

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

**Thomas Edison State University**

**&**

**San Joaquin Valley College**

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered between Thomas Edison State University (the University) and San Joaquin Valley College.

### **Thomas Edison State University**

The central mission of the University is to serve higher education and the public interest as a center of innovation, information, policy formulation, and advocacy on behalf of adult learners. It is also the University's mission to make available educationally valid learning opportunities which serve as alternatives to classroom study and which are appropriate to the varied needs and learning styles of adults. Thomas Edison State University provides flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults.

### **San Joaquin Valley College**

This undertaking by the University and The San Joaquin Valley College is intended to provide San Joaquin Valley College students a pathway to degree programs at Thomas Edison State University. It is in this spirit that the University and San Joaquin Valley College agree to this undertaking, as set forth below.

### **Academic Programs**

All of the University's academic programs and credit-earning options are open to students of San Joaquin Valley College. Degree candidates must complete the specific degree requirements and adhere to the University's academic policies in effect at the time of their enrollment.

The University will accept, toward a baccalaureate degree, a maximum of 80 credits in transfer from two-year junior/community College and an unlimited number of credits (up to the 120 credits normally required for a baccalaureate degree) from other regionally accredited colleges and universities. University courses taken as remediation or to develop basic skills will not be accepted toward degree requirements.

### **Undergraduate Enrollment**

Students of San Joaquin Valley College will start their undergraduate education at the University by completing an application for admission and paying an application fee. The University will provide a

complete review of all academic credentials presented to the University upon receipt of a proper and complete application form and application fee.

The evaluation is the basis for the student's program plan and advisement services. Students enrolled at the University will engage in a formal process of program planning designed to guide the student in selecting from among the credit-award options available for degree completion. Upon enrollment, students will be supported in the program through the University's academic advisement process.

The University will evaluate each degree candidate for advanced standing relative to the completion and assessment of degree requirements as set at the time of enrollment. Credit will be awarded for the courses as established for the respective programs that have been completed prior to enrollment in the University in accordance with the University's transfer policy at the time of enrollment.

Undergraduate enrollment in the University is defined as paying the Corporate Choice Comprehensive Tuition or registering for a Thomas Edison State University course or examination and paying the Corporate Choice per Credit Tuition.

Students who select the Per Credit Tuition Plan with the intention of earning an associate or bachelor's degree from Thomas Edison State University must complete 16 credits of residency via the University's Online (OL), Guided Study (GS) or e-Pack® (EP) courses or Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). This requirement may be waived by paying a Residency Waiver fee.

Students enrolled in Thomas Edison State University degree programs through the Corporate Choice® Program maintain the enrolled student status by demonstrating academic activity by attempting a minimum of 3 semester hour credits over the course of the 12 month period for which they are enrolled. In order to apply for graduation, students must be within their enrollment year.

#### **Graduate Enrollment**

Students of San Joaquin Valley College will start their graduate education at the University by completing an application for admission and paying an application fee. Students enrolled at the University will engage in a formal process of program planning designed to guide the student in selecting from among the credit-award options available for degree completion. Upon enrollment, students will be supported in the program through the University's academic advisement process. Graduate enrollment in the University is defined as annually paying the Graduate Tuition and Fees.

Students enrolled in Thomas Edison State University degree programs through the Corporate Choice® Program maintain the enrolled student status by demonstrating academic activity by attempting a minimum of 3 semester hour credits over the course of the 12 month period for which they are enrolled. In order to apply for graduation, students must be within their enrollment year.

San Joaquin Valley College will notify the University directly of any changes made involving any students enrolled with the University and the University will notify San Joaquin Valley College directly if any changes are made to relevant degree programs.

**Publications and Marketing**

The University and San Joaquin Valley College will jointly promote this undertaking to students of San Joaquin Valley College. All materials mentioning this undertaking must be approved in writing by both the University and San Joaquin Valley College, prior to their publication and distribution. This includes such publications as any and all newsletters, press releases, electronic posting(s) or other publications mentioning this undertaking.

**Liaisons and Communication**

San Joaquin Valley College will identify a contact person within their organization who will serve as a liaison with the University regarding this undertaking. The liaison will be able to answer basic questions about the University for students from San Joaquin Valley College, and provide such students information about the University.

The University will identify a contact person within the University who will serve as the liaison with San Joaquin Valley College for this undertaking.

The liaisons at the University and San Joaquin Valley College shall maintain a minimum of quarterly contacts to discuss the program and the administration of this undertaking.

San Joaquin Valley College understands that some degree programs may require courses that are not offered by the University. If a student takes course(s) at another institution, the student will be responsible for any and all costs incurred at that institution. Such courses are subject to the transfer policies in place at the time of the student's enrollment.

The parties shall undertake to resolve in good faith any concerns or questions which may arise concerning the terms and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Whenever any notice is to be given hereunder, it shall be in writing and shall be deemed received (if delivered by courier on business day) on the day delivered, or the second business day following mailing, if sent by first-class certified or registered mail or postage prepaid.

**Any formal communication should be directed to:**

**Thomas Edison State University  
111 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176**

**Janet Eickhoff**

**Associate Vice President, Strategic Partnerships & Outreach**

**San Joaquin Valley College  
4985 E. Andersen  
Fresno, CA 93727**

**Sue Smilie Montgomery**

**Director of Research & Development**

**Tuition and Fees**

We continue to invest in meeting the highest standards for our academic programs and student services while keeping tuition increases lower than many other state institutions.

Tuition and fees related to application, enrollment, and services are to be paid directly, by the students to the University. The tuition and fee schedules go into effect July 1 of each year. The tuition and fee schedules are posted on the University's Web site. While tuition and fees are generally established annually, they are subject to change without prior notice.

Students of San Joaquin Valley College will pay the University's Corporate Choice Comprehensive Tuition Plan or Per Credit Tuition Plan for undergraduate courses. A separate tuition schedule applies to graduate and nursing programs.

**Program Assessment**

The effectiveness of this agreement will be assessed on an annual basis. A process and the criteria for this assessment will be mutually determined by Thomas Edison State University and San Joaquin Valley College. This report will be completed in collaboration by both organizations.

**Duration of the Agreement**

This Memorandum of Understanding is in effect for a three-year period beginning on the date of its execution by the duly authorized parties.

**Laws of Governance**

The laws of the State of New Jersey shall govern this Memorandum of Understanding. It is agreed and understood that any contracts and/or orders placed as a result of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be governed and construed and the rights and obligations of the parties hereto shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, regardless of conflict of laws principles, and venue shall reside in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Mercer County, New Jersey. In addition, the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act governs the confidentiality of education records, requiring a student's written permission for release of such records, with limited exceptions.

**Changes, Amendments or Termination**

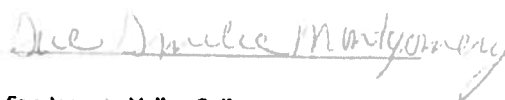
This Memorandum of Understanding represents the entire understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter. No changes, modifications, extensions, terminations or waiver of this Memorandum of Understanding, or any of the provisions herein contained, shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties hereto.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by San Joaquin Valley College or the University upon the giving of ninety (90) days prior written notice to the other if either party determines, in its discretion, that the project is no longer academically, technically, or commercially feasible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF duly authorized representatives of the Parties have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding as of the date written below.



Thomas Edison State University  
Mary Ellen Caro, Ed.D.  
Vice President



San Joaquin Valley College  
Sue Smilie Montgomery  
Director of Research & Development

Date: 12-8-16

Date: 11-9-2016

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