

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Motlow State Community College
And
Middle Tennessee State University**

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) is by and between **Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU)** and **Motlow State Community College**. The purpose of this MOU is to establish a relationship that provides Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) for students of Motlow State Community College. The purpose of the Prior Learning Assessment agreement is to help Motlow State Community College adult learners decrease time to the Associate Degree in General Studies, facilitate a smooth transition to MTSU after successfully completing the Associate degree, and provide hours toward the baccalaureate degree.

Motlow State Community College is a public, multi-campus college in southern middle Tennessee offering certificates, associate degrees, and flexible learning pathways. For over 45 years, Motlow State Community College has proven to be a student-centered institution that promotes academic excellence as well as personal and professional growth.

The original campus is located in Moore County on 187 acres of land donated by the late Senator Reagor Motlow and family. In addition to the Moore County campus, the College boasts three learning centers in Fayetteville, McMinnville and Smyrna. The College serves over 540,000 citizens in Motlow's 11-county service area including: Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, Dekalb, Franklin, Lincoln, Moore, Rutherford, Van Buren, Warren and White.

The wide range of quality academic programs offered at Motlow results from the steady expansion of degree programs to provide alternatives for changing educational needs. In addition to general education courses, students may choose from two-year degree programs in over forty disciplines.

Motlow's highly ranked, accredited nursing program has consistently exceeded National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) pass rates at both the national and state levels. Other programs of national merit include the Education program, which was recently named one of the Top 50 Community College Education Programs in the country, and the Business program which recently earned reaccreditation from the Association for Collegiate Business Schools and Programs.

The College has partnered with other in-state universities allowing rural citizens to obtain four-year degrees while staying close to home. The 2+2 program in Elementary Education (K-6) in

partnership with Tennessee Technological University allows students to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education in Motlow classrooms. The Management and Human Relations (MHR) program through Trevecca Nazarene University enables working adults to earn a bachelor's degree in 13 months by attending class one night a week at the Moore County campus. In addition, the 2+2 program in Criminal Justice Administration takes advantage of Motlow's partnership with Tennessee State University where students attend classes at Motlow's Moore county campus to work towards a bachelor's degree.

Motlow provides area high school students the opportunity to get a jump start on college courses with dual/joint enrollment. The Adult College Express (ACE), a fast-track degree program designed for busy adults, leads to the Associate of Science in General Studies and the Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education.

The quality, flexibility and variety of programs offered at Motlow meet the needs of students whether they are still in high school, recent high school graduates, returning to complete a degree, or seeking higher education for the first time as an adult student. Motlow State changes lives with faculty and staff that are committed to the success of students.

Motlow State Community College Statement of Mission

Motlow State Community College is a public, multi-campus college offering certificates, associate degrees, and flexible learning pathways for early transfer, college preparation, and workforce training. Students are prepared for employment, career advancement, and four-year college or university transfer. The College serves an eleven- county area comprised of full-time, part-time, traditional, and non-traditional age students from diverse socio-economic populations with disparate educational and cultural backgrounds. The College offers high quality accredited educational programs and a variety of support services emphasizing and promoting student success.

Middle Tennessee State University, situated at the geographic center of the state in Murfreesboro, is the oldest and largest institution in the Tennessee Board of Regents system. With an enrollment of about 23,000 students, it is the No. 1 producer of graduates for the Greater Nashville economy. On September 11, 1911, Middle Tennessee State Normal School opened as one of three teacher preparatory schools in the state of Tennessee. Today, MTSU is a Carnegie Doctoral Research Intensive University that occupies more than 1,000 acres in Rutherford County including a 500-acre main campus, an agricultural campus, an aerospace facility at the Murfreesboro Airport, and the Miller Horse Science Center. MTSU houses a wide variety of nationally recognized academic degree programs at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. The University is composed of eight undergraduate colleges, offering more than 40 departments and more than 140 degree programs. The College of Graduate Studies offers

more than 100 degree programs. It has received regional, national, and international acclaim for a variety of programs and activities including distinctive offerings in programs as diverse as recording industry management, horse science, aerospace, and a first-of-its-kind academic program in concrete industry management. Many more traditional programs—agricultural science, nursing, accounting, and education, among others—are considered to be among the best in the region. A 250,000-square-foot, \$147 million Science Building, which opened in the 2014 fall semester, represents one of the most significant investments made by the state of Tennessee toward the enhancement of science and technology education.

Statement of Mission

Middle Tennessee State University is a comprehensive university that embraces its role as the destination of choice for Tennessee undergraduates while expanding its reach nationally and internationally through signature programs and select master's and doctoral programs. The University generates, preserves, and disseminates knowledge and innovation and uses scholarship to enhance teaching and public service. The University is committed to preparing students to thrive in their chosen professions and a changing global society.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Motlow State Community College** will actively promote MTSU as their partner for providing Prior Learning Assessment for their students.
- **Motlow State Community College** will provide space three times per semester for hybrid class meetings.
- **Motlow State Community College** will identify students who can benefit from PLA encourage them to contact MTSU (University College).
- **Middle Tennessee State University** will provide the PRST 3010 (Prior Learning Assessment) course for Motlow State Community College students each semester.
- **Middle Tennessee State University** will provide advising unique to the PRST 3010 course.
- PLA credit identified through the class will be transcribed by **Middle Tennessee State University**.
- **Middle Tennessee State University** will provide instructions to ACE and other General Studies majors who enroll in PRST 3010, regarding the process of reverse transferring PLA credits from MTSU to Motlow State Community College to fulfill elective requirements for the Associate of Science in General Studies.

- **Middle Tennessee State University** will also provide training to appropriate Motlow State Community College faculty for assessing course-specific prior learning and work with Motlow State Community College students to develop course-specific portfolios.

While the Parties anticipate significant mutual benefit from collaborative efforts, this MOU does not constitute a commitment by either Party regarding specific projects or the use of specific resources to achieve the purposes of this MOU.

All collaborative efforts to be undertaken pursuant to this MOU will be agreed upon and documented in separate written agreements, executed by the relevant Parties, to specify the commitments and obligations of the Parties.

Both Parties will jointly develop an annual summary of collaborations and other joint initiatives during an annual meeting including at least one representative of each institution. Further, both Parties will speak regularly, no less than once a quarter, to discuss and evaluate effectiveness of collaborative efforts, as well as develop and refine additional strategies and opportunities of mutual benefit.

OTHER TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT

- This MOU may be amended in writing and signed by both parties.
- No funds are committed and no legal obligations are created by this MOU. Any commitment of funds shall be made under separate documents.
- Any necessary agreements regarding intellectual property will be addressed in the specific written research agreements referred to in the Roles and Responsibilities section.
- Conflicts or issues may arise which cannot be resolved between Motlow State Community College and MTSU personnel. Such conflicts or issues should be raised to the necessary level of management to obtain resolution. It is expected that normal communications channels will be used for routine issues; however, should satisfactory resolutions not be obtained through normal interactions, representatives of the Parties will take the issues up their respective organizational levels until the issues are resolved.
- This MOU will be in effect for a period of three (3) years and may thereafter be extended by mutual agreement of the parties before the termination date. Either Party may terminate this agreement by giving written notice to the other Party; this MOU will terminate 30 days thereafter or the end of the current academic year, whichever is most appropriate.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES

C18-1260

Those individuals whose signatures appear below hereby certify they are authorized to sign on behalf of the respective Parties to this MOU. This MOU will be executed in duplicate and is not effective until signed by both Parties.

Motlow State Community College



Michael Torrance
President
Motlow State Community College

6/18/18
Date

MTSU



Alan R. Thomas
Vice President, Business and Finance
Middle Tennessee State University

5-22-18
Date