



**Memorandum of Understanding between Indiana Wesleyan University's
Associate Degree to Bachelor's Degree Programs and
Southern State Community College**

INTRODUCTION

Southern State Community College and Indiana Wesleyan University's (IWU) College of Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS) agree to work collaboratively in order to provide educational opportunities for the currently enrolled and potential students of their institutions. This collaboration requires a commitment by both institutions to facilitate the transfer of Southern State Community College associate degree graduates into the appropriate IWU baccalaureate degree completion program without jeopardizing the mission and goals of either entity.

I. Benefits

This Memorandum of Understanding defines a structure through which articulation on all levels can be supported thereby allowing for maximum transfer of credits for Southern State Community College students earning an associate degree, and providing for a seamless admission into one of CAPS' baccalaureate degree completion programs.

II. Accreditation Status

IWU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission,*(HLC). IWU is also accredited by the State Department of Public Instruction of Indiana, National Association of Schools of Music, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Indiana State Board of Nursing, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science, American Medical Association, the Council on Social Work Education and Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.

IWU will maintain its institutional accreditation with the HLC. Of its bachelor's completion programs currently subject to this Understanding, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing is and will remain programmatically accredited through the CCNE or other equivalent accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Southern State Community College is currently accredited by the HLC. Southern State Community College will maintain its institutional accreditation with the HLC.

*Higher Learning Commission: <http://www.ncahlc.org/> or 312-283-0456

III. Elements of this Understanding

A. Admissions Practices

CAPS' admissions requirements for the baccalaureate degree completion program are outlined at <http://indwes.edu/admissions/online/> and the contents of this site are incorporated into this Understanding by this reference as they exist on the effective date and as they may be revised in the future at IWU's sole discretion. In general, Southern State Community College students will be eligible for admission to a CAPS baccalaureate degree completion program, based on meeting the following admission criteria:

1. Proof of high school graduation or GED certification.
2. Production of official transcripts from all previous colleges or universities attended.
3. Prior completion of at least sixty (60) or forty-five (45 for BSW programs) semester credit hours from a college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by both the U.S. Department of Education (USDoE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA); sixty (60) or forty-five (45 for BSW) transferable credits are required to begin the core. Up to forty (40) semester credit hours may be met by equivalent education assessed and approved through IWU's portfolio process as described in the University's catalog.
4. Southern State Community College student seeking enrollment into CAPS' Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Accounting must show evidence of the equivalent of three (3) undergraduate credits of mathematics or statistics.
5. In the event of a conflict, the admissions requirements published at <http://indwes.edu/admissions/online/> shall control.

B. Acceptance and Application of Credits

Courses completed through Southern State Community College may (will) transfer under this Understanding subject to, but not limited to, the following requirements:

1. Must be 100-level or above.
2. Must be a grade of "C" or higher.
3. A maximum of fifteen credit hours of identified equivalent courses may be transferred into the major being pursued at IWU.
4. All credits are accepted as semester credits. Quarter credits are converted to semester credits using the two-thirds conversion ratio.
5. Students must meet admission requirements specific to each CAPS program detailed at <http://indwes.edu/admissions/online/>.
6. Academic credit recommendations based on knowledge equivalency examinations must be issued by an American Council on Education recognized testing entity (i.e. CLEP, DANTES, etc.)
7. Must be academic, credit bearing courses and not avocation, recreational, pre-college, remedial, prior learning/assessment or developmental in nature.

Depending on the student's major, up to a maximum of ninety (90) credit hours may be transferable to the corresponding CAPS baccalaureate degree completion program. CAPS general education requirements may be included in the credits transferred. For further information, refer to IWU's Transfer of Credit Policy at indwes.edu/catalog.

CAPS offers baccalaureate degree programs in Business, Education, Liberal Arts, and Nursing. Specific baccalaureate degree programs available both online and onsite through CAPS for this Understanding are identified in Appendix A.

C. Tuition and Financial Aid/Scholarship

The role of financial aid at IWU is to make a quality Christian education affordable to all eligible students who apply. Financial aid information for CAPS students at IWU can be found at <http://indwes.edu/Financial-Aid/Adult-and-Graduate/>.

D. Prior Learning Assessment and Other Credit Types

Indiana Wesleyan University provides options for obtaining credit through experiences where college level learning has taken place, but was gained outside of the college/university credit bearing courses.

1. *Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)* involves situations in which students can demonstrate verifiable college-level learning achieved outside of an academic institution for a given topic. Students can earn PLA credit by completing the one-credit hour course for prior learning assessment and submitting a petition for credit through the course.

This credit will be awarded after a thorough faculty and/or subject matter expert review of the petition for credit.

- No grades are assigned to PLA course credit; only credit is awarded.
- Credit hours awarded may be counted toward general education, elective, or select core requirements as applicable to the undergraduate degree requirements.
- Prior Learning Assessment is not available for graduate-level courses.
- Credits earned through PLA are subject to a transcription fee

In unique cases, IWU may internally evaluate educational/training programs for assessed credit. The process will allow faculty within the appropriate academic unit to compare program learning outcomes of the completed program of study against IWU course learning outcomes.

- Assessed learning credit is reviewed through a curriculum evaluation process that assesses training programs for alignment with university-level learning and IWU curriculum.
- Students will submit the official record for review.
- There is no charge for credits earned through the assessed credit option.
- Assessed learning credit can be awarded at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- Credits earned through assessed learning are subject to specific program transfer limits.
- IWU relies on industry best practices established by organizations like the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), which has served as a leader in the development and implementation of assessment for experiential learning and corporate training since 1974. Students are required to submit appropriate documentation which clearly articulates academically relevant learning through the student portal. I am not sure this last statement about the student portal is correct - the students would request AL credit upon enrolling in IWU degree programs. They do this in CAPS via our Student Services office with assistance/direction from the enrollment team.
- The Indiana Wesleyan University [Honesty, Cheating, Plagiarism, and Forgery Policy](#) also apply to all Assessed Learning requests and submissions. Any student found to be in violation of the [Honesty, Cheating, Plagiarism, and Forgery Policy](#) for the PLA submission will be forfeit the option of submitting additional PLA petitions.
- All AL requests and documentation are reviewed only by those who have an official reason for doing so: the AL staff, faculty evaluators, and accrediting association members.
- Students should not include any materials in the AL request that violate the legal and moral rights to privacy of other individuals.

2. *Advanced Placement (AP)* - College-level courses completed while in high school.
3. *CLEP Testing (CL)* - The CLEP (College Level Examination Program) examinations are offered by The College Board, a nonprofit membership organization that provides tests and other educational services for students, schools, and colleges. CLEP is the most widely accepted credit-by-examination program in the country.
4. *DSST Testing (DA)* - The DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST) is a range of tests that makes it possible to earn college credit by achieving qualifying scores on one or more exams. The DSST Credit-by-Exam Program gives students the opportunity to get college credit for learning acquired outside the traditional classroom. The DSST (DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) examinations, originally developed for military personnel, are offered by Prometric.

5. *Military (MI)* - JST is the Joint Services Transcript accepted by the American Council on Education (ACE) as validation of a service member's military occupational experience.
6. *Learning Credit Alternative* - Learning Credit Alternative (LCA) may be awarded for students completing courses via educational companies, like Sophia Learning LLC, or Straighterline.
 - LCA credit will be limited to 12 credit hours
 - LCA credit will only be accepted as elective credit
 - Students will submit their official record to be transcribed
 - There is no charge for credits earned via LCA
 - LCA credit is only accepted at the undergraduate level

E. Responsibility of Indiana Wesleyan University

1. IWU will provide academic advising services to transferring Southern State Community College students.
2. The trademarks and serviced marks owned by Southern State Community College may not be used by IWU without expressed written permission.
3. IWU will provide Southern State Community College transfer materials such as brochures, fliers, curriculum guides, academic checklists, and/or procedural checklists. Transfer literature will be updated on an annual basis.
4. IWU will offer Southern State Community College graduates who enroll in an IWU degree program a 15% discount¹ on the program tuition for most degree programs. This tuition discount will be funded by IWU and will apply to tuition and not inclusive of any fees (e.g., technology, student, graduation, and textbook). The discount does not apply to IWU-Marion (i.e., residential campus), Wesley Seminary, Nurse Practitioner (Psych-Mental Health), uLEAP, doctoral, and graduate counseling academic programs. Southern State Community College graduates enrolling into nursing programs requiring RN-BSN courses will be eligible for the preferred tuition rate of \$250 per credit hour² for undergraduate courses required and then the 15% tuition discount for the graduate courses required. University reserves the exclusive right to determine if new academic programs are included in or excluded from this tuition discount.

¹This discount does not apply to books, resources or fees. This discount does not include Psych-Mental Health Nursing (PMHN), uLEAP option, doctoral, Seminary, residential, and graduate counseling academic programs.

²Preferred Pricing tuition rate of \$250 for RN-BSN courses will increase to \$275 effective 7/1/2026.

F. Responsibility of Southern State Community College

1. Southern State Community College will provide the opportunity for IWU representatives to meet with Southern State Community College students on an ongoing basis.
2. Southern State Community College will assist IWU in the distribution of updated degree and transfer materials to alumni and current students.
3. The trademarks and serviced marks owned by IWU may not be used by Southern State Community College without expressed written permission.
4. Southern State Community College will present to their students IWU transfer options as they do any other private universities with which they have similar agreements.

G. Joint Responsibility

1. Both institutions will designate an individual to serve as a liaison for the purpose of managing this Understanding.
2. Both institutions agree to notify each other of any changes in its accreditation status.
3. Any written materials published and distributed by Southern State Community College and/or IWU which specifically reference this Understanding or make any general representation of each other's institution, must be approved by each respective party prior to use.

H. Implementation of the Understanding

Southern State Community College will notify its divisions of this Understanding. Southern State Community College will add CAPS baccalaureate degree completion programs to its published lists of partnering universities with transfer agreements.

IWU will work with each division to develop a strategy of providing faculty and staff with the information and materials essential to informing Southern State Community College students and alumni of the transfer options offered through this Understanding.

I. Annual Evaluation

After each academic year representatives from Southern State Community College and IWU will review processes and practices between the two (2) institutions to determine each institution's satisfaction with the Understanding. Each institution will work in good faith to modify their policies, procedures, etc. to accommodate the changing needs of their partner.

J. Term and Modification

This Understanding will be in effect from the Effective Date and continue indefinitely unless and until terminated by either party in accordance with the paragraph III-J. Either party reserves the right to call for a review of the Understanding for the purpose of making changes or modifications. Termination of this Understanding may occur by either party with a one hundred eighty (180) day written notification to the other. Further, either party may terminate this Understanding immediately upon substantial breach by the other party.

Notwithstanding, upon expiration or termination of this Understanding for any reason, students previously accepted by or admitted to IWU will continue to receive the benefits contemplated by this Understanding, provided they stay continuously enrolled and make satisfactory academic progress.

K. Indemnification

Each party agrees to indemnify and hold the other, its officers, directors, agents, employees, and trustees harmless from and against any and all tort liability, claims, actions, and causes of action, losses, damages, or expenses caused or arising out of the act(s) and/or omission(s) of itself, its agents, and employees incident to this Understanding.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered this Understanding and do each hereby warrant and represent that they have all necessary and appropriate authority to execute to the Understanding and implement plans of action and procedures necessary to effect this Understanding.

Southern State Community College

**Indiana Wesleyan University
College of Adult & Professional Studies**

Signed by:

AB9F6442828440B...
Signature
Erika Goodwin
Printed Name
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Title
07/15/2025
Date

DocuSigned by:

64B084A91A7E40E...
Signature
Andrew Miller
Printed Name
SVP, Strategic Enrollment & Partnerships
Title
07/15/2025
Date

Signed by:

6C6E206E73FE40A...
Signature
Peggy Chalker
Printed Name
Dean, Articulation and Transfer
Title
07/15/2025
Date

Signature
Printed Name
Title
Date

Appendix A
Baccalaureate Degree Programs through CAPS
for MOU between IWU and Southern State Community
College September 2024

1. Bachelor of Science with a major in Accounting (*onsite/blended & online only*)
2. Bachelor of Science with a major in Addictions Counseling (*online only*)
3. Bachelor of Science with a major in Biblical Studies (*online only*)
4. Bachelor of Science with a major in Business Administration – Human Resource Management (*onsite/blended & online only*)
5. Bachelor of Science with a major in Communication (*online only*)
6. Bachelor of Science with a major in Criminal Justice (*online only*)
7. Bachelor of Science with a major in Cybersecurity (*online only*)
8. Bachelor of Science with a major in Early Childhood Education – Non-Licensure (*online only*)
9. Bachelor of Science with a major in Global Security and Strategy Management (*online only*)
10. Bachelor of Science with a major in Health Sciences – Pre-Clinical, Post-Clinical (*online only*)
11. Bachelor of Science with a major in Healthcare Administration (*online only*)
12. Bachelor of Science with a major in Human Services – Leadership, Life Coaching (*online only*)
13. Bachelor of Science with a major in Information Technology - Management (*online only*)
14. Bachelor of Science with a major in Integrative Studies (*online only*)
15. Bachelor of Science with a major in Management – Human Resource Management (*onsite/blended & online only*)
16. Bachelor of Science with a major in Marketing – Digital Media Business Strategies, Marketing Analytics (*online only*)
17. Bachelor of Science with a major in Mission-Driven Leadership (*online only*)
18. Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Post Licensure (RN-BSN) (*onsite/blended & online only*)
19. Bachelor of Science with a major in Organizational Leadership (*online only*).
20. Bachelor of Science with a major in Psychology of Human Relations (*online only*)
21. Bachelor of Science in Service and Leadership (*online only*)
22. Bachelor of Social Work – Addictions, Child Advocacy, Counseling (*online only*)