

Pillar College

And

Mercer County College

Guaranteed Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement

Recognizing the need for broader collaboration between the New Jersey Community College system and Pillar College we enter this Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement (RCTA) with Mercer County College. This partnership provides a pathway so that students who have earned sufficient credits in prescribed courses in combination with Mercer County College and who have been admitted to a baccalaureate degree program at Pillar College may be awarded an associate degree. Such degree awarding will enable students to compete more successfully both in academic arenas and in the workforce.

Eligibility

Eligibility for the Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement requires the following:

1. The student must have earned a minimum of 30 degree eligible, transferrable credits from Mercer County College.
2. Student must complete and submit to Pillar College a form granting consent to participate in the RCTAS program.

Obligations of Mercer County College

1. The acceptance of transfer credits will be determined solely by Mercer County College.
2. The course requirements for degree completion will be evaluated by Mercer County College.
3. Mercer County College will assure that Pillar College promotional materials are available to students
4. Assign responsibility to the appropriate Mercer County College official to provide oversight of the Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement and ensure best efforts in maximizing the effectiveness of the Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement.
5. Provide for those participating in the reverse transfer program requested student-level data for reporting, accountability and assessment, upon request by Pillar College.
6. There will be nothing to differentiate the RCTA from any other degree awarded by Mercer County College on the diploma or transcript.
7. Students who are awarded a degree under the RCTA will be able to participate in the Mercer County College commencement ceremony.
8. When the degree is awarded by Mercer County College, Mercer County College will send upon student request an official transcript noting the conferral of the associate's degree to Pillar College.

Obligations of Pillar College

1. In order to remain FERPA compliant, written consent must be obtained from the student to have his/her Pillar College transcript sent back to Mercer County College.
2. Pillar College will inform Mercer County College of students who desire to participate in the RCTA program.
3. Pillar College will publicize the Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement to current and prospective students via both print and electronic communication resources.
4. Transcripts for the purpose of a degree audit must be official when sent from Pillar College to Mercer County College.
5. The sending of transcripts to Mercer County College does not guarantee the granting of a degree.
6. Release of transcripts will be in accordance with the policy of Pillar College.
7. Two transcripts may be requested and sent free of charge to Mercer County College.
8. There is no time limit on students completing the associate degree through Pillar College; students will remain eligible as long as they are enrolled at Pillar College.

Obligations of Eligible Students

1. Students are not eligible for RCTA if they currently possess an associate degree or higher.

2. Students must provide to Pillar College written consent indicating their desire to participate in the RCTA program.

3. Students may be awarded an associate degree through RTA from Mercer County College and a baccalaureate degree from Pillar College simultaneously.

Program Review

The Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement shall be subject to review and modification by officials at both Pillar College and Mercer County College.

Termination of this agreement may be initiated by either institution. Written notice at least one (1) year in advance of the effective date of termination is required. This Agreement will be renewed automatically until superseded by a new Agreement or formally terminated.

The undersigned representatives of the parties, Mercer County College and Pillar College, have executed this agreement on the dates indicated:

Mercer County College:

Pillar College:

 10.22.15
Jianping Wang, Ed.D. **Date**

David Schroeder, Ed.D **Date**

President

President

Reverse Transfer Agreement Transcript Release Form

Please complete, sign, and return this release form to:

Pillar College
Office of the Registrar
60 Park Place
Newark, NJ 07102
Fax: 973-242-3282

Please Print

Pillar College (Student ID) # _____

Community College _____

Community College ID# _____

Full Legal Name: _____

Previous Last Name (If applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Last Enrolled at Community College (semester/year): _____

Acknowledgement

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), I understand that my educational records cannot be released without my permission. I authorize the release of my academic records from Pillar College to _____ (Name of Community College); and the release of any additional academic records from _____ (Name of Community College) to Pillar College for the purposes of credit evaluation to determine the awarding of an associate's degree from _____ (Name of Community College). I understand that I have the right to rescind this release agreement related to releasing my academic records at any time by notifying the Office of the Registrar at Pillar College in writing.

SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____