The purpose of the Ram Ready Social Work and Sociology Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to facilitate the cooperation between Angelo State University, a member of the Texas Tech University System, hereinafter referred to as “ASU” and San Antonio College, a member of the Alamo Community College District, hereinafter referred to as “SAC” in the provision of instruction of academic courses and a joint admissions program.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Strategic Plan Goals addressed in this MOU are:

Goal 1 – 60% of Texans ages 25-34 by 2030 will have a certificate or degree;
Goal 2 – At least 550,000 students in 2030 will complete a certificate, associates, bachelor’s or master’s from an institution of higher education in Texas;
Goal 3 – All graduates from Texas public institutions of higher education will have completed programs with identified marketable skills; and
Goal 4 – Undergraduate student loan debt will not exceed 60% of first-year wages for graduates of Texas public institutions.

A Ram Ready Social Work or Sociology student is a student attending SAC with plans of transferring to Angelo State University upon earning an associate’s degree in order to complete a bachelor’s degree in Social Work or a bachelor’s degree in Sociology. The Ram Ready Social Work and Sociology programs are designed to assist SAC students meet their educational goals by maximizing transfer credits while simultaneously minimizing the cost and time required to attain both the associate and the baccalaureate degrees.

Whereas ASU is dedicated to service the educational needs of the citizens of the state of Texas as a part of its mission statement, and

Whereas SAC is dedicated to fulfilling its mandate to serve the educational needs of the citizens of its service area, and

Whereas ASU and SAC are supportive of cooperative attempts to meet these educational needs, and

Whereas ASU and SAC enter into this agreement in order to offer cooperatively a greater range of educational opportunities to the citizens of the state of Texas.

Therefore and in consideration of the foregoing and in further consideration of the mutual benefits, the Parties hereto agree as follows:
Admission and Course Transferability
SAC students graduating with an Associate of Arts with a 2.0 or higher will be admitted to Angelo State University and into the Bachelor of Social Work or Bachelor of Science in Sociology academic program. Specifically, SAC Social Work or SAC Sociology students earning 12 college bearing hours with at least a 2.0 will be admitted into the Ram Ready Social Work or Sociology program. A student transferring to the Social Work or Sociology program at ASU under this MOU shall have full acceptance of academic credits earned at SAC. Students should reference the Alamo University Compact for the Transfer Advising Guides (TAGs) for information on how courses will transfer for their respective academic program. Additionally, SAC students in the Ram Ready Program will follow the ASU Catalog from their first semester of enrollment but not to exceed ten (10) long semesters. Up to 6 hours of vocational-level Social Work courses (SCWK) will transfer as free electives.

The ASU department chair of social work and sociology determines how these credits may apply to the degree plan to ensure all requirements for graduation from ASU are met for the student’s program of study. ASU will maintain transfer course equivalency tables on the admissions website. ASU and SAC administration and faculty will meet at minimum once a year to discuss course equivalency and program/curriculum changes.

Cooperative Academic Advising:
ASU will provide academic advising services to students in the Ram Ready Social Work and Sociology program and to SAC students interested in transferring to ASU throughout their enrollment at SAC. Advising may also take place through electronic methods. ASU will develop and maintain transfer guides for SAC faculty, staff, and students to use.

Classroom Presentations:
SAC will allow ASU the opportunity to visit social work and sociology classrooms once per semester to notify students of the Ram Ready Social Work and Sociology program and of the ASU social work and sociology program relative transfer processes. The ASU Office of Admissions/Admissions Counselor and social work department chair will work with the social work instructors in determining timing and location of each of these presentations.

Reverse Transfer
Reverse transfer is the process of awarding an associate’s degree to students who begin their education at one institution, transfer to another institution, and complete their associate’s degree requirements while working toward a bachelor’s degree. ASU and SAC will develop a reverse transfer process to provide students with the opportunity to complete the associate’s degree while working on their ASU bachelor’s degree. Student records will be exchanged between ASU and SAC for this purpose, strictly adhering to all privacy regulations and ensuring compliance with House Bill 3025.
Scholarships
Once a SAC student transfers and is degree-seeking at ASU, that student can qualify for ASU scholarships according to the university’s transfer scholarship qualifications. Students can also apply for general scholarships according to the published priority deadlines. Scholarship criteria is subject to change on an annual basis.

Transfer Student Recruitment Information
On an annual basis, SAC will provide ASU admissions with a list of students who have completed 45 or more earned hours. This list should include directory information allowable by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to ASU to use in marketing ASU programs.

Termination
If any term or provision of this agreement is held to be invalid for any reason, the invalidity of that section shall not affect the validity of any other section of this agreement provided that any invalid provision is not material to the overall purpose and operations of this agreement. The remaining provisions of this agreement shall continue in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated.

Notices:
This agreement may be amended in writing to include any provisions that are agreed to by the contracting parties.

Notice to ASU shall be mailed to:
Cecilia Hernandez
Assistant Director of Admissions
Transfer & Military Affiliated Programs
Angelo State University
ASU Station #11014
San Angelo, Texas 76909-1014

Notice shall be mailed to:
Dr. Denetria Brooks-James
Social Work Program Coordinator
Alamo Community Colleges District
1819 N. Main Avenue
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Venue
This agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Venue will be in accordance with the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code and any amendments thereto.

Assignment
Neither party shall have the right to assign or transfer its rights to any third parties under this agreement without the prior written consent of the other party.
Independent Contractor Status
Nothing in this agreement is intended nor shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship between contracting parties. The sole interest and responsibility of the parties is to ensure that the services covered by this agreement shall be performed and rendered in a competent, efficient, and satisfactory manner.

Original Term, Renewal, and Termination
The agreement will take effect with the signatures affixed below and will remain in effect for one year. Thereafter, this agreement shall automatically renew on an annual basis for up to four years. Either party may terminate this agreement at any time, with or without cause, by giving the other party ninety (90) days written notice of its intent to terminate the agreement.

Angelo State University

Ronnie D. Hawkins, Jr., Lt Gen (ret), USAF
President
Angelo State University

Mrs. Jamie Mayer
Vice President for External Affairs
Angelo State University

San Antonio College

Dr. Naydeen González-De Jesús
President
San Antonio College

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10/18/2023

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