

UC 8863 065

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR  
JOINT ADMISSIONS  
BETWEEN**

RECEIVED MAR 29 2006

**The University of Houston System:  
University of Houston,  
University of Houston-Clear Lake,  
University of Houston-Downtown,  
University of Houston-Victoria**

**And**

**Gulf Coast Area Community Colleges:  
Alvin Community College, Brazosport College, College of the  
Mainland, Galveston College,  
Houston Community College, Lee College,  
North Harris Montgomery Community College District,  
San Jacinto College District, Victoria College and  
Wharton County Junior College**

The University of Houston System (UHS) and the Gulf Coast Area Community Colleges (GCACC) agree to implement a Joint Admissions program that will facilitate the admission of qualified students enrolled at GCACC institutions who complete the associate's degree (A.A., A.A.T., or A.S.) into four-year degree programs offered through the component universities of the UHS. The agreement also seeks to reduce the costs of higher education by encouraging students to complete the associate's degree at GCACC institutions by improved and collaborative academic advising, and by completion of joint admissions contracts. This agreement provides only for admission to component universities in the UH System. Requirements for admission to individual colleges/academic programs in UHS may vary.

This agreement is intended to initiate further discussions between UHS and the schools of the GCACC to form standardized Level II partnerships that clearly define academic pathways for students.

The Universities of the **UH System** will:

- Provide updated transfer and 2 – 2 UHS agreements in collaboration with the National Articulation and Transfer Network (NATN) to students seeking Joint Admissions;
- Guarantee admission to UHS institutions for GCACC students who:
  - complete and submit a Joint Admissions Contract to the Admissions Office at a GCACC institution and the respective UHS university indicated on the Joint Admissions Contract to permit the exchange of student information between GCACC schools and UHS. The Joint Admissions Contract should be completed and submitted in the first 30 SCH of coursework at the community college (includes developmental and workforce SCH); and
  - have completed the associate's degree (A.A., A.A.T., or A.S.) at a GCACC institution; and
  - are in academic, financial and disciplinary good standing.
- Provide reasonable access to UHS advisors at GCACC schools who can develop and provide degree plans for prospective students;
- Advise students to complete the associate's degree at a community college;
- Waive the existing requirements of a completed Transfer Application and the Transfer Application fee for students seeking joint admission under this agreement; and
- Develop incentives for students to participate in the Joint Admissions Agreement between GCACC institutions and UHS (i.e. use of learning resources, access to sporting events at UHS student rates, etc.)

The institutions of the **GCACC** will:

- Work with UHS to promote the Joint Admissions agreement;
- Provide a list of interested students to the appropriate UHS institution(s);
- Assist students interested in participating in Joint Admissions in completing and submitting the Joint Admissions Contract in their first semester at a GCACC institution; and
- Provide a copy of the community college application and all transcripts of each student seeking Joint Admission to UHS in accordance with FERPA guidelines and the Joint Admissions Contract. GCACC institutions will not charge additional fees to students to facilitate this exchange of information.

**Both parties** agree to work collaboratively to create professional development opportunities for advising staff to impact employee retention, enhance communication and improve the effectiveness of the GCACC-UHS student "pipeline."

This agreement is effective beginning with the fall semester 2006 and will remain in effect until further notice.