Transfer Credit Agreement (Articulation Agreement) between St. Clair County Community College and Rochester University

Guiding Principles
St. Clair County Community College (SC4) and Rochester University (RU) agree that students who choose to begin their academic pursuit at SC4 and transfer to RU to earn a bachelor’s degree should be provided with a smooth curriculum transition that minimizes the loss of credit and the duplication of coursework while maximizing the utilization and applicability of college level credit earned. Therefore, SC4 and RU agree to enter into this Transfer Credit Agreement (Articulation Agreement) as collaborating educational institutions and will maintain the integrity of their separate programs without jeopardizing the intended mission and stated goals of each institution and enter into this agreement as equal and cooperating partners. Furthermore, this agreement acknowledges that each institution has established and will maintain rigorous standards and expectations for all students enrolled in and working toward the completion of its courses, programs and degrees.

Admission & Graduation Criteria
St. Clair County Community College and Rochester University hereby agree as follows:

1. A person who has earned an Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Design from St. Clair County Community College and has achieved the minimum requirements specified by RU may transfer all credits earned at SC4 as listed on the associated Transfer Credit Agreement Program Guide to RU. Minimum requirements are as follows:

   a. C- or higher, 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for competency courses
   b. C- or higher, 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for all graphic design major courses, and
   c. C+ or higher, 2.5 on a 4.0 scale Admission GPA.

2. A person who has earned an Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Design from SC4 and has followed the associated Transfer Program Guide may transfer all credits specified on the Transfer Program Guide towards the Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication at RU without duplicative study. To complete requirements for graduation from RU, students who follow the attached Transfer Program Guide must also:

   a) Complete a minimum of 30 academic hours at RU. A minimum of forty-five (45) hours of RU credit is required for honors to be awarded. At least 50% of a students' major and/or minor core must be earned at Rochester University.
   b) Complete a minimum of 120 academic hours between St. Clair County Community College and RU.
c) Complete the remaining program requirements, distribution requirements and other major and degree requirements listed in the RU catalog.

3. Advising of SC4 students regarding admission and program requirements at RU will be the primary responsibility of RU.

This agreement does not guarantee SC4 students acceptance into RU and/or the corresponding major/program and/or degree. Under this Agreement, graduates of SC4 will receive equal consideration with other students seeking admission to the RU major/program and/or degree provided applicants meet the prerequisites and requirements for admission to RU and the corresponding program/major and/or degree.

**Communication Responsibilities**

SC4 and RU further agree to communicate any concerning curriculum or policy change(s) (as soon as reasonably possible) which affect the agreed upon relationship between articulated programs at the respective institution. Both institutions reserve the right to amend or revise this Agreement. Any changes must be submitted in writing, agreed to and signed by authorized institutional parties. Responsibility for communication related to this Agreement will be given to Tamara Kenny, Co-Chief Academic Officer-Occupational Studies and Health Sciences or SC4 designee and to the Director of the School of Business or his/her designee at RU.

1. Throughout the life of this Agreement RU will track the progress and success of participants of this transfer credit agreement (articulation agreement) and annually provide the number of SC4 students who have applied, enrolled and completed the aforementioned degree.

2. The RU Chairperson of the Mass Communication program or his/her designee will identify and annually (prior to August 1st) provide SC4’s program chairperson with any systemic academic performance issue(s) experienced by SC4 students, such as academic courses within the bachelor major/program that have prerequisites that are taken at SC4, resulting in an examination of the corresponding matter(s) by SC4 parties.

3. Any marketing of the Agreement in print will be subject to the prior approval of both institutions.

4. Joint efforts in marketing this Agreement and student recruitment will be pursued with faculty and staff at both institutions communicating information regarding this Agreement to current and prospective students (i.e. transfer fairs, information sessions, SC4 campus visits, etc.).

5. Each institution may provide on its website, a link to the partner institution’s website.
Compliance with Laws, Policies & Statutes

1. To the extent permitted by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), SC4 and RU agree to share data on student achievement for purposes of assessing program effectiveness. Any exchange by the institutions of student record information protected by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20 USC § 1232g) and implementing regulations (34 CFR Part 99) (“FERPA:) shall occur only in full compliance with FERPA, including, without limitation, committing the receiving institution to limit the use of such information to the purposes for which the disclosure was made, and to impose such limits on any re-disclosure, and the institutions agree to comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, including, without limitation 34 CFR 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34 and 99.35. Data provided by RU as noted in this Agreement will include student performance, utilization of the agreement by the annual number of students enrolled in the corresponding major/ program upon transfer and the number of graduates annually. This information will assist with identifying potential shortcomings of SC4 coursework and the merit of the agreement that may be shared stakeholders.

2. Each institution attests that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, material status, handicap or disability, disabled veteran, Veteran era, or other protected veteran status. Furthermore, each institution complies with the American Disabilities Act of 1990, and that it does not discriminate on the basis of “physical or mental handicap” except where there exists a bona fide academic qualification.

3. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Michigan applicable to contracts made and to be enforced wholly within the state Michigan. Each institution shall be separately responsible for compliance with all federal and state laws, including nondiscrimination laws and all applicable sections of the Michigan Handicapper’s Civil Rights Act. Illegal discrimination by either institution may be considered a material breach of this Agreement.

4. To the extent permitted by Michigan law, St. Clair County Community College and Rochester University agree to indemnify and hold one another harmless from any and all claims initiated by student participants, their parents, survivors, or agents, arising from any negligent acts or omission on the part of either institution or any of their employees.

Termination & Post-Termination

1. This Agreement is activated the last signature date and terminates March 1, 2024 or four (4) years from the date fully executed (The date which this document has received the signatures from all required parties from both institutions.), whichever is later; however, either party may terminate this Agreement upon 90 days’ written notice to the other institution.
2. In the event this agreement is terminated or modified prior to the cessation date SC4 students who have selected and designated this program will be given the opportunity to matriculate to RU within two (2) years beyond the date of termination or modification with an additional two (2) years upon matriculation to RU to complete the remaining major/program, degree, graduation and institution requirements.

3. Should this Agreement not be renewed, students who began this program at SC4 shall receive the benefits contemplated by this Agreement and will have three (3) additional years beyond the termination date to complete the remaining major/program, degree, graduation and institution requirements.

4. All notices and other communications under this Agreement must be in writing and will be deemed given (a) when delivered personally, (b) on the fourth business day after being mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, or (c) the next business day after delivery to a recognized overnight courier at the following addresses (or to such other address as either party may have specified by notice given to the other party pursuant to this provision). Other forms of written communication may be used if deemed appropriate and agreed upon by both parties, including but not limited to email where acknowledgement of receipt is required.

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the institutions and all prior discussions, negotiations and understandings, either oral or in writing, are hereby merged. This Agreement supersedes any previous Associate in Applied Science – Graphic Design from St. Clair County Community College. The invalidity of unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which shall be in full force and effect.

If to SC4: St. Clair County Community College
Tamara Kenny, Co-Chief Academic Officer-Occupational Studies and Health Sciences

If to RU: Rochester University
Remylin Bruder, DNP, RN
Provost
800 West Avon Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
By signing below, each institution acknowledges its agreement with the terms and conditions of the Agreement and each signatory represents and warrants that he/she is authorized to sign on behalf of and to bind his/her institution to the terms and conditions of this Agreement as of the date noted.

St. Clair County Community College  

Rochester University

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Remylin Bruder, DNP, RN Provost

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Danette Cagnet, M.B.A.
Director, School of Business

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Carol Cooper, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Mass Communication

Reminder: This Articulation Agreement must have the Articulation Agreement Course and Program Guides attached for it to be effective.