

**Interlocal Agreement  
Between  
The University of Texas at Austin  
and  
Ferris ISD**

**FOR THE 2023-2024 ONRAMPS PROGRAM**

This Interlocal Agreement (Agreement) with an Effective Date of June 1, 2023, is entered on the Effective Date by Ferris ISD (FISD) and The University of Texas at Austin (“UT Austin”), on behalf of its OnRamps program, collectively referred to as the Parties.

**Contracting Parties:**

Receiving Party (FISD)  
Ferris ISD  
301 E 5th St  
Ferris, TX 75125

Performing Party The University of Texas at Austin  
OnRamps  
2616 Wichita St, Ste 101  
Austin, TX 78712

**WHEREAS**, UT Austin and FISD are collaborating to offer eligible high school students the opportunity to enroll in college courses while attending high school and simultaneously receive academic credits from UT Austin and their FISD high school(s).

**WHEREAS**, eligible students will be able to participate in a dual enrollment, distance education program called OnRamps.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, the Parties agree as follows:

**1. Interlocal**

The Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act, Government Code, §791.001, *et seq.* allows local governments and institutions of higher learning to contract with each other for governmental functions and services, including all or part of a function in which the Parties are mutually interested. This Agreement constitutes an “interlocal contract” within the meaning of and as authorized by the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act. The purpose of the Agreement is to provide “governmental functions or services,” as therein defined. Each party represents it has authority to enter into the Agreement and does so by action of its governing body. To the extent any party pays for the performance of governmental functions or services, the party will make those payments from current revenues available to that party.

**2. Nature of OnRamps**

UT Austin and FISD enter into this Agreement to implement OnRamps by offering distance college courses through a dual-enrollment model, as well as high school teacher training and professional learning. OnRamps offers high school students the opportunity to earn high school credits from FISD and college credits from UT Austin through a distance education course.

FISD and UT Austin will share the responsibility to implement the OnRamps program. By entering into this Agreement for the delivery of distance college courses, FISD becomes an active participant in ensuring the effectiveness and quality of the implementation of OnRamps at FISD.

### **3. Fees and Payments**

#### **Enrollment Fees:**

The cost of the OnRamps course materials, technical support and course implementation support outlined in this Agreement for FISD will be defined on a per-student, per-course basis.

FISD is paying a subsidized rate. Subject to available funding, during the 2023-2024 school year, the fee of \$249 (or \$199 for students identified by TEA as eligible for free or reduced-price meals or other economic disadvantage), per student and per course is subsidized to \$149 (or \$99 for students identified by TEA as eligible for free or reduced-price meals or other economic disadvantage). Enrollment cost subsidies are paid for by OnRamps and applicable state appropriations. Private, parochial, and out-of-state schools are not eligible for the subsidized rate.

The OnRamps enrollment fee is assessed for each student registered in each OnRamps course on the enrollment census date which will be determined and communicated on or before June 1, 2023. The program fee includes access to course materials, technology tools, and credit eligibility evaluation. Refunds will not be given at the end of a course for any reason, including if a student is not eligible to earn college credit in the course.

#### **Professional Learning and Development (PLD) Fee:**

The cost of OnRamps professional learning and development will be assessed on a per-teacher basis according to the fee schedule in Exhibit C. This fee includes professional learning and development services, course materials, technology tools, and technical assistance required for implementation during the entire term of this agreement, including Summer Professional Learning Institute (PLI), academic year PLIs, virtual conferences, virtual learning modules, virtual communities of practice, professional development assignments, and access to individual virtual coaching. If FISD or the FISD high school teacher joins after the conclusion of Summer PLI, the total fee is still required based upon the status of the teacher at student census.

The Professional Learning Development fee does not include lodging, transportation, or teacher substitute cost. If a PLI is held in person, a lodging fee may be charged in addition to the PLD fee.

FISD is responsible for paying within 30 days of receipt of any undisputed invoice.

All checks should be made payable to The University of Texas at Austin. Payments should be mailed and/or delivered to:

The University of Texas at Austin  
OnRamps  
2616 Wichita St, Ste 101  
Austin, TX 78712

#### **4. Scope of Work and Responsibilities**

Responsibilities to implement OnRamps distance college courses will be shared by FISD and OnRamps. FISD is an active participant in ensuring the effectiveness and quality of OnRamps implementation at its facilities. The Parties agree to provide the following, collectively referred to as the “Services.”

##### **4.1 Responsibilities of OnRamps**

###### **Enrollment and Records**

- A. Provide an online registration process for high school students to enroll in OnRamps courses (as listed in Exhibit A fully incorporated by this reference) through the OnRamps student information system (OnRamps Portal).
- B. Maintain, as part of routine educational effectiveness evaluation at UT Austin, OnRamps student educational records, including registration, enrollment, orientation, and course evaluation data for purposes of administering, implementing, and improving the program and providing official reporting to UT Austin and FISD. OnRamps engages in additional data sharing with UT Austin departments as defined in the data sharing agreement between Parties, attached and incorporated herein.
- C. Record grades on UT Austin transcripts for students who are eligible for and accept college credit for the distance college course.
- D. Support documentation of distance college course credit, including enrollment and non-enrollment confirmation letters and assistance in securing official transcripts.

###### **Curriculum and Instruction**

- E. Provide UT Austin faculty and academic staff to develop and define college-level course materials and curriculum and assume oversight of distance college courses.
- F. Deliver instructional materials via distance education. All college course-related materials will be available to the student through unique login in Canvas Learning Management System (Canvas LMS).
- G. Administer OnRamps distance college courses via a dual enrollment model. UT Austin faculty and academic course staff ensure comparability of distance college courses to campus-based courses and are approved by UT Austin Department Chairs and supported by Deans. All OnRamps students register for semester- or year-long courses.
  - a. Semester-long and year-long course college enrollment information

- i. Students must complete a series of required assignments and summative assessments as published in the college syllabus that are designed, designated, and evaluated by UT Austin faculty and college Instructors of Record to earn college credit.
    - ii. Students must earn a passing grade (D- or above) on the designated portion of the course determined by the UT Austin Instructor of Record to be eligible to earn college credit in the OnRamps distance college course.
    - iii. Eligible students who earn a passing grade (D- or above) in the college course may accept or decline their college credit.
    - iv. College credits earned and accepted by eligible students are reported to the University Registrar for official transcription.
    - v. Eligible students who accept college credit will have an official UT Austin transcript showing the letter grade earned in the course.
  - b. Additional year-long course college enrollment information
    - i. A student who does not earn a passing grade (D- or above) at the point of eligibility determination may be determined to be eligible if the student meets the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemption criteria for that course. TSI exemption criteria are detailed in each college course syllabus for which TSI exemption may be used.
- H. Provide technology and support services necessary for teaching and learning in OnRamps courses and program implementation:
  - a. Maintain servers operated by or hosted on OnRamps's web-based Canvas LMS.
  - b. Provide access and training on the Canvas LMS for every OnRamps student to access course content and instructional experiences.
  - c. Provide online and phone-based technical support for OnRamps teachers, students, and UT Austin faculty using the curriculum when that support is not provided through Canvas LMS.
  - d. Provide access to teleconference functions in Canvas LMS or other commensurate distance technology with consultants available to students for writing consultation related to distance college course writing assignments in Rhetoric 306 and Rhetoric 309J.
  - e. Provide a student orientation module in Canvas LMS for all OnRamps courses that details program enrollment, student academic integrity, and FERPA rights.
  - f. Provide information in the OnRamps Portal or through email notifications related to distance college course enrollment activities, including registration, eligibility, credit type selection, credit status, and official transcript requests.
  - g. Provide information on procedures for submitting and resolving complaints, grade appeals, information requests, and other inquiries related to participation in OnRamps.

### **Professional Development and Support**

- I. Deliver professional learning to Fisd teachers who implement the OnRamps course. Teachers implementing an OnRamps course are required to participate in and complete all OnRamps professional learning and development program components.

- a. 2023 Summer PLI will be delivered by OnRamps using distance education and virtual learning technologies. Summer PLI is required for all OnRamps high school teachers.
- b. Academic year PLIs will consist of two one-day PLIs for new and returning participating teachers delivered virtually during the fall and spring semesters. OnRamps may also provide optional in-person PLI sessions at pre-determined regional sites. FISD teachers are required to participate in and fully complete the one-day workshop during each semester in which the teacher delivers an OnRamps course, regardless of whether the course will be offered in the subsequent year.
- c. Virtual conferences for implementing FISD new and returning teachers held up to eight times per year.
- d. FISD teacher participants will be credited with continuing professional education hours for the hours of documented attendance.
- J. Deliver professional learning and development opportunities specific to administrative and counselor roles and functions to FISD and its administration based on advance scheduling and availability of OnRamps staff.
- K. Deliver in-person or virtual presentations and/or workshops to FISD staff and community members regarding the OnRamps program overview, implementation, and strategies for success based on advance scheduling and availability of OnRamps staff.
- L. OnRamps will hire and assign a qualified course coordinator for each course offered. The coordinator will serve as the content expert and point of contact and support for the high school teacher.
- M. Provide ongoing, one-on-one feedback and guidance to the high school teacher.
- N. Provide virtual coaching access to each OnRamps high school teacher to support course implementation and enhance their professional practice.

**Institutional Effectiveness**

- O. Provide feedback regarding course implementation to UT Austin faculty and academic staff, as well as FISD high school teachers and administrators. OnRamps will provide updates through regularly identified reporting schedules to the identified FISD Main Contact and, as needed, regarding the status of OnRamps course and professional learning and development implementation, based on regular review of program data, including communication with the OnRamps FISD high school teacher(s) and student performance and engagement data.
  - a. OnRamps staff will inform FISD administration of any serious concerns regarding FISD or campus implementation of the OnRamps course pertaining to quality and fidelity. If FISD implementation of the OnRamps course is deemed unsatisfactory, OnRamps reserves the right to deny the opportunity to offer the OnRamps course in the future or to require a replacement high school teacher.
  - b. A FISD high school teacher deemed by OnRamps to be unsatisfactorily implementing the course will be given the opportunity to bring course implementation into alignment with OnRamps expectations and be provided individual coaching and support as available through the course staff, OnRamps PLIs, a virtual community of practice, and ongoing communication. Should the

high school teacher's implementation of OnRamps continue to be unsatisfactory or without improvement in OnRamps' sole discretion, OnRamps will notify FISD, who will use its best efforts to identify an alternate high school teacher, and FISD will work with OnRamps to continue implementation of the course with the alternate high school teacher. OnRamps reserves the right to deny any unsatisfactorily performing teacher the opportunity to offer the course in the future.

- c. Should OnRamps deem an OnRamps FISD high school teacher as not compatible with or not in the best interest of the program in OnRamps' sole discretion, OnRamps will notify FISD who will work with OnRamps to continue the course through an alternate teacher.
- d. Any person performing Services under this Agreement on behalf of OnRamps must be actively employed or eligible for employment by UT Austin and may not be on administrative or medical leave. UT Austin must comply with applicable criminal background check requirements for their respective faculty, staff, and employees performing Services under this Agreement. If UT Austin becomes aware that one of its faculty, staff, or employees performing Services does not meet these requirements, a representative of the OnRamps program must inform the FISD district contact.

**Extended Student Absences [subject to FISD policies]**

- P. In a case where a student is removed from their home campus and assigned to an alternative campus the FISD point of contact, campus principal and/or the high school teacher of the campus must notify the OnRamps Associate Director for Partnerships or the OnRamps help desk known as "OnRamps Support". Information needs to include the length of the placement to determine if the student will continue in the enrolled OnRamps course. If the alternative placement is longer than seven (7) school days, then the following is required:
- a. The administrator, OnRamps FISD high school teacher, and OnRamps course staff will work together to determine if the student has the opportunity to continue the course at the alternative campus. If determined the student will not have the appropriate instruction and access to the course, the student will be dropped from the OnRamps course.
    - i. If this occurs prior to the identified course census date, then the FISD will not be invoiced for this student.
    - ii. If the student is enrolled in a year-long OnRamps course, the student will be dropped from the OnRamps course, the Canvas LMS system, and a schedule change will be made for the student's high school schedule. If the student is enrolled in History or Rhetoric, the student will be dropped from the course for the semester in which the student is taking the course (fall or spring). If the student is taking History or Rhetoric in the fall, the student will have the opportunity to enroll in History or Rhetoric in the spring, if the student returns to the home campus in time for registration at the beginning of spring instruction.
- Q. In a case where a student is hospitalized or removed from instruction or the school setting for longer periods due to illness, accident, or other circumstance, the FISD

point of contact, campus principal and/or the high school instructor must notify the OnRamps Associate Director of Partnerships or OnRamps Support immediately to determine if eligibility for enrollment may continue, which decision will be made by OnRamps on its sole discretion.

#### **4.2 Responsibilities of FISD [subject to FISD policies and applicable law]**

- A. Implement one or more OnRamps courses.
  - a. Assign a(n) FISD contact responsible for overseeing implementation of OnRamps high school course(s) and participating in meetings designated for FISD administration with OnRamps staff.
    - i. This FISD contact will provide up-to-date contact information for FISD and its campus administration. In the event there is a change in administration at FISD or at its campuses, the FISD contact will update the OnRamps Portal.
  - b. OnRamps syllabi and course content may not be used to satisfy the requirements for third party evaluation, including AP curriculum.
  - c. In the case of Introduction to Rhetoric: Reading, Writing and Research and Reading and Writing the Rhetoric of American Identities, the UT Austin Department of Rhetoric and Writing:
    - i. Prohibits the OnRamps courses from being offered as an AP English course.
    - ii. Requires a cap of 25 students per section with a limit of two (2) sections per teacher for a maximum of 50 students. Alternatively, a teacher may have 60 students distributed in three (3) or more sections. With approval, the cap of 60 students may be exceeded in exceptional circumstances at OnRamps' sole discretion.
- B. Recruit high school teacher(s) with appropriate qualifications to teach the OnRamps course(s), consistent with FISD policies.
  - a. Minimum requirements for all OnRamps FISD high school teachers include:
    - i. Bachelor's degree in the discipline or a related field.
    - ii. One (1) or more years of teaching experience in the relevant course or a higher-level course (e.g. calculus for pre-calculus).
    - iii. Completed annual OnRamps teacher application.
    - iv. Obtain a UT EID in order to access Canvas LMS, the OnRamps Portal, and other systems required for implementation of the OnRamps program. OnRamps will provide the designated OnRamps teacher privileged access to student information and other systems through the UT EID. OnRamps may suspend, terminate, or revoke OnRamps teacher access to its systems through the EID affiliation at OnRamps sole discretion. The EID affiliation with OnRamps will be revoked if this agreement is terminated or if an OnRamps FISD high school teacher can no longer complete the course.
    - v. Successful completion of required tasks before the start of Summer PLI, including, but not limited to, completion of FERPA training module provided by OnRamps. Tasks will be determined and shared by the OnRamps professional learning and development staff in advance of Summer PLI. FISD high school teachers approved on a conditional basis may be required to complete additional tasks. Any high school teacher who does not complete the required self-directed or Summer PLI tasks may not

be eligible to implement an OnRamps course. The decision to admit or deny such teacher and any accompanying conditions will be determined by the Associate Director of Instructional Innovation and Implementation and Managing Director at their discretion.

- vi. Attendance and successful completion of Summer PLI, all required academic year PLIs, monthly virtual conferences or virtual learning modules, and professional development assignments.
  - 1. OnRamps FISD high school teachers must participate in the entire Summer PLI and complete all assigned work including pre-, during, and post-PLI.
  - 2. FISD teachers are required to participate in and fully complete both academic year PLIs in which the teacher delivers an OnRamps course, regardless of whether the course will be offered in the subsequent year. Each Fall and Spring PLI will provide up to eight hours of continuing professional education hours.
  - 3. Completion of the minimum requirements and number of virtual coaching uploads over the course of the academic year as described in the Instructor Handbook is required.
- vii. Review communication from OnRamps course staff in weekly newsletters and respond accordingly to routine requests.
- viii. Adhere to guidelines regarding OnRamps course content intellectual property. FISD is responsible for informing teachers that they do not have a license to use any OnRamps provided materials outside of the scope of this agreement.
- ix. Deliver OnRamps instructional materials through the OnRamps instance of Canvas LMS or designated platforms as specified in the OnRamps Technology Manual.
- b. Additional requirements for OnRamps returning FISD teachers include:
  - i. Successful implementation of OnRamps course during the previous academic year according to requirements under section D below.
- C. Ensure OnRamps FISD high school teachers and students have the necessary resources to implement the program with fidelity, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Access to the OnRamps Portal and Canvas LMS. Participating FISD campuses will work with the OnRamps support team to ensure their campus and students can fully access the OnRamps Portal and Canvas LMS.
  - b. Access to computer, internet, and URLs in approved allow lists, as specified by OnRamps, and adhere to requirements outlined in the most recent OnRamps Technology Manual.
  - c. Scheduled access to technology that meets the specifications defined by OnRamps for each course. This includes regular in-class and out-of-class, one-to-one (1:1) access to computers and the internet to view materials and complete and submit assignments, quizzes, tests, and exams, and the following technology for specific course implementation (as applicable).
  - d. Graphing calculators or graphing calculator functions as specified in the most recent OnRamps Technology Manual.
  - e. Audio/visual projection and/or whiteboard.



- f. Copy/scanning services to duplicate some course materials and distribute to students in the OnRamps course and upload assignments.
  - g. Required lab materials for BIO 106M, CH 104M, CH 102N, GEO302E, and PHY 102M.
  - h. The Chemistry course(s) must be offered in a lab setting that meets the Texas Education Agency standard with minimal viable components including an eyewash station, vent hood, and equipment required for student implementation of the lab course including use and disposal of the required chemical list.
- D. Ensure OnRamps FISD high school teachers implement the program with fidelity, including the following requirements:
- a. Adhere to Texas Administrative and Education Code, including the Educators' Code of Ethics (19 TAC Chapter 247).
  - b. Ensure students complete the OnRamps registration process and student orientation, including creating a UT EID, and creating a profile and registering in the OnRamps Portal, within the first three weeks of school.
  - c. Administer and facilitate OnRamps-required assignments and assessments without alteration through the OnRamps instance of Canvas LMS.
  - d. Use Canvas LMS to assign and grade high school work as specified by OnRamps course staff.
  - e. Participate in professional learning and development activities, including Summer PLI, academic year PLIs, video conferences, virtual learning modules, virtual communities of practices and uploads of classroom video, and ongoing opportunities during each semester in which they teach the OnRamps course. To facilitate teacher participation in the academic year PLIs, FISD agrees to pay the cost of substitute teachers for the days the teacher will attend the academic year PLIs.
  - f. Maintain regular communication via email, phone, video web conferencing, etc. with OnRamps course coordinator and other staff regarding the success and challenges of implementation, responding in a timely manner to requests for information, including turning in any requested documentation to evaluate student progress or success by specified deadlines.
  - g. Notify OnRamps of FISD high school teacher absences that exceed four or more consecutive class days or of teacher resignations using the provided form in the case when the teacher cannot self-report.
- E. Ensure students register for OnRamps courses to meet program requirements, including:
- a. Recruit and approve students to participate in OnRamps courses.
  - b. Ensure students enrolled in the OnRamps program meet the minimum academic requirements for each course as shown in Exhibit A.
  - c. Ensure students complete the OnRamps registration process and student orientation, which includes creating a UT EID, and creating a profile and registering in the OnRamps Portal, within the first three weeks of school.
    - i. When a student enrolls in an OnRamps course past the census date, OnRamps will determine whether the student may enroll for the possibility of earning college credit based on the district's start date and a course-specific event-based deadline. If OnRamps determines that the student will

be enrolled for high school credit only, the student will have access to course technology, but the student's enrollment will not be included in invoicing or reporting, and the student's enrollment will be indicated as High School Only in the OnRamps Portal.

- d. The student and, if the student is under 18 years of age at the time of registration, the student's parent or guardian shall acknowledge and consent the student is enrolling in a college course with the opportunity to earn college credit.
- F. Ensure accuracy of OnRamps student information, including:
  - a. Ensure student rosters accurately reflect students enrolled in OnRamps courses on the OnRamps census dates in fall and spring.
  - b. Submit student state IDs in accordance with communicated timeline.
  - c. Submit high school grades in accordance with the data sharing agreement schedule.
- G. Any person performing Services under this Agreement on behalf of FISD must be actively employed or eligible for employment by FISD and may not be on administrative leave. FISD must comply with applicable criminal background check requirements for their respective faculty, staff, and employees performing Services under this Agreement. If FISD becomes aware that one of its faculty, staff, or employees performing Services does not meet these requirements, the district contact, who oversees the OnRamps program, must inform OnRamps within 24 business hours.

## 5. Summer PLI Teacher Registration and Attendance

- A. FISD high school teachers are required to register for Summer PLI **two weeks prior** to the start of the selected synchronous Summer PLI session. Late registration will be accommodated at the discretion of the Associate Director of Instructional Innovation and Implementation or Managing Director.
- B. New OnRamps FISD high school teachers must complete all components of Summer PLI including prerequisite self-directed modules, synchronous sessions, and compliance modules. New OnRamps high school teachers are defined as those who are implementing an OnRamps course for the first time or for the first time after more than one year of absence.
  - a. The FISD teacher assigned to the course **must** successfully complete the New Instructor Summer PLI experience at least once, in its entirety, before implementing an OnRamps course for the first time. If the teacher continues to offer the course in subsequent years, they are required to attend the Returning Instructor Summer PLI for each subsequent year they implement that course. If a teacher is assigned to implement a new OnRamps course in addition to their current OnRamps course, the instructor must complete the New Instructor Summer PLI for the new course.
- C. Cancellation policy:
  - a. All high school teachers must cancel their registration in writing at least one week prior to any in-person PLI or will pay 100% of fees for room/board and meals for which those charges apply, if applicable. FISD will be invoiced for all high school teachers who are registered on the day three weeks prior to the event starting and will pay such invoices within thirty (30) days.

- b. If a high school teacher registers for Summer PLI and is unable to attend, the teacher must communicate this change to the OnRamps Professional Learning and Development team via OnRamps Support in writing at least one week prior to the start of Summer PLI. The district contact may coordinate with OnRamps to identify an appropriate replacement. Fees will be assessed based on teachers who complete Summer PLI.
  - c. In the event of an emergency about which OnRamps staff and the teacher's principal are notified, a teacher may arrange to make up as much as 20% of Summer PLI and still be eligible to teach the OnRamps course. OnRamps FISD high school teachers who miss more than 20% of Summer PLI, regardless of the reason, will be on probationary status and their approval to serve as an OnRamps high school teacher will be evaluated by OnRamps on a case-by-case basis.
- D. If a high school teacher attends Summer PLI, and the course for which the teacher is trained is not offered for the school year, FISD will be:
- a. Charged the full fee based on whether they are new or returning, for Summer PLI.
  - b. All materials provided to FISD for the course must be returned to OnRamps within 30 days.

## **6. Educational Records and Data Sharing**

- A. FISD and OnRamps create, maintain, and manage their own educational records for students and teachers. OnRamps maintains all educational records created as a result of the OnRamps program consistent with FERPA, as well as applicable UT Austin policy defined in Chapter 9 of the General Catalog of UT Austin, subchapter 9-100 through 9-400, and any applicable law. In order to provide the OnRamps program and related services to FISD and for FISD's accountability reporting purposes, OnRamps requires specific student information from FISD. All such records are provided the same security as those outlined in this section 6.C, section 7, and the Data Sharing Agreement, and will not be sold or shared with external sources except as allowed by law. See Exhibit B Data Sharing Agreement which sets terms and conditions for the exchange by the Parties of data needed to support the OnRamps program.
- B. Following UT Austin's Institutional Review Board standards and policy, as applicable, OnRamps may obtain and maintain data and/or feedback about student and teacher experiences with the program for the purpose of understanding outcomes and program improvements.
- C. For legitimate educational interests, OnRamps will facilitate the exchange of information among institutions, OnRamps high school teachers, OnRamps faculty and staff, and FISD contacts 1) pertaining to students' progress toward the opportunity to earn college credit; 2) to verify student accommodations under IDEA and/or Section 504; 3) to facilitate early intervention and support student success; 4) pertaining to whether college credit is earned, accepted, and/or declined; 5) to facilitate accurate recordkeeping; and 6) to address academic integrity issues. If either party obtains access to FISD and/or UT Austin records or record systems protected under FERPA, each party agrees to adhere to the provisions of FERPA. While in possession of FERPA records and data, only persons authorized to access the student data related to the OnRamps program will be granted access consistent with FERPA.

**7. Governmental Function, Immunity, Record Protection, and Criminal History**

The Parties agree that the performance of this Agreement is for the purpose of performing governmental functions and that, in all things related to this Agreement, Parties are performing governmental functions as defined by the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act. Nothing herein or in the performance of this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign/governmental immunity or similar rights. Parties agree that neither party waives any immunity or defense that would otherwise be available to it pursuant to the Texas Tort Claims Act or other applicable statutes, laws, rules or regulations against claims arising from the exercise of its powers or functions. No provision of this Agreement that imposes an obligation or restriction on Fisd or UT Austin not otherwise permitted by applicable law shall be enforceable. Records relating to this Agreement may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act, Section 552.001 et. seq. of the Texas Government Code.

Each party agrees that if it received information or records concerning any student, it shall not disclose the same except as permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act a/k/a FERPA (20 U.S.C. 1232(g)). FERPA is specifically referenced in the Texas Public Information Act as an exception to records that are subject to disclosure to the public (Texas Government Code 552.001 et seq.).

**8. Indemnity**

The Parties expressly agree that, except as provided herein, no party shall have the right to seek indemnification or contribution from the other party for any losses, costs, expenses, or damages directly or indirectly arising, in whole or part, from this Agreement.

**9. Term and Termination**

This Agreement is effective on June 1, 2023, no matter the date fully executed by both Parties and covers a period beginning June 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2024. This Agreement cannot be renewed or extended.

Either party may, without penalty, terminate this Agreement at the end of any budget period of such party during the term if funds required to fulfill this Agreement have not been appropriated, and with written notice to the other party. Such notice shall be effective thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt.

Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice of termination to the other party. Fisd agrees any amounts owed for Services rendered through the termination date and properly invoiced will be promptly paid upon notice of termination and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code.

**10. Ownership of Intellectual Property**

UT Austin and the OnRamps program shall solely own all intellectual property rights in or relating to OnRamps, including all written materials, study guides, course materials, syllabi, and assessments prepared under the program ("Materials"). Intellectual property rights means any rights or titles to inventions, discoveries, concepts, methods, processes, data, trade

secrets, branding, trademarks, copyrights, computer programs and related documentation, or works of authorship fixed in a medium of expression of any kind whether or not patentable, copyrightable, or eligible for registration as a trademark, as well as applications for any such rights. There are no implied licenses; FISD agrees and understands that it may not copy, modify, share, distribute, or display any Materials without the prior written permission of UT Austin and the OnRamps program.

#### **11. Contractual Relationship**

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating an employer/employee relationship, a partnership, a joint venture or joint obligations between the Parties. Each party retains the right to conduct its business as it sees fit. The Parties shall, at all times, be deemed independent contractors/entities.

#### **12. Notice to Parties**

Except as otherwise provided by this Section, notices, consents, approvals, demands, requests or other communications provided or permitted under this Agreement, will be in writing and will be sent via certified mail, hand delivery, overnight courier, facsimile transmission (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below), or email (to the extent an email address is set forth below) as provided below, and notice will be deemed given 1) if delivered by certified mail, when deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States mail, or 2) if delivered by hand, overnight courier, facsimile (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below) or email (to the extent an email address is set forth below), when received:

FISD at:

Ferris ISD  
301 E 5th St  
Ferris, TX 75125

UT Austin at:

Darrell Bazzell, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
101 Inner Campus Dr, Ste 102  
Austin, TX 78712

With a copy to:

OnRamps  
2616 Wichita St, Ste 101  
Austin, TX 78712  
Email: [sp.contracts@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:sp.contracts@austin.utexas.edu)

or such other address as later provided by a party through written notice to the other party.

#### **13. Venue; Governing Law**

This Agreement, all of its terms and conditions, all rights and obligations of the Parties, and all claims arising out of or relating to this Agreement, will be construed, interpreted and applied in accordance with, governed by and enforced under, the laws of the State of Texas.

#### **14. Mutual Negotiation**

This Agreement has been prepared at the joint request, direction, and construction of the Parties, at arms' length, and shall be construed without favor to any party.

#### **15. Amendment and Assignment**

Any changes to this Agreement may only be made by mutual written agreement of the Parties. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the express written consent of the other party. Any attempt to assign without such consent shall be void, and shall be deemed a material breach of this Agreement.

#### **16. Survival**

A party shall remain obligated to the other party under all clauses of this Agreement that expressly or by their nature extend beyond the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

#### **17. Cybersecurity Training Program**

During the term and any renewal of this Agreement, each party shall comply with Texas Government Code Chapter 2054 concerning cybersecurity for state agencies and local government, and to the extent applicable verify compliance to the other party.

#### **18. Access by Individuals with Disabilities**

Performing Party represents and warrants (**EIR Accessibility Warranty**) the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support Performing Party provides to Receiving Party under this Agreement (**EIRs**) comply with applicable requirements set forth in [1 TAC Chapter 213](#) and [1 TAC Section 206.70](#) (ref. [Subchapter M, Chapter 2054, Texas Government Code](#)). To the extent Performing Party becomes aware the EIRs, or any portion thereof, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Performing Party represents and warrants it will, at no cost to Receiving Party, either 1) perform all necessary remediation to make EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or 2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. If Performing Party is unable to do so, Receiving Party may terminate this Agreement and, within thirty (30) days after termination, Performing Party will refund to Receiving Party all amounts Receiving Party paid under this Agreement.

Performing Party will provide all assistance and cooperation necessary for the performance of accessibility testing conducted by Receiving Party or Receiving Party's third party testing resources as required by [1 TAC Section 213.38\(g\)](#).

#### **19. Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State**

Pursuant to [Sections 2107.008](#) and [2252.903](#), *Government Code*, any payments owing to Performing Party under this Agreement may be applied directly toward any debt or delinquency Performing Party owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas, regardless of when it arises, until paid in full.

#### **20. Signatory Representations**

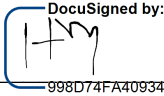
Receiving Party represents and warrants that it has all necessary power and has received all necessary approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement, and the individual executing this

Agreement on behalf of Receiving Party has been duly authorized to act for and bind Receiving Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as shown below.

Receiving Party  
Ferris ISD

Performing Party  
The University of Texas at Austin

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
998D74FA409343E...

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_   
423D22B53BC0421...

Name: Hector Madrigal

Name: Kathleen Brock

Title: Superintendent

Title: Senior director

Date: 2023-05-02 | 16:09:17 PDT

Date: 2023-05-03 | 09:38:14 CDT

Exhibit A  
OnRamps Courses

OnRamps Course Name	UT Austin Course Code	TCCNS Equivalency	Texas Core Code	Required Prerequisites	Recommended Prerequisites
Foundations of Arts and Entertainment Technologies	AET 304	-	050	-	Graphic Design
Introductory Biology I	BIO 311C	BIOL 1306	030	Credit in TEKS-based Biology & TEKS-based Chemistry	-
Lab for Introduction to Biology I	BIO 106M	BIOL 1106	-	Credit in TEKS-based Biology & TEKS-based Chemistry	-
Principles of Chemistry I (Lecture)	CH 301	CHEM 1311	030	Credit in Algebra I	-
Introduction to Chemical Practices I (Lab)	CH 104M	CHEM 1111	-	Credit in Algebra I	-
Principles of Chemistry II (Lecture)	CH 302	CHEM 1312	030	Credit in Chemistry	-
Introduction to Chemical Practices II (Lab)	CH 104N	CHEM 1112	-	Credit in Chemistry	-
Computer Science: Thriving in Our Digital World	CS 302	-	093	Credit in Algebra I	Credit or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II
Introduction to Economics	ECO 304K	ECON 2302	080	-	Credit or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II
Earth, Wind, and Fire: An Introduction to Geoscience	GEO 302E	-	030	Credit in Biology and Chemistry or IPC and Chemistry	-
United States, 1492-1865	HIS 315K	HIST 1301	060	Credit or concurrent enrollment in English II	-



OnRamps Course Name	UT Austin Course Code	TCCNS Equivalency	Texas Core Code	Required Prerequisites	Recommended Prerequisites
United States Since 1865	HIS 315L	HIST 1302	060	Credit or concurrent enrollment in English II	-
College Algebra	M 301	MATH 1314	-	Credit in Algebra I	Credit in Geometry
Discovery Precalculus: Preparation for Calculus	M 305G	MATH 2312	020	Credit in Algebra II & Geometry	-
Mechanics, Heat, and Sound	PHY 302K	PHYS 1301	030	Credit in Algebra I & Geometry	Credit in Algebra II or Precalculus
Lab for Mechanics, Heat, and Sound	PHY 102M	PHYS 1101	-	Credit in Algebra I & Geometry	Credit in Algebra II or Precalculus
Electromagnetism, Optics, and Nuclear Physics	PHY 302L	PHYS 1302	030	Credit in TEKS-based Physics, Algebra II, & Geometry	Credit in PHY 302K, AP Physics I, Honors Physics, PHYS 1301, or Precalculus
Introduction to Rhetoric: Reading, Writing, and Research	RHE 306	ENGL 1301	010	Credit in English I & English II	-
Reading and Writing the Rhetoric of American Identities	RHE 309J	ENGL 1302	010	Credit in English I & English II	-
Elementary Statistical Methods	SDS 301	MATH 1342	020	Credit in Algebra I	Credit in Algebra II & Geometry
Quantum Computing	PHY 309L	PHYS 1307	030	Credit in Algebra I & Geometry	Credit in Algebra II or Precalculus

Exhibit B  
Data Sharing Agreement

DATA SHARING AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
Ferris ISD  
AND  
ONRAMPS  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Pursuant to this Data Sharing Agreement and underlying Interlocal, Ferris ISD (FISD) agrees to provide individual student-level data to OnRamps at The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) for the purpose of implementing, billing, and evaluating the OnRamps dual enrollment program and informing OnRamps students of academic opportunities at UT Austin. FISD hereby appoints OnRamps as a legitimate educational official of FISD in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Likewise, OnRamps hereby appoints FISD as a legitimate educational official of OnRamps in accordance with FERPA. OnRamps agrees to provide individual student-level data to FISD for the purpose of evaluation, accountability, and student record-keeping. The terms of this Data Sharing Agreement are in effect until August 31, 2024 unless terminated in writing by one or both Parties.

**1. Data type and exchange timeline**

FISD Designee for Student Data and OnRamps will coordinate data exchange for all OnRamps program participants for the 2023-2024 academic year, as follows:

Responsible Party	Time Period	Type of Data
OnRamps	August 2023 – July 2024	<p>Throughout the academic year OnRamps will provide information about student enrollments, including course rosters, college course eligibility status, and final grades. Access to the district portal will be limited to pre-identified campus and FISD personnel who must obtain a UT Electronic Identification and password in order to access the portal.</p> <p>The following enrollment and performance data is provided throughout the academic year, as information becomes available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course enrollments</li> <li>• Eligibility status</li> <li>• Eligibility letter grade</li> <li>• Final letter grade</li> <li>• Credit decision (credit accepted or declined)</li> <li>• University transcript grade</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student qualifying status for OnRamps reduced course enrollment fee</li> <li>• Student qualifying status for accommodations under IDEA or Section 504</li> <li>• Student orientation completion status</li> </ul>
FISD	December 2023 – February 2024	<p>In order for OnRamps to identify students who qualify for the reduced course enrollment fee, OnRamps must obtain Student State IDs.</p> <p>FISD will provide Student State IDs for all enrolled students.</p> <p>Based on the Student State IDs, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) identifies students who are eligible for a) free or reduced-price meals or b) other economic disadvantage criteria based on PEIMS data (codes 01, 02, or 99). OnRamps then applies the reduced enrollment fee to these students' enrollments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TEA-assigned TX-UNIQUE-STUDENT-ID (StudentUnique ID)</li> </ul>
FISD	May 2024 – July 2024	<p>In order for OnRamps to engage in ongoing learning about student experiences, high school grades are exchanged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school grade in OnRamps course, semester 1</li> <li>• High school grade in OnRamps course, semester 2</li> <li>• High school grade in OnRamps course, cumulative</li> </ul>

## 2. Data protection

All data will be exchanged using secure systems and in an encrypted, password protected electronic format by FISD and OnRamps.

OnRamps endeavors that in all reports, electronic or otherwise, derived from information made available under this Data Sharing Agreement, all data shall be aggregated in such a way that no individual will be identified directly or by deduction. OnRamps further endeavors that the data elements will not be released to a third party without written parental or student (as applicable) consent.

While in possession of this data, both Parties shall permit access only to employees and contractors authorized to assist in the implementation or evaluation of OnRamps or other UT Austin program to have access to the data. Both Parties agree to store the data in an encrypted format, in a secure area and to prevent unauthorized access.

UT Austin will return to FISD and/or destroy all personally identifiable data when the study is complete.

### **3. Information shared with TEA**

- Rosters of individual students, including student state ID, for all students enrolled in an OnRamps course at fall or spring census to determine student eligibility for reduced course fee, AND
- Rosters of individual students, including student state ID, for students who complete an OnRamps course for the purpose of calculating state accountability and other required state performance reporting and metrics.

**Exhibit C**  
**OnRamps Teacher Professional Learning and Development Fee Schedule**

Pursuant to Section 3.0, the following per-teacher fee will be assessed at the conclusion of Summer PLI. A professional learning and development fee will be assessed for teachers who are implementing one or more OnRamps courses at the time of student census but did not attend Summer PLI and for whom no prior fee was assessed. Individual situations not described below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

OnRamps teachers may only implement a maximum of two 3-hour courses.

OnRamps teacher professional learning and development fees will be evaluated on an annual basis.

Instructor Status	Year Instructor First Implemented OnRamps Course(s)	Number of Courses Implemented in AY 2023-2024	PLI Fee Assessed for Instructor
New Instructor	2023-2024	One	\$850
Returning Instructor	2022-2023 or prior with no gap years	One	\$550
New Instructor for one course; Returning Instructor for one course	One course in 2023-2024; One course in 2022-2023 or prior with no gap years	Two	\$850
Returning Instructor for two courses	Two courses in 2022-2023 or prior with no gap years	Two	\$550