

**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON**

Preamble

Working in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Education, the University of Massachusetts Boston's Center for Technical Education offers courses, which offer men and women working in various professional trades the opportunity to qualify as vocational educators. With approval from the State Department of Education the University of Massachusetts Boston offers the 36 credit Vocational-Technical Instructor Approval Program. Individuals who complete this program, have six years of recent full-time employment in their trade and receive satisfactory scores on written and performance tests in their trade are qualified to teach in one of the Commonwealth's comprehensive high schools or vocational-technical schools.

The articulation agreement between Bristol Community College and the University of Massachusetts Boston is a Reverse Articulation Agreement. It allows students to begin at the University, transfer credit to a community college toward an associate of arts degree in General Studies, and then return to the University to complete a bachelor's degree. Most importantly, this articulation agreement will have a significant impact on advancing the academic credentials of traditional vocational educators. It serves students very well because it provides a long term, organized academic plan with demonstrable interim goals, i.e., Vocational Instructor Approval Program, the associate of arts degree in General Studies, and the Bachelor of Arts degree. In addition, it demonstrates an effective collaboration between two public institutions of higher education.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Recognizing the importance of inter-institutional cooperation in public education to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its students, Bristol Community College and the University of Massachusetts Boston hereby agree to form this Articulation Agreement. The Articulation Agreement reflects goals shared by the University and the Community College.

1. The objective of the agreement is to provide students a seamless transition from the University's Center for Technical Education Vocational Instructor Approval Program to the Bristol Community College Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies. Students will subsequently have the opportunity to complete a Bachelor Degree program at the University of Massachusetts Boston.
2. It is designed to facilitate accessibility to the public higher education system while utilizing the resources of the Commonwealth and the University in a creative manner to benefit students' career goals.
3. This agreement is formed to strengthen the existing articulation between the two institutions.

I. GUARANTEES AND CONDITIONS OF THE ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Students enrolled in the University's Center for Technical Education Vocational-Technical Instructor Approval Program are eligible to participate in the Articulation Agreement. This agreement will also apply to former students of the Center for Technical Education. Students enrolled in the Center for Technical Education at the University of Massachusetts Boston are eligible for concurrent enrollment at Bristol Community College.

1. Center for Technical Education students are guaranteed that thirty semester hours of transfer credit from UMass Boston will be applied toward the Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies at Bristol Community College. These thirty semester hours will be from courses required in the University of Massachusetts Boston's Vocational-Technical Instructor Approval Program.

2. Students will be required to complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of resident course work through Bristol Community College.

II. INFORMATION SHARING AND EXCHANGE

The participating Institutions have agreed to share information about student academic performance. This exchange of information provides students the broadest range of academic choices.

1. Effective Spring 2004 students in the Center for Technical Education program may indicate their interest in participating in the Articulation Agreement and grant permission to the Center for Technical Education to share information with Bristol Community College about their academic performance.
2. The Center for Technical Education will provide Bristol Community College with the names and addresses of Articulation Agreement Students enrolled at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

III. ADVISING AND COMMUNICATION WITH STUDENTS

The Articulation Agreement Program emphasizes communication with participating students and jointly supports advising of students who are concurrently enrolled or will be transferring to the Associate of Arts Degree Program in General Studies at Bristol Community College and transferring back to the UMass Boston for the bachelor's degree.

1. Curriculum advising material, indicating courses to be completed at the University of Massachusetts Boston, then at Bristol Community College toward the associate degree, and back at University of Massachusetts Boston toward the bachelor's degree will be available at both Institutions.
2. Bristol Community College agrees to hold information sessions for Articulation Agreement students at a minimum of once a year.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The University of Massachusetts Boston and Bristol Community College agree to implement the Program in Spring 2004.

1. The Articulation Agreement does not preclude the University of Massachusetts Boston or Bristol Community College from entering into similar agreements with other institutions of higher education.
2. This agreement will be ongoing and will be subject to review pending any changes in either Institution's curriculum.