



TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN

**ASHFORD UNIVERSITY
AND
MERRITT COLLEGE**

INTRODUCTION

This TRANSFER AGREEMENT formally recognizes that Ashford University and Merritt College are active educational collaborators, 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.

Ashford University and Merritt College enter into this TRANSFER AGREEMENT in the spirit of cooperation and to mutually recognize each other as quality institutions of higher learning. Each institution is dedicated to serving students from diverse populations.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT is to enable Merritt College students who transfer to Ashford University to carry with them the credit they have already earned for as much relevant study as possible. This TRANSFER AGREEMENT provides a structure through which transfer articulation on all levels can be supported. The transfer guidelines outlined in this TRANSFER AGREEMENT are applicable to students transferring to Ashford University from Merritt College only.

TRANSFER ELEMENTS

Merritt College Associate's Degrees

This TRANSFER AGREEMENT establishes that students who transfer from Merritt College to Ashford University and have earned an associate's degree with a 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher of college-level coursework are accepted as fulfilling all General Education and competency requirements of an Ashford University Bachelor's program when one of the two conditions below is satisfied:

- 1) The student meets the General Education requirements for Bachelor of Art degrees offered through state universities including UC or CSU institutions in the State of California;
- OR
- 2) The transfer credits have been evaluated and deemed acceptable by Ashford University Registrar's Office.

For either condition, the associate's degree will be transferred as a block covering General Education requirements as appropriate to each degree program. This does not constitute a waiver of any course required to earn a particular major.

Completed blocks are treated as whole; the components are not examined separately to determine transferability towards General Education requirements. Merritt College students will not have to repeat General Education requirements at Ashford University except where major coursework applies as determined by Ashford University.

All other credits are accepted and applied toward the designated/appropriate Ashford University degree to satisfy elective and major requirements as appropriate and applicable and in accordance with Ashford University current transfer credit



policies.

Merritt College students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 for college-level coursework entering Ashford University under the terms of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT will be admitted into Ashford University provided they meet all admissions requirements for the applicable program as determined by Ashford University.

Merritt College students transferring to Ashford University without an associate's degree will have all college-level/non-remedial courses completed at **Merritt College** with a grade of "C-" or better, and which do not duplicate other credits earned by student, accepted for transfer as either an elective, General Education requirement, or an exemption or replacement for a required course as deemed appropriate in accordance with Ashford University current transfer credit policies.

Merritt College students shall proceed through Ashford University admissions process and shall meet all requirements and deadlines applicable at the time of application. **Merritt College** students shall comply with all current policies and procedures of Ashford University.

Merritt College General Education Curriculum (IGETC "CSU or UC" or CSU GE)

Completion of the **Merritt College (IGETC "CSU or UC" or CSU GE)** state-approved General Education Curriculum will transfer as a block and will satisfy lower-division General Education requirements at Ashford University. The General Education Curriculum can be transferred and accepted as a component of an associate's degree or as a stand-alone General Education block not affiliated with an associate's degree. In the event a state-approved block of General Education Curriculum does not exist, the **Merritt College** General Education Curriculum will be evaluated and accepted by Ashford University on a course-by-course basis.

Award of Upper-Division Credit

Merritt College students who transfer lower-division credits beyond that required for an associate's degree, or whose lower-division credits are equivalent to designated upper-division course content, may have these courses evaluated by Ashford University and, where appropriate, they will be applied toward the course in the major. Lower-division credits transferred to satisfy upper-division courses do not constitute completion of the 30 upper-division credits required for graduation. Therefore, even if upper-division courses are awarded, **Merritt College** students will still need to obtain a minimum of 30 upper-division credits at Ashford University to meet graduation requirements.

Maximum Number of Transferable Credits

The maximum number of transfer credits that can be accepted and applied toward degree completion is 90 credit hours.

JOINT OBLIGATIONS

Ashford University and **Merritt College** agree to provide direct links on each institution's website indicating the existence of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT. Both Parties agree that no publicity regarding this TRANSFER AGREEMENT will be released without obtaining prior written consent from each other.

The parties agree that this TRANSFER AGREEMENT shall not be posted on an internet website such as Google, Yahoo, Facebook, etc., and that the terms and conditions of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT shall be kept confidential except as



may be required by law or accrediting agency standard, or as may be necessary to promote the agreement described herein among the students of Merritt College. As a commitment to easing the access to transfer materials and advising services, Ashford University and Merritt College agree to promote seamless transfer by developing mutually supporting links between institutional web pages.

Development, distribution, and accuracy of all transfer products (e.g., Transfer Agreement, and Transfer Guide) are the sole responsibility of Ashford University. Transfer materials may not be developed or distributed without the prior review and approval of Ashford University including, but not limited to, web content, logos, and printed materials.

Both parties will not engage in any misrepresentation of each other including without limitation its educational programs, the nature of its financial charges, or the employability of its graduates, within the meaning of 20 U.S.C. Section 1094 or its implementing regulations at 34 CFR Section 668 Subpart F, or any successor code or implementing regulations, or any applicable state law or standard of the University's accrediting agency. All promotional and descriptive information regarding the University or displaying its name or logo that are to be made available by both parties will be subject to the review and approval of the University before being made available to both parties students or prospective students.

EVALUATION

Ashford University will conduct an annual evaluation process of the arrangement supported by this TRANSFER AGREEMENT. The information obtained from this evaluation will be used to improve the transfer process for the benefit of students.

TERM

The term of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT exists indefinitely from the date of the last signature to this Agreement unless it is discontinued by either educational partner by submitting written notification to the other partner one year prior to the identified cancellation date in order to protect all students transferring between these institutions, such that students who transfer pursuant to this TRANSFER AGREEMENT are not adversely affected by cancellation of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing contained herein shall imply any partnership, joint venture or agency relationship between the parties and neither party shall have the power to obligate or bind the other in any manner except to the extent herein provided.

This TRANSFER AGREEMENT may be amended only by a written agreement signed by both parties. Notwithstanding the previous statement, both parties reserve the right to amend their programs, policies, procedures, and criteria relating to transfer credit at their individual discretion at any time. Such changes will be reflected in the Ashford University Catalog.

This TRANSFER AGREEMENT may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. A facsimile or .PDF signature shall be deemed an original for purposes of evidencing execution of this TRANSFER AGREEMENT.

The signatories to this TRANSFER AGREEMENT represent and warrant that each has the right and authority to execute this Agreement in their individual or representative capacity, as applicable.



Ashford University:
Dr. Richard Pattenaude
President

Richard Pattenaude

(Signature)

7-11-13

(Date)

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Steve Pantell

(Signature)

6/29/13

(Date)

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