorized parties.

Laws of Governance

The laws of the State of New Jersey shall govern this Memorandum of Understanding. It is agreed and understood that any contracts and/or orders placed as a result of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be governed and construed and the rights and obligations of the parties hereto shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

Changes, Amendments or Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding represents the entire understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter. No changes, modifications, extensions, terminations or waiver of this Memorandum of Understanding, or any of the provisions herein contained, shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties hereto.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by Mercer County Community College or the College upon the giving of ninety (90) days prior written notice to the other if either party determines, in its discretion, that the project is no longer academically, technically, or commercially feasible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF duly authorized representatives of the Parties have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding as of the date written below.

Thomas Edison State College
William Seaton
Vice President and Provost

Mercer County Community College

Date: _____

Date: _____

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