

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



JEANINE BLOMBERG
Commissioner of Education



Memorandum Number 07-07

May 9, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community College Presidents

FROM: J. David Armstrong, Jr.

SUBJECT: Keiser University Signed Articulation Agreement

As you know, the Articulation Agreement between the Florida Division of Community Colleges and Keiser University was signed and went into effect on February 28, 2007. This Agreement provides exceptional opportunities for Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), and Associate in Applied Science (AAS) graduates from Florida's community colleges to complete the baccalaureate degree. It also serves as a testament to collaboration between the public and independent sectors, and supports the Department of Education's Goal #2 of seamless articulation and maximum access, and Strategic Imperative #5, "Increase the Quantity and Improve the Quality of Education Options."

This Articulation Agreement provides some basic guarantees to our associate degree graduates, including the transfer of credits to be applied toward the awarding of the baccalaureate degree and completion of the general education requirements.

A copy of the agreement is attached to assist academic advisors at your respective institutions in preparing students for transfer under this agreement. Additionally, this information will be included in the next update of the Counseling for Future Education Handbook posted at www.facts.org.

J. DAVID ARMSTRONG, JR.
Chancellor, Division of Community Colleges

Memorandum Number 07-07
Page Two
May 9, 2007

You are welcome to contact the following Division staff with additional questions you may have related to the Articulation Agreement:

Dr. Sara Hamon
Director of Articulation and Educational Services
sara.hamon@fldoe.org
(850) 245-9523

Dr. Brenda C. Spencer
Assistant Director of Articulation and Educational Services
brenda.spencer@fldoe.org
(850) 245-9903

We appreciate your important role in this process, and we look forward to a successful partnership with Keiser University.

JDA/shc

Attachment

- c: Council on Instructional Affairs
- Council of Student Affairs
- Community College Articulation Officers
- Dr. Judith Bilsky, Executive Vice Chancellor
- Dr. Sara Hamon, Director of Articulation and Educational Services
- Dr. Brenda C. Spencer, Assistant Director of Articulation and Educational Services
- Dr. Art Keiser, Chancellor, Keiser University

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
AND
KEISER UNIVERSITY

A Statement of Philosophy and Intent

The State of Florida, a national leader in higher education, has given broad policy direction to the system of postsecondary education with regard to transfer and articulation between and among two- and four-year institutions. A statewide articulation agreement exists in Florida Statutes and Florida Administrative Code to establish an effective and orderly transfer process for students entering a state community college, completing an Associate in Arts degree, and transferring to a state university. Florida Statutes also encourage collaboration between the public and independent sectors of postsecondary education.

Keiser University is an independent proprietary institution, established in 1977 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Since that time, Keiser University has expanded to include 13 campuses located throughout Florida, serving more than 9,500 students in associate, baccalaureate, and master's degree programs. Keiser University is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is licensed by the State of Florida.

The purpose of this agreement is to set forth the uniform conditions regarding articulation between the Florida Community College System (FCCS) and Keiser University. It is intended to increase the transfer options available to community college associate degree graduates seeking the baccalaureate degree. This agreement serves as an overarching statement of cooperation between the FCCS and Keiser University, thus benefiting FCCS graduates in the specified degree programs. However, it is not intended to supersede more specific college and program articulation agreements as developed in geographic areas served by campuses of Keiser University. This articulation agreement between the FCCS and Keiser University was established in 2007.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
AND
KEISER UNIVERSITY

This Articulation Agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____ 2007, by and between the Florida Division of Community Colleges and Keiser University.

WHEREAS, the parties desire to promote the most efficient and effective use of their resources and to offer students the broadest possible range of educational opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to encourage and facilitate the establishment of specific articulation provisions between Florida's public community colleges and Keiser University, and

WHEREAS, the intent of this agreement is to facilitate the transfer of associate degree students from Florida's public community colleges to Keiser University,

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree to cooperate in articulating programs in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

- I. Keiser University shall recognize the Associate in Arts degree as the "2+2" transfer degree from the Florida Community College System. However, other associate degrees shall be recognized and transfer on a course-by-course basis as further clarified in this document.
- II. Keiser University shall publish an Articulation Manual that specifies the programs articulated with the associate degree, including the course requirements and related prerequisite courses for each program. This Articulation Manual will be made available to students, faculty, and advisors through the FACTS.org website and updated on an annual basis.
- III. Keiser University shall develop course equivalency tables, specifically for program prerequisites and course requirements, insofar as it is reasonable and necessary to do so. Courses that are designated as equivalent in objectives, content, and credit hours must be treated as equivalent for all community colleges.
- IV. Keiser University shall annually provide data to the Division of Community Colleges on the number of FCCS graduates by academic term who enroll under the provisions of this agreement and graduate with the baccalaureate degree.
- V. Keiser University and the Division of Community Colleges shall agree to the following conditions:

Associate in Arts Degree Articulation

A. Community college students who transfer with the Associate in Arts degree under the terms of this Agreement shall enter with junior standing and all credit awarded by a community college will transfer to Keiser University, which includes a minimum of 60 credits. However, the student must meet the specific degree course requirements of Keiser University, which may mean extending the number of credit hours to earn the degree, if the 60 hours transferred and applied do not include all of the degree prerequisites or graduation requirements.

B. Community college students who transfer with the Associate in Arts degree under the terms of this Agreement shall be considered as having completed the general education requirements of Keiser University. However, Keiser University may specify additional courses that must be completed prior to the awarding of the baccalaureate degree. These courses may be completed at either institution.

Associate in Science Degree Articulation

C. Appropriate courses within the Associate in Science degree will articulate to baccalaureate degree programs. Courses taken as part of the Associate in Science degree to meet the general education requirements of the community college will transfer and apply toward the Keiser University general education credit hours required for the baccalaureate degree. No additional general education credit hours can be required except to complete the total general education hours required by Keiser University.

Associate in Applied Science Degree Articulation

D. Appropriate courses within the Associate in Applied Science degree will articulate to baccalaureate degree programs.

General Articulation Provisions

E. Transfer students shall meet the same standards and program requirements as native students. This includes admissions requirements (i.e., standard high school diploma, high school equivalency diploma, or other credential as authorized by Florida Statutes), college placement testing, and prior successful completion of all college preparatory coursework as mandated by state approved assessments and standards. Failure to demonstrate adherence to agreed-upon standards of individual student college readiness may abrogate guarantees for transfer of credit for specific students or termination of this agreement.

F. A community college student transferring under the terms of this Agreement shall be governed by the graduation requirements set forth in the Keiser University catalog in effect at the time of the student's initial enrollment in a community college, provided the student maintains continuous enrollment as defined by Keiser University and receives an associate degree and transfers to Keiser University within six years of initial enrollment in a community college. Continuous enrollment as defined by Keiser University means enrolled every term. The student also will have the option of graduating under the catalog in effect at the time of transfer.

G. Admission of a community college student to Keiser University will depend on the number of spaces in each academic year or an academic program and the continuation of the program. Program discontinuance will remove any obligation (beyond those protections afforded to native students) of Keiser University to comply with the provisions of the Articulation Agreement relative to the discontinued program.

H. For those students who have earned the associate degree and who have been accepted for transfer, the grade of “D” will be treated the same as grades of “D” obtained by native students at Keiser University. Keiser University may require a grade point average (GPA) of not less than 2.0 overall or a grade of “C” or better in all prerequisite courses, provided the same policy is applied equitably for native and transfer students.

I. Credit awarded by a community college as experiential credit and/or credit awarded by exam, such as College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program, and Advanced Placement (AP), while acceptable to satisfy associate degree requirements, may or may not satisfy specific requirements of the baccalaureate degree.

J. Programmatically, the forgiveness policy for Keiser University shall prevail.

K. Authority over all academic policies or practices not mentioned in this agreement shall remain with Keiser University.

VI. During the period of this Agreement, the Division of Community Colleges shall:

A. Publicize the Articulation Agreement among the faculty, staff, and students in the Community College System via the FACTS.org website maintained by the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support as well as other Department of Education and Division of Community Colleges publications, correspondence, and outreach activities.

B. Make available to community college faculty members, counselors, students, and other appropriate individuals within the Florida Community College System, the Keiser University admission requirements; preferred general education requirements; program prerequisite courses, other related requirements, and the course equivalency lists. This will be done via the FACTS.org website maintained by the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support.

VII. Both parties agree:

A. To cooperate on curricular and advising issues that will facilitate future student transfer.

B. To encourage the development of scholarships and other financial aid opportunities for community college transfer students who are directly affected by this Agreement.

C. To foster communication between Keiser University, the Division, and Florida’s Community College System. The following individuals will serve as liaison officers for matters relating to this agreement:

<p>Florida Division of Community Colleges:</p> <p>Dr. Sara Hamon Director, Articulation & Educational Services (850) 245-9523 or sara.hamon@fldoe.org</p> <p>Dr. Judith Bilsky Executive Vice Chancellor (850) 245-9452 or judith.bilsky@fldoe.org</p>	<p>Keiser University:</p> <p>Dr. Gery Hochanadel Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs (954) 776-4476 or geryh@keiseruniversity.edu</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Both parties agree to notify the other of any changes in contact information for their respective liaison officers.

D. To provide for periodic review of the Agreement to strengthen articulation between the Florida Community College System and Keiser University. A review should be initiated by the Division at the end of the first year following initial implementation of the Agreement and every three years thereafter.

VIII. Applicable Law. This Agreement will be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida and the rules of the State Board of Education.

IX. Modifications. Any modifications, additions, or deletions to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties. The designated representatives are the Chancellor of Keiser University and the Chancellor for Florida Community Colleges.

X. Termination of the Articulation Agreement. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other party. The notice shall state the effective date of termination which shall be at least one year after the date on which the notice is received by the other party. Any student enrolled in a community college during the time this Agreement is in effect shall continue to receive the benefits of the Agreement until the effective date, one year after notification, provided all conditions contained herein are met by the student.

This Articulation Agreement between Keiser University and the Division of Community Colleges was accepted and approved by the participating entities this _____ day of _____, 2007.

By: * _____
Chancellor, Keiser University

By: * _____
Chancellor, Florida Community Colleges

THIS AGREEMENT shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in effect until terminated by either party.

* A signed copy is available from the Division of Community Colleges upon request.