

St. Leo University Articulation Agreement

I. Scope

A. Subject of Agreement

Piedmont Virginia Community College (hereafter, Piedmont) and Saint Leo University (hereafter Saint Leo) enter into the following articulation agreement governing the matriculation of graduates of Piedmont associate degree programs (AA, AS, and AAS) into Saint Leo baccalaureate programs.

B. Purpose of Agreement

The intent of the agreement is to facilitate a seamless transition from the Piedmont associate program to the Saint Leo baccalaureate programs, including the Internet-based external degree programs offered in conjunction with The University Alliance (hereafter SLU/UA).

C. Students

The agreement is designed to serve primarily Piedmont graduates who have received degrees in the areas of accounting, business and computer information systems. However, the agreement will also facilitate the transfer of students from other areas and students who have not completed an associate degree. Further, any student admitted to Saint Leo is eligible to matriculate on the main campus of Saint Leo University at St. Leo, Florida, on any of its branches and extension centers, or via the SLU/UA on-line programs.

D. Date of Effect

The agreement will be in effect from the date on which both parties have affixed their signatures. Review, revisions, and termination provisions are discussed below in Section III.

II. Understanding of the Parties

A. General Understandings, Saint Leo

1. Piedmont graduates admitted into Saint Leo during the period of this agreement will receive up to 66-semester hour credits in transfer from community college or junior college studies. Community college or junior college credits in excess of 66 semester hour credits will be transcribed and may generate waivers for equivalent courses and may satisfy general education and major requirements at Saint Leo but will not yield additional credit.
2. Piedmont graduates who have completed the certified Piedmont 35 credit VCCS "Transfer Module" will be considered to have met Saint Leo general education requirements provided their transcript includes passing grades in Philosophy (3 credits) and in the area of Western Religion (3 credits). Students without Philosophy and Religion credits may take such courses at Piedmont prior to enrollment in Saint Leo or with Saint Leo after admission. (REL 200-230, 240 and 246 all will satisfy the Saint Leo requirement in Religion.)
3. Piedmont graduates or other transferees who have not completed the certified VCCS "Transfer Module" must complete Saint Leo's general education requirements. The requirements are included in this agreement as Appendix I.
4. Piedmont associate degree graduates admitted to Saint Leo will:
 - receive junior standing and be treated equal to native students of the same status for financial aid, registration, and advising;
 - be required to complete at least 120 semester hours for graduation, including at least 15 hours in a major and at least 39 hours at or equivalent to the 300/400 level;
 - be required to take an additional course in the major at the 300/400 level when an equivalency for a 300/400 level course is granted in transfer for a course taken at the 100/200 level. Credit for such additional courses will apply to Saint Leo graduation requirements, including the 120 credits required for graduation and the 39 credits required at the 300/400 level.
5. Regarding grades and grade point averages (GPA) it is understood that
 - Transfer students seeking admission to Saint Leo are required to have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in previous college level courses; admission into the Teacher Education major requires a GPA of 2.5;
 - Transfer credit will be granted for the grade of D for all courses, with the exception of major requirements in Teacher Education.
6. Piedmont students admitted to the SLU/UA Internet-based programs will:
 - complete requirements for one of the Internet-based degree programs as detailed in Appendix II;

- receive access to on-line Saint Leo library resources, the 800 number library telephone, Internet services, and electronic course materials;
- receive appropriate telephonic and on-line registration and academic advising via Saint Leo/UA staff and faculty.

7. Saint Leo will provide enrollment and promotional materials in a timely manner, including enrollment packets, catalogs, course lists, promotional brochures, fliers, video tapes, and CD-ROMS.

B. General Understandings, Piedmont

1. Piedmont will:

- provide Piedmont graduates admitted to the Saint Leo Internet-based programs access to Piedmont libraries; check-out privileges may or may not be included in such access;
- publicize the agreement among its students and faculty and provide cooperative assistance in class schedule distribution to students and faculty;
- provide opportunity for SLU/UA representatives to visit District 508 community college campuses to explain the articulation agreement and the opportunity it represents for students to complete their baccalaureate via an external degree program;
- cooperate with Saint Leo in providing financial aid information to students transitioning from Piedmont to Saint Leo;
- cooperate with Saint Leo in student support services to provide access to information to Saint Leo students about: (1) Saint Leo general education requirements, (2) prerequisites for courses in the major, (3) admissions requirements and processes, (4) turnaround times on applications, transfer credit, and financial aid, (5) Saint Leo University Alliance tuition and fees, and (6) a list of contact people for articulation questions, academic programs, and support services;
- cooperate with Saint Leo in the dissemination of information about this agreement so that it is brought to the attention of prospective and existing students by reasonable means, including the web pages of the district community colleges, campus catalogs, and view books; advertisements or announcements regarding this agreement that entail costs to Saint Leo must have prior approval from Saint Leo;
- identify a staff coordinator at each of the district's colleges to serve as principal liaison with Saint Leo in the conduct of the program. The coordinator's role is to (1) ensure that accurate and timely information regarding the on-line programs and services is made available via the Internet to students, and (2) to facilitate such communication between Piedmont and Saint Leo that creates reciprocal benefits and serves the students.

C. Mutual Understandings

1. Nondiscrimination. Participation of qualified students in the degree programs will be permitted in compliance with the applicable federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws and regulations. In particular, Saint Leo and Piedmont will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, military discharge, or veteran status in any area of employment or in services to their students.

2. Accreditation. Both institutions shall maintain their accreditation with regional accrediting associations or any other accreditation currently in existence pertaining to the degree programs.

3. Cooperation. Each institution will attempt to encourage and maintain a high degree of cooperation between their support staffs in the operation of this agreement.

4. Waiver of Terms and Provisions. Any waiver by either party of any term or provision of this agreement at any time shall not constitute a waiver of any other or all terms and provisions. Any waiver of any part of a provision of this agreement at any one time shall not constitute a waiver for all times.

5. Buckley Amendment. Both parties recognize that they are bound to comply with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (Buckley Amendment) in the handling of educational records of students enrolled in their programs.

III. Review, Amendment and Termination

All parties are committed to the concept of a long-standing agreement. This agreement, including appendices, will be amended when programs are added, deleted, or significantly modified. Amendments may take the form of letters signed by the signatories of the agreement or their designated representatives. The agreement will be reviewed annually or at any time at the request of either party. Either party may terminate the agreement with 90 days' written notice. However, termination will not be executed without a negotiated teach-out agreement for students currently enrolled.

For more information contact the PVCC transfer counselor at 434.961.5264 or e-mail counseling@pvcc.edu