

**Michigan State University  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Institute of Agricultural Technology  
and  
Lansing Community College**

**CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Institute of Agricultural Technology at Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (referred to as 'IAT' or "MSU") in cooperation with Lansing Community College ("LCC") agree to make available the IAT certificate programs, referenced in Appendix A and LCC's Associate in Applied Science Degree ("AAS") in Agricultural Technology to the students of both institutions (jointly called "Program"). The Program will allow students to begin their educational experience at either institution. Subject to complying with LCC's admission requirements, MSU students may transfer credits earned through the IAT certificate programs towards an AAS at LCC. Likewise, LCC students, subject to complying with IAT admission requirements, may transfer the credits earned from taking general education courses at LCC towards the IAT certificate programs. While the Program is designed to be completed in two to three years, the length of time may vary depending on the number of courses chosen by the student and the need for prerequisite or general education courses. The students will be expected to meet the graduation requirements determined by LCC for an AAS and the requirements for IAT certificate programs as determined by MSU.

Both parties agree to enhance agriculture, food and natural resources post-secondary education in Michigan and increase student access to those programs by doing the following:

1. Engage in an inclusive planning process to enhance post-secondary educational opportunities and student recruitment in the agriculture, food and natural resources disciplines.
2. Identify and recruit potential partners and sponsors of agriculture, food and natural resources programs.
3. Identify resource needs related to future programming.
4. Foster connections and partnerships with stakeholders that enhances post-secondary agriculture, food and natural resources education.

**II. ADMISSION**

Students may enter the Program through one of two pathways. A student may begin taking general education courses at LCC, and apply to the IAT for admission to a specific program as outlined below. Alternatively, students may be admitted first to a specific certificate program in the IAT and then decide to enter the Program to receive an AAS from LCC.

**A. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS TO MSU**

MSU will review applications and admit students into a specific program according to standards and policies set forth by the IAT. Maximum enrollment is program dependent and each program usually accepts 25 to 40 students per year. Applicants may be required to participate in an assessment and selection process.

## **B. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS TO LCC**

LCC will admit students with appropriate preparation according to the open admissions policy as set forth in the LCC catalog, the LCC Curriculum Guide (Appendix B) and by the LCC Admissions, Registration and Records Office. Many courses at LCC have minimum skill level requirements in reading, writing, and/or mathematics. These skill levels must be met before a student will be permitted to enroll in those courses. One way students meet these skill prerequisites is by achieving the required scores on placement tests. Additional options to meet basic skill prerequisites are outlined on the LCC website [www.lcc.edu/assessment/on\\_campus/cpt.aspx](http://www.lcc.edu/assessment/on_campus/cpt.aspx). Students completing general education courses at LCC who wish to matriculate in the Program will be expected to make a formal application to the Program.

## **C. ENROLLMENT STATUS**

Students who begin their education at LCC will register, pay fees, and receive financial aid from LCC as long as they are taking courses only at LCC. LCC students who begin taking courses at the IAT must register, pay fees and will receive financial aid from MSU. For students pursuing an AAS, there may be semesters when courses will be taken at both institutions. In that instance, students will be required to register and pay fees at each respective institution. (Refer to Section III.B. for more information regarding financial aid requirements.)

## **III. STUDENT ACCESS**

### **A. ACCESS TO MSU AND LCC FACILITIES**

Students accepted into and in good financial and academic standing with the IAT certificate program, regardless of enrollment as LCC students, will be granted those privileges provided to MSU students. Amenities include, but are not limited to, housing, commuter parking, libraries, athletic facilities, student organizations, athletic tickets, and special events. Students enrolled in this Program will also be eligible for a LCC student ID permitting facility utilization, library use, and other student opportunities associated with LCC student status. Students will be expected to abide by the rules and regulations of both institutions.

### **B. FINANCIAL AID**

Prior to the initiation of their MSU course work LCC will assume the responsibility of processing, awarding and disbursing financial aid for those students who qualify for aid. Accordingly, LCC will be responsible for monitoring student eligibility, monitoring satisfactory academic progress, refund/repay calculations, record retention and reporting including the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) and Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP).

When students are admitted to the Program at both institutions and begin MSU course work, MSU will then assume the responsibility of processing, awarding and disbursing financial aid, to the extent that the students are eligible at MSU for financial assistance as a part of the broad consortia commitment of the Program. MSU also will assume primary responsibility for monitoring student eligibility, monitoring satisfactory academic progress, refund/repay calculations, in addition to record retention and reporting the combined enrollment at both MSU and LCC to the NSLDS and FISAP.

The guiding operational principle is that MSU will act as the home institution and LCC as the host institution during the period of time the student is completing the requirements for the certificate program.

Once students complete the MSU certificate program, LCC will then process the financial aid and monitor record retention and reporting including the NSLDS and FISAP for any student still matriculating at LCC to complete the associate's degree.

Under this Agreement, the responsibility for administering outside scholarships awarded to the student will be a shared arrangement. Generally, outside scholarship funds will be sent to and processed by MSU. In most cases, the administration of local promise zones that are programs target at the local community college will be processed by LCC. MSU will be notified of any scholarship that is not processed by MSU.

The MSU IAT coordinator at LCC will provide a list of students and the courses they are enrolled in for both MSU and LCC to both financial aid offices. Financial aid refunds received by students through MSU may be used to help cover the costs of tuition and fees for coursework at LCC.

#### **IV. STUDENT PERFORMANCE**

##### **A. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

Students enrolled in the Program are required to comply with the academic standards set forth by the MSU policy for maintaining good academic standing. Students also will be required to meet the academic standards at LCC. If the MSU and LCC standards differ, the more demanding of the two shall apply. The students' GPAs will be monitored by the IAT and by LCC. The IAT will provide the LCC Registrar with a copy of each student's academic performance. These reports will be made within 10 days of the MSU grade reporting deadline for each respective semester. Similarly, LCC will provide IAT with academic performance reports, within 10 days after the end of each LCC semester, of the students enrolled in the Program that have taken courses at LCC.

Any student whose academic record does not meet one or more of the requirements to remain in good academic standing is subject to appropriate academic action.

In the event that the student meets LCC's academic status requirements but is recommended for dismissal from the Program based on MSU general or program requirements, the student will have the option to apply as an LCC student outside the Program. In this case, the student would receive AGRI transfer credit for IAT courses with an earned grade of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

##### **B. DEGREE OPTIONS**

Students enrolled in the Program will work toward an AAS. The degree will be awarded by LCC upon the student's successful completion of the curriculum approved by both institutions. To receive an associate degree from Lansing Community College, a student must meet the following institutional graduation requirements:

1. Complete a course of study approved by the College and consisting of a minimum of 60 semester credits with no more than 10 percent of these credits acquired on the pass/fail (P-Z) grading system. (See the Degree and Certificate Programs section of this catalog.)
2. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.
3. Earn toward the curriculum at least 15 semester credits in attendance at Lansing Community College. Credits earned through comprehensive exams will not be counted toward this requirement.
4. Satisfy the LCC General Education Core Requirements. Students following the Associate in Arts Degree, or the Associate in Science Degree, will fulfill these requirements by completing specific curriculum requirements.
5. Satisfy all general and specific requirements of Lansing Community College.
6. File an application for graduation with the Admissions, Registration and Records Office by the deadline for the semester the program requirements are completed.

## **V. OPTIONS AND SECTIONS.**

### **A. Program Changes**

Both LCC and MSU will strive to keep each other informed about significant changes in courses included in the Program.

### **B. Program Review & Termination**

This program will be reviewed annually by representatives from both institutions using assessment criteria to be developed during the first year of the program.

Either Michigan State University or Lansing Community College may terminate the agreement by notifying the other party in writing 120 days in advance. Should the agreement be terminated, any Lansing Community College student who has designated and selected this consortium program prior to termination will be allowed to complete the program within a 2-year period of time.

This agreement is valid for 3 years from the initial signature date, at which time both parties may agree to renew the consortium agreement as written via a written memo of consent; modify the agreement and sign a revised version; or terminate based on the protocol above.

### **C. Additional Certificate Programs**

This agreement serves as the operating agreement for any additional IAT Certificate programs as agreed to by both parties. Additional program courses and curriculum will be jointly agreed upon and need only be listed as an addendum to this agreement for additional programs to be implemented.

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

To the extent permitted by law, each party (the “Indemnifying Party”) shall indemnify, defend and hold the other party (the “Indemnified Party”) harmless from any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities, costs and expenses, including but not limited to, attorney fees asserted by any third party, whether or not represented by a final judgment, for such claims, damages, losses, liabilities, costs and expenses which arise out of or result from, in any way, an Indemnifying Party’s operation of the Program on its campus.

The Indemnified Party agrees that the Indemnifying Party shall have sole and exclusive control over the defense and settlement of any such third-party claim. However, the Indemnifying Party shall not acquiesce to any judgment or enter into any settlement that adversely affects the Indemnified Party's rights or interests without prior written consent of the Indemnified Party. The Indemnified Party shall promptly notify the Indemnifying Party of any such claim of which it becomes aware and shall: (a) at the Indemnifying Party's expense, provide reasonable cooperation to the Indemnifying Party, in connection with the defense or settlement of any such claim, and (b) at the Indemnified Party's expense, be entitled to participate in the defense of any such claim. Failure of the Indemnified Party to give prompt notice of any claim shall not relieve such party of its indemnification obligation, except to the extent of liability that would have been avoided had prompt notice been given. This indemnification provision shall survive the termination, expiration or completion of the Program.

Therefore, in support of the Program in Agricultural Technology, Michigan State University and Lansing Community College are signatories to this agreement.

Academic Programs  
 Institute of Agricultural Technology  
 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
 Michigan State University

**Appendix A**

**Requirements for Landscape and Nursery Management** (students admitted Spring 2019 and after)

Students must complete 48 credits from the following:

1. All of the following courses (30 credits):
 

AT	45	Agricultural Communications	2
AT	102	Turf and Landscape Analytical Practices	2
AT	293	Professional Internship in Agricultural Technology	3
CSS	110	Computer Applications in Agronomy	2
CSS	210	Fundamentals of Soil Science	3
ENT	111	Basics of Applied Entomology	2
HRT	109	Introduction to Applied Plant Science	2
HRT	207	Horticulture Career Development	1
HRT	211	Landscape Plants I	3
HRT	212	Landscape Plants II	3
HRT	213	Landscape Maintenance	2
HRT	213L	Landscape Maintenance Field Laboratory	1
HRT	214	Landscape and Turfgrass Business Operations	2
PLP	105	Fundamentals of Applied Plant Pathology	2
  
2. Complete at least 9 credits from the following courses in the college as approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology:
 

AE	153	Engine and Equipment Technology	2
AT	101	Spanish for the Agricultural Industry	2
CSS	126	Introduction to Weed Management	2
CSS	226L	Weed Science Laboratory	1
CSS	181	Pesticide and Fertilizer Application Technology	3
CSS	202	World of Turf	2
HRT	204	Plant Propagation	2
HRT	218	Irrigation Systems for Horticulture	3
HRT	219	Landscape Computer Aided Design	2
HRT	220	Annual and Aquatic Landscape Plants	3
HRT	221	Greenhouse Structures and Management	3
  
3. Complete a minimum of 9 additional credits in the college chosen in consultation with and approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology.

Students who do not demonstrate English proficiency through the IAT-administered Accuplacer placement test or college-level transfer credit must complete AT 045 Agricultural Communications (2 credits) or an equivalent course as approved by the program coordinator.



Lansing Community College & Michigan State  
University  
Agricultural Technology  
Associate of Applied Science: 1451

Appendix B



The agricultural technology degree is designed to train individuals to work in agri-business or in various other aspects of the agricultural industry, depending upon the specific Certificate program completed at Michigan State University (MSU). This program is offered through a joint agreement between Lansing Community College (LCC) and the Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology (IAT). Concentrations within this degree include Agricultural Industries; Dairy Production; Electrical Technology Program; Fruit, Vegetable, and Organic Horticulture; Horse Management; Landscape and Nursery Management; Livestock Industries; Sports and Commercial Turf Management; and Turfgrass Management: Golf.

Students may enter this curriculum in one of two ways. A student may begin at LCC, taking general education classes, and apply to the IAT for admittance to one of the specific concentration listed above. Alternatively students may be admitted first to a specific Certificate program in the IAT and then decide to enter the joint program to receive the AAS degree. **Not all courses in this program transfer to all colleges.** Students planning to transfer should see an academic advisor before enrolling in any course.

**GENERAL EDUCATION CORE** (taken at LCC)

Communication	COMM 110 or 120* or 130 or 140
Global Perspectives & Diversity	HUMS 160 or 213 or 214 or SOCL 120
Mathematics	MATH 119* or STAT 170 or MATH 120* or above*
Science	BIOL127 or CHEM 151 & 161**
Writing	ENGL 121 or 131

General Education Credits: 19 or 20

\*these courses are recommended for those who intend to transfer to pursue a Bachelor’s degree. For additional transfer requirements, please consult with the intended transfer institution.

\*\*Students that complete CSS 101 and CSS 101L with grades of 2.0 or higher will satisfy the science requirement. Student should contact their advisor for the process.

**MSU AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY COURSES**

See MSU Ag Tech advisor for selections: MSU Ag Technology Credits: 48  
Total Coursework: 67 or 68 credits

**INFORMATION**

Contact the Science Department, Arts & Sciences Building, Room 301, telephone number (517) 483-1092; the Academic Advising Department, Gannon Building - StarZone, telephone number (517) 483-1904; or the MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology, Room 120 Agriculture Hall on the MSU campus, telephone number (517) 355-0190.

**NOTES:**

1. A specific Agricultural Technology certificate from Michigan State University is required to fulfill this requirement.
2. A 2.0 grade or higher is required in all courses used to satisfy this degree.



3. The following CANNOT be used for degree requirements:
  - a) courses numbered below 100
  - b) courses in Mathematics or Statistics that are not listed on the LCC General Education Core Areas or the Michigan Transfer Agreement.
  - c) courses in English or Writing numbered below 118
  - d) courses in English as a Second Language
  - e) courses in Reading
  - f) courses in non-technical Vocabulary
  - g) courses in Academic Experience numbered other than 101
  - h) courses in Student Development numbered other than 101
  
4. In addition, ENGL 122 or 132 and HIST 211 or 212 are strongly recommended if planning to transfer to MSU or other 4-year university.

**Student Consent Form**

My signature below indicates that I understand my enrollment in the Landscape and Nursery Management Program offered by Michigan State University (MSU) in cooperation with Lansing Community College requires sharing of my student records at both institutions in order to provide advising, satisfy financial aid reporting requirements, and track progress toward and completion of the MSU IAT Certificate program.

**NAME**  
(Printed)

**Lansing Community College Student ID**

**MSU Student PID**