



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 05/07/24

Item Title: Memorandum of Understanding X Action
between BISD and Texas State Information
Technical College Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Career & Technical Education (CTE) Department is requesting approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Texas State Technical College (TSTC) and Brownsville ISD to provide P-TECH students the opportunity to enroll in Dual Enrollment program of study courses at respective high schools. BISD and TSTC agree to work to provide a high-quality Dual Enrollment college and career program that is aligned with regional workforce needs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Function 11 (Instruction) not to exceed \$15,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of an MOU between Brownsville ISD and Texas State Technical College for the 2024-2025 school year to provide P-TECH students the opportunity to enroll in Dual Enrollment program of study courses at respective high schools. Cost not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Benita Villarreal/
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./CFO
Miguel Salinas
Reviewed by: Staff Attorney
Beatriz Hernandez/
Approved by: Chief Academic Officer

Jesus H Chavez
Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

Roxanne Eckstein

From: Priscilla Lozano <plozano@808West.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 4:20 PM
To: Roxanne Eckstein; Kevin O'Hanlon; Lea Ohrstrom
Cc: Miguel Salinas; Minerva Almanza
Subject: Re: Contract between BISD and TSTC

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

Approved as to form.

Sincerely,
Priscilla

From: Roxanne Eckstein <reckstein@bisd.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 3:53 PM
To: Kevin O'Hanlon <kohanlon@808West.com>; Lea Ohrstrom <lohrstrom@808West.com>; Priscilla Lozano <plozano@808West.com>
Cc: Miguel Salinas <miguelsalinas@bisd.us>; Minerva Almanza <malmanza1@bisd.us>
Subject: Contract between BISD and TSTC

Ms. Lozano,

Please see the attached agreement for your review and approval for the May 7, 2024 board meeting.

Thank you! Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (956) 698-6379.

Sincerely,

Roxy Eckstein

Roxanne Eckstein | Paralegal to Miguel Salinas | Staff Attorney | Phone: 956.698.6379 | Fax: 956.714.6400
Brownsville Independent School District | 1900 East Price Road, Suite 302 | Brownsville, TX 78521

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**Texas State Technical College
Dual Credit
Memorandum of Understanding**

This Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") is between **Texas State Technical College**, an institution of higher education and an agency of the State of Texas (which may hereinafter be referred to as the "College" or "TSTC"), the **Brownsville Independent School District** (which may hereinafter be referred to as the "District"), and the below listed high school(s) which is/are part of the District (which may hereinafter be referred to as the "High School Partner" or collectively as the "High School Partners"). TSTC, the District, and the High School Partner(s) may individually be referred to as a "Party" or collectively as "Parties" to this MOU.

High School Partner	High School CEEB Code	Name and Physical Address of Dual Credit Instructional Location/Site (Geographical Address where instruction occurs)	ISD Instructional Formats (Online, TSTC Campus, Off-site Credentialed Facility)
Pace High School	440912	314 W. Los Ebanos Blvd. Brownsville, TX 78520	Online
Veterans Memorial High School	440903	4550 US Military Hwy Brownsville, TX 78520	Offsite

The Parties enter into this MOU as authorized by [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.84\(a\)](#), and agree as follows:

OVERVIEW

TSTC is committed to serving the students and communities of Texas through collaborative work with High School Partner(s). A major initiative promoting technical education and careers is the **Texas State Technical College Dual Credit Program**, which includes the provision of the Dual Credit state program to qualified students. Dual Credit agreements will be aligned with the strategic priorities of the District and the College. TSTC will annually review Dual Credit Pathways and matriculation rates, in addition to the economic development needs of the State of Texas in order to ensure the partnerships in place are commensurate with all aforementioned strategic goals.

DUAL CREDIT MISSION

In order to prepare students for educational and career success, the purpose and mission of TSTC's Dual Credit program is to provide a comprehensive, structured approach leading to a post-secondary credential at Texas State Technical College. This model allows students the opportunity to complete Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses and potentially prepares them to test for industry-based certifications. The High School Partner(s) agrees to support TSTC's Dual Credit students in completing coursework in their chosen Dual Credit pathway, and streamline matriculation efforts to TSTC to pursue a credential in a high-demand, high-wage field of study.

MOU PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to outline the roles and responsibilities of TSTC, the District and the High School Partner(s). This MOU is an agreement that encompasses all programs and initiatives under TSTC's Dual Credit program, as required by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

KEY COMPONENTS OF THIS MOU

Upon execution of this MOU, TSTC agrees to:

- 1) Provide the High School Partner(s) with a Dual Credit pathway that is reflective of regionally based industry needs.
- 2) Support the High School Partner(s) by way of College recruitment presentations and informational meetings for all students at the High School Partner(s) locations throughout the school year.
- 3) Advise the High School Partner(s) and students of Dual Credit opportunities within a career pathway that leads to matriculation into TSTC, with the intention of helping to place students in high-demand, high-wage jobs.
- 4) Provide pathway alignment of TEA approved Endorsements and Program of Study course TEKS to College course [Workforce Education Course Manual \(WECM\)](#) outcomes by way of [suggested crosswalks](#) for Dual Credit courses, postsecondary pathways, credentials at the institution, and industry certifications. [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.84 \(c\)](#).
- 5) Post a copy of this MOU to TSTC's website at de.tstc.edu in accordance with [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.84 \(c.10\)](#) and, upon completion of this document, provide a copy for the High School Partner(s) to post to the District's website.

Upon execution of this MOU, the **High School Partner(s)** agree(s) to:

- 1) Work with the Office of Dual Credit to identify and complete the Pathway Offering Form, electronically sent after receipt of the signed MOU (Attached hereto as an example, **EXHIBIT A**).
 - a) High School Partner(s) wishing to add new Dual Credit technical pathways to their existing Pathway Offering form must submit their request in writing to the Office of Dual Credit no later than April 30, 2024, for Academic Year 2024-2025 implementation.
- 2) **Adhere to TSTC's Dual Credit deadlines as outlined below and within the Academic Calendar and to follow all College enrollment procedures and guidelines for Dual Credit students.**

****Dates are subject to change***

Deadline to submit signed 2024-2025 MOU	March 15, 2024
Deadline for Off-Site Facilities Approval	April 5, 2024
Deadline for new DC Instructor Credentialing (Application/Documentation Submitted to College)	April 20, 2024
Deadline for submission of all onsite (TSTC Campus) student applications/ documents	July 12, 2024
Deadline for submission of all online and offsite location applications/ documents	August 10, 2024
Deadline for all student registration	August 24, 2024

- 3) Coordinate with TSTC regarding Dual Credit presentations throughout the academic year on a predetermined basis (fall and spring) to include both application and registration drives, in addition to other presentation and advising opportunities.
- 4) Notify TSTC of any special Texas Education Agency designation plans, obligations or proposed partnerships for all grant applications. **A copy of the proposal and/or a detailed statement of work must be provided to TSTC, to be vetted through the Office of Dual Credit, the Office of the Provost and the Office of Sponsored Programs, a minimum of thirty (30) days before the grant application is due.** TSTC will provide a written response (approval or disapproval) within two weeks of receipt of the request and the appropriate documentation.
- 5) Post a copy of this MOU to the District's website in accordance with [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rule § 4.84 \(c.10\)](#)

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

TSTC requires High School Partner(s) to follow all College enrollment procedures and guidelines for Dual Credit students. All admissions and eligibility requirements are outlined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board laws and regulations, the [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D and Subchapter G Rule § 4.85](#), and in the College's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 4.07 Admission of Students](#).

The Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) 2.0 is a program designed to assess students' readiness for postsecondary coursework and provide appropriate interventions, services and instructional activities to prepare students for success in college-level courses. Dual Credit students must take the TSIA 2.0 assessment prior to enrolling with TSTC unless otherwise exempt or waived.

ELIGIBLE COURSES

Courses offered by TSTC are developed based on the guidelines published in the [Workforce Education Course Manual \(WECM\)](#) or the [Academic Course Guide Manual \(ACGM\)](#) adopted by

the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and must be in the approved course inventory of the College and approved for Dual Credit by the College's applicable instructional department and TSTC's Office of Dual Credit. **Remedial or continuing education courses will not be offered for dual credit. TSTC does not offer concurrent enrollment to high school students, except where Individual Approval is met, as stated in TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 4.07 Admission of Students](#).**

Enrollment

The High School Partner(s) will designate ONE High School Contact responsible for:

- 1) guiding students in the selection of one Dual Credit pathway from the list of programs agreed upon between the High School Partner(s) and TSTC on the Pathway Offering Form. Enrollment in multiple pathways is not permitted; and
- 2) coordinating and submitting of all required documents for admission and registration to the assigned Dual Credit Representative no later than August 10, 2024; and
- 3) adhering to all established College deadlines, policies and procedures including but not limited to schedule changes including, additions, drops, and withdrawals; and
- 4) working in collaboration with the College's Dual Credit office regarding admissions, advisement, registration, grading, reporting and program improvements; and supporting student communication with instructors.
- 5) coordinating with the College's Dual Credit office to allow for scheduled visits to assist with advising prospective students on dual credit opportunities and academic advising sessions for enrolled students to help support student success.

<p>High School Partner Contact Name: _____</p> <p>Email Address: _____</p> <p>Phone Number: _____</p>
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TSTC will designate one Dual Credit Representative responsible for:

- 1) coordinating and tracking submission of all required documents for admissions and registration from the High School Partner(s); and
- 2) submitting documents from High School Partner(s) for admission and registration to the Office of the Registrar; and
- 3) working with the High School Partner(s)' designated Dual Credit contact to schedule and conduct application and registration drives, program presentations, advising sessions, and campus tours, etc.
- 4) working with the High School Partner(s)' designated Dual Credit contact to schedule in person check-in's, meetings, phone calls, emails, etc., for enrolled students to discuss academic

planning, academic advising, and additional TSTC services and resources to help support student success.

- 5) sending High School Partner(s)' updates on student progress, including progress of grades at the 6 week mark, academic concerns, when applicable, mid-term and final grades.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

- 1) Academic policies and procedures applicable to regular College courses and students will also apply to dual credit courses.
- 2) Students are to abide by the Rules and Regulations set forth in TSTC Catalog and Student Handbook, which are published and available on TSTC website at www.tstc.edu for the current academic year. Academic policies can also be found in the [TSTC Statewide Operating Standards \(SOS\) website](#).
- 3) Dual Credit classes will follow TSTC's Academic Calendar. Exceptions may be arranged through collaboration between the College and the High School Partner(s).

Student Drops/ Withdraws

Students are responsible for notifying their high school counselor and Dual Credit Representative if they are wanting to withdraw from their course(s). Students are required to sign and submit a Course Schedule Change form to the College, in accordance with TSTC's Academic Calendar, in order to be formally dropped from their enrolled course(s). Students who drop after the first class day will still incur the Dual Credit tuition fee in accordance with [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) FA 1.09 Refund of Tuition and Fees](#), if they do not fall under the eligibility requirements for the FAST Program (**see below**).

METHOD OF DELIVERY AND LOCATION OF CLASS

Courses may be delivered utilizing the method mutually determined by TSTC and the High School Partner(s), which may include the following:

- 1) Delivery at the High School Partner(s)' campus utilizing a high school teacher credentialed and employed and defined in [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 1.11 Faculty Credentials](#) as a College Dual Credit Instructor (DC Instructor); or
- 2) Delivery on a TSTC campus utilizing College Instructors whereby students are integrated into traditional course section offerings; or
- 3) Delivery online utilizing a TSTC Instructor.

Please note: The delivery of courses is subject to change based on curriculum and program updates relative to the modality of instruction.

Dual Credit classes taught in a hybrid modality, as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter P, Rule §4.257](#), is "A course in which the majority (more than 50 percent but less than 85 percent), of the planned instruction occurs when the students and instructor(s) are not in the same place. Hybrid courses taught by TSTC are when part of the course is delivered online and part of the course is delivered face-to-face.

Dual Credit classes not taught on a College campus or during regular class hours may include but are not limited to:

- 1) Distance Education: Distance education courses encompass online and hybrid courses as stated in TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 2.20 Distance Education](#). Dual Credit students participating in classes delivered online by TSTC are not required to be at the off-site location to receive instruction. Online courses that are delivered 100% online are accessible at any time or location where a student has a computer and internet access. or
- 2) Special technical programs approved to run outside the designated block time; or
- 3) Courses taught at high school, face-to-face; or
- 4) Courses taught in a hybrid modality **Subject to availability by program and location**

Please note: Some programs may be offered through non-traditional modalities such as course/credit-based Competency-Based Education (CBE). TSTC refers to CBE programs as Performance-Based Education (PBE).

COURSE CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND GRADING

High School Partner(s) that participate in the Dual Credit Program at Texas State Technical College will comply with procedures and guidelines established by TSTC.

Grading Procedures

All DC Instructors will follow the College's grading system as stated in TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 4.06 Grading System](#) as well as the grading criteria in the department-approved syllabus.

- 1) A student must earn a grade of "C" or better in a WECM course to pass if the course is not a Performance-Based Education (PBE) course. Performance-Based Education (PBE) courses require a grade of B or better to pass and enroll in the next course.
- 2) Dual Credit students are issued letter grades as pursuant to TSTC's grading system. Dual Credit Representatives do not have access to numerical grades.). **If High School Partner(s) require a numerical grade they must directly contact the instructor of record for the course(s).**

FACULTY QUALIFICATION, SELECTION, HIRING, SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION

TSTC has established an approval process for selecting and approving qualified faculty to teach Dual Credit courses. Faculty applying to teach a Dual Credit pathway must meet the credential requirements as stated in TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 1.11 Faculty Credentials](#), which includes the criteria used by the College to determine teaching eligibility. Applicants are required to submit all required documents for the hiring process, **including a completed employment application, résumé via Workday and copies of transcripts and/or industry certifications**, to TSTC's Department of Student Learning at faculty.credentialing@tstc.edu.

- 1) TSTC will ensure that College faculty teaching Dual Credit courses have met acceptable national criminal background checks, which may include fingerprinting.
- 2) Each approved Dual Credit Instructor will be supervised by TSTC's respective designee and

be evaluated and monitored to ensure quality of instruction and compliance with the College's policies and procedures in accordance with TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 1.11 Faculty Credentials](#).

- 3) In the event of an investigation of a personnel matter, the College and the High School Partner(s) will work collaboratively and in a timely manner share any and all information necessary with TSTC's Human Resource office and the corresponding Districts' Human Resource office.

Employment with College is contingent upon the following:

- 1) TSTC complies with the Immigration Reform and Control Act; all positions are contingent upon proof of eligibility to accept employment in the United States. Documentation of eligibility must be provided within 72 hours of application
- 2) Satisfactory evaluation of references and required criminal background checks.
- 3) Satisfactory results of pre-employment medical exam (drug screen only).
- 4) Continued employment is contingent on the required approval, availability of funding, satisfactory performance assessment, and a continued need for the position in the College's department.
- 5) Employees are held responsible for ensuring that **official** transcripts are received by TSTC no later than his or her 30th day of employment. Failure to do so could result in termination of employment.
- 6) Submission of a completed application, along with required documentation, must be done no later than April 20, 2024.
- 7) Continued employment is contingent on an executed MOU with the District and High School Partner.

College DC Instructors will receive stipend pay for the semester the course is taught which will be divided and paid out monthly according to the course start and end dates. Payment may be subject to change should a DC instructor be removed from instruction for any reason (such as extended leave) during the agreed upon semester and course. **Please note: Stipends are contingent on courses taught, not individual sections.** The 2024-2025 stipend system is as follows:

Dual Credit Instructor Stipend Per Semester	\$750 1-2 courses	\$1,250 3-4 courses	\$1,500 5+ courses
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High School Partner(s) and Dual Credit Instructor Expectations:

- 1) The DC Instructor will follow current College procedures to ensure students participating in the course(s) are officially listed on the roster by TSTC's Census date. Any student not on the roster by the 11th day of class (Census Day) will not be enrolled in the course.
- 2) The DC Instructor(s) will report to the designated TSTC Student Learning designee for the program with which they are associated for instructional guidance and support including course delivery expectations.
- 3) DC Instructors will submit required reporting documents through the designated Learning Management System and Workday (such as: submission of midterm and final grades and

certification of rosters) in accordance with all timelines and due dates. **All new Dual Credit Instructors are required to complete Faculty Orientation administered by the Human Resources/ Learning and Development Office prior to the first day of class.**

Please note: If Faculty Orientation or other annual online training required by TSTC is not completed by the Dual Credit Instructor prior to the first day of class, the associated pathway will be in jeopardy of being offered to the High School Partner(s).

- 4) DC instructors will complete an annual online faculty orientation and the Essentials training offered by the Human Resources Learning and Development Team via Workday. DC Instructors must comply with HB 2504 and submit the required curriculum vitae (CV) and the course syllabus by the appropriate deadline each semester.
- 5) The High School Partner(s) will allow release time from high school duties for DC Instructors to complete the required number of hours of faculty development per year as referenced in [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) HR 1.18 Faculty Professional Development](#).
- 6) In order to ensure instructional needs are met, the High School Partner(s) will notify TSTC's Dual Credit office of any DC Instructor personnel changes ninety (90) days prior to the first day of the semester. **Any sections with changes in High School personnel within ninety days of the first day of class may be subject to cancellation.**
- 7) In order to ensure instructional needs are met, if any staffing personnel changes occur due to extended leave, the High School Partner(s) are required to notify the Office of Dual Credit and their supervisory Student Learning designee immediately.
- 8) The rigor of college-level course work can often require additional time outside of class in order to meet all course learning objectives and outcomes; therefore, DC Instructors should encourage students to allow a sufficient amount of time to complete out-of-class work assignments.
- 9) When issuing grades, DC Instructors are not permitted to alter the earned College letter grade scale, which may differ from the High School Partner(s)' numeric grade scale.
- 10) Dual Credit students are expected to meet the required minimum number of contact hours per semester in courses offered at the High School Partner(s)' location.

FACILITIES, TEACHING ENVIRONMENT, ENROLLMENT

Facilities

The High School Partner(s) will work with TSTC to ensure that the High School Partner(s)' facilities meet the expectations and criteria required for college classes, and are appropriate for college-level instruction that include the following:

- 1) **High School Partner(s) are required to enroll a minimum of 15 College Dual Credit students for each offsite course section offered at the High School Partner(s) request.**
- 2) High School Partner(s) will ensure that DC Instructors and Dual Credit students have appropriate access to all available instructional resources and essential technology.
- 3) High School Partners will ensure that all required textbooks, materials and additional supplies will be acquired by the ISD or student prior to the first day of class
- 4) High School Partner(s) shall permit access to TSTC's electronic learning resources when the

- course is taught at the High School Partner(s) facility; and
- 5) High School Partner(s) offering courses shall meet the laboratory safety standards and have materials/equipment that comply with College program requirements.
 - 6) High School Partner(s) will ensure the safety and security of the High School facilities where Dual Credit classes are held on High School leased or owned property.
 - 7) TSTC will ensure the safety and security of the College's facilities where Dual Credit classes are held on College leased or owned property.

The number of courses in a Dual Credit pathway offered at a High School Partner(s) off-site location will be monitored and approved on an annual basis by TSTC's Curriculum Committee. All applicable off-site reporting requirements with TSTC's accreditor, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) will be met in accordance with [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) GA 1.23 SACSCOC Substantive Change Compliance](#). When necessary, TSTC must seek approval from SACSCOC to offer 50% or more credits toward a program at an off-site location before implementation. **Timeline for SACSCOC approval can take up to one year.** Changes to an off-site location including name, physical address, relocation or closure must be reported to TSTC 60 days prior to implementation.

Please note: Failure to ensure Dual Credit Instructors and students have all the required aforementioned resources can impact TSTC's decision to execute subsequent partnership agreements with the High School Partner(s).

Composition of Class

Dual Credit courses will be composed as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board laws and regulations, the [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D and Subchapter G Rule § 4.85](#).

The High School Partner(s) may not enroll both dual credit and non-dual credit students in the same section, unless the creation of a high school credit-only class is not financially viable for the high school and only under one of the following conditions:

- a) If the course is required for completion under State Board of Education High School graduation requirements, and the school is otherwise unable to offer such a course; or
- b) If the high school credit-only students are College Board Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate students; or
- c) If the course is a career and technology/college workforce education course and the high school credit-only students are eligible to earn articulated college credits.

Monitoring Instruction

High School Partner(s) will work with TSTC so that College personnel will have the opportunity to monitor the quality and rigor of instruction in compliance with the College's course syllabus and the standards established by the state of Texas, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the High School Partner(s). TSTC's Student Learning

designee for the program must conduct a faculty evaluation. The evaluation and training shall include, but not be limited to:

- 1) Coordinated check-ins with the Student Learning designee (face-to-face or online);
- 2) A College end-of-semester course and instructor evaluation completed by students sent to their mymail@tstc.edu email account; and
- 3) A mandatory yearly instructor orientation/training session for all DC instructors, offered online during the month of August.

FINANCE AND FUNDING

FAST (Financial Aid for Swift Transfer) Program

TSTC has opted to participate in the [**FAST Program**](#) for the 2024-2025 Academic Year as defined in [**Texas Education Code, Section 61.003\(8\)**](#). Dual Credit students eligible for free Dual Credit tuition, under this program, must meet the following student eligibility requirements:

- 1) are enrolled in an eligible dual credit course at a public school district or charter school (i.e., eligible for Foundation School Program funding); and
- 2) are taking a course offered through an institutional agreement, as outlined in [**TAC, Section 4.84**](#), from an institution of higher education that has opted to participate in FAST; and
- 3) were qualified for free/reduced-price lunch in any of the four school years prior to the academic year in which they enroll in the dual credit course.

The College will adhere to all reporting requirements and deadlines set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to identify eligible students. Student(s) identified as being eligible for free tuition under this program, will not have their tuition invoiced to the ISD.

It is the High School Partner(s) responsibility to:

- 1) **ensure that proper reporting of student(s) economic status is reported to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in order for student eligibility to be determined;**
- 2) **to notify the College of student eligibility in a timely manner; and**
- 3) **to ensure that all other fees related to dual credit courses, including, but not limited to: required textbooks, tools, uniforms, software, supplies, computer specifications, internet, and access to all necessary platforms are supplied to the student(s) at no cost to them.**

Tuition and Fees

Dual Credit courses are offered at a reduced tuition waiver and fee rate of \$33.00 per credit hour. Dual Credit student eligibility and enrollment requirements must be met for the tuition waiver to apply.

Invoicing

TSTC will invoice the High School Partner(s) for all applicable tuition and fee charges under the sponsorship billing process. Invoicing will follow [**Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) FA 1.09**](#)

Refund of Tuition and Fees, unless the fees are specifically designated as non-refundable. Invoicing will begin after student(s) FAST eligibility status has been identified. Students enrolled in semester credit hour courses who drop a course or withdraw from school prior to the first class day shall incur no tuition cost. Students in semester credit hour courses who officially withdraw from school or drop a course after classes begin shall receive their tuition and fees reduced according to the following schedule:

Invoicing fees are as follows:

7 week semester:

TSTC Credit Hour(s)	30% fee Up to 7th class day	75% fee Up to 9th class day	100% fee After 9th class day
1	\$9.90	\$24.75	\$33
2	\$19.80	\$49.50	\$66
3	\$29.70	\$74.25	\$99
4	\$39.60	\$99	\$132

15 week semester:

TSTC Credit Hour(s)	30% fee Up to 14th class day	75% fee Up to 19th class day	100% fee After 19th class day
1	\$9.90	\$24.75	\$33
2	\$19.80	\$49.50	\$66
3	\$29.70	\$74.25	\$99
4	\$39.60	\$99	\$132

The High School Partner(s) will designate a Business Accounting Office Contact to work with TSTC's Student Accounting office regarding invoices. The Business Accounting Office Contact, listed below, will receive the invoices and be responsible for remitting payment to the College.

Business Accounting Office Contact Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Books and Supplemental Materials

The High School Partner(s) are responsible for ensuring students have obtained access to the correct editions of required textbooks, tools, uniforms, software, supplies, computer specifications, internet, and access to all necessary online platforms, etc., **before the first day of the college's class.**

Textbooks, materials, and supplies are available for purchase through the TSTC bookstore at <https://www.tstc.edu/student-life/bookstores/>. Some programs use digital textbooks from a third party platform that is built into the online Learning Management System. The District will receive a separate invoice reflecting the cost of the textbook **if students do not opt out of this option.**

Each semester, the Office of Dual Credit will share the upcoming semester's textbook and additional materials requirements with the High School Partner(s). A list of required materials will be provided via email by the DC office before each semester and will be posted on the DC website at de.tstc.edu, located under the resources section: [Textbook and Materials Information](#).

Please note: Failure to ensure students are prepared for class could result in the student's removal from the course and can impact TSTC's decision to execute subsequent partnership agreements with the High School Partner(s).

Signature _____

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Dual Credit students must abide by the Code of Student Conduct outlined in the current College Catalog and Student Handbook. Dual Credit students will be dismissed for disruptive behavior and referred to their high school principal or designee for disciplinary action on the high school side. Dual Credit students attending classes on TSTC's campus will be treated as college students and are responsible for knowing all rules and regulations of the College. Student conduct violations will be handled through the Code of Student Conduct, [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 3.23 Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Enrolled students will be granted access to both Student Information Systems and Learning Management System platforms which includes grades, transcripts, and other College resources.

Student Grievances/Complaints

Procedures for handling student grievances or complaints, as it relates to the college course or customer service, are applicable to all students, including those enrolled in dual credit courses. Dual Credit students with grievances or complaints shall follow the procedures as stated in TSTC's [Statewide Operating Standard \(SOS\) ES 3.24 Student Grievances and Complaints](#), as published in TSTC's [Student Catalog and Student Handbook](#).

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

TSTC and the High School Partner(s) will adhere to Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA). Students in Dual Credit courses will have access to the same or comparable support services that are afforded College students on the main campus. TSTC is responsible for ensuring timely and efficient access to Student Support Services. Services such as these may require a signed student and/or parent consent form to receive services.

TSTC will adhere to and comply with current College policies and procedures, and federal, state and local laws, that govern the College for individuals and/or students with disabilities that require accommodations.

The High School Partner(s) agree that in classes for which college credit is awarded, accommodations will need to meet standards under the ADAAA and Section 504, subpart E, and will adhere to TSTC's current policies and procedures for determining reasonable accommodations and grievances. Service coordination and costs of required accommodations will be afforded through a collaborative effort. Building and information technology access will be the responsibility of the owner/provider of that infrastructure, including access to web-based curriculum materials.

The High School Partner(s) agree that classes in which high school credit is awarded, the ADAAA and Section 504, subpart D, accommodations will be the responsibility of the High School Partner(s). If an accommodation fundamentally alters the course, college credit will not be awarded. Students with disabilities who require accommodations will be required to self-disclose with TSTC's Access & Learning Accommodations (ALA) Office.

All Dual Credit students have access to supplemental instruction and tutoring services provided by **TSTC's Office of Student Success**. Dual Credit students also have access to the **Advocacy and Resource Center**, which is designed to assist students with non academic barriers, including basic needs, child care, food pantry, lending library and transportation. Students are responsible for contacting the office for services as needed.

It is the responsibility of the Dual Credit students, their parents/legal guardians or sponsoring agents to provide health and accident insurance for the Dual Credit students. Further, High School Partner(s), the Dual Credit students, their parents/legal guardians or sponsoring agents will hold the College harmless and waive any claims, past, current or future, they may have for any death, personal injury, property damage or accidents involving students or visitors while on TSTC's campus or off-campus instructional site locations.

Learning and Library Resources

All Dual Credit students and DC Instructors have access to TSTC's learning and library resources via the Learning Resource Center (http://tstc.edu/student_life/learningresource). Students will receive regular and timely instruction in the use of the library and other resources.

TRANSCRIPTION OF CREDIT

A college grade shall be transcribed upon completion of the semester for the courses in which they are officially enrolled and will adhere to the current grading policy. The High School Partner(s) agree to evaluate the learning objectives to be achieved by students completing the College's Dual Credit

college courses and to transcribe credit on the student's high school transcript accordingly.

ARTICULATED CREDIT

The College does not offer articulated credit as an alternative to Dual Credit to the High School Partner(s).

CAMPUS ACTIVITY AND TRANSPORTATION

The College assumes no obligation or responsibility for the transportation of students to or from the College's campus or any other training facility. Students that have a free period while on the College's campus will not be monitored. The High School Partner(s) shall hold harmless the College for any death, personal injury, property damage and/or campus disruption caused by High School Partner(s) personnel or students. The College is not responsible for High School Partner(s)' students who leave the College's grounds.

FERPA

The Parties agree to maintain the records for all students by all applicable federal, state and local laws. For the purposes of this MOU, pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), TSTC hereby designates the High School Partner(s) as a school official with legitimate education-related interests in the educational records of the students who participate in the Dual Credit program to the extent that access to the records is required by the High School Partner(s) to carry out the functions of the program. The Parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of the students' educational records in accordance with the provisions of FERPA. The Parties shall not release educational records to any third party without written consent by the affected student.

CYBERSECURITY TRAINING

If District has access to a TSTC computer system or database, District represents and warrants that it will comply with the requirements of Section 2054.5192 of the Texas Government Code relating to cybersecurity training certified by the Department of Information Resources (DIR) and required verification of completion of the training program. A [Third Party Vendor](#) form must be signed by the High School Partner(s) designee before access is granted to the College's learning management system.

FORCE MAJEURE

Neither Party to this MOU will be liable or responsible to the other for any loss or damage, or for any delays or failure to perform, due to causes beyond its reasonable control including, but not limited to, acts of God, strikes, epidemics, pandemics, war, riots, flood, fire, sabotage, or any other circumstances of like character ("Force Majeure Occurrence"). However, at the sole discretion of TSTC, the term may be extended in an amount necessary for TSTC to complete the purposes of this MOU, which delay(s) have been caused by the Force Majeure Occurrence, and during said extension, the High School Partner shall work diligently in accordance with this MOU to complete the purposes of this MOU.

TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT

Notwithstanding any provisions of this MOU to the contrary, the High School Partner(s) understands that TSTC will comply with the Texas Public Information Act, Gov't Code, Chapter 552 as interpreted by judicial opinions and opinions of the attorney general of the state of Texas. TSTC will notify High School Partner(s) of receipt of a request for information related to this MOU. High School Partner(s) will cooperate with TSTC in the production of documents responsive to the request.

High School Partner(s) may request that TSTC seek an opinion from the attorney general of the state of Texas; however, TSTC will not honor High School Partner(s)'s request for an opinion if the request is not based upon a reasonable interpretation of the Texas Public Information Act. Additionally, High School Partner(s) will notify TSTC's Office of General Counsel of any third-party requests for information that was provided by the state of Texas for use in conducting this MOU. This MOU and all data and other information generated or otherwise obtained in the performance of its responsibilities under this MOU may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act. High School Partner(s) is required to make any information created or exchanged with the state pursuant to this MOU, and not otherwise excepted, from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the state. High School Partner(s) agrees to maintain the confidentiality of information received from the state of Texas during the performance of this MOU, including information which discloses confidential personal information, particularly, but not limited to, Social Security numbers.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Any change to the terms of this MOU must be presented in written form and agreed upon by both TSTC and the High School Partner(s) at least thirty (30) days before any term or provision may be changed.

COUNTERPARTS

This MOU may be executed in one or more counterparts and may be electronically transmitted. Each counterpart shall be deemed an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

The effective date of this MOU is active upon signature of all parties and applies to the **2024-2025 academic year**.

SIGNATURES

The persons signing this MOU represent, each to the other, that they are authorized to sign for and bind their respective institutions.

Texas State Technical College

1902 North Loop 499
Harlingen, TX 78550

By:

Date:

Eladio Jaimez
Provost

By:

Date:

Kadie R. Svrcek
Executive Director, Office of Dual Credit

High School Partner Brownsville ISD

1900 Price Road
Brownsville, TX 78521

By:

Date:

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez,
Superintendent
Brownsville ISD

Attachment: **Exhibit A** is a copy of Texas State Technical College's Dual Credit Pathway Offering Form. This exhibit serves as an example ONLY. The formal Pathway Offering Form will be sent to the High School Partner(s) after receipt of this Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding. **Exhibit A**



TSTC PATHWAY OFFERING FORM

In the spaces below, please indicate the pathways _____ High School proposes to participate in for the 2024 - 2025 Academic Year.

Please note: The pathways indicated on this form will initiate the development of an application for dual credit students at your high school. Dual Credit students will only be allowed to participate in the pathways listed below.

High School Information:

ISD Name /Texas Home School/ Other Entity:			
High School/ Home School Name:			
High School Principal Name / CTE Designee:		CEEB Code:	
Email Address:			

Pathway Offering Information:

Dual Credit Program Name	Courses Comprising Pathway	Instructional Format <small>On-campus, Off-site or Online</small>

Signatures of Approval:

High School Principal or CTE Designee		Signature		Date
Student Learning Designee(s)		Signature(s)		Date
Executive Director of Dual Credit		Signature		Date

TSTC/ Brownsville Suggested Crosswalk of Courses

Please note: All Crosswalks provided for our Dual Credit programs are suggestions. It is the responsibility of the ISD to ensure the PEIMS codes used, are commensurate with ISD needs and correct reporting to the TEA. Courses are subject to change.

Structural Welding Dual Credit Pathway

Course	Course name	(CTE TEKS Titles)	(PEIMS)
WLDG 1407	Introduction to Welding Using Multiple Processes	Welding I	13032300
WLDG 1313	Introduction to Blueprint Reading for Welders		
WLDG 1428	Introduction to Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)	Welding II/ Welding II Lab	13032410
TECM 1303	Technical Calculations		

Cybersecurity Certificate I

Course	Course name	(CTE TEKS Titles)	(PEIMS)
ITSC 1325	Personal Computer Hardware	Principles of Information Technology	13027310
ITNW 1325	Fundamentals of Networking Technologies		
ITNW 1354	Implementing and Supporting Servers	Computer Maintenancing Lab	13027310
ITSY 1374	Secure Linux Administration		
ITNW 2321	Networking with TCP/IP	Networking/ Lab	13027410

Cybersecurity Certificate II

Course	Course name	(CTE TEKS Titles)	(PEIMS)
ITSC 1325	Personal Computer Hardware	Principles of Information Technology	13027310
ITNW 1325	Fundamentals of Networking Technologies		
ITNW 1354	Implementing and Supporting Servers	Computer Maintenancing Lab	13027310
ITSY 1374	Secure Linux Administration		
ITNW 2321	Networking with TCP/IP	Networking/ Lab	13027410
ITSY 2312	Routers		
ITNW 2355	Server Virtualization	Practicum in STEM	13037400
ITSY 1342	Information Technology Server		
ITSY 2301	Firewalls and Network Security	Practicum in STEM	13037405
ITSY 2330	Intrusion Detection		
ITNW 2350	Enterprise Network	Practicum in STEM	13037410
ITSY 1375	Security Scripting		