



AN AGREEMENT FOR GUARANTEED ADMISSION  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

**San Marcos Unified School District**

**AND**

**California State University San Marcos**

The San Marcos Unified School District (also herein referred to as “The District”) is responsible for preparing students annually for college entrance and/or work placement, with many students going on to attend California State University San Marcos.

California State University San Marcos (also herein referred to as “CSUSM”) is a major public university enrolling over 17,000 students in 43 undergraduate programs, 24 master’s programs, 11 teaching credentials, and 1 joint doctoral program.

Both institutions have a commitment to the community of San Marcos and to enhancing student success. Together the two partners are entering into a partnership to expand and enhance the educational opportunities for students who reside in the District’s attendance area.

The District and CSUSM have agreed that a college preparation and guaranteed admission program subsumed under a support alliance would provide a valuable mechanism for increasing the number and percentage of the District graduates qualifying for admission into California State University San Marcos. Toward that end, the institutions have developed the compact described herein to serve students beginning with the graduating class of 2022-23.

As a material term to this Agreement, the Institutions agree to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to laws that prohibit discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation. The Institutions agree that participation in the Program shall be administered without discrimination on account of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, veteran, or other applicable legally protected status. District agrees to comply with CSUSM policies governing discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation, which are set forth in CSU Executive Orders 1095-1097, as revised from time to time. Any violation of applicable law or CSU policy is grounds for the immediate termination of the Agreement.

## **SAN MARCOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S COMMITMENT**

As part of the compact described herein, the District agrees to provide all incoming ninth grade students, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, with a rigorous program of studies and support that will provide them with an opportunity to meet the requirements for entrance to CSUSM upon graduation from high school without the need for remedial college courses.

Working with CSUSM, the following benchmarks will be used by the District:

1. Students must be continually enrolled in the District since 9<sup>th</sup> grade with exception for homeless, foster youth, and military dependents.
2. Students must complete all A-G coursework required by CSU admission policies.
3. Students must meet minimum CSU eligibility requirements.
4. Students must participate in and successfully pass the Early Assessment Program in their junior year (11<sup>th</sup> grade) in mathematics and English or successfully complete additional coursework designed to build the appropriate skills and knowledge.
5. Students must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or The California Dream Act Application.

The San Marcos Unified School District will support the attainment of these benchmarks with an enhanced secondary program including the following:

### **Academic Support:**

- A Common Core State Standards aligned mathematics curriculum for grades 6-12.
- Additional high school mathematics electives that prepare students with skills to pass college entrance examinations or to meet college course requirements.
- Clear criteria for identifying and supporting incoming seventh grade at-risk students.
- Development of opportunities for 11th and 12th grade students to experience university level academic work at San Marcos High Schools.
- Assess CSU English and Mathematics proficiency through participation in the CSU Early Assessment Program (EAP).
- Submission of the required Cal Grant GPA Verification for students by March 2nd of the senior year (twelfth grade).
- Intervention and credit recovery opportunities are in place during the school year for students.
- Facilitation of the development and distribution of supplemental financial aid for participating students.

### **Parent/Family Communication & Education:**

- A clear statement of expectations to staff, parents, community, and students for seventh grade and each year thereafter.
- A systematic program of parent communication and education.

- Opportunities for students and parents to visit CSUSM when organized and planned as part of the District program including transportation to CSUSM for visits and orientations.
- Frequent notification to students and parents of academic progress.

Professional Development Opportunities:

- Training for middle and high school teachers in Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program strategies.

Data Management & Applied Analysis:

- Annual reports on the progress of each participating class provided to the University to support engagement and enrollment opportunities.
- District student data will be shared with the University in accordance with the terms outlined in the agreed upon Data Sharing MOU.
- District and CSUSM acknowledge the privacy rights of individuals to their personal information that are expressed in the Information Practices Act (California Civil Code Section 1798 et seq.) and in California Constitution Article 1, Section 1. District and CSUSM shall maintain the privacy of personal information and protected data as confidential information. District and CSUSM shall not use, disclose, or release confidential information contained in CSUSM or District records without full compliance with applicable state and federal privacy laws, and this Agreement. CSUSM and District further acknowledge and agrees to comply with Federal privacy laws, such as the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Title 15, United States Code, Sections 6801(b) and 6805(b)(2)) applicable to financial transactions, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (Title 20, United States Code, Section 1232g) applicable to student education records and information from student education records.

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS' COMMITMENT**

1. Successfully meet minimum CSU eligibility requirements.
2. Students are no longer required to take the SAT Reasoning or ACT Exam but the exam could be used for placement into college math and English courses.
3. Students must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or The California Dream Act Application.

CSUSM and the District are committed to an inclusionary/supportive model that allows students who fall behind in meeting benchmarks to accelerate back on target to qualify. Toward that end, CSUSM will:

Recruitment:

- As a campus partner the Office of Recruitment & Outreach will develop an Educational Partnership, which includes services and support to promote College Awareness, College Preparation and College Access to CSU San Marcos. In addition, the office will assign a Recruitment & Outreach Officer to the schools within the district as a point of contact.

### Academic Support:

- Provide academic advising, guidance, and support for incoming district program students to promote timely graduation. Advising support also will be supplemented with education planning tools such as the degree planner and Academic Requirement Report (ARR) designed to track and facilitate student degree completion.
- Assist and support District program graduates at CSUSM with structured programs designed to support college success.
- Assist with placement of qualifying students in internships, summer placements, or senior project assignments within local community businesses.
- Assist in the recruitment of college students as tutors to the Districts' high schools and middle schools through campus organizations and programs.
- Encourage CSUSM alumni to volunteer as speakers or mentors to the District schools.
- Work with University Outreach and other Departments to extend opportunities for the District program students to experience university level academic work. Some examples include college fairs, pre-college advising, pre-college orientation, Family Empowerment Network, Roadshows, campus tours, and Discover CSUSM day.

### Professional Development:

- Participate with the District staff in researching, designing, and implementing literacy and mathematics training models or other relevant professional development.
- Encourage CSUSM and the District faculty to dialogue regarding academic performance expectations at the University.
- Support dialogue and information sharing with the District teachers, counselors and administrators about freshman course expectations.

### Data Management & Applied Analysis:

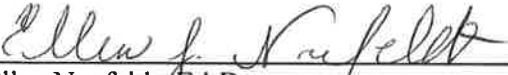
- Monitor student achievement and continue to implement practices that encourage learning by all students.
- Provide feedback to the District staff on level of achievement of the District program students at CSUSM.
- Data on students who enter the University from the District will be shared with the District in accordance to the terms outlined in the agreed upon Data Sharing MOU. Currently, a yearly "Alliance Score Card" is provided to the Alliance Advisory Council Site Representative and school Superintendent.


## **JOINT COMMITMENT OF PARTNERS**


The District and CSUSM will collaboratively work to obtain additional public and private funds to support and enhance the activities outlined in the agreement.

**TERMS OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

It is the intent of the partners to include the graduating class of 2022-23. This Memorandum of Understanding has a set term of five (5) years by mutual agreement of the partners and signed on MARCH 1, 2023.

  
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Ellen Neufeldt, Ed.D.  
President  
California State University San Marcos

  
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Andy Johnsen, Ed.D  
Superintendent  
San Marcos Unified School District

  
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Jaime Chamberlin  
President Governing Board  
San Marcos Unified School District