

TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMERICAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND MERRITT COLLEGE

THIS TRANSFER AGREEMENT (this "TA") is made and entered into this March 1, 2012 ("Effective Date") by and between Merritt College ("MC") and American Public University System ("APUS") (individually a "Party" and collectively the "Parties").

DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTIES

American Public University System includes American Public University (APU) and American Military University (AMU) and serves more than 105,000 learners worldwide. APUS's relevant curriculum, affordability, and flexibility help students pursue degrees in subjects ranging from homeland security to management and liberal arts. American Public University System is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association and nationally accredited by the Accrediting Commission, Distance Education and Training Council. The APUS mission includes expanding access to higher education and preparing graduates for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

Merritt College (MC) is part of California's public community college system of 112 campuses in 72 districts across the state. It is also part of the Peralta Community College District. The current student population of 6,859 students is divided between day, evening, and weekend courses. MC is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The MC mission is to enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve by helping students to attain knowledge, master skills, develop the appreciation, attitudes and values needed to succeed and participate responsibly in a democratic society. To accomplish its mission, the College provides open access to excellent instructional programs and comprehensive support services in a culturally-rich, caring and supportive learning environment. MC's purpose is to provide opportunities for lifelong learning, contribute to the economic growth of our communities while assisting students to attain degrees and certificates, earn credits to transfer and develop the skills necessary to complete their educational goals.

AGREEMENT

American Public University System and Merritt College hereby agree as follows:

1. APUS and MC will maintain the integrity of their separate programs and enter into this agreement as equal partners.
2. **Advising of MC students** – Advising of MC students regarding admission and program requirements to APUS will be the responsibility of the regular advising staff at MC and APUS. APUS will designate one or more points of contact to respond to advising questions from MC advisors. APUS will monitor the academic performance of students enrolling under this agreement. Problems identified by APUS that may

interfere with the successful transfer of students to APUS will be communicated to students and to MC advisers.

3. **On-Site Outreach** – APUS will arrange with the MC Transfer Center to meet and make contact with potential MC transfer students. MC will provide an appropriate location(s) for counseling/advising as available.
4. **Communication** – MC and APUS agree to cooperate in communicating with each other and with their common and respective publics concerning the established relationship between the two institutions.
 - a. Any marketing of the TA will be subject to the prior approval of both parties.
 - b. APUS will assume responsibility for appropriate marketing to reach their respective student and faculty populations.
 - c. Each institution will designate a marketing point of contact.
 - d. APUS will not market or promote to MC students any lower division courses that MC is scheduled to teach during the period of the TA.
 - e. Representatives from APUS will inform representatives of MC annually about updated degree requirements, admissions, and transfer information to be used the subsequent academic year and any contemplated planned changes that would affect the future of this agreement.
5. **Exchange of Student Information** – At no time will Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations or requirements be violated. Upon request, APUS will provide yearly statistical and global data to MC for the achievement of transfer students from MC: GPA, success in course completion after the first semester.
6. **Concurrent Enrollment** -Students may concurrently take courses at both institutions, upper level at APU and lower level at MC, as well as have access to advising and other services at both institutions, although the transfer block credit cannot be awarded until after the student submits an official transcript from MC showing an eligible conferred degree. Students will complete all transfer requirements at MC and APUS will not compete with the college for undergraduate courses.
7. **Eligibility**
 - a. Students who were conferred a designated transfer AA-T or AS-T degree by MC on or after May 1, 2011 and enrolled at APU into an eligible Baccalaureate degree without selecting a concurrent minor or certificate.
 - b. Only MC students who are admitted to APU on or after March 1, 2012 are eligible for this block agreement. Students already enrolled at APU prior to March 1, 2012 are not eligible for the block transfer.
 - c. MC students are eligible for this block transfer agreement regardless of where they completed all of their previous courses for their MC degree, as long as an eligible degree was earned from MC per the eligibility requirements above.
8. **Award**
 - a. Eligible MC graduates will be granted junior status at APU and the degrees will transfer as a block.

- b. MC students transferring under a block agreement are not eligible for any other transfer credit outside of the block award, and will not receive course credit to fulfill any specific course requirements outside of the block award, regardless of what courses student previously completed.
 - c. Any program academic changes made by APU will not affect MC students CURRENTLY ENROLLED at APU at the time of the program change and they will be subject to original requirements that were in effect at the time the student enrolled in an APU program.
- 9. **Graduate Book Grant** - APUS will extend to MC full-time employees, enrolled in a master's degree program at APUS, a graduate studies book grant.
- 10. **Length of Agreement** – This agreement will become effective upon the execution of signatures by the responsible authority for each institution and will last for a maximum of three (3) years, after which time both institutions may undertake renegotiation of the agreement.
 - a. Both APUS and MC agree to provide written notice of at least one full academic year in advance of termination.

In Witness whereof, the Parties hereto have executed this TA as of the date first mentioned above by their authorized representatives.

Merritt College

By:



Name:

Joe Pantel

Title:

COUNSELOR/ARTICULATION OFFICER

Date:

3/14/12

American Public University System

By:



Name: Wallace E. Boston, Jr., Ed.D.

Title: President and CEO

Date:

3/19/12

MERRITT COLLEGE-APU Degree Transfer Eligibility

APU DEGREE	Eligible MERRITT COLLEGE Degree	Hours Awarded*
General Studies	Any AA or AS Degree using IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
History	Any AA or AS Degree using any IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
Intelligence Studies	Any AA or AS Degree using any IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
Management	Any AA or AS Degree using any IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
Retail Management	Any AA or AS Degree using any IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
Security Management	Any AA or AS Degree using any IGETC or CSUGE or any AA-T or AS-T Degree	60
APU DEGREE	Eligible MERRITT COLLEGE Degree	Hours Awarded
Child & Family Development	AA in Child Development (CSU/IGETC or Transfer options only)	60
Reverse Logistics Management	AA in Accounting or AA in Business Administration or AA in Economics (CSU/IGETC or Transfer options only)	60
Transportation and Logistics Management	AA in Accounting or AA in Business Administration or AA in Economics (CSU/IGETC or Transfer options only)	60

* Students must select remaining courses at APU at the upper level (300-499)

If a student has completed an AA or AS degree with IGETC or CSU GE and would like to transfer into a Bachelor's Degree program not indicated on the chart, the student may enter completed courses into the AMU/APU Transfer Equivalency Database (TED) to map what courses will allow the student to maximize their transfer.

Web site: <http://www.apus.edu/TransferCredit/equivalents/>

If a student has not completed an AA or AS degree, but would like to transfer to AMU or APU, they may transfer up to 90 semester hours by contacting the Transfer Credit Evaluation Center at:

Web site: <http://www.apus.edu/TransferCredit/>

Email: studentservices@apus.edu

Phone: 877-755-2787