

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
REGARDING DIRECT ADMISSIONS LOBO PLEDGE HIGH SCHOOL
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between Sul Ross State University (SRSU), a member of The Texas State System and an agency of the state of Texas, and the Ector County Independent School District (ECISD), with its primary offices located in Odessa, Texas.

The partnership between ECISD and SRSU furthers the educational mission of each institution. ECISD benefits by ensuring higher educational opportunities for their college-bound students following high school graduation with SRSU; and SRSU benefits from the targeted and intentional promotion of its educational opportunities to the college-bound students of ECISD.

ECISD and SRSU desire to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding the **Direct Admission** of students graduating from Ector County ISD who have fulfilled SRSU admission requirements and completed the Lobo Pledge. The parties therefore agree as follows:

- I. SRSU shall grant automatic direct admission acceptance to all students who graduate from Ector County ISD who meet the following criteria:
 - a. Student has a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
 - b. Student has applied to SRSU through applytexas.org.
 - c. Student has completed the Lobo Pledge stating SRSU is among their top 3 choices of Universities to attend upon graduation from high school.
 - d. Student has a final High School transcript submitted to SRSU before the first day of enrollment.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- II. SRSU shall waive any requirement that Pledged students submit scores from the ACT (American College Test) or SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) to be considered for admission. ECISD acknowledges that students should be aware that not submitting test scores may compromise their consideration for scholarships.
- III. SRSU shall waive the admissions application fee for all ECISD Pledged students.
- IV. SRSU shall contact ECISD counselors to notify them of scholarship opportunities available to ECISD high school graduates as such opportunities become available.
- V. SRSU shall provide intentional support to ECISD students in the form of workshops with financial aid (FASFA) and ApplyTexas applications. Other activities are subject to further discussion by the parties and the availability of necessary resources.
- VI. ECISD will provide the final HS transcript and vaccination records for any student eligible for this Direct Admissions program to complete their required documents.

- VII. ECISD shall generally promote the availability of the opportunity described in section I to all of its students, parents, and community stakeholders, and shall specifically inform each qualifying graduate of the opportunity for direct admission to SRSU upon submission of application and Lobo Pledge.
- VIII. ECISD will extend invitations to SRSU for any scheduled College Night, recruiting event, and athletic signing day events so that SRSU can be in attendance to promote this partnership and the partnership between SRSU and Odessa College (SRSU@OC Program).
- IX. ECISD will provide SRSU with the Junior and Senior rosters with the information as outlined in the Data Sharing Agreement in **Addendum 1**, to include (but not limited to) student name, email address, mailing address, phone number, grade, and interested area of study (if known).

GENERAL STATEMENTS:


- X. Each provision of this MOU is severable. Suppose any provision is rendered invalid or unenforceable by statute or regulations or declared null and void by any court of competent jurisdiction. In that case, the remaining provisions will remain in full force and effect if the essential terms of this MOU remain valid, legal, and enforceable.
- XI. This MOU is the complete, final, and exclusive statement of the parties as to its subject matter, and supersedes any previous agreements or understandings between the parties as to that subject matter. This MOU may be amended, modified, or supplemented only by a written agreement signed by both parties. Any waiver of the terms and conditions of this MOU must be in writing and signed by the party granting such waiver and will not waive any other failure to perform.
- XII. Any notices required or permitted under this Agreement will be deemed given (a) three business days after it is sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, (b) the next business day after it is sent by overnight courier, or (c) on the date of delivery if delivered personally, and in each case, addressed to the intended recipient at the address below signature or such other address as the intended recipient may specify in writing.
- XIII. As used in this MOU, the term "partnership" (including all its derivatives) is used solely with the meaning of "collaboration" and is not intended to create any rights or obligations (other than those agreemental obligations expressly provided in this agreement) under the laws of partnership of any jurisdiction. The parties intend to be independent agreementors, and neither party may bind the other or otherwise act in any way as the representative of the other, unless specifically authorized, in advance and in writing, to do so, and then only for the limited purpose stated in such authorization.
- XIV. This MOU is in effect at the time of execution and will renew automatically until 08/01/2028, unless terminated by either party with written notice to the other no later than January 31 of each year.

The parties have executed this MOU on the dates indicated below.

**ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

SUPERINTENDENT SIGNATURE



PROVOST SIGNATURE

DATE: _____

DATE: 11/7/24

ECISD Superintendent
802 N Sam Houston
Odessa TX 79761

Sul Ross State University Provost
East Highway 90
Alpine TX 79832



Addendum 1: Data Sharing Agreement

This Data Sharing Agreement is made between ^{Sul Ross State University} _____ (“Provider”) and the Ector County Independent School District (“District”). The District and Provider will be referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively referred to as the “Parties”.

1. DEFINITION, USE, AND TREATMENT OF DATA.

- A. Data shall include, but is not limited to, the following: student data, employee data, metadata, user content, course content, materials, and any and all data and information that the District (or any authorized end user(s)) uploads or enters through their use of the Provider's services. Data also includes all personally identifiable information in education records, directory data, and other non- public information. Student data specifically includes any information pertaining to students enrolled in the District and former students, in any format, maintained by the District, and may include “educational records” as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”). A specific list of data to be shared is provided in the Appendix.
- B. The District owns and retains rights, title and interest to, or has appropriate possessory rights in, Data. Provider makes no claim of license, title or ownership to or in Data.
- C. All Data accessed or used by the Provider shall at all times be treated as confidential by Provider and shall not be copied, used, or disclosed by Provider for any purpose not related to providing services to the District. As outlined in more detail below, Provider recognizes that personally identifiable information is protected against disclosure by Federal and State Statutes and Regulations, and Provider agrees to comply with said restrictions.

2. PURPOSE, SCOPE, AND DURATION.

- A. For Provider to provide services to the District it may become necessary for the District to share certain Data related to the District’s students, employees, business practices, and/or intellectual property.



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

- B. The Parties acknowledge that the District is subject to FERPA, which law and supporting regulations generally address certain obligations of an educational agency or institution that receives federal funds regarding disclosure of personally identifiable information in education records. As set forth in more detail below, the Parties agree that the Provider is a “school official” under FERPA and has a legitimate educational interest in personally identifiable information from education records because Provider:
- (1) provides an institutional service or function for which the District would otherwise use employees;
 - (2) is under the direct control of the District with respect to the use and maintenance of education records; and
 - (3) is subject to the requirements of FERPA governing the use and disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records.
- C. The parties expect and anticipate that the Provider may receive personally identifiable information in education records from the District only as an incident of service or training that Provider provides to the District pursuant to this Agreement and Services Agreement. Provider shall be permitted to use any such personally identifiable information in education records as a function of performing its duties and obligations. Provider represents that it shall not use or further disclose any personally identifiable information in education records other than as a function of performing its duties and obligations.
- D. This Agreement becomes effective immediately upon the date of execution and shall remain in effect during the time that Provider provides services to the District. Provider agrees to use said Data solely for the purposes of providing services to the District.



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

- E. At the conclusion of this Agreement, Provider agrees to destroy or transfer to the District under the direction of the District all Data relating to the District, its students, and its employees that Provider may have in its possession or in the possession of any subcontractors or agents to which the Provider may have transferred Data within five business days of the conclusion of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing.
- 3. DATA COLLECTION.**
- A. Provider will only collect Data necessary to fulfill its duties as outlined in this Agreement and the Services Agreement.
- 4. DATA USE.**
- A. Provider will use Data only for the purpose of fulfilling its duties and providing services under this Agreement, and for the improving of services under this Agreement and the Services Agreement.
- 5. DATA DE-IDENTIFICATION.**
- A. Provider may use de-identified Data for product development, research, or other purposes. De-identified Data will have all direct and indirect personal identifiers removed. This includes, but is not limited to, name, identification numbers, dates of birth, demographic information, location information, and school identification. Further, Provider agrees not to attempt to re-identify de-identified Data and not to transfer de-identified Data to any party authorized to receive such Data pursuant to this Agreement unless that party agrees not to attempt re-identification.
- 6. MARKETING AND ADVERTISING PROHIBITED.**
- A. Provider shall not use any Data to advertise or market to students, their parents, or District employees or officials.



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

7. DATA MINING.

- A. Provider is prohibited from mining Data for any purposes other than those agreed to in writing by the Parties. Data mining or scanning of user content for the purpose of advertising or marketing to students or their parents is prohibited. Data mining is defined as the process of analyzing data from different perspectives and summarizing it into useful information by finding correlations or patterns among data fields in relational databases.

8. DATA SHARING.

- A. Provider shall not share Data with any additional parties, including but not limited to an authorized subcontractor or non-employee agent, without prior written consent of the District or as authorized by the District pursuant to the Services Agreement.
- B. In the event any person(s) seeks to access any Data beyond the access that is provided to Provider's employees for purposes of providing services to the District under this Agreement or beyond the access that is granted by the District under the Services Agreement, Provider will immediately inform the District of such request in writing unless expressly prohibited by law or judicial order. The District will respond to all requests for Data received by Provider; Provider will not respond in any way to such requests for Data unless required by law. Provider shall only retrieve requested Data upon receipt of, and in accordance with, written directions by the District, and Provider shall only provide such Data with express written consent from the District.
- C. Should Provider receive a court order or lawfully issued subpoena seeking the release of such Data or information, Provider shall immediately provide notification in writing to the District of its receipt of such court order or lawfully issued subpoena and shall



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

immediately provide the District with a copy of such court or lawfully issued subpoena prior to releasing the requested Data or information.

9. DATA TRANSFER OR DESTRUCTION.

- A. Provider will ensure that all Data in its possession and in the possession of any subcontractors or agents to which the Provider may have transferred Data are destroyed or transferred to the District under the direction of the District when the Data are no longer needed for the specified purpose, but in no event later than within five business days of the termination of this Agreement.

10. RIGHTS AND LICENSE IN AND TO DATA.

- A. Parties agree that all rights, including all intellectual property rights, to Data shall remain the exclusive property of the District, and Provider has a limited, nonexclusive license solely for the purpose of performing its obligations as outlined in the Agreement and the Services Agreement. This Agreement does not give Provider any rights, implied or otherwise, to Data, content, or intellectual property, except as expressly stated in the Agreement or the Services Agreement. This includes the right to sell or trade Data.

11. ACCESS.

- A. Any Data held by Provider will be made available to the District immediately upon request by the District.

12. SECURITY CONTROLS.

- A. Provider shall store and process Data in accordance with industry best practices. This includes appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to secure Data from unauthorized access, disclosure and use.
- B. Provider shall conduct periodic risk assessments and remediate any identified security vulnerabilities in a timely manner.



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

- C. Provider shall also have a written incident response plan, which shall include, but is not limited to, prompt notification to the District in the event of a security or privacy incident, as well as procedures for responding to a breach of any of the District's Data in Provider's possession. Provider agrees to share its incident response plan upon request.

13. NOTIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES.

- A. Provider shall not change how Data is collected, used, or shared under the terms of this Agreement in any way without advance notice to, and consent from, the District.
- B. Provider shall provide notice to the District of any proposed change to its Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, and/or any similar policies/procedures thirty (30) days prior to the implementation of any such change. The District may terminate the Agreement with Provider upon notification of amendment to such terms.

14. NOTIFICATION OF DATA BREACH.

- A. When Provider becomes aware of a disclosure or security breach concerning any Data covered by this Agreement, Provider shall immediately notify the District and take immediate steps to limit and mitigate the damage of such security breach to the greatest extent possible.
- B. The Parties agree that any breach of the privacy and/or confidentiality obligation set forth in the Agreement may, at the District's discretion, result in the District immediately terminating this Agreement and refusing to enter into a contract with Provider or otherwise allow Provider access to any District Data for a period of not less than five (5) years.
- C. In addition to and notwithstanding any termination provision set forth in the underlying agreement(s) in which the District shares Data with Provider, this Agreement and such underlying agreement(s) may be terminated by the District if Provider fails to cure such



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

breach within thirty (30) days of receiving written notice from the District of such breach provided that it was directly caused by the Provider's actions or omissions (or such longer time necessary to cure such breach if the breach cannot be cured in 30 days). The Party in breach shall identify to the non-breaching Party all steps taken to cure such breach and the estimated timeframe for such cure.

15. INDEMNIFICATION.

- A. Provider shall indemnify and hold harmless the District and its officers, agents, subcontractors, and employees, from any and all claims, losses, suits, or liability, including reasonable attorneys' fees for damages or costs directly resulting from the acts or omissions of Provider that directly cause a breach of personally identifiable information or data, or its officers, agents, subcontractors, or employees while performing under this Agreement.

16. TERMINATION.

- A. The District may terminate this agreement at any time at its discretion upon written notification to Provider. If the District terminates the Agreement, or if Provider ceases to perform services for the District that requires access to Data, Provider shall return to the District all Data delivered to it or collected during the course of the Agreement. Further, Provider shall certify to the District in writing within five (5) business days of the notice of termination to Provider that all copies of the Data stored in any manner by Provider have been returned to the District and permanent erasure or destruction. These industry best practices include, but are not limited to, ensuring that all files are completely overwritten and are unrecoverable. Industry best practices do not include simple file deletions or media high-level formatting operations.

17. SEVERABILITY.



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

- A. The provisions of this Agreement are severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any portion of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable, the court's ruling will not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement.

18. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.

- A. This document states the entire agreement between Provider and the District with respect to its subject matter and supersedes any previous and contemporaneous or oral representation, statements, negotiations, or agreements. For avoidance of doubt, the limitation of liability provision set forth in the Services Agreement will apply to this Agreement.

19. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION.

- A. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Texas. Venue shall lie in Ector County, Texas for any dispute arising out of this Agreement.

Provider

Signature of Authorized Representative
Bernardo Cantans

Printed Name
Provost + Executive VP.

Position
11/17/2024

Date

Ector County Independent School District

Signature of Authorized Representative

Printed Name

Position

Date



DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

APPENDIX

EXHIBIT "A"

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES FROM PROVIDER:

Our University Admissions Office will review the student data provided by Ector County Independent School District to make informed admissions decisions. This data will facilitate a streamlined process for granting university enrollment opportunities to qualified students, thereby supporting their post-secondary educational aspirations.

EXHIBIT " B"

SCHEDULE OF DATA

Instructions: Provider should identify if District data is collected to provide the described services. If District data is collected to provide the described services, check the boxes indicating the data type collected. If there is data collected that is not listed, use the "Other" category to list the data collected.

We do not collect District Data to provide the described services.

We do collect District Data to provide the described services.

SCHEDULE OF DATA

Category of Data	Elements	Check if used by your system
Application Technology Meta Data	IP Addresses of users, Use of cookies etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other application technology meta data-Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Application Use Statistics	Meta data on user interaction with application- Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessment	Standardized test scores	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Observation data	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other assessment data-Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attendance	Student school (daily) attendance data	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student class attendance data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communications	Online communications that are captured (emails, blog entries)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct	Conduct or behavioral data	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Birth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Demographics	Place of Birth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Ethnicity or race	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Language information (native, preferred, or primary language spoken by student)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other demographic information-Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enrollment	Student school enrollment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Student grade level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Homeroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Guidance counselor	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Specific curriculum programs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Year of graduation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other enrollment information-Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent/Guardian Contact Information	Address	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent/Guardian ID	Parent ID number (created to link parents to students)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent/Guardian Name	First and/or Last	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schedule	Student scheduled courses	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Teacher names	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Indicator	English language learner information	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Low income status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Medical alerts /health data	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student disability information	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Specialized education services (IEP or 504)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Living situations (homeless/foster care)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other indicator information-Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Student Contact Information	Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Email	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Phone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student Identifiers	Local (School district) ID number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	State ID number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Vendor/App assigned student ID number	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student app username	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student app passwords	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Name	First and/or Last	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student In App Performance	Program/application performance (typing program-student types 60 wpm, reading program-student reads below grade level)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Program Membership	Academic or extracurricular activities a student may belong to or participate in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student Survey Responses	Student responses to surveys or questionnaires	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student work	Student generated content; writing, pictures etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other student work data -Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transcript	Student course grades	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Student course data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Student course grades/performance scores	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other transcript data -Please specify:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Diploma Type, Endorsements	

Transportation	Student bus assignment	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student pick up and/or drop off location	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Student bus card ID number	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other transportation data -Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	Please list each additional data element used, stored, or collected through the services defined in Exhibit A. If the additional data being requested will not fit in the box below, please add additional pages to the end of this document as appendices as needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Our University Admissions Office will review the student data provided by Ector County Independent School District to make informed admissions decisions. This data will facilitate a streamlined process for granting university enrollment opportunities to qualified students, thereby supporting their post-secondary educational aspirations.