



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Cooperative Program Agreement between UISD and UT Austin Office of Strategy and Policy
OnRamps Program

SUBMITTED BY: Mario Rosales, Director of Advanced Academics

OF: Curriculum & Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: June 21, 2017

INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

The University of Texas at Austin, on behalf of the Office of Strategy and Policy, and the United Independent School District enter into this agreement to implement OnRamps, a cooperative program of dual-enrollment courses and high school teacher training and professional learning. The program allows high school students to earn high school credit from their District and the opportunity to earn college credits from The University of Texas at Austin ("Project").

A comprehensive summary describing the OnRamps program, its goals, objectives and elements is contained in Exhibit A to the Agreement.

The District annual professional learning fees for each participating teacher for the 2017-2018 academic year will be reimbursed in line with the 84th legislature appropriation (HB 1, Article III, 59).

The 85th legislature may provide a state appropriation that reimburses all partnering districts 100% of the cost per student. (\$295 per student per course or a subsidized \$75 per student per course for a student who receives free and/or reduced lunch).

2017-2018

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM AGREEMENT

This Cooperative Program Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the Contracting Parties shown below.

1. Contracting Parties:

The School District:

United Independent School District
201 Lindenwood Drive
Laredo, TX 78045

The University:

The University of Texas at Austin ("University" or "UT Austin") on behalf of the Office of Strategy and Policy
OnRamps Program ("OnRamps")
405 W. 25th Street #405
Austin, TX 78705
Attention: Jennifer Saenz
512-475-7877

2. Nature of the Cooperative Program

The University of Texas at Austin, on behalf of the Office of Strategy and Policy, and the Independent School District enter into this agreement to implement OnRamps, a cooperative program of dual-enrollment courses and high school teacher training and professional learning. The program allows high school students to earn high school credit from their District and the opportunity to earn college credits from The University of Texas at Austin ("Project"). A comprehensive summary describing the OnRamps program, its goals, objectives and elements is contained in Exhibit A to this Agreement.

3. Agreement Amount

The amount paid by the District during each contract year to the University will be equal to the costs per student and teacher training needed by the District as set forth in Section 4.2F. The 85th legislature may provide a state appropriation that reimburses all partnering districts 100% of the cost per student and teacher training fees for participating in OnRamps. If the state appropriation is not renewed the District agrees to make its payments upon receipt of a proper invoice. The funds paid or collected from the students or the District to the Office of Strategy and Policy will cover all costs of the Project services and materials. Payment shall be due and payable, in full, to the University within thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of such invoice. All checks should be made payable to The University of Texas at Austin. Payments should be mailed and/or delivered to:

The University of Texas at Austin, Office of Strategy and Policy

405 W. 25th Street #405
Austin, Texas 78705

Regardless of whether the Legislature appropriates funds for OnRamps, Districts must pay the costs of lodging, transportation, and substitute costs during professional development activities.

4. Program Responsibilities

Responsibilities to implement the OnRamps initiative will be shared between the District and UT Austin.

4.1. Responsibilities of UT Austin

UT Austin will:

- A. Develop and define college-level course materials and curriculum that provide
 - 1) Yearlong, in-depth college readiness experiences for all students, regardless if they earn credit from the University;
 - 2) Clear and transparent expectations for postsecondary success in Texas;
 - 3) An authentic entry point to university-level learning experiences that expose students to postsecondary versus high school performance expectations; and
 - 4) Opportunity for students to take responsibility for their own learning.
 - 5) Ensure each course prominently features the four pillars of OnRamps: College Content, Innovative Pedagogy, Technology Enhanced Education, and Teacher Excellence (Exhibit A Section 4).
- B. Provide access to the Canvas Learning Management System ("LMS") for every OnRamps student and teacher.
- C. Maintain servers operated by or hosted on UT Austin's web-based Canvas LMS.
- D. Provide technology support. UT Austin will make its curriculum available to participating teachers through Canvas LMS. UT Austin will provide online and phone-based technical support for OnRamps teachers utilizing the curriculum when that support is not provided through Canvas LMS.
- E. Register high school students for OnRamps courses through University Extension at UT Austin using the OnRamps registration system (OSIS). In order to officially enroll in OnRamps dual-enrollment courses, students must acquire an official, permanent UT EID via the university web site. Once a UT EID has been acquired, students must complete the required registration and enrollment form that will be available during the registration process for high school courses. This process will occur no later than the beginning of the fall semester in which the course is offered.
- F. As part of routine educational procedures at the University, OnRamps will maintain OnRamps student educational records, including registration, enrollment, orientation and course and course evaluation data for purposes of administering, implementing, and improving the program, and providing official

reporting to the University and the District.

- G. Deliver instructional materials. All course-related materials will be available from the course website, the Canvas LMS, and/or the UT Austin OnRamps course staff unless otherwise specified.
- H. Administer the OnRamps program. Students enroll in a semester or year-long course taught by their high school teacher for high school credit. Throughout the semester/year, the high school teacher uses OnRamps curriculum, pedagogy, and online learning tools developed by UT Austin to teach the high school course. During the course, at designated periods, students may be eligible to enroll in an undergraduate course for college credit.
 - 1) Ramp up period: A student must complete a series of required assignments and summative assessments that are designed, designated, and evaluated by the UT Austin OnRamps course staff and UT Instructor of Record. A student must earn a passing grade determined by the Instructor of Record on the required assignments to be eligible to be dual enrolled in the UT undergraduate course. A student who does not meet this eligibility requirement may appeal in writing to the OnRamps program if the student already meets Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements for that course, to be eligible for dual enrollment or based on criteria determined by the UT Austin Instructor of Record. Other appeal processes are determined by individual Instructors of Record.
 - 2) UT undergraduate course: A student must complete a series of additional required assignments that are designed, designated, and evaluated by the UT Austin OnRamps course staff and UT Instructor of Record to determine successful completion of the college course. The Instructor of Record will award the student the appropriate grade based on the student's performance. (Grades for the high school and college courses may differ, as the assignments that determine each grade may differ.)
- I. Award UT Austin credit. All OnRamps courses can be applied to the Texas Core Curriculum courses at UT Austin or have a Texas Common Course Number to aide in transfer. See Exhibit A Section 3 for specifics. With the exception of Rhetoric 309K, all OnRamps courses count as a part of the Texas Core Curriculum at UT Austin and are guaranteed to transfer to any state public higher education institution in Texas. Rhetoric 309K has been designated by UT Austin with a TCCN equivalency of 1302, which applies toward the core curriculum at most public institutions in Texas, including UT Austin. A student who is eligible for, and successfully completes, the undergraduate course will have her/his course grade recorded in the Office of the Registrar at UT Austin. A student may request an official copy of her/his transcript from the Registrar at the end of the Spring term for a fee determined by the registrar (\$20.00 as of Dec 2016). Students may not request electronic transcripts. Each student is advised to check with her/his planned collegiate program, even if she/he plans to attend UT Austin, before registering for an OnRamps course, to determine exact course applicability.
- J. Support documentation of course credit. OnRamps will direct students as needed to the process of securing documentation of their participation in OnRamps,

including transcripts and non-enrollment letters if they do not enroll in the spring undergraduate course.

- K. Deliver professional learning to participating District teachers assigned to teach the OnRamps course in the District.
- 1) A summer professional learning institute for participating District teachers will be held at UT Austin. Each course offered through the OnRamps Program will have an associated summer professional learning institute. The participating District teacher assigned to the course must complete the summer professional learning institute at least once, in its entirety, before teaching their first OnRamps course through the District. If the teacher continues to offer the course in subsequent years, she/he will be **required** to attend the returning teacher track at the institute. UT Austin will be responsible for the following at the summer institute:
 - i) Scheduling the necessary facilities to conduct the institute;
 - ii) Facilitating lodging, parking, and food for the participants;
 - iii) Conducting the summer institute; and
 - iv) Crediting participating District teachers with professional development hours.
 - 2) Academic year professional development workshops: One-day professional development workshops for participating, both new and returning, District teachers will be held at UT Austin during the fall and spring semesters. District teachers will be **required** to attend the one-day workshop during each semester in which the teacher delivers an OnRamps course, regardless of whether the course will be offered in the subsequent year.
- L. Provide a Course Coordinator. UT Austin will hire and assign a qualified course coordinator for each course. Approved by the Sponsoring UT Department (e.g. Computer Science, Mathematics, etc), the coordinator will serve as an instructional coach and content expert.

The Course Coordinator will:

- 1) Conduct or Co-conduct the summer professional learning workshops;
 - 2) Assist the District in implementing the course by providing the necessary training before and during implementation;
 - 3) Provide on-going, one-on-one feedback and guidance to support quality implementation; and
 - 4) Deliver and maintain the course for students in the District, including electronic distribution of lectures, homework assignments, quizzes, projects and exams to participating teachers and provision of ongoing support in implementing the curriculum.
- M. Provide feedback regarding course implementation to teachers, school, and District administration. To ensure OnRamps is implemented and facilitated with quality and fidelity, OnRamps staff will provide updates at the end of the fall and spring semesters and, as needed, throughout the year regarding the status of OnRamps implementation, based on communication with the OnRamps high school instructor and classroom observations.

- 1) OnRamps staff will alert school and district administration of any serious concerns regarding the District or school implementation of the course pertaining to quality and fidelity of implementation. If, after three opportunities, the school or District implementation of OnRamps is deemed unsatisfactory, UT Austin reserves the right to deny the opportunity to offer the OnRamps course in the future.
 - 2) OnRamps staff will alert school and District administration of any concerns regarding the high school instructor's ongoing ability or willingness to implement the course with quality and fidelity.
 - 3) A UT Austin OnRamps high school instructor deemed by UT Austin to be unsatisfactorily implementing the course will be given three opportunities to bring implementation of the course into alignment with expectations set out by the University through coaching and support of the Course Coordinator, through OnRamps professional development, and ongoing communication. If, however, the high school instructor's implementation of OnRamps continues to be unsatisfactory or no improvement is observed, OnRamps will notify the District, the District will use its best efforts to identify an alternate instructor, and the District will work with UT Austin to continue the course through an alternate instructor. OnRamps reserves the right to deny any teacher the opportunity to offer the course in the future.
- O. Appoint OnRamps Instructors as UT Austin Affiliates. As a Texas OnRamps Affiliate, OnRamps Instructors receive ID cards, university e-mail addresses, library access, Wi-Fi-access on campus, the opportunity to purchase gym passes, and other benefits. While appointed by the University, OnRamps Instructors receive the designation "treat like an employee."

4.2. Responsibilities of the District

The District will:

- A. Implement one or more OnRamps courses.

The District must:

- 1) Complete the Implementation Plan in Appendix B to provide detailed information to ensure effective implementation.
- 2) Follow OnRamps recommendations for effective implementation:
 - i. OnRamps courses do not replace AP curriculum or prepare students for AP exams. Unless otherwise stated, OnRamps courses and AP courses should be taught as separate sections with separate instructors. In the case of RHE 306 and RHE 309, see subsection A.2.iii.1.
 - ii. Based on the rigor of the course for students and the substantial training required for teacher participation, OnRamps strongly requests a weighting of 1.0 for the high school version of the course. Not weighting OnRamps courses the same as AP courses may be detrimental to students' college application processes.

- iii. In the case of Reading and Writing the Rhetoric of American Identity: The Department of Rhetoric and Writing specifically:
 - (1) Prohibits the OnRamps course from being offered as an AP English course.
 - (2) Requires a cap of 25 students per section with a limit of two (2) sections per teacher or 60 students in (3) or more sections. In rare circumstances, OnRamps will consider an application or appeal of this requirement, which should be made in writing to the Assistant Director of Strategic Partnerships.
- B. Recruit, hire, and compensate an instructor with appropriate qualifications to teach the OnRamps class.
- 1) **Minimum requirements for new teachers include:**
 - i) **Bachelor's degree in the discipline or a related field;**
 - ii) **One (1) or more years of teaching experience** in the relevant course or a higher-level course (e.g. calculus for pre-calculus);
 - iii) **Completed teacher application;**
 - iv) **Successful completion of required tasks before the start of the summer institute.** Tasks will be determined and shared by the faculty lead or course coordinator in advance of the summer institute. Teachers who have been approved on a conditional basis may be required to complete additional tasks. Any teacher who does not complete the required pre-institute tasks may not be eligible to attend the institute. If District teachers do not complete pre-institute tasks before the start of the required summer institute, the decision to admit or deny such admission and any accompanying conditions will be determined by the UT Austin faculty lead in his or her sole discretion; and
 - v) **Successful completion of the summer professional learning institute.** New OnRamps instructors are required to participate in the entire summer institute and complete all assigned work. In the event of an emergency, of which OnRamps staff and the teacher's principal are notified, a teacher may make arrangements to make up as much as 20% of the institute and still be eligible to offer the OnRamps course. Instructors who miss more than 20% of the institute, regardless of their reason, will be on probationary status and their approval to serve as an OnRamps Instructor will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. See Section D (4) below for additional information. Returning OnRamps instructors are expected to participate in all of the required summer institute dates.
 - 2) **Minimum requirements for returning teachers include:**
 - i) **Successful implementation of OnRamps course during the previous academic year according to the requirements specified under subsection D below;**

- ii) Completion of required tasks before the start of the summer institute; and
 - iii) Attendance at and completion of all required professional development sessions and assignments.
- C. Ensure OnRamps high school instructors and students have the necessary resources to implement the program with fidelity, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1) Access to the OnRamps Student Information System (OSIS) and Canvas LMS. Participating schools will work with the OnRamps support team to ensure that the schools and students can fully access the OnRamps curriculum that is managed in the web-based OSIS and Canvas LMS;
 - 2) Access to computer and Internet, as specified by UT Austin, to the students. (See Exhibit C for detailed technology requirements.) The District must ensure that students in the OnRamps course have daily, scheduled access to lectures and computers that meet the specifications defined by OnRamps. This includes regular in-class and out-of-class, one-to-one (1:1) access to computers and the Internet to view materials and complete and submit assignments, quizzes, tests and exams;
 - 3) Calculators;
 - 4) Audio/Visual projection and/or whiteboard; and
 - 5) Copy/scanning services to duplicate some course materials and distribute to students throughout the OnRamps course and upload assignments.
 - 6) For Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience only, please see Exhibit D for required laboratory equipment.
- D. Ensure that OnRamps high school instructors implement the program with fidelity including the following:
 - 1) Administer pre-identified OnRamps-required assignments and assessments without alteration;
 - 2) Have students register for UT EID and enroll in OnRamps via the OSIS registration system; **No** student may enroll in an OnRamps course six weeks after the start of the school year.
 - 3) Use Canvas LMS to assign and grade student work as specified by OnRamps course staff;
 - 4) Participate in professional learning, including the summer institute, one-day workshops, monthly video conference calls, and on-going opportunities during each semester in which they deliver the OnRamps course. To facilitate teacher participation in the one-day workshops, the District agrees to pay the cost of substitute teachers for the days the teacher will be in attendance at the workshops; and
 - 5) Maintain regular communication via email, phone, video web conferencing, etc. with OnRamps course coordinator and other staff regarding success and challenges of implementation, responding in a timely manner to requests for information, including and especially turning

in any requested documentation to evaluate student progress or success by specified deadlines.

- E. Ensure students enrolled in an OnRamps program meet the following minimum academic requirements:
- 1) Only students with adequate academic preparation, having completed the necessary prerequisite coursework, will be allowed to enroll in an OnRamps course. The District will be responsible for verifying that students wishing to enroll have met the minimum prerequisites as follows:
 - i) Project Engage: Thriving in Our Digital World:
 - credit for Algebra I (Credit or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II is preferred); and
 - recommendation of a Computer Science teacher
 - ii) Research and Writing and Rhetoric of American Identity:
 - credit for English I;
 - credit for English II; and
 - recommendation of an English teacher
 - iii) Discovery PreCalculus: A Creative and Connected Approach:
 - credit for Algebra I;
 - credit for Algebra II;
 - credit for Geometry; and
 - recommendation of a Math teacher.
 - iv) Statistics:
 - credit for Algebra I (credit for Algebra II and Geometry are preferred); and
 - recommendation of a Math teacher.
 - v) Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience:
 - credit for Biology and Chemistry, or IPC and Chemistry; and
 - recommendation of a Science teacher.
 - vi) Physics: Mechanics, Heat, and Sound
 - credit for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra 2
 - Trigonometry or PreCalculus (recommended)
 - Recommendation of a Science teacher.
 - vii) Electromagnetism, Optics and Nuclear Physics
 - TEKS based Physics course
 - Algebra II, Geometry
 - Recommendation of an Science teacher

- vii) United States History
 - English II (can be concurrently enrolled)
 - Recommendation of an English teacher.

- 2) Only students who have demonstrated their ability to do college-level work may attempt the undergraduate course. Eligibility for the undergraduate course is determined by successful completion of a series of required assignments are designated and evaluated by the UT Austin Instructor of Record and course staff. A student must earn a passing grade, determined by the Instructor of Record, on the required assignments during the fall semester to be eligible for the opportunity to be dual enrolled in a UT Austin course. A student who does not meet this eligibility requirement may appeal in writing to the OnRamps program, if they already meet TSI requirements, or specified criteria by the Instructor of Record to be eligible for dual credit. OnRamps provides specific instructions for students who wish to appeal depending on their course. Discovery Pre-Calculus does not provide an appeal process.

F. Pay the annual program fee for access to the OnRamps curriculum, materials, technology tools, credit evaluation and credit.

- 1) Cost of Materials and Services:

- (i) For districts joining the OnRamps program on or after the Effective Date, the cost of the OnRamps course materials, technical support and course implementation support, excluding the summer institute and academic year workshops, outlined in this Agreement to the District, will be defined on a per-student basis. Program costs will be evaluated and adjusted annually. The District annual program fees for each student enrolled in an OnRamps course for the 2017-2018 academic year will be \$295 per student, per course.

- 1) Reimbursement Option: Districts may be reimbursed in line with the 85th legislature appropriation (HB 1, Article III, 59). During the 2017-2018 school year, the fee of \$295 per student enrolled in an OnRamps course will be fully or partially reimbursable if this line item is included in the budget that is passed by the 85th Legislature and signed into law by the Governor.

- 2) District Fee Option: If the 85th Legislature does not provide appropriate funds to pay for Onramps, then the District is solely responsible for paying, or ensuring that students pay, annual program fees for each student enrolled in an OnRamps course. During the 2017-2018 school year, if the District is responsible to pay all fees, then the course fee will be \$295 per student per course or a subsidized \$75 per student per course for a student who receives free and/or reduced lunch.

- 2) Under the Reimbursement Option, Districts will be sent an invoice that itemizes the annual OnRamps program fee for each student enrolled. The invoice will highlight a program credit for the fees reimbursed. There will be no exchange of money between UT Austin and the District. Texas Education Agency will directly reimburse UT Austin for the full or partial annual per student cost in line with the 85th legislature appropriation (HB 1, Article III, 59).
- 3) Timing of payment: The OnRamps annual fee is assessed after the six-week allotted drop window for the course.
- 4) Within the first six weeks of the course implementation students can decide to drop out of the OnRamps program. This means that the student is no longer enrolled in the OnRamps program, even for the opportunity to earn high school credit, and is placed in a non-OnRamps course. The OnRamps team will run a census report at the end of the first six weeks and invoice the District based on enrollment at that time. Refunds will not be given at the end of the fall semester if a student is not eligible for the opportunity to earn college credit in the spring semester. The program fee covers access to course materials and technology tools, and credit eligibility evaluation, which occur during the fall semester. Additionally, the student who is not eligible for the opportunity to earn college credit may continue to be enrolled in the OnRamps course during the spring semester for the opportunity to earn high school credit. During the spring semester, the University will continue to deliver the course materials and technology tools.
- 5) Cost of Professional Learning
 - i) The cost of the OnRamps summer institute and academic year workshops to the District will be defined on a per-teacher basis. Professional development costs are evaluated and adjusted annually. The District annual professional learning fees for each participating teacher for the 2017-2018 academic year will be reimbursed in line with the 84th legislature appropriation (HB 1, Article III, 59). During the 2017-2018 school year, the District will be reimbursed for fees per teacher as follows:
 - (1) \$1750 for new teachers, and;
 - (2) \$750 for returning teachers.
 - ii) Districts will be sent an invoice that itemizes the annual professional learning fees for each participating teacher. The invoice will highlight a program credit for those fees. There will be no exchange of money between UT Austin and the District. Texas Education Agency will directly reimburse UT Austin for annual professional learning fees in line with the 85th legislature appropriation (HB 1, Article III, 59).
 - iii) The District is responsible for paying for and/or reimbursing all transportation and lodging expenses, to and from Austin, for all

days of required professional learning institutes held at the University and substitute pay.

- iv) OnRamps strongly recommends the District provide a daily stipend to teachers participating in required professional learning institute days on campus at the University.

5. Educational Records and Data Sharing

- i. As a partner providing an academic program and service to your District, OnRamps creates, maintains, and manages educational records for students and teachers. In order to effectively implement and administer the program and service for your District and the University, OnRamps at The University of Texas at Austin is required to manage and maintain all educational records created as a result of the OnRamps program according to Federal Rights and Privacy Act as well as University Policy defined in Chapter 9 of the General Catalog of the University, subchapter 9-100 through 9-400.
- ii. In order to provide the OnRamps program and related services to your District and for your District's accountability reporting purposes, OnRamps requires specific student information from the District. All such records are provided the same security as those outlined in 5.i. and will never be sold or shared with external sources.
 - a. OnRamps will request data during two Submission Periods. For each, OnRamps will provide the District with an excel file with the columns in 5iia completed and columns in 5iib detailed at the top of the file. For Submission Period A: UT Austin will provide the file electronically in a template no later than the fourth Monday of September each academic year. For Submission B, UT will provide the file again the fourth Monday of June each academic year.
 - 1) Campus Unique ID
 - 2) Campus Name
 - 3) Teacher Last name, First
 - 4) School Year Of Implementation
 - 5) OnRamps Course Title
 - b. The District will return the file providing the following fields for each OnRamps student within one month of receipt of the file.
 - 1) Student first name
 - 2) Student last name
 - 3) Campus Unique ID
 - 4) Campus Name
 - 5) Teacher Name
 - 6) School Year Of Implementation
 - 7) OnRamps Course Title

- 8) Student Graduation Year (Year student is expected or graduated)
- 9) Free and reduced price lunch status
- 10) Gender
- 11) Ethnicity
- 12) Race
- 13) HS grade in OnRamps course first semester*
- 14) HS grade in OnRamps course 2nd semester*
- 15) HS grade in OnRamps course, final grade*
- 16) TSI met standard indicator - either by TSI exam or by exemption
- 17) Math ready qualifier
- 18) Reading ready qualifier (Note: this will come from the TEAMS College Ready report. Columns MReady and RReady: T=TSI, S=SAT, A=ACT, E=EOC, P=PAST)
- 19) OnRamps Period (by Semester)
- 20) Days enrolled (full day)
- 21) Days absent (full day)

**These fields will be empty for Submission Period A.

c. OnRamps will provide the following information to the appropriate District contact for accountability reporting:

- 1) Campus Unique ID
- 2) OnRamps Course Title
- 3) Total enrollment
- 4) College Eligibility percentage
- 5) College Eligibility type
- 6) Final grade percentage
- 7) Credit type (earned, not earned, etc)

- iii. Following UT Austin's institutional review board standards and policy, UT Austin's OnRamps program may obtain and maintain additional data and/or feedback about student and teacher experiences with the program for the purpose of understanding outcomes and program improvement.
- iv. For legitimate educational interests, OnRamps will facilitate the exchange of information among institutions, OnRamps Instructors, OnRamps faculty and staff, and District contacts pertaining to: 1) students' progress toward the opportunity to earn college credit; 2) to facilitate early intervention to support student success and; 3) whether the college credit is earned; 4) to facilitate accurate recordkeeping; 5; addressing academic integrity issues; and 6) and for use in UT Austin outreach and recruitment. If the District obtains access to University records or record systems protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the District agrees to strictly adhere to the provisions of FERPA and its implementing regulations designated in Section 6 hereof.

6. Confidentiality Provision

Both parties to this Agreement are required by law to adhere to the confidentiality of student information according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and the implementing regulations found in 34 CFR Part 99. FERPA is specifically referenced in the Texas Public Information Act as an exception to records that are subject to disclosure to the public (Texas Govt. code 552.001 et seq.). While in possession of FERPA records and data, only persons authorized to access the student data of the OnRamps Initiative will be granted access as required by FERPA. All persons authorized to have access to student data understand that under FERPA they can be held individually liable for any and all applicable criminal and civil penalties imposed for breach of confidentiality.

7. Agreement to Hold Harmless

To the extent authorized by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, each party will save and hold harmless the other party and its officers and employees from all claims, demands, causes of action, and judgments for taxes, license fees, excises, fines, and penalties; for supplies, services, or merchandise purchased by the other party; for wages and fringe benefits of the other party's employees; and for injury or death of any person or damage to property that results directly or indirectly from the negligent acts or omissions of the other party or its officers, agents, employees or students in the performance of this Agreement.

8. Term of the Agreement

This Agreement is effective as of the date fully executed by both parties (Effective Date), and it covers a period of one (1) academic year, beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018. All parties must sign this Agreement. This Agreement may be renewed, contingent upon resources being available to the OnRamps Program, by a writing signed by both parties. The District agrees that all amounts owed to the University pursuant to Section 4.2 (F) will be paid upon notice of termination.

9. Ownership of Intellectual Property

The University and the OnRamps program shall own all Intellectual Property Rights in or relating to the Project. Intellectual Property Rights means any rights or titles to inventions, discoveries, concepts, methods, processes, data, trade secrets, branding, trademarks, copyrights, computer programs and related documentation, works of authorship fixed in a medium of expression, or mask works, whether or not patentable, copyrightable, eligible for registration as a trademark, or subject to mask work rights or other similar statutory rights, as well as applications for any such rights.

10. Independent Contractor

For all purposes, including but not limited to the federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, each party hereto, including its officers, agents and employees, shall be at all times an independent contractor relative to the other party. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to make or render either way, including any of its officers, agents or employees, an agent, servant or employee of, or a joint venture of or with the other.

11. Breach of Contract Claims

To the extent that Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, is applicable to this Agreement and is not preempted by other applicable law, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, will be used to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. The parties specifically agree that (i) neither the execution of this Agreement by University nor any other conduct, action, or inaction of any representative of University relating to this Agreement, constitutes, or is intended to constitute, a waiver of University's or the state's sovereign immunity to suit; and (ii) University has not waived its right to seek redress in the courts.

12. Termination

In the event of a material failure by a Contracting Party to perform its duties and obligations in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, the other party may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice of termination setting forth the nature of the material failure; provided that, the material failure is through no fault of the terminating party. The termination will not be effective if the material failure is fully cured prior to the end of the 30-day period.

The University may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice of termination to the District and will refund to the District any portion of the annual contribution that has not been expended towards fulfillment of the purposes of the Agreement

13. Venue; Governing Law

Webb County, Texas, will be the proper place of venue for suit on or in respect of the Agreement. The Agreement and all of the rights and obligations of the parties hereto, and all of the terms and conditions hereof will be construed, interpreted, and applied in accordance with, and governed by, and enforced under the laws of the State of Texas.

14. Indemnification

To the extent provided by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas, the District will indemnify and hold harmless the University and its officers and employees from all claims, demands, causes of action, and judgments for taxes, license fees, excises, fines, and penalties; for supplies, services, or merchandise purchased by the District; for wages and fringe benefits of the District's students and employees; and for injury or death of any person or damage to property that results directly or indirectly from the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the District or its officers, agents, or employees in the performance of this Agreement.

The representative of the District, in signing this Agreement, warrants that he or she signs as a properly authorized representative of the District and does not assume any personal liability for meeting the terms of this Agreement.

AGREED and ACCEPTED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

United Independent School District

The University of Texas at Austin

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: Linda Shaunessy

Title: _____

Title: Business Contracts Administrator

Date: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A

Cooperative Program Summary

Section 1. Program Objective

The principal purpose of the Agreement is to implement one or more UT Austin OnRamps courses.

Section 2. Program Description

OnRamps is a dual-enrollment and teacher professional development program created in partnership with the Texas Higher Education Leaders Consortium and coordinated by The University of Texas at Austin. Its mission is to increase the number and diversity of students who engage in learning experiences aligned with the expectations of leading research universities. The success of the program is a result of deep and authentic partnerships between K12 and higher education. Four pillars strategically support OnRamps in preparing Texas students for postsecondary success: College content, innovative pedagogy, technology-enhanced education, and teacher leadership. With its emphasis on rigor and quality as well as unprecedented K12 and higher education partnerships, OnRamps is strongly aligned with the Chancellor's Texas Prospect Initiative. In operation since 2011, the program has served over 12,000 students in more than 30 school districts throughout Texas.

OnRamps works through a dual-enrollment model. Using a hybrid, distance delivery approach, students meet rigorous university-level college readiness standards and have the opportunity to earn UT Austin credit (from the University Extension) awarded by a UT faculty member and *separate* high school credit from their local teacher. Each instructor of record (high school and college) is separately credentialed by their employing institution. All instructors of record awarding college credit, grading college assessments, or designing and delivering college content via distance education have master's degrees or doctorates in the OnRamps discipline offered and are approved by UT Austin sponsoring departments. All college curricula, assessments, assignments, projects, instructional materials are developed, delivered, overseen, and evaluated by UT Austin faculty.

Each OnRamps course has a curriculum and an assessment methodology unique to the discipline, designed and directed by a UT Faculty Instructor of Record and approved by the University Department offering the course.

Section 3. OnRamps Courses

Each OnRamps course satisfies part of the core curriculum requirements of The University of Texas at Austin. The OnRamps' courses are:

- 1) Project Engage: Thriving in Our Digital World (Computer Science), UT Austin course equivalent: CS 302 Computer Fluency;
- 2) Research and Writing (ELA), Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): English 1301, UT Austin course equivalent: Research and Writing 306K;
- 3) Reading and Writing the Rhetoric of American Identity (ELA), Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): English 1302, UT Austin course equivalent: Rhetoric 309K Topics in Writing;
- 4) Discovery PreCalculus: A Creative and Connected Approach (PreCalculus), TCCN: Mathematics 2312, UT Austin course equivalent: M 305G Preparation for Calculus;
- 5) Statistics, UT Austin course equivalent: SDS 302 Data Analysis for the Health Sciences;
- 6) Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience, (GEO) UT Austin course equivalent: GEO 302E, Earth, Wind, and Fire; and
- 7) Physics: Mechanics, Heat, and Sound (PHYS), Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): PHYS 1301, UT Austin course equivalent: Physics 302K General Physics.
- 8) Physics: Electromagnetism, Optics, and Nuclear Physics (PHYS), Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): PHYS 1302, UT Austin course equivalent: Physics 302L; and
- 9) United States History 1492-1865 (HIS) Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): HIS 1301, UT Austin course equivalent: History 315K; and
- 10) United States History Since 1865 (HIS) Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): HIS 1302, UT Austin course equivalent: History 315L.

Section 4. 4 Pillars of OnRamps, Program objectives and goals

Four Pillars of OnRamps

The Four Pillars of OnRamps: Four strategically positioned pillars support the OnRamps model. If you walk into an OnRamps course, you will see students and teachers engaged in an advanced learning experience that is qualitatively different from other early college offerings. The following four features are explicit in the design of every OnRamps course.

- **College Content** – Faculty at UT Austin develop and oversee all OnRamps course content and assessments. The courses challenge and engage students and their high school instructors in a scholar community, featuring the big ideas that frame various college fields of study. Just like introductory courses at UT Austin, the courses are designed to pique intellectual curiosity, stimulate scholarly inquiry and dialogue and develop problem solving, reasoning skills and the academic behaviors and work habits of college students.
- **Innovative Pedagogy** – OnRamps courses feature innovative pedagogies that help students become independent learners and develop foundational skills. OnRamps

instructors receive over 80+ hours of professional learning and support that equips them to develop college students. Among other things, they teach students to engage them in long-term projects, self-monitor and regulate their learning, seek and create resources when they need help, and persist through difficult academic challenges.

- **Technology-Enhanced Education** – Technological competency is a foundation skill that all teacher and students need to excel in the 21st century educational landscape. In OnRamps both teachers and students use first-rate technological tools to help them learn, to communicate effectively in a digital world, and to develop computational thinking skills that apply across contexts – such as accessing information, troubleshooting and making data-driven decisions.
- **Educator Excellence:** OnRamps brings together over 250 teachers, university faculty, staff, and administrators in a robust community. Our educators create and exchange ideas, resources, and practices that infuse innovation and excellence in classrooms and schools in various regions of the state.

Program Objectives

- **Expand Access and Extend Cost-savings:** OnRamps expands access to college courses at dramatically reduced costs to students or their parents.
- **Engage Students with Innovative Pedagogy:** OnRamps provides opportunities to experience evidence-based, innovative teaching designed to engage students deeply in content. These pedagogical strategies help students develop key, cross-disciplinary skills necessary for postsecondary success such as independent learning, problem solving, analytical thinking, persistence, and self-regulation.
- **Diffuse University-Level Curriculum:** OnRamps diffuses rigorous content and assessments using an approach that eradicates the gap between high school and college expectations.
- **Cultivate Digital Teaching and Learning:** OnRamps provides opportunities for students and teachers to use learning tools that develop 21st century digital literacies required for college success, including using data to monitor student progress and regulate learning.
- **Foster Professional Learning and Teacher Excellence:** OnRamps brings together teachers, faculty, and students in an extensive facilitated network designed to provide yearlong support and enhance teachers' content knowledge, pedagogy, use of educational technology, and leadership. The program enhances teacher quality with building capacity to improve student success in the public school system.
- **Preparation through Alignment:** OnRamps aligns secondary and postsecondary expectations through academic coursework, professional development for secondary teachers, and partnerships between postsecondary institutions and ISDs. These features prepare students for college on day one and therefore accelerate students' time-to-degree

Program Goals

- 1) Deliver scalable courses and course materials designed to increase the number and diversity of high school and community-college students who experience college-level coursework that is aligned with the 4 pillars of OnRamps and:
 - a) High quality;

- b) Rigorous;
 - c) Engaging;
 - d) Motivating; and
 - e) Aligned with the expectations of a leading research university.
- 2) Deliver courses and course materials designed to enhance all OnRamps students' content knowledge, and cross-disciplinary knowledge and skill, by incorporating best-in-class learning technologies and advances in the learning sciences.
 - 3) Deliver a model of professional development for OnRamps teachers that can be scaled and replicated and that supports teacher implementation of OnRamps courses and course materials with fidelity.
 - 4) Collaborate with a variety of institutions, organizations, government agencies, corporations and individuals to facilitate wide-scale implementation and delivery of OnRamps courses and course materials in a variety of educational settings across the state of Texas.
 - 5) Facilitate educator innovation through flexible design of coursework and curriculum that provides opportunities for further authoring and development of OnRamps course materials and learning assets.
 - 6) Continuously enhance all existing OnRamps offerings for long-term sustainability of the initiative.

Section 5. Program Elements

- 1) Yearlong and semester long dual-enrollment courses for high school and/or community college students to increase the number and diversity of students who experience college-level work aligned with expectations of a leading research university.
 - a) Students are officially enrolled in the college course after eligibility is determined based on student work from the semester. Credit is awarded by The University of Texas at Austin, University Extension, or affiliated college in the spring semester;
 - b) Courses can be offered as letter grade or pass/fail per student option;
 - c) Courses align with the Texas College and Career Readiness Standards and/or Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, and the expectations of leading research universities;
 - e) Courses are delivered in the Canvas LMS and related technical support;
 - f) Courses feature student-centered, evidence-based pedagogies that require students to take responsibility for their own learning; and
 - g) Course implementation is directed by the OnRamps team at UT Austin.
- 2) One UT Austin Faculty Lead per course

- a) In collaboration with the Course Coordinator(s), the Faculty Lead advises the OnRamps team as needed and contributes to curriculum delivery, development, and enhancements, and the delivery of professional development for OnRamps teachers. The Faculty Lead also collaborates with the Course Coordinator(s) and OnRamps executive leadership to implement programmatic policies and procedures.
- b) One UT Austin Course Coordinator per course/course sequence in collaboration with the Faculty Lead. The Course Coordinator contributes to curriculum enhancements, creates and delivers professional development, and leads yearlong implementation support to participating OnRamps teachers. The Course Coordinator also designs, executes, and manages the grading process for the District credit, in close collaboration with the Course Instructor of Record (if they are not the same person), including grading student work to ensure alignment with college-level expectations.
- c) The Course Coordinator works in collaboration with the Faculty Lead to implement programmatic policies and procedures on the advice of OnRamps executive leadership.
- d) One course Instructor of Record approved by OnRamps and UT Austin to evaluate college-level work and award college credit; this may be the Faculty Lead, Course Coordinator, or another instructor approved by OnRamps and the University to award undergraduate credit. The Instructor of Record is responsible for working with the Course Coordinator (if they are not the same person) to ensure student work qualifies for the awarding of college credit.
- e) A two-week residential summer professional development institute (with CPE credit offered) for OnRamps teachers held on the UT Austin campus, including:
 - i. Course-specific sessions: Training in course-specific content, pedagogy, and technology are organized and delivered by the Faculty Lead and/or Course Coordinator
 - ii. General sessions: Additional hours of training on implementation best practices, college readiness and success, and pedagogy
- f) Two one-day professional development workshops (with CPE credit offered) for OnRamps teachers held on the UT Austin campus (one workshop per semester).
 - i. Course-specific sessions: Training in course-specific content, pedagogy, and technology are organized and delivered by the Faculty Lead and/or Course Coordinator
 - ii. General sessions: Additional hours of training on implementation of best practices, college readiness and success, and pedagogy.
 - iii. Yearlong professional development activities coordinated by the UT Austin Professional Development Coordinator, Faculty Lead and the Course Coordinators for OnRamps teachers.
 - iv. A professional learning community. A community network of teachers qualified to teach dual-enrollment aligned with the

expectations of leading research universities facilitated by the Faculty Lead, Course Coordinators, Instructor of Record and OnRamps staff.

- v. A program of evaluation to facilitate continuous improvement of Onramps at the programmatic level, including external evaluators.
- vi. A core team of OnRamps staff that provides expertise in the following areas:
 - a. Communications and Marketing;
 - b. Course Development and Enhancement;
 - c. Dual-Enrollment Management and Compliance;
 - d. Executive Leadership;
 - e. Partnerships and outreach
 - f. Product Management;
 - g. Professional Learning;
 - h. Research and Evaluation;
 - i. Technology Integration;
 - j. Texas Education Policy Advising; and
 - k. Vendor Management.



Exhibit B

Implementation Plan 2017-2018

CONTACT INFORMATION			
District:	Name	Phone	Email
Superintendent	Roberto J. Santos	956-473-6219	rsantos@uisd.net
Main Contact	Mario Rosales	956-473-5247	mrosales@uisd.net
Counselor Contact	Christina Uribe-Flores	956-473-5248	curibeflores@uisd.net
Invoicing Contact	Laida Benavides	956-473-6222	lbenavides@uisd.net
Technology Contact	Judy Garcia	956-473-2091	judithg@uisd.net
Data Collection Contact	Jose Luis Zamora	956-473-2184	jzamora@uisd.net

ONRAMPS DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM				
Campus Name	Course Offering(s)	# Teacher(s)	#Section(s)	Campus Contact (Title, Email, Phone)
J.B. Alexander H.S. 3600 E. Del Mar Blvd Laredo, Texas 78041 956-473-5800 Ernesto Sandoval, Jr. Principal	CS			Mrs. Elvira Gaona, Magnet Dean egaona@uisd.net 956-473-5865
	ELA			
	Geoscience			
	PreCalculus	1 (L. Perez)	1	
	Statistics			
	Physics 1	1 (R. Ramos)	1	
	Physics 2			
L.B. Johnson H.S. 5626 Cielito Lindo Laredo, Texas 78046 956-473-5100 Armando Salazar, Principal	CS			Mr. Jose E. Iznaola, Assistant Principal jiznaola@uisd.net 956-473-5343
	ELA			
	Geoscience			
	PreCalculus	1 (B. Lopez)	1	
	Statistics			
	Physics 1	1 (A.Rangel)	1	
	Physics 2			
United H.S. 2811 United Ave Laredo, Texas 78045 956-473-5600 Alberto Aleman, Jr. Principal	CS			Mr. Gilbert Moreno, Assistant Principal gmoren82@uisd.net 956-473-5605
	ELA			
	Geoscience			
	PreCalculus	1 (C. Perez)	1	
	Statistics			
	Physics 1	1 (C. Ruffing)	1	
	Physics 2			
US History				

United South H.S. 4001 Ave. Los Presidentes Laredo, Texas 78046 956-473-5400 Adriana P. Ramirez, Principal	CS			Sinneh J. Koroma, Jr. Magnet Dean skoroma@uisd.net 956-473-5441
	ELA			
	Geoscience			
	PreCalculus	1(C. Arrellano)	1	
	Statistics			
	Physics 1	1(A. Hinojosa)	1	
	Phyiscs 2			
	US History			

SYMPOSIUM

The symposiums are designed to give deeper insight into the OnRamps program model and expectations, to learn how to best support your teachers and students, to help facilitate a college going culture in your district, and most importantly to network with other OnRamps partners. (More information will be sent closer to the event.)

___ **Yes**, I plan to attend/send someone to the Administrator Symposium.

Number of Participants **1**

___ Yes, I plan to attend/send someone to the Counselor Symposium.

Number of Participants _____

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

OnRamps courses feature an on-line curriculum delivered through Canvas Learning Management System (LMS), therefore, it is **REQUIRED** all students have 1:1 access for the OnRamps program. Please work with your IT department and circle what will be available during the OnRamps course:

1:1 laptops	1:1 tablets	Other: Chromebooks
Classroom set of computers	Computer Lab	Computers on Wheels

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Please select the following payment option for the student enrollment fee, is assessed:

Student pay: \$295 or F/R \$75	District pay \$295 or F/R \$75	Student pay partial: \$ _____ District pay partial: \$ _____
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Please note: If the Governor resigns the appropriation in the 85th Legislature than partnering school districts will be reimbursed 100% of the cost.

PROFESIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM

ONRAMPS TO ONRAMPS: Professional Learning Institute to bridge Algebra II to Advanced Mathematics. We have developed a series of professional learning workshops, instructional coaching and support, and curricular materials geared towards Algebra II teachers.

Sessions: Summer institute: June 26 – 29 and a one-day in the fall and one-day in the spring

Ongoing: Monthly virtual conferences to create a facilitated network of teachers and site visits

Materials: Explorations specifically written for Algebra II content

Cost: \$750.00 per teacher (Daily parking pass as well as breakfast and lunch for each of the four days are covered in the cost of tuition. We do NOT include hotel accommodations or travel expenses)

Who can attend: Algebra II teachers, Math Dean of Instruction, Department Math Chair, Director of Math

Campus	Teacher	Title
United ISD	Ramiro Garza	HS Math Coordinator

Teacher registration link: https://utexas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_38dhvg6ztGvWXFb

Exhibit C

Onramps Technical Requirements

Hardware

Students must have one-to-one access to an internet-connected computer or tablet* during out-of-class time in order to complete assignments. This access can be on campus, such as a lab or in the library, or off campus. OnRamps will provide a checklist to ensure compatibility.

*The OnRamps Statistics course requires use of a web browser on a desktop or laptop operating system to access R-Studio (free statistical analysis software). See below for a list of compatible browsers. R-Studio is incompatible with tablet and phone device browsers.

*The OnRamps Computer Science course, Project Engage: Thriving in Our Digital World, requires use of Scratch and Processing (free programming environments), which also requires desktop or laptop operating systems. It is incompatible with tablet and phone device browsers.

*The OnRamps ELA course, Rhetoric: Research and Writing and Rhetoric of American Identity, requires use of word to generate college essays. Therefore, students having access to a desktop, laptop, or keyboard is ideal.

Since the courses contain audio/video components, devices should have audio capabilities or the option to be connected to speakers or headphones.

Browsers

One of the following browsers is required to access the Canvas learning management system and tools associated with the OnRamps courses.

- 1) Internet Explorer 10 or 11
- 2) Chrome 36 or 37
- 3) Safari 6 or 7
- 4) Firefox 31 or 32 (Extended Releases are not supported)
- 5) Flash 14 and 15 (for recording or viewing audio/video and uploading files)
- 6) Respondus Lockdown Browser (supporting the latest system requirements)

*See above for exceptions regarding mobile versus desktop browsers.

Software and Email Addresses

OnRamps courses are built in the learning management system (“LMS”) Canvas LMS. Canvas LMS must be used as the LMS for this course. All course resources, materials, and tools are housed in the Canvas LMS, including the grade book.

Students must have an email address to register for an account in Canvas LMS. Students should use their formal school email address to register in Canvas LMS. Personal email accounts should only be used if the school/district does not provide students with email addresses.

Plugins

- 1) Flash Player 10, 11, or 12 is required for audio/video recording and file uploading within Canvas LMS.
- 2) The Java plugin is required to use the screen sharing functionality within Canvas LMS Conferences.

Internet Access

A high-speed Internet connection is required. School networks must be configured to allow access to the following domains:

- utexas.edu
- instructure.com
- youtube.com (teacher access required)
- vimeo.com (student and teacher access required)
- amazonaws.com
- www.learningcatalytics.com

Onramps Course-Specific Technical Requirements

Project Engage: Thriving in Our Digital World

Requires access to:

Scratch.mat.edu –operates in the browser

Processing.org –needs to be downloaded and installed

Reading and Writing the Rhetoric of American Identity

Require one-on-one access each class period. Prefer laptop or PC over tablets.

Discovery PreCalculus: A Creative and Connected Approach

Quest Homework Service (free) is available through Canvas.

Statistics

RStudio (free statistical software) is available through Canvas LMS, but is **incompatible** with tablets.

Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience

No requirements in addition to the general requirements.

Physics

No requirements in addition to the general requirements.

Exhibit D

OnRamps Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience Laboratory Equipment and Materials for 2016-2017 academic year

OnRamps Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience will require laboratory equipment and materials to be available to students.