



**Partnership Agreement  
Between  
Cuyahoga Community College  
and  
Cleveland State University**

**THIS AGREEMENT** (the “Agreement”) is entered into as of this 4th day of December, 2008 (the “Effective Date”) by and between **Cuyahoga Community College District** (“TRI-C”), with an address at 700 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2878 and **Cleveland State University** (“CSU”), with an address at 2121 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44015. TRI-C and CSU are institutions of higher education established pursuant to Section 3354 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**BACKGROUND**

TRI-C and CSU as part of the University System of Ohio desire to enter into a contract clarifying the status and treatment of students who choose to enroll at CSU while studying at TRI-C. The goal of the partnership program established by this Agreement is to recruit and enroll students to TRI-C and CSU with the intent that students first complete the associate’s degree at TRI-C, while purposefully preparing for transfer to CSU to complete the bachelor’s degree. While enrolled at TRI-C, Partnership Program Students will have access to many services and programs at CSU that generally are not available until a student matriculates. This agreement will provide an umbrella under which current and future program specific agreements can administratively easily be implemented.

**ACCORDINGLY**, in consideration of the foregoing, of the other promises and mutual covenants contained in this Agreement, and of other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

**A. Admission Requirements and Processes**

Students may apply and be admitted to the Partnership Program directly out of high school or as college transfer students. In either case, students would begin the Partnership Program by completing an associate degree at TRI-C, while purposefully planning to transfer to CSU for bachelor degree completion. The Partnership Program requires that students be accepted by TRI-C, and also by CSU.

1. A Partnership Program application will be available from the Admission Offices of TRI-C and CSU. High School students who wish to participate in the Program should complete the Admission Application and submit it to the Admission Offices of either TRI-C or CSU. TRI-C students who wish to participate in the Partnership Program should complete the Partnership Program Application and submit it to the Admission Office at CSU or TRI-C.
2. All Students who meet the standard admission requirements for both TRI-C and CSU will be eligible for Partnership Program Admission.
3. If a high school graduate does not initially meet admission requirements to CSU, but does meet admission requirements of TRI-C, the student may reapply for Partnership Program Admission status after completing a minimum of 16 transferable non-developmental TRI-C credits to include ENG1010, and one college level math class (Math 1250 or higher) with a minimum of a C grade in each and a cumulative GPA of 2.0.
4. If a student who has earned college credit applies to the Partnership Program and does not meet CSU's admission criteria, he/she may re-apply for the Partnership Program once he/she meets the standard transfer admission requirements as set by CSU.
5. TRI-C students who have been accepted into the program will have catalog rights at CSU from the term their Partnership Program application is accepted and will be governed by CSU's policies.
6. As a part of the process of applying to the Partnership Program, students will sign an agreement to release student record information between TRI-C and CSU.
7. All TRI-C students, who have earned credits in Fall 2005 or after, will receive transfer credit for all college level courses in which a "D" or better has been earned. Acceptance of credits does not guarantee that transfer courses automatically meet course and/or program requirements for graduation. Students must review individual course and program requirements with their academic adviser to determine whether transfer courses will count toward graduation. Only courses earned at the baccalaureate degree granting university (CSU) will be used to calculate the cumulative GPA for said university.
8. Neither party shall discriminate against Partnership Program Students or Partnership Program applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin or ancestry, or disability.

## **B. Partnership Program Enrollment**

1. To help ensure a seamless transfer, academic advisors from CSU will work with TRI-C counseling faculty to conduct appointments on each of TRI-C's campuses with Partnership Program students and candidates. All Partnership Program students will be advised so as to be able to complete their associate's degree prior to transfer while simultaneously completing CSU degree requirements. When applicable, and in the student's best interest, TRI-C will accept CSU courses to fulfill the students' Associate Degree requirements.
2. Partnership Program students will receive a CSU Viking Identification card and a TRI-C My Tri-C card and shall be entitled to all facilities and services offered to regularly admitted students at both TRI-C and CSU. These include but are not limited to access to CSU University and TRI-C College libraries, Career Services, Recreation Centers, computer labs, sporting events, parking, e-mail and internet access.

**C. Program Administration**

1. Partnership Program Students will be coded and tracked in the Student Information Systems at both CSU and TRI-C.
2. CSU and TRI-C will each assign a representative to serve as a liaison and assure continued communication between the institutions on matters related to this Agreement. CSU and TRI-C representatives will formally review this Agreement on an annual basis.
3. CSU and TRI-C will hold a Partnership Program orientation prior to the beginning of each academic term. This orientation program will be required for all new Partnership Program Students prior to registering for their classes. The program will assist Partnership Program Students in understanding general education and remediation requirements and will acquaint them with services available to them at the institutions. It will also enable them to meet with TRI-C and CSU counselors.
4. Partnership Program Student records will be shared between TRI-C and CSU at the end of each semester.
5. Except as may be prohibited by law or CSU policy, CSU will send an annual report to TRI-C on the progress of Partnership Program Students after their transfer to CSU. Except as may be prohibited by law or TRI-C policy, TRI-C will send CSU an annual report on the progress of TRI-C Partnership Program Students.
6. Partnership Program Students will not be assessed a transcript request fee for transcripts issued for the administration of the Partnership Program Program.
7. Marketing will be coordinated by University Marketing at CSU and the

Office of Public Affairs at TRI-C. All printed materials and web content will be mutually agreed upon prior to publication.

**D. Student Conduct**

1. Partnership Program Students will be subject to the policies and procedures of TRI-C when participating in TRI-C programs or when present at TRI-C facilities. Partnership Program Students will also be subject to the policies and procedures of CSU when participating in CSU programs or when present at CSU facilities.
2. Except as may be prohibited by law or by an applicable policy of a party to this agreement, CSU and TRI-C will each promptly notify the other of any financial, disciplinary, or academic actions that have been or are about to be taken against a Partnership Program Student. TRI-C or CSU may take any of these actions on its own, and the other party is not required to take similar action against a Partnership Program Student merely because such an action was taken by the other party. Except as set forth explicitly in this Agreement, neither party will have any authority to direct the actions of the other party relating to any Partnership Program Student.

**E. Financial Aid and Scholarships**

1. Subject to applicable law and any applicable policies of each institution, Partnership Program Students who wish to apply for financial will do so via TRI-C's Financial Aid Office until obtaining at least 60 credit hours or the associate's degree. Courses taken at CSU during this time will require a Financial Aid Consortium Agreement. If eligible, the Partnership Program Student may also take advantage of Cross-Registration. After obtaining at least 60 credit hours or the associate's degree, Partnership Program Students will apply for financial aid via CSU's Financial Aid Office for periods of part-time or full-time enrollment at CSU.

**F. Term and Termination**

1. This Agreement will run from the Effective Date until the end of the last day of the Spring 2012 academic term of TRI-C or of CSU (whichever comes last), at which time this Agreement will automatically expire unless extended in a writing signed by both parties prior to termination.
2. Either party may terminate this Agreement in the event of a material breach by the other party, effective upon the date that is 90 days after the notice that includes a description of the breach; *provided* in either case that the breaching party shall be allowed until said effective date to cure said breach, and if the breach is so cured the termination notice will be of no effect.

3. Upon expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason, Partnership Program Students previously accepted by or admitted to CSU shall continue to receive the benefits contemplated by this Agreement.

**G. Miscellaneous.**

1. Severability. If any Section or provision of this Agreement be held illegal, unenforceable or in conflict with any law by a court of competent jurisdiction, such Section or provision of this Agreement shall be deemed severed from this Agreement and the validity of the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby.
2. Notices. All notices or other written communications relating to termination, expiration, or legal matters required or permitted under this Agreement shall be given in writing by courier or reputable overnight delivery services, or by certified mail, return receipt requested to either party at its address first set forth above with, in the case of TRI-C, an additional copy addressed to "General Counsel."

For CSU:

Dr. Michael Schwartz  
President  
2121 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

For TRI-C:

Dr. Linda Simmons  
Vice President, Academic  
and Student Affairs  
700 Carnegie Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

3. Waivers and Amendments. The waiver by either party of any provision of This Agreement on any occasion and upon any particular circumstance shall not operate as a waiver of such provision of this Agreement on any other occasion or upon any other circumstance. This Agreement may be modified or amended only via a writing signed by both parties.
4. Survival. Sections F(3) and this Section G shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason.
5. Complete Agreement; Integration. This Agreement contains the complete understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all other agreements, understandings, communications and promises of any kind, whether oral or written, between the parties with respect to such subject matter.
6. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, all of which shall be originals and which together shall constitute a single agreement.

7. No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement does not and is not intended to confer any rights or remedies upon any party other than TRI-C and CSU.
8. Facsimile Signatures. For the purpose of interpreting this Agreement, facsimile signatures shall be considered equivalent to original signatures.
9. Neutral Interpretation. This contract has been prepared for signature only after each party has had sufficient opportunities to negotiate changes. Each party has been represented by its own lawyer, has had sufficient opportunities to consult with that lawyer, and has done so. The parties agree that this contract should be understood and interpreted as a document fully negotiated and accepted by the parties, and should not be construed against the drafting party.

**INTENDING TO BE LEGALLY BOUND**, by signing below, each party acknowledges its agreement with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and each signatory represents and warrants that he/she is authorized to sign on behalf of and to bind his/her party to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

**CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Mary Jane Saunders  
Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Linda Simmons  
Vice President, Academic & Student  
Affairs

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachment A**  
**To The**  
**Partnership Program Agreement Dated December 4, 2008**  
**By and Between**  
**Cuyahoga Community College District**  
**and**  
**Cleveland State University**

**Articulation Criteria and Articulation Benefits**

1. ***The articulation criteria (“Articulation Criteria”) are:***
  - a. Completion of GEN-1040 Career Exploration at TRI-C will make the Partnership Program Student eligible for CSU’s Cooperative Education program once the student has reached 60 credit hours or has completed the associate’s degree.
  - b. Future Collaboration between TRI-C and CSU to establish a joint process by which students’ life experiences are reviewed and rewarded with academic credit (“Credit for Life”).
  
2. ***The articulation benefits (“Articulation Benefits”) are:***
  - a. Partnership Program Students will have access to the following Career Services: CSU Career Line, Career Services Workshops, Career Services Career Fairs.
  - b. Partnership Program Students registered for one or more credit hour at CSU will be eligible to purchase a Recreation Center membership at the part-time rate. Partnership Program Students not taking any CSU classes will be eligible to purchase a membership at the “off-semester” rate.
  - c. Partnership Program Students will benefit from joint orientation programs held prior to each semester. Partnership Program Students will receive student identification cards from both TRI-C and CSU to gain entrance to libraries, sporting and other college and university events.
  - d. Partnership Program Students enrolled in at least 6 CSU credit hours are eligible to apply for on-campus housing.
  - e. CSU’s Admission Fee for Partnership Program Students will be waived.

**Attachment B  
To The  
Partnership Program Agreement Dated December 4, 2008  
By and Between  
Cuyahoga Community College District  
and  
Cleveland State University**

The following existing articulation agreements as well as all future articulation agreements between CSU and TRI-C will be covered by this Partnership Program agreement:

(as of September 25, 2008)

<b>TRI-C Degree</b>	<b>CSU Degree / Major</b>
Associate in Arts or Applied Science	Bachelor of Business Administration
Associate of Applied Business	Bachelor of Business Administration / International Business
Associate Early Childhood	Bachelor of Science in Education / Early Childhood
PA, SA, Mental Health Technician	Bachelor of Arts / Communication
PA, SA, Mental Health Technician	Bachelor of Arts / Sociology
PA, SA, Mental Health Technician	Bachelor of Social Work
Associate of Applied Science in Allied Health	Bachelor of Science / Health Science
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing	Bachelor of Arts / Urban Studies w/ Community Health Management Concentration
AAB Paralegal	Bachelor of Arts / Urban Studies
Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement, Corrections, Security Administration	Bachelor of Arts / Urban Studies w/ Public Safety Management Concentration
Associate of Applied Science in Human Services	Bachelor of Arts / Urban Service Administration
Associate of Applied Science in Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology	Bachelor of Science / Electronic Engineering Technology or Mechanical Engineering Technology