

## Memorandum of Understanding between Raritan Valley Community College and

## Colorado-State University-Global Campus

Raritan Valley Community College ("Raritan Valley") and Colorado State University–Global Campus ("CSU-Global") hereby establish a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") to facilitate students' transfer from Alamo to CSU-Global.

### **PURPOSE**

- This MOU formally recognizes that both institutions are active educational partners, committed to providing greater educational opportunities and services for students transferring between institutions. This commitment strongly supports the concept of seamless transfer that embraces the principle that transfer students should not be required to repeat competencies already achieved.
- Both institutions enter into this MOU in the spirit of cooperation and mutually recognize each other as quality institutions of higher learning. Each institution, furthermore, is dedicated to serving students from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, disability, color, age, marital status, national origin or other non-merit factors.
- Under the terms and conditions of this MOU, participating students will maximize as much as possible their community college coursework and credits.
- Through ongoing communication between their faculty and staff, Raritan Valley and CSU-Global will better understand the obstacles confronting students who are transferring and cooperate in removing such obstacles. By working at the department level, the courses that a student takes at Raritan Valley can be matched with courses required at CSU-Global.

The MOU provides a structure through which transfer articulation on all levels can be supported. CSU-Global understands and agrees that transfer articulation is with Raritan Valley as a whole and not with individual campuses. Therefore, it is understood and agreed that courses taken at any Raritan Valley campus or center are considered equally transferable.

## TRANSFER ELEMENTS

## Treatment of Associate degrees and general education core as admission criteria

This MOU establishes the principle that all applicable associate degrees at Raritan Valley transfer to CSU-Global. Raritan Valley graduates will not need to repeat lower-division general education requirements at CSU-Global. All credits are accepted and applied toward the designated/appropriate college degree(s). Articulated Associate degrees will be identified, maintained, and available as a separate document from this MOU.

Raritan Valley graduates with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0, courses numbered 100 and above, entering under the terms of this MOU are guaranteed admission into the university.

However, students should be advised that some degree programs at CSU-Global might require a higher GPA for admission.

Raritan Valley graduates will follow CSU-Global's transfer process and, therefore, must meet all applicable requirements and deadlines pertaining to application for admission, advising, registration, and payment of tuition and fees. They will abide by the policies and procedures, along with any revisions thereof that apply to all students from that institution.

In order to complete the baccalaureate program in a timely manner, students are advised to follow the transfer guide for the academic program they plan to pursue at CSU-Global. If the student intends to change degree focus upon admission to CSU-Global, the student may be required to complete some lower division preparation work prior to beginning the program at CSU-Global.

## Treatment of Raritan Valley coursework as admission criteria

Students who transfer to CSU-Global with less than an Associate degree (and have not completed the General Education requirements), an Associate in Applied Science degree, or an Associate degree that does not articulate to a CSU-Global program, will have their General Education courses evaluated on a course-by-course basis and may be required to take any additional courses necessary to satisfy the General Education requirements at CSU-Global. However, if these students have taken equivalent General Education courses at the sending institution, these courses will be accepted toward satisfying General Education requirements at CSU-Global.

Raritan Valley students who plan to transfer to CSU-Global may complete any missing general education by [i] taking the additional Raritan Valley lower-division courses required to complete the general education core at Raritan Valley, [ii] complete the general education requirements at CSU-Global, or through approved CLEP or DSST exams.

#### Award of Upper-Division Credit

Students who transfer lower-division credits beyond that required for an Associate degree or whose lower-division credits/competencies are equivalent to designated upper-division credits/competencies, can request/petition these courses/competencies be evaluated by CSU-Global and, where appropriate, equivalent upper-division credit will be awarded.

#### **Total Number of Transferable Credits**

The maximum number of lower-division semester credits that can be accepted and applied to the university degree at CSU-Global is **sixty-four (64)**. This transfer credit limit will be the difference between total credits required for degree completion and university upper-division requirements.

#### **Evaluation Process**

There will be an annual evaluation process of the partnership supported by this MOU. The information obtained from this evaluation will be used to improve the transfer process for the benefit of students.

### Longevity of the MOU

This MOU shall be effective immediately upon approval and shall continue in force and effect until terminated by either party. Termination shall occur upon written notice by either party to the other submitted six (6) months prior to the termination date. Students accepted into the program prior to the termination date will be allowed to continue in the program.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF CSU-Global**

- CSU-Global will provide materials, catalogs, and other information to Raritan Valley advisors to facilitate their understanding of university requirements and academic programs. CSU-Global agrees, at its own expense, to hold at least one advising event each year at Raritan Valley for prospective transfer students.
- CSU-Global may place Raritan Valley students, interested in attending CSU-Global, on its mailing lists and invite the students to participate in cultural events, social activities, and presentations open to the public and occurring on campus.
- If warranted by the student's academic achievement and/or special talents, CSU-Global will inform the student of scholarship opportunities.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

• Raritan Valley will provide CSU-Global with timely curriculum updates.

# **JOINT OBLIGATIONS**

- Raritan Valley and CSU-Global agree to exchange data and documents as agreed that will
  contribute to the maintenance and improvement of these transfer arrangements, and promote
  effective cooperation between the two institutions. The institutions will exchange
  admission, grades, and retention data after obtaining appropriate permission from the
  students involved and in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.
- CSU-Global and Raritan Valley agree to maintain regular communication between CSU-Global's advising and enrollment team and Raritan Valley's advising and transfer center(s).
- CSU-Global will work with Raritan Valley Community College on recruitment efforts.
- Students transferring to CSU-Global will receive advising from both institutions, assisting them in timely degree completion.
- Information about this MOU will be available at both institutions and on both institutions' websites.
- Raritan Valley Community College and CSU-Global agree to provide direct links between their institutional websites, indicating the existence of this MOU.

- Transfer articulation materials developed by an articulating institution are not valid without a MOU signed by the Raritan Valley Community College Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- In collaboration with Raritan Valley, the development, distribution, and accuracy of all transfer articulation products (e.g., Transfer Guide) are the responsibility of CSU-Global.

# Raritan Valley Community College

Dr. Eileen Abel

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

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