

**Reverse Articulation Policy Agreement  
between  
WGU Washington  
and  
The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges**

Preamble

In 2011 the Washington State Legislature enacted SHB 1822 that formed WGU Washington in partnership with Western Governors University (WGU). The purpose of the bill was to enable more Washington residents to obtain the higher educational levels required to maintain a competitive workforce.

The Washington Community and Technical Colleges (CTC) are integral to workforce development, offering coursework leading to associate degrees. Many CTC students go immediately into the workforce, and others transfer to universities to complete bachelor degrees. WGU Washington (University) and the Washington Community and Technical Colleges executed a formal articulation agreement in May 2011 to assist associate degree graduates to transition into the University's bachelor programs.

WGU Washington actively encourages students to complete their associate degree before transferring to the University, understanding that students with associate degrees are more likely to attain a bachelor degree. However, the University also recognizes that some college students will enroll in WGU Washington before completing an associate degree; and, further, during the course of completing their bachelor credentials at the University, they will have earned sufficient credits to complete an associate degree.

In order to encourage degree completion among Washingtonians, the University and the CTC are advancing their partnership by offering a Reverse Articulation Agreement (Agreement) whereby the CTC's will award an earned associate degree for students post-transfer. The Agreement enables eligible students who transfer credits from a community or technical college to receive their associate degree from a CTC, while they are an enrolled student in the University, once they have satisfied the degree requirements of the community or technical college. The Agreement will have a significant impact on advancing the academic credentials of Washington residents by providing students with an organized academic plan with demonstrable interim goals. The Agreement also demonstrates an effective collaboration between two institutions of higher education.

Reverse Articulation Policy and Conditions

- Students who transfer from a Washington community and technical college before successful completion of the associate degree may qualify for reverse articulation when the following conditions have been met:
  1. The transfer student must have successfully completed a minimum of 15 quarterly credit hours with an individual Washington community or technical college before transferring to the University; and
  2. The CTC transfer student must have completed a minimum of 12 competency units (one term) with the University to qualify for the Agreement. Conditions under #1 and #2 (minimum of 15 quarterly CTC credits and 12 competency units at WGU) will trigger a review and monitoring of the student's transcript by the potential awarding CTC.

3. The total number of competency units earned at the University, combined with the number of credits earned at the Washington community or technical college, plus other community or technical college degree requirements must be satisfied in order for the associate degree to be awarded by the community or technical college...
- WGU Washington students must maintain residency in Washington while meeting eligibility for the Agreement and up to the point of the conferral of the associate degree.
  - Students must be actively enrolled with the University at the time of execution of the reverse articulation.

#### Reporting Requirements

- The University will submit all Reverse Articulation Applications and transcripts completed by eligible students to the appropriate Washington community or technical college for degree review and conferral.
- The CTC will report associate degrees earned under the Agreement to the University.

#### Execution

- The University will provide a transcript to the Washington community or technical college for transfer analysis once a student meets the conditions outlined under *Reverse Articulation Policy and Conditions*, Items 1 -2, and has submitted the Reverse Articulation Application to WGU's Records department.
- The Washington community or technical college is responsible for determining, through the Agreement and transcript review, which WGU courses may satisfy the associate degree requirements allowing for the conferral of the degree.
- The University will maintain a web-based landing page and an applicable section in the WGU Student handbook that explains the Agreement.
- Community and technical colleges will inform students of the Agreement through their student advising processes and transfer handbooks.

#### Duration

The Agreement shall be reviewed annually by both parties to ensure that it reflects any changes in policy by either party that may require modification of the agreement.



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Jean Floten, Chancellor, WGU Washington

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Marty Brown, Executive Director, SBCTC

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Date: 3-12-2013

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Date: