

CONNECT TO FSU PANAMA CITY ARTICULATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN FLORIDA STATE  
UNIVERSITY PANAMA CITY AND  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Florida State University Panama City, acting on behalf of the Florida State University Board of Trustees, a public body corporate (FSUPC), and Northwest Florida State College, acting on behalf of the Northwest Florida State College Board of Trustees, a Florida public educational institution operated as a part of the Florida College System, agree to the creation of a program intended to increase the number of associate's degrees and bachelor's degrees in the State of Florida, entitled *CONNECT TO FSU PANAMA CITY at Northwest Florida State College*.

PROGRAM GOAL

Strengthen the current model of collaboration between FSUPC and Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) to provide a seamless pathway to admission to FSUPC for NWFSC graduates who complete the Associate in Arts degree successfully with all the academic requirements for the major they wish to pursue at FSUPC while enrolled at NWFSC. Students in the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program will have the same access to academic programs and majors at FSU as students who begin their academic careers at FSUPC.

FSUPC and NWFSC agree to the following objectives of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program:

- A. Increased enrollment and Associate in Arts degree completion at NWFSC.
- B. Increased percentage of NWFSC College Associate in Arts degree completers transferring to FSUPC to complete their bachelor's degree.
- C. Increased communication and collaboration between the admissions offices and the academic advising offices at FSUPC and NWFSC with a focus on student success.
- D. Increased opportunities for *Connect to FSU Panama City* program students to interact with FSUPC students and staff.

AGREEMENT

Therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises and conditions set forth in this program articulation agreement and in order to carry out the goal and objectives of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program, FSUPC and NWFSC agree to the following terms and conditions:

**I. Program Delivery**

- A. FSUPC and NWFSC will identify a primary point of contact for each of their campuses who will be empowered to jointly manage the functions of this program to include ongoing student outreach, support, and advising necessary for success.
- B. FSUPC and NWFSC will develop cooperative strategies to raise awareness of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program, including a website presence at each school and outreach activities to service area high schools.

- D. FSUPC and NWFSC will align advising materials to assure a seamless transition to FSUPC.
- E. NWFSC advisors will provide special advising to and monitoring of *Connect to FSU Panama City* program students to ease their transition to FSUPC.
- F. FSUPC advisors will have a regular presence in NWFSC's Advising Center and will conduct special advising sessions for students in the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program.
- G. NWFSC and FSUPC will hold special transition activities for NWFSC students to prepare them to transfer, sharing information to help facilitate their integration with FSUPC campus life.

## II. Initial and Continued Program Eligibility

- A. Any first-time-in-college student enrolled in an AA degree program at NWFSC can participate in the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program. (Students who have previously attended another college, especially veterans, may be eligible depending upon the number of credit hours completed and overall academic performance.)
- B. In order to maintain eligibility, a student must stay continually enrolled for at least six credits each semester (excluding summers), until the Associate in Arts degree is completed; maintain satisfactory academic progress per agreed-upon criteria established by NWFSC and FSUPC; and complete successfully all state-mandated common course prerequisites as well as any other academic requirements for the intended major at FSUPC.
- C. Students who meet all *Connect to FSU Panama City* program requirements as stated in (B) above are guaranteed admission to FSUPC. FSUPC reserves the right to refuse enrollment to any student for judicial reasons.

## III. Data Sharing and Use

- A. Data collected in relationship to the program will be shared between the two institutions. When students sign up for the program, they will give permission for the two institutions to share relevant information to include transcripts, GPA, grades, program of study, contact information, potential transfer dates, degrees awarded, and other data as may be necessary to assist the student in their transition to FSUPC.
- B. NWFSC will code *Connect to FSU Panama City* participants in their student system to allow for the monitoring of performance and personalized communication.
- C. NWFSC will provide the FSUPC Admissions Office with the name and contact information of *Connect to FSU Panama City* program participants at the end of the term in which they complete 30 semester hours of credit, to enable targeted outreach about transition steps.
- D. *Connect to FSU Panama City* students will be encouraged by both parties to complete the Associate of Arts degree prior to transfer to FSUPC. FSUPC will provide NWFSC with appropriate data regarding credits earned by students in the program at FSUPC who transfer prior to receiving an Associate of Arts degree in order to allow NWFSC to award such degree, if appropriate.
- E. NWFSC and FSUPC will share performance data on *Connect to FSU Panama City* program participants during the summer on an annual basis.

- F. A joint meeting of NWFSC and FSUPC will occur each year the agreement is in effect to assess the program and to make recommendations for future improvement.
- G. NWFSC and FSUPC agree that they will use and maintain student records received from the other party only in furtherance of the Program and in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (20 USCA 1232g) and Sections 1002.22 and 1006.52, F.S. Further, both parties agree that they will not disclose such information to any third party except in accordance with the aforementioned laws.

**IV. Marketing/Recruitment**

A. NWFSC and FSUPC will jointly develop a program logo, marketing materials, print ads, radio ads, and other media materials to inform prospective students of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program. Each institution agrees to limit the use of the other's name and associated brands for purposes of this agreement only, and only when prior approval has been granted. This agreement does not authorize either party to express themselves on behalf of the other, either verbally or in writing, or to act on each other's behalf.

B. The admission websites of NWFSC and FSUPC will have information on the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program in all appropriate places.

C. FSUPC agrees to participate whenever possible in any NWFSC recruitment event, whether on campus or in the service area high schools, to increase awareness of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program.

**V. Annual Assessment**

NWFSC and FSUPC will conduct an annual assessment of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program and make recommendations for any needed improvements to the program. Additional reviews may be held, if necessary, to address legislated mandates or policy updates occurring after the effective date of this agreement.

**VI. Term/Termination/Modification**

This agreement shall become effective on the last date executed by the parties below. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the other party, given at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Termination date. However, it is understood that students currently being served through the program will be allowed to complete their transition to FSUPC without losing any benefits of the *Connect to FSU Panama City* program. This agreement is subject to modification or change at any time upon mutual written consent.

EXECUTION DATE/SIGNATURES

The persons executing this Agreement represent and warrant that they have the full power and authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the entities for which they are signing.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

By: Randy Hearn

6/20/17

Date

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Northwest Florida State College

By: Tricia Seminger

6-20-17

Date

By: [Signature]

6-20-17

Date