



Austin Community College  
5930 Middle Fiskville Rd.  
Austin, TX 78752-4390

The University of Texas at Brownsville  
and Texas Southmost College  
80 Fort Brown, Brownsville, TX 78520

## **AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION & ARTICULATION BETWEEN**

### **Austin Community College and The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College<sup>1</sup>**

In order to facilitate the smooth transfer of students between the two entities, Austin Community College (ACC) and The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC) hereby enter into this articulation agreement as follows:

1. Articulation for the purpose of student transfer between ACC and UTB/TSC refers specifically to this written agreement that identifies courses, sequence of courses or programs from ACC that is comparable to, or acceptable in lieu of, specific course requirements at UTB/TSC.
2. Successful completion of an articulated course or program assures the student and faculty of ACC that the student has taken the appropriate course(s), received the necessary instruction and preparation, and that similar outcomes can be expected, enabling the student's progression to the next level of course sequence or requirement at UTB/TSC. Articulated courses or programs are substantially equivalent courses or programs that are comparable or acceptable in lieu of each other, or they are programs that are acceptable for transfer into UTB/TSC's applied bachelor degrees.
3. UTB/TSC will accept the entire lower division program of study of a student who receives an Associate of Arts (AA) or an Associate of Science (AS) degree at ACC as transferable into the University. However, the total number of transfer hours to be applied to a degree plan will be capped at **66 semester credit hours** for academic associate degree programs unless the student obtains written permission from UTB/TSC prior to transfer.
4. Up to 37 semester credit hours (en bloc) of the technical/occupational fields of certain THECB approved associate applied science (AAS) degree programs and the 48 semester credit hours of general education core curriculum or a total of **up to 85 semester credit hours** (for students transferring into the Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT) or Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science Degree (BAAS)<sup>2</sup> unless written permission is obtained from UTB/TSC for additional hours.

<sup>1</sup> ACC and UTB/TSC are SACS accredited institutions.

<sup>2</sup> The two applied degree programs are part of the Rio Grande TWO STEP Project, a THECB supported program.

5. If an ACC student has completed the general education core curriculum, UTB/TSC will accept the entire general education core curriculum, even if the student has not completed an AA or AS degree. In accordance with Sec.61.822 of the Texas Education Code, the block of courses in any ACC core curriculum shall be transferable to UTB/TSC and must be substituted for UTB/TSC's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and will not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at UTB/TSC unless the Coordinating Board has approved a larger core curriculum for that program at UTB/TSC. In such cases, the student may be required to take only the lacking number of credit hours needed to make up for the deficiency. The specific course(s) required for the deficiency shall be determined by UTB/TSC. UTB/TSC shall inform ACC of the specific deficiency.
6. UTB/TSC will provide a course equivalency guide for all ACC and UTB/TSC courses.
7. Every lower division ACC course within the Coordinating Board Academic Course Guide Manual will be transferable to UTB/TSC. In accordance with UTB/TSC policy for bachelor's degrees, only grades of "C" or better will be transferred for English 1301, English 1302, and MATH 1340 (College Algebra).
8. Transfer students must apply for admission to UTB/TSC and meet university and program admission requirements and are required to finalize an official degree plan prior to completion of the second semester of study at UTB/TSC.
9. Changes of an articulated course content or movement of a lower division articulated course to an upper division course should take effect at least two years after the announced date, thereby according ACC time to make appropriate changes if possible to meet the new UTB/TSC course requirement. During the two-year period, the original ACC course will still be accepted at UTB/TSC. UTB/TSC will inform the ACC Articulation Officer of such changes, together with recommendations for how the original ACC course may be adjusted to meet the new UTB/TSC course requirements if possible.
10. A department may decide not to accept an articulated course when there is a clear indication, supported by documentation, that an articulated course from ACC does not meet UTB/TSC requirements. In such cases, the concerned department, working through UTB/TSC's Registrar's Office should notify the ACC Articulation Officer through the Office of Academic Programs of the specific deficiency, allowing ACC time to correct the deficiency if possible.
11. ACC and UTB/TSC will review this articulation agreement annually, and periodic reviews of admission and transfer policies and procedures will be conducted to enhance the ease of transfer of students from ACC to UTB/TSC.
12. UTB/TSC recruiters, including faculty, may arrange to visit the six campuses of ACC to explain UTB/TSC programs and recruit students whose programs of study fall within this articulation agreement. The ACC Campus Dean of Student Services and Transfer Services will help UTB/TSC recruiters and faculty to locate a transfer student specialist as the lead and point of contact for ACC students from all six campuses. The person designated as the advising specialist will be provided the necessary training and current information by appropriate UTB/TSC faculty and staff.
13. Upon request, UTB/TSC will provide ACC with a report on the achievements of ACC students who transfer to UTB/TSC under this agreement.

14. Both institutions are free to promote this articulation agreement, by means of, but not limited to: informing academic advisors of the agreement, posting the articulation agreement on the ACC web site, providing a link to UTB/TSC web site on the ACC web site, posting equivalency guides on the ACC web, and exchanging catalogs when published. Both parties must agree upon any changes to this articulation agreement and those changes shall be in writing

15. This general Agreement of Cooperation and Articulation shall be identified as the parent document of any program agreement executed between the parties. Further agreements concerning any program shall provide details concerning the specific commitments made by each part and shall not become effective until they have been reduced to writing, executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties, and approved in writing by the President of UTB/TSC and the President of ACC. The scope of the activities under this agreement shall be determined by the funds regularly available at both institutions for the types of collaboration undertaken and by financial assistance as may be obtained by either institution from external sources.

16. Upon approval by each institution, this agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years unless terminated earlier by either institution. Such termination by one institution shall be effected by giving the other institution at least ninety (90) days advance written notice of its intention to terminate. If such notice is given, this agreement shall terminate: (a) at the end of such ninety (90) days; or (b) when all students enrolled in a course of study under the agreement at the time such notice is given have completed their respective courses of study under the agreement, whichever event occurs last. Termination shall be without penalty. If this agreement is terminated, neither UTB/TSC nor ACC shall be liable to the other for any monetary or other losses, which may result.

All communication should be directed to:

UTB/TSC: Dr. Peter B. Gawenda  
Special Assistant to the Provost  
The University of Texas at Brownsville/  
Texas Southmost College  
80 Fort Brown,  
Brownsville, TX 78520  
[batprogram@utb.edu](mailto:batprogram@utb.edu) (956) 982-0177  
[gawenda@utb.edu](mailto:gawenda@utb.edu) (956) 982-0277 FAX

ACC: Ms. Kathy Grimmert  
Articulation Officer  
Austin Community College  
5930 Middle Fiskville Road  
Austin, TX 78752-4390  
[kat@austincc.edu](mailto:kat@austincc.edu) (512) 223-7677  
(512) 223-7678 FAX

EXECUTED by The University of Texas at Brownsville and the Austin Community College in duplicate copies, each of which shall be deemed an original.

Signed 8/15/05  
Dr. Juliet V. Garcia Date  
President  
The University of Texas at Brownsville

Signed 7/25/05  
Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow Date  
President  
Austin Community College

Signed 8/15/05  
Dr. José G. Martín Date  
Provost  
The University of Texas at Brownsville

Signed 7/22/05  
Dr. Donetta Goodall, Date  
Associate Vice President  
Academic Programs  
Austin Community College

