

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
For and Early College High School
Between
Texas Tech University and Estacado High School
in the Lubbock Independent School District

THIS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Texas Tech University (hereinafter referred to as "TTU"), and Lubbock Independent School District, (hereinafter referred to as "LISD"), pursuant to the authority granted in compliance with section 29.908 of the Texas Education Code,

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement desire to continue an Early College High School ("ECHS") at Estacado High School ("EHS") in the Fall 2022 academic year, serve grades 9-12, and provide Concurrent Enrollment for Dual Credit college courses for Estacado High School Students in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules, as codified under Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4 of the Texas Administrative Code.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to target EHS students for whom a smooth transition into postsecondary education is now problematic or prohibitive; and

WHEREAS, under this Agreement, ECHS students may be able to earn both a high school diploma and up to 60 credit hours toward a Bachelor's degree;

WHEREAS, ECHS will prepare high school students for successful careers and educational futures through a full integration of high school, college, and the world of work, improve academic performance and self-concept, and increase high school and college/university completion rates; and

WHEREAS, TTU and LISD are authorized by state law to establish and enter into agreements for dual credit programs, the parties agree as follows:

STATEMENT OF GENERAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATION

1. GOVERNANCE

- a. Three levels of advisory/implementation/data committees (campus, district and executive) composed of representatives from TTU and LISD will meet bi-weekly, monthly, and tri-annually to evaluate instructional and programmatic activities, identify problems, issues and challenges that arise, and make recommendations regarding more effective coordination and collaboration. The composition of the advisory/implementation committees will be as follows:
 - i. **Campus Committee:** Executive Principal for the ECHS, ECHS Director, EHS Associate/Assistant Principal, TTU Institution of Higher Education (IHE) Liaison or representative, and any additional personnel from TTU and LISD as necessary.
 - ii. **District Committee:** LISD Associate Superintendent, Executive Principal for the ECHS, LISD Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, LISD Chief Technology Officer or representative, EHS Campus Principal, ECHS Director, the TTU IHE Liaison, and any additional personnel from TTU and LISD as necessary.

- iii. **Executive Committee:** LISD Superintendent, LISD Associate Superintendent, Executive Principal for the ECHS, TTU Provost, TTU Vice Provost for eLearning & Academic Partnerships or their designee, Deans or representatives of TTU Colleges represented in the curricular agreement, and any additional personnel from TTU and LISD as necessary.
- b. In collaboration with LISD leadership, the IHE Liaison will work with LISD and the appropriate deans and associate deans to recruit, hire, train and evaluate TTU dual credit instructors.
- c. The Estacado ECHS Director will be an employee of LISD. As prescribed in the Texas Education Agency Early College High School Blueprint, the Director will have scheduling, budget, and hiring authority.

LISD will be responsible for payment of benefits, if any, to the Estacado ECHS Director, and the Estacado ECHS Director shall not be entitled to receive employee benefits from TTU, including but not limited to unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, health insurance and retirement benefits. LISD assumes full responsibility for all benefits including, but not limited to, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, social security, Medicare and income taxes with respect to the Estacado ECHS Director.

Should the Estacado ECHS Director position become vacant and the need to appoint a new Director arise, following all LISD Human Resources Policies and Procedures, TTU will be represented on the Estacado ECHS Director search committee, take part in the deliberations, and (along with the committee) make a recommendation to the superintendent.

- d. All TTU dual credit instructors must meet TTU's academic requirements, including the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges ("SACSCOC") faculty credentialing for college credit courses. As noted in 1b. above, TTU dual credit faculty will be appointed and evaluated by TTU with input from LISD when appropriate. As required of all K-12 institutions in the state, all TTU dual credit faculty must undergo a criminal background check. Until a qualified pool of potential dual credit instructors from LISD exists at EHS, both parties agree that each dual credit course will be co-taught by a TTU and LISD instructor team. In some such cases, the credentialed TTU faculty member will be the instructor of record for purposes of college credit.
- e. This Agreement does not create a partnership or a joint venture between the parties hereto, nor does it authorize either party to serve as the legal representative or agent of the other. Neither party will have any right or authority to assume, create, or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, expressed or implied, against or in the name of or on behalf of the other party.

2. PROVISION OF COURSES AND TRANSCRIPTING OF CREDITS

TTU will award credit for courses taken as dual credit courses with primary emphasis on the core curriculum requirements for all degrees which includes a total of 42 semester credit hours ("SCHs"). TTU will make additional courses available in coordination with Estacado ECHS leadership to ensure that students have the opportunity to complete at least 60 SCHs. These courses shall be selected based on their likelihood to fulfill additional components of the baccalaureate degree plans. The IHE Liaison will coordinate with LISD, the Vice Provost for eLearning & Academic Partnerships or their designee, and the appropriate associate deans and chairs in individual colleges to plan the specific dual credit courses. A sample course sequence document is included as Appendix A.