# INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

## **BETWEEN**

## UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

#### AND

#### SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The University of Cincinnati and Southern State Community College recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from Southern State Community College to the University of Cincinnati to pursue and achieve their educational goals.

**University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH)** serves the people of Ohio, the nation, and the world as a premier, public, urban research university, dedicated to undergraduate, graduate, and professional education, experience-based learning, and research. The University is committed to excellence and diversity in our students, faculty, staff, and all of our activities. The University provides an inclusive environment where innovation and freedom of intellectual inquiry flourish. Through scholarship, service, partnerships, and leadership, the University of Cincinnati creates opportunity, develops educated and engaged citizens, enhances the economy and enriches our university, city, state and global opportunity. The University of Cincinnati is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission; Member-North Central Association (30 N. LaSalle Street – Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504, (312) 263-0456 or (800) 621-7440).

**Southern State Community College (Hillsboro, OH)** offers associate degree programs, certificate programs, bachelor's degree completion through on-site partnership agreements, adult basic literacy courses and workforce training programs. With two campus locations — Hillsboro Campus and Mt. Orab Campus — Southern State offers flexible scheduling with day, evening, weekend, online and hybrid courses, and a tuition rate that is one of the lowest in the state. Southern State Community College is a state community college under the University System of Ohio and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

In an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, we do hereby enter into the following institutional articulation agreement, in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations of the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy (HB 95).

- 1. The University of Cincinnati and Southern State Community College shall adhere to the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy (HB 95).
- 2. Transfer students shall be subject to the catalog in force at the time of their admission to the receiving institution and to any revisions that occur after its publication and prior to their enrollment. Once admitted, transfer students shall be subject to the same regulations governing applicability of catalog requirements (including, but not limited to major, GPA, graduation, and/or residency requirements, policies, procedures, and standards) as native students. Furthermore, transfer students shall be accorded the same class standing and other privileges as native students on the basis of the number of credits earned.
- 3. Recognizing the system of preparation afforded by the completion of an Associate of Arts and Associate of Science (AA/AS) degree, and in accordance with the Ohio Articulation and Transfer policy, University of

Cincinnati will guarantee admission to the college/university and afford junior standing to all students who have earned an AA/AS degree from Southern State Community College, provided their grade point average is at least 2.0 for all previous college-level courses.

University of Cincinnati and Southern State Community College will work together to maximize the acceptance and application of transfer credit by creating program to program articulation agreements for AA / AS graduates from Southern State Community College. This includes application of general education requirements.

4. Recognizing the system of preparation afforded by the completion of an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, the University of Cincinnati will guarantee admission to the university to all students who have earned an AAS degree from Southern State Community College, provided their grade point average is at least 2.0 for all previous college-level courses.

University of Cincinnati and Southern State Community College will work together to maximize the acceptance and application of transfer credit by creating program to program articulation agreements for AAS graduates from Southern State Community College. This includes application of general education requirements.

- 5. Students so admitted will be considered for admission to selective programs (majors, minors, or fields of concentration) with the same guidelines that are applied to native University of Cincinnati students. Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to the selective admission requirements, according to catalog requirements, at the University of Cincinnati.
- 6. Students who have not completed their AA/AS/AAS degree, or who have earned a cumulative grade point average below 2.0, or those who have been dismissed previously from another institution will be considered for admission according to the admissions policy and standards of the University of Cincinnati, according to catalog requirements.
- 7. Under this agreement, students of Southern State Community College will be encouraged to complete their AA/AS/AAS degree before transferring to the University of Cincinnati.

Should a Southern State Community College student transfer to the University of Cincinnati prior to completion of an AA/AS/AAS degree, Southern State Community College shall provide the opportunity for students to subsequently complete the AA/AS/AAS degree in absentia using University of Cincinnati course credit. With student authorization, the University of Cincinnati agrees to supply information to Southern State Community College in order to facilitate this reverse transfer credit.

In this interest, all course work completed at the University of Cincinnati will be accepted and applied to AA/AS/AAS degree requirements at Southern State Community College consistent with the criteria used for native Southern State Community College students. The same course may also apply toward baccalaureate degree requirements at the University of Cincinnati.

8. Southern State Community College and the University of Cincinnati will work together to maximize the acceptance and application of transfer credit. Program specific Advising Guides supporting this institutional agreement will outline selective admission requirements, course equivalencies, and other information affecting students who enroll in a particular academic program. These supplemental programmatic Advising Guides must be consistent with the tenets of this overarching institutional agreement. Students transferring credit outside of programmatic Advising Guides will have the

application of transfer credit done on a course-by-course basis by the University of Cincinnati. Ultimately, the acceptance and application of transfer credit is the decision of the University of Cincinnati.

- 9. The University of Cincinnati will provide Southern State Community College with course equivalent information regarding Southern State Community College courses and their University of Cincinnati equivalents. The University of Cincinnati will maintain current course equivalency data in Transfer Evaluation System (TES) and Transferology.
- 10. Due to curriculum structures and the variability in student enrollment patterns, the University of Cincinnati cannot guarantee that students who transfer under the provision of this agreement will complete all the requirements to graduate from the University of Cincinnati within two years or by earning an additional 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) at the University of Cincinnati.
- 11. The University of Cincinnati will report the number of transfer students from Southern State Community College for the previous academic year, upon request.
- 12. All collegiate level courses completed at Southern State Community College with a "D-" or better grade will be accepted for students who transfer with or without an earned AA/AS/AAS degree. These credits shall be accepted toward the student's class standing and shall be articulated to specific University of Cincinnati courses whenever possible.

It should be noted that the student may be required to retake any course in which s/he received a grade of "C or D" where there is a higher minimum grade required for all native University of Cincinnati students pursuing the same academic program. The application of this rule shall be the same for both native University of Cincinnati students and Southern State Community College transfer students.

13. Federal regulations mandate that financial aid can be disbursed to a student by only one institution during any given term. Financial aid eligibility through Southern State Community College ends when the student completes their SSCC degree and commences working upon a degree program at the University of Cincinnati. Financial aid consortium agreements will be available to students pursuing a bachelor degree at the University of Cincinnati and exercised where permissible, with the University of Cincinnati, serving as the home institution.

Contact: Suzanne Harmon, Director, Financial Aid

Southern State Community College 100 Hobart Dr., Hillsboro, OH 45133 <u>sharmon@sscc.edu</u> - 937 393-3431 ext. 2611

The University of Cincinnati will also designate individual(s) responsible for aspects of the financial aid consortium.

Contact: Randy Ulses, Director, Scholarships & Enrollment

University of Cincinnati

2618 McMicken Circle, Cincinnati, OH 45221

ulsesrj@ucmail.uc.edu - 513-556-3511

14. The Dean of Articulation and Transfer at Southern State Community College will designate individual(s) responsible for all aspects of the articulation program at Southern State Community College.

Contact: Peggy O. Chalker, Ph.D., Dean, Articulation and Transfer

Southern State Community College 100 Hobart Dr., Hillsboro, OH 45133 pchalker@sscc.edu - 937 393-3431 ext. 2880

The University of Cincinnati will also designate individual(s) responsible for all aspects of this institutional agreement.

Contact: Andrew Shrigley, Sr Transfer & Articulation Specialist, Credit Evaluation

Advising & Academic Services, University of Cincinnati

120 University Pavilion, P.O. Box 210202, Cincinnati, OH 45221

<u>credeval@uc.edu</u> - 513-556-1077

15. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of this institutional articulation agreement, in accordance with federal, state, and local laws, to their respective external and internal constituencies.

Southern State Community College will appropriately include this agreement in any listing of articulation and transfer agreements and will communicate this information through a web portal designed to disseminate transfer information to students, staff, and faculty. Other methods of communication, when appropriate, might include and are not limited to inclusion in the college catalog, program specific materials, and graduate mailings.

The University of Cincinnati will appropriately include this agreement in any listing of articulation and transfer agreements and will communicate this information, and afford the appropriate training when necessary, to staff and faculty to support the Southern State Community College transfer student.

16. Southern State Community College is hereby granted a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use the University of Cincinnati name, tradenames, trademarks, and logos during the term of this Agreement for the sole purpose of promoting this Agreement and the University of Cincinnati programs in accordance with this Agreement.

The University of Cincinnati is hereby granted a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use Southern State Community College's name, tradenames, trademarks, and logos during the term of this Agreement for the sole purpose of marketing to the Southern State Community College student population about this Agreement and the University of Cincinnati's programs in accordance with this Agreement.

Upon termination of this Agreement, the limited licenses set forth in this section will immediately terminate and each party shall (i) cease all such aforementioned use; and (ii) discard, destroy or delete any printed and electronic materials containing the name, tradename, trademark, or logo of the other party. Neither party shall use the name, tradename, logo, or trademark of the other party in any way that would cause confusion in the public mind as to the relationship between the parties, and, except for the limited license set forth in this section, neither party shall by virtue of this Agreement gain any right, title, or interest in any name, tradename, trademark, or logo of the other party.

17. Neither party may assign or transfer its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. In no event, shall the license or use of the Institution's name, tradename, trademark, or logo be assigned to a parent, affiliate, or successor company formed by the merger or reorganization or similar corporate transaction of the University of Cincinnati with any other

company.

- 18. This Institutional Articulation Agreement has an initial term through June 2026. Thereafter, this Agreement will be renewed every three years, in accordance with the State of Ohio's biennial budget process, unless either party gives the other a minimum of thirty (30) days prior written notice of non-renewal. Should the precepts of this agreement, in the interim, come in conflict with established policy at either institution, the established policy will take precedent and the agreement will be reviewed for possible modification. In either event, care will be taken to ensure that agreement modifications will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provision of the existing agreement.
- 19. The University of Cincinnati and Southern State Community College each reserve the right to terminate this agreement provided that at least one year's notice of a process terminated date is given.

This agreement is effective as of: June 2023

University of Cincinnati

**Southern State Community College** 

signed via DocuSign on 7/19/23

Jack Miner,

Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

signed via DocuSign on 7/19/23

Erika Goodwin, Ph.D.

VP for Academic/Student Affairs