

# Dual Admission Agreement and Transfer Articulation

Between

Texas A&M University-Commerce

and

Hill College

This Agreement is made and entered into on January 1, 2017 by and between Hill College and Texas A&M University-Commerce, a member of *The Texas A&M University System*, an entity of the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as "A&M-Commerce". Hill College and A&M-Commerce, by agreeing to the following provisions, reaffirm their continued collaboration and commitment to facilitate the ease of transfer for students moving from Hill College associate degrees into baccalaureate programs at A&M-Commerce.

## Terms of Agreement:

1. Hill College students following the recommended program of study, common core and transfer curriculum, or who have earned the Associate of Arts/Sciences Degree and who meet all other admissions requirements (see Section 2 item b) shall receive admission to A&M-Commerce. Transferring students must meet the same standards and criteria for admission to a major degree sequence as a native A&M-Commerce student.

Students transferring prior to completion of the core curriculum shall be awarded transfer credit in each core component are completed. Students transferring prior to the completion of the associate degree will be eligible for the award of an associate degree upon transfer from A&M-Commerce of courses required for the completion of the associate degree as determined by Hill College and if other associate degree requirements are met.

2. A student transferring to A&M-Commerce under this agreement will have acceptance of Hill College credit hours, with the following conditions:
  - a) Transfer students will receive academic credit for transferable college level courses only, completed with a grade of "D" or better. However, courses completed with a grade of "D" will not be applied to the major. Remedial and developmental work will not count toward degree completion.
  - b) The student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on all hours attempted and 12 (excludes remedial and developmental courses) earned hours for transfer admission to A&M-Commerce. Other offices/departments may have additional requirements for admission to specific programs.

- c) A&M-Commerce will typically accept between 60-66 semester credit hours from Hill College in transfer or toward a degree program depending upon specific program requirements. Some programs may accept fewer transfer hours.
3. In addition, to receive a baccalaureate degree from A&M-Commerce, the student must complete at least 36 semester hours at the advanced level, 24 of which must be completed in residence at A&M-Commerce. A minimum of 60 semester hours from A&M-Commerce or another senior institution is required for bachelor degree completion. At least 25% of semester credit hours must be earned through instruction from A&M-Commerce, which includes university distance learning courses.
4. A&M-Commerce will provide transfer scholarship opportunities for students completing a minimum of 45 transferable hours at Hill College and meeting A&M-Commerce transfer grade point average criteria for designated scholarships. Phi Theta Kappa scholarship opportunities will be available to transfer students who are members of the Hill College honor society chapter and meet grade point average and hour requirements for the scholarship.
5. A&M-Commerce has developed and will continue to provide transfer guides utilizing the Texas Common Course Numbers to identify the courses to be completed at Hill College.
6. Representatives from Hill College and A&M-Commerce will meet or make contact each year to share course catalog information and update course equivalencies, transfer guides and transfer admission information to be used the subsequent academic year.

The Dual Admission Program enables students to identify themselves as a student at both institutions prior to a change in physical campus location. In addition, it provides access to additional facilities and programs offered by Hill College and A&M-Commerce that may enhance the chance of student success and provide a more seamless transition between the two institutions. Hill College students may apply for dual admission status by contacting an A&M-Commerce Senior Recruiter for Transfer Recruitment and Partnerships at the beginning of their first or second year of enrollment at Hill. Students must submit the Apply Texas Application within 12 months of anticipated enrollment at A&M-Commerce.

After acceptance into the Dual Admission Program, students must continually meet the admission requirements and academic performance standards of both institutions in order to remain in the program. Students accepted under Dual Admission may transfer from one institution to another, alternate enrollment between the institutions, or concurrently enroll at both institutions.

7. Program Specific Agreements facilitate the transfer of students and add value to their educational experience. Hill College and A&M-Commerce will work toward a goal of Program Specific Agreements for all Associate of Arts at Hill College in which A&M-Commerce has a baccalaureate counterpart. The Program Specific Agreements will be designed to maximize the amount of academic course work completed at Hill College that can be applied to an A&M-Commerce baccalaureate degree providing students with economic incentives that encourage access and success in their higher education endeavors. These Program Specific Agreements will be available on a web site accessible from the transfer pages of both institutions ensuring availability to the students, counselors and advisors of both academic institutions.

10. Reverse Transfer permits students that have matriculated to A&M-Commerce prior to completion of an associate degree at Hill College to transfer course work from A&M-Commerce back to Hill College in order to complete the associate degree. This feature maybe extremely advantageous to students whose higher education pans are interrupted by life circumstances and the completion of the associate degree becomes a valuable indicator of their success.
11. Non-Academic Departments of Offices of Hill College and A&M-Commerce including but not limited to Financial Aid & Scholarships, Admissions, Distance Education and Career Development will explore opportunities to develop consortium agreements that facilitate the transfer, reverse transfer, dual admission and other future partnership areas that contribute to access to higher education and success of students at both institutions.

**SACS Compliance** – The following provisions are incorporated into this agreement:

1. Hill College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS-COC), and all Hill College instructors of courses in this articulated program are in compliance with criteria a described in SACS Principle 3.7.1 of the *SACS Principles of Accreditation*.
2. It is understood by both parties that all students receiving the BAAS degree from A&M-Commerce must comply with SACS Principle 3.5.2 of the *Principles of Accreditation*. This Principle requires that “The institution award degrees only to those students who have earned at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree through instruction offered by that institution.” Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.
3. It is understood by both parties that all students receiving the BAAS degree from A&M-Commerce must comply with SACS Principle 3.7.1d of the *Principles of Accreditation*. This Principle requires that “at least 25% of the discipline course hours in each undergraduate major be taught by faculty members holding the terminal degree – usually the earned doctorate – in the discipline.” Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.

**Terms of Agreement:**

This Agreement shall operate on an ongoing basis. Faculty and/or administrators representing A&M-Commerce and Hill College will meet annually to assess the dual admission program and develop additional options to this agreement. This agreement may only be modified by a written agreement signed by legally authorized officials of both institutions.

The initial term of this agreement shall begin on **January 1, 2017** and end on **May 31, 2022**. Sixty-days before the end of the initial term, A&M-Commerce may renew this Agreement for a subsequent three-year term upon written approval of Hill College. The parties may review this program before the expiration of the initial term or any subsequent term thereafter and discuss continuance or termination.

**Termination:**

A petition to end this Agreement: 1) must be submitted one-year in advance of the intent to terminate; 2) must be submitted in writing and signed by the college/university president making the petition, 3) must be delivered to the second party to the Agreement. Delivery of the intent to terminate will constitute formal notification and will serve as grounds for termination one year following the date of delivery.

**Dispute Resolution:**

The dispute resolution process provided in chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by A&M-Commerce and Hill College to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by either party that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. The parties shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the representative undersigned party, who shall examine the claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with the other respective party in an effort to resolve the claim.

**Governing Law and Venue:**

This Agreement shall be governed and interpreted pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas. Pursuant to Section 85.18, *Texas Education Code*, venue for any suit filed against A&M-Commerce shall be in the county in which the primary office of the chief executive officer of A&M-Commerce is located. At the time of this Agreement, such county is Hunt County, Texas.

**Amendments, Changes or Modifications:**

No amendment, change or modification to this Agreement may be made without formal written agreement of both parties.

**Contacts:**

**Hill College**

112 Lamar

Hillsboro, TX 76645

Dr. Pamela Boehm, President

**A&M-Commerce**

P.O. Box 3011

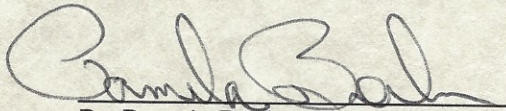
Commerce, TX 75429-3011

Dr. Ray Keck, III President

The parties hereto certify that they have the authority to execute this Dual Admission Agreement and Transfer Articulation and that covenants contained herein are within their respective statutory authority to fulfill. The undersigned parties bind themselves to the faithful performance of this agreement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties execute this agreement.

Hill College



Dr. Pamela Boehm, President

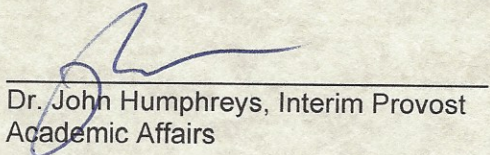
1-18-17  
Date

Texas A&M University-Commerce



Dr. Ray Keck III, President

12-02-16  
Date



Dr. John Humphreys, Interim Provost  
Academic Affairs

12-02-16  
Date