



# A Transfer Articulation Agreement

# by and between the

# Louisiana Christian University and the Louisiana Community and Technical College System

This Agreement shall be effective as of the date of the last signature hereto (the "Effective Date") by and between Louisiana Christian University (LCU), whose address is 1140 College Drive, Pineville, LA, 71359 and the LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM (LCTCS), whose address is 265 S Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

# **Background**

Louisiana Christian University (LCU) is a private, Baptist, coeducational college of liberal arts and sciences with selected professional programs. The 81-acre campus is located in the Alexandria-Pineville area of central Louisiana. The University was chartered in 1906 as a non-profit corporation with the object "to own, operate and conduct a Baptist college, to foster Christian education." Louisiana Christian University seeks to prepare students to excel in their careers and future endeavors by cultivating knowledge and skills central to the liberal arts tradition. Through a broad-based general education program as well as specialized study in the arts and sciences or a selected pre-professional program, students develop the skills both for a chosen profession and for life as a responsible and thoughtful member of society. Education of the total person is accomplished through all programs and activities of the University. The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) is composed of 12 public technical and community colleges across Louisiana. LCTCS colleges collectively serve over 130,000 students in traditional credit instruction, workforce training, and adult education. Eighty percent of its over 25,000 annual graduates earned credentials in high-demand, high-income fields as defined by the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Each year, over 15,000 students transfer from an LCTCS institution to a 4-year university.

#### **Purpose**

A partnership between Louisiana Christian University (LCU) and the Louisiana Community and Technology Colleges System has advantages to both institutions who share commitment to assist students in pursuing their academic and career goals. The purpose of this agreement is to ensure a smooth transfer process for LCTCS students who wish to continue their education and to earn a Bachelor of Applied Science degree at LCU. Louisiana Christian University's Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree is designed for students

who have completed an associate of science, associate of applied science, associate of applied technology, or a technology degree and builds on a student's technical expertise and provides the next step to advance a student's careers goals. This program provides the pathway for students to complete the Bachelor of Applied Science degree by allowing students to transfer up to 60 hours of earned credits, 45 of which may be technical and/or approved military or police academy credits. The program requires additional studies in general education courses and other academic courses. LCU's online options provide the flexibility to meet the needs of working adults and transfer students from a variety of technical backgrounds. With an individualized curriculum, students have the option of selecting a combination of stackable microcredentials, certificates, concentrations, or minors to complete the 30 hours needed after all the general education requirements are fulfilled. Emphasis areas are designed to complement career goals and gain higher level positions.

# **General Requirements**

LCU and the LCTCS enter into this Agreement for the express purpose of ensuring acceptance of college coursework between institutions and further facilitate the transfer of LCTCS students who satisfy either of the following criteria:

 An Associate Degree (Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Applied Technology) Awarded by a Louisiana Community and Technical College campus with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher

(OR)

2. A technical diploma with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

This agreement provides the next step to advance a student's career goals and a pathway for students to complete the Bachelor of Applied Science degree by allowing students to transfer up to 60 hours of earned credits, 45 of which may be technical and/or approved military or police academy.

When determined by LCU to its reasonable satisfaction, that a student has satisfied either of the conditions set for above, LCTCS transfer students will be afforded the following opportunities:

### **Guaranteed Admission**

LCTCS transfer students awarded an Associate Degree, as identified above, will be guaranteed admission at junior standing. Students will be made aware that additional prerequisites, and graduation requirements may be required for certain majors.

LCTCS transfer students without an Associate Degree but holding a technical diploma will be guaranteed admission at an appropriate standing.

In either instance, students will be made aware of the additional prerequisites and graduation requirements in accordance with academic requirements for certain majors. Only students who are in good standing at their last transfer institution will be considered.

#### Transferability of Credit

LCTCS transfer students may transfer up to 60 hours from an accredited community college (up to 45 hours may be technical credit). In cases where, transfer degree pathways are established along with a course articulation table for those transfer pathways, credits transferred will be used towards graduation requirements.

Institutions agree to accept the completion of general education requirements and other courses as identified in the state's Board of Regents' Course Articulation Matrix. These courses will be used to satisfy requirements of degree programs. However, if additional general education courses are transferred, the student must take additional courses in the content area(s) to complete 60 hours of credit at LCU.

# **Student Advising**

Louisiana Christian provide pre-transfer advising to LCTCS students through online, onsite, and/or telephone advising. Further advising by discipline will be available to future transfer students prior to and once enrolled. Informational materials for potential transfer students will be available at the community colleges to facilitate the transfer process.

Activities may include the following:

- Participation in transfer conferences, transfer fairs, professional conferences and visits to community colleges to educate administrators, counselors, faculty, staff, and students about University admissions requirements, costs, etc.;
- b. Provision of onsite admissions to eligible LCTCS students at transfer conferences, transfer fairs, and during college visits; and,
- c. Work with the LCTCS campus transfer centers to provide outreach to all students. Additional efforts will be made to reach out to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Computer, and Business Majors.

#### **Reverse Transfer**

For students without an Associate Degree, LCTCS and LCU will collaborate in communication and advice for students to have the opportunity to complete the Associate Degree while at their transfer institution, when applicable. This is commonly known as reverse transfer. However, after students have been admitted and enrolled at LCU, they are expected to complete their coursework in residence. Once students have enrolled at LCU they may not transfer a course from any other senior or community/junior college except under extraordinary circumstances and by special permission of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Exceptions to this policy are considered only on a case-by-case basis.

If an institution modifies the degree requirements or prerequisites after admission, transfer students will be accommodated with equivalent coursework credit and not penalized in total units required for their degree. Admitted transfer students will be required to follow the degree requirements as outlined in the catalog that was in effect at the time of application.

#### **Reduced Tuition**

Students enrolled in the 100% online Bachelor of Applied Science programs receive reduced tuition rates. LCTCS graduates will be charged reduced tuition at \$350 per credit hour or \$21,000 for 60 hours (plus course fees). Tuition and Fees are subject to change.

### **Housing Priorities**

Priority consideration will be given to LCTCS students for available campus housing during the first year if all applicable housing fees are paid by applicable housing application deadlines.

# **Data Sharing**

For the purposes of this Agreement, parties agree to share student information that assists with the furtherance of the activities outlined herein. Both parties agree to keep student information confidential and to use such information only for the activities outlined in this agreement. All information about students obtained from any of the Parties shall be held confidential pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C.A. 1232g) ("FERPA") and of La. R.S. 17:3914.

# **Marketing & Communication**

The LCTCS will work with LCU to develop an internal and external marketing plan to communicate and publicize the President's support of this Agreement to all LCTCS campuses. Dissemination may include print media, news releases, email, webinars, and social media distribution channels. The system office will assist in promoting this opportunity to each LCTCS colleges and ensure that Transfer Center Directors understand the benefits of the program for students. Professional organizations and initiatives will be encouraged to disseminate information about the agreement.

# **Terms of Agreement and Severability**

The term of this Agreement shall be ongoing commencing on the date first set forth above, provided that either party may terminate this Agreement at any time and for any reason upon written notice, with the termination effective at the start of the following academic year. If the Agreement is terminated, all students identified on or before the date of termination will retain their transfer guarantee and all other terms stated in the Agreement.

This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties pertaining to the subject matter hereof and may not be amended, unless in writing and signed by both parties.

This Agreement shall not be construed to create any rights in favor of any non-party hereto, including as third-party beneficiaries.

All notices (including, without limitation, approvals consents and exercises of rights or options) required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed served, if by personal delivery or by facsimile, on the date the same is actually received by the addressee thereof or, if by mail, two business days after the same is deposited with the United States Postal Service (or its successors) for mailing by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, postage fully prepaid, addressed as hereinafter set forth, or, if by overnight messenger service (e.g., Federal Express) on the date of delivery by such overnight messenger service to the address as hereinafter set forth. All notices shall be addressed as follows or to such other address as the party entitled to receive such notice may, from time to time hereinafter, designate by giving written notice pursuant hereto:

If to LC:

Louisiana Christian University

Attn: President 1140 College Drive Pineville, LA 71359

If to LCTCS:

Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Attn: President 265 S Foster Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70806

# **ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT**

In witness whereof, the undersigned signifies their intent to execute this Agreement and agrees to comply with the stated terms and conditions.

Dr. Rick Brewer

President

Louisiana Christian University

Date

Dr. Monty Sullivan

President

Louisiana Community and Technical College System

5/25/2023

Date