

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
For Dual Credit Classes
Between
The Ector County Independent School District
And
Odessa College**

Whereas, the Odessa Junior College District ("College") is a local public two year associate degree granting institution capable of providing instruction to high school students for immediate award of both high school credit and college certificate and associate degree credit; and

Whereas, the Ector County Independent School District ("District") is school district in need of such services for its students; and

Whereas, the parties desire to provide courses which may be found on the approved OC/ECISD course matrix; and

Whereas, the parties desire to enter into this agreement to govern the providing of Dual Credit Classes for the 2009-2010 academic school year through the College to students at the District;

Now, therefore, in the mutual consideration of the mutual benefits to be received by each party, the College and the District agree as follows:

Student Eligibility and Course Load.

1. To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course included in a program for which college readiness is required, the high school student must present a passing score on a Board-approved college readiness assessment instrument in at least one area (mathematics, reading, writing) as deemed relevant by the College for the intended dual credit course in which the student shall enroll.
2. For students seeking enrollment in a dual credit course included in a college certificate program of one year or less, eligibility may be established by achieving at least the passing standard on the English/Language Arts and/or Mathematics sections (as applicable) of the tenth grade Texas Assessment for Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test established by the State Board of Education. A student who has received an exemption from taking the TAKS test may qualify to enroll in a dual credit course by presenting a passing score on the Board approved college-readiness assessment instrument in at least one area (mathematics, reading, writing) as deemed relevant by the College for the intended dual credit course in which the student shall enroll.
3. To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered by a public college, students must meet all the college's regular prerequisite requirements designated

for that course (e.g., minimum score on a specified placement test, minimum grade in specified previous course, etc.).

4. To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course, students must have at least junior year high school standing. Exceptions to this requirement for students with demonstrated outstanding academic performance and capability (as evidenced by grade-point average, PSAT scores, or other assessment indicators) may be approved by the high school principal and the chief academic officer of the college.
5. The class load of a high school student shall not exceed two college courses per semester. However, under special circumstances that indicate a student with exceptional academic abilities is capable of college-level work, based on such factors as grade-point average, ACT or SAT scores, and other assessment indicators, the high school principal and the chief academic officer of a public two-year associate degree-granting institution may grant exceptions to this requirement.

Student Responsibility.

All students must purchase the required textbook and any other materials required by the instructor. All students are required to pay the approved tuition and fees as set forth by the Odessa College Board of Trustees. As well as abiding by ECISD Code of Conduct, students must also abide by the Odessa College Code of Conduct. The Student Code of Conduct is available on-line at the Odessa College website, www.odessa.edu.

Location of Class.

For the purpose of this interlocal agreement, dual credit courses may be taught on the college campus (OC) or on the high school campus(es) in ECISD and include all modes of delivery of classes by Odessa College. Scheduling of classes will be aligned with the master schedule at the high school campus(es).

Composition of Class.

For the purpose of this interlocal agreement, dual credit courses may be composed of dual credit students only or of dual and College credit students. This agreement will include all Odessa College semesters. Exceptions for a mixed class, which would also include high school credit-only students, may be allowed only under one of the following conditions: 1) The course involved is required for completion under the State Board of Education Recommended or Distinguished Achievement High School Program graduation requirements, 2) The high school credit-only students are College Board Advanced Placement students, or 3) The course is a career and technology/college workforce education course and the high school credit-only students are earning articulated college credit.

Approved Courses.

Only courses that appear on the course matrix are to be counted for dual credit. The matrix is subject to yearly review by all personnel involved.

Faculty Selection, Supervision, and Evaluation.

1. All instructors must meet the minimal requirements as specified by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
2. Official transcripts of instructors must be kept on file at Odessa College in accordance with Odessa College's personnel policy.
3. Odessa College shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty at the main campus.

Course Curriculum, Textbooks, Instruction, and Grading.

1. The College will ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at the main campus of the college are equivalent with respect to the curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation. All instructors of Dual Credit classes will follow departmental guidelines set forth by the department chair or respective Dean of Odessa College. Dual credit instructors will be required to use Odessa College approved textbooks and any other materials as set by departmental policies. These standards must be upheld regardless of the student composition of the class. Odessa College instructors will provide ECISD a numerical grade equivalent to a corresponding letter grade awarded to the student. The assignment of weighted grade points to dual credit classes will be in accordance with ECISD Board Policy.
2. The College recognizes that certain of the District's students participating in these classes are also participating in UIL sanctioned activities. Accordingly, the College and all instructors will work with the District to ensure that numerical grades are provided on a timely basis. The parties acknowledge that certain reports may be due at a time when no college work has been performed by the student. Therefore, the College shall report a passing grade (P) until such time as an assessment of the student's work has been completed.

Academic Policies and Student Support Services.

Regular academic policies applicable to courses taught at the College's main campus must also apply to dual credit courses. Odessa College policies are published in the official catalog available from the campus bookstore or online. Students in dual credit courses are eligible to utilize the same support services that are afforded college students on the main campus.

Testing Requirements for Enrollment for sophomores in Odessa College collegeNOW Academy.

To be eligible for enrollment in Odessa College collegeNOW Academy, sophomores must either take the COMPASS or THEA test. Both of these tests can be taken at the Odessa College Testing Center. The following test scores indicate college readiness.

Eligibility scores on the THEA test:

Reading-----230

Math-----270

Writing-----220 or higher or 6 on Written Essay

Eligibility scores on the COMPASS test:

Reading-----81

Math-----60

Writing Skills (Objective)-----59 with a Written Essay score of 5

Written Essay-----6

Transcription of Credit.

For dual credit courses, high school as well as college credit should be transcribed immediately upon a student's completion of the performance required in the course. It is the responsibility of the student upon completion of the course, to provide an official transcript to ECISD.

Funding.

- A. The state funding for dual credit courses will be available to both the District and the Colleges based upon the current funding rules of the State Board of Education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- B. All Odessa College required tuition and fees will be paid by the student to Odessa College unless paid by the District and stipulated under a separate agreement. No payment or reimbursement of tuition of fees will be made to ECISD from Odessa College.
- C. Compensation of the dual credit instructors will be the responsibility of Odessa College.

Executed by each party on the date set forth by the respective party's signature.

_____ Date _____

Mr. Hector Mendez, Superintendent
Ector County Independent School District

_____ Date _____

Dr. Gregory Williams, President
Odessa College