

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

CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT  
Updated 4/9/24

Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources ("MSU CANR") and Montcalm Community College, pursuant to this Consortium Agreement (the "Agreement"), agree to provide inter-institutional instructional programs in Agricultural Operations Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Agricultural Operations (each a "Program" and collectively, the "Programs"). The specific courses and requirements for the Programs are outlined in Appendices A and B. The inter-institutional understanding includes the following major points:

**A. Both Parties Desire to Enhance Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Post-Secondary Education in Michigan and Increase Student Access to Such Educational Opportunities; therefore, MSU CANR and Montcalm Community College shall use reasonable efforts to:**

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 enhance post-secondary agriculture, food, and natural resources education.

**B. Certificate Program**

MSU CANR, with instructional coordination provided by its Institute of Agricultural Technology ("IAT"), will offer coursework that, combined with credits from Montcalm Community College, will allow students to complete a certificate program in Agricultural Operations.

1. MSU will provide students with a schedule of MSU courses needed to complete a certificate in the respective Programs (see Appendix A for MSU courses).
2. Montcalm Community College will provide the coursework that students must complete in addition to the MSU courses required to earn a certificate in the respective Programs, including developmental and prerequisite coursework, and student tutoring as necessary (see Appendix B for Montcalm Community College courses). Students must earn a minimum grade of 2.0 in all Montcalm Community College courses that are to be transferred to MSU for completion of a certificate program.

**C. Associate Degree**

1. Montcalm Community College will offer an Associate of Applied Science for those students who wish to add an associate degree to an MSU certificate. Montcalm Community College agrees to accept all MSU Certificate coursework in transfer toward the associate degree where the grade is a 2.0 or better. To be awarded an associate degree at Montcalm Community College, students must complete all required coursework, with at least 15 credits of coursework at Montcalm Community College, and any other program requirements for the associate degree.
2. MSU CANR will keep its course equivalencies up to date in Transfer MSU (<http://transfer.msu.edu/>) and will provide Montcalm Community College with curriculum guidelines, as needed, beyond those found in the MSU Academic Programs catalog (<https://reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Default.aspx>).
3. MSU CANR will also keep its transfer course equivalencies with Montcalm Community College up to date on the Michigan Transfer Network (MTN) website (<https://www.mitransfer.org/>).

**D. Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Coordinator**

1. MSU CANR agrees to designate a coordinator for the Institute of Agricultural Technology (the "MSU Coordinator") for the purpose of student recruitment, curriculum coordination, workplace internship placements, certificate coursework review, academic advising assistance, support to students participating in the Program and work with the Montcalm Community College-MSU Agricultural Operations stakeholder groups.
2. Montcalm Community College shall reimburse MSU CANR 50% of the MSU Coordinator's annual salary and fringe benefits costs. Montcalm Community College shall make the reimbursement payment to MSU CANR within 30 days of receiving an invoice detailing such payments. Montcalm Community College agrees that its reimbursement of the MSU Coordinator's annual salary and fringe benefits shall remain in effect for all periods covered by this Agreement.
3. MSU CANR shall be responsible for supervising and evaluating the MSU Coordinator. A representative of Montcalm Community College shall participate in the selection and annual evaluations of the MSU Coordinator; however, MSU CANR shall have final decision-making responsibility.
4. The MSU Coordinator will serve as the academic advisor, for both Montcalm Community College and IAT, to work directly with students in the program and industry partners to establish workplace internships.

**E. Community College Program Representative**

1. Montcalm Community College agrees to designate a representative (the "Montcalm Community College Representative") to serve as a single point of contact for the MSU Coordinator and for prospective students in the Programs. The Montcalm Community College Representative, working together with the MSU Coordinator, will coordinate inter-institutional communication and information regarding admissions, enrollment status, course scheduling, and advising.

**F. Montcalm Community College and MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' Institute of Agricultural Technology Admissions, Dual Enrollment, Student Reporting and Financial Aid**

1. Institute of Agricultural Technology students shall apply simultaneously for admission to both Montcalm Community College and the IAT Program offered by MSU, permitting them to enroll in the required coursework offered by both institutions. Fundamental to the effective and efficient administration of the Programs is the need to regularly share information, including student records, between Montcalm Community College and MSU. To that end, MSU and Montcalm Community College agree to share academic and other information concerning dually enrolled students for the purpose of administering the Programs. Each institution agrees to comply with applicable law and regulations promulgated under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g et seq. regarding the use and redisclosure of any such records. All dually enrolled students will be notified that Montcalm Community College and MSU will disclose their student records to the other institution.
2. Montcalm Community College will assume the responsibility of processing, awarding, and disbursing financial aid for those students who qualify for aid. Accordingly, Montcalm Community College 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). Both schools shall be responsible for reporting data on the Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP).

The guiding operational principle is that Montcalm Community College will act as the home institution and MSU as the host institution for the purposes of delivering financial aid. Aid eligibility will be determined based on the combined enrollment at both institutions.

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 Montcalm Community College. In most cases, the administration of local promise zones will be processed by Montcalm Community College. Montcalm Community College will be notified of any scholarship that is not processed by Montcalm Community College.

The MSU Coordinator at Montcalm Community College will provide a list of enrolled students for both MSU and Montcalm Community College to both financial aid offices to ensure that there is

no duplication of aid. Any institutional aid awarded by MSU will be reported to Montcalm Community College as well.

3. The student will be charged tuition and fees by Montcalm Community College for only the Montcalm Community College courses and the student will separately owe tuition and fees charges to MSU at MSU rates for courses taken through MSU. It is the student's responsibility to pay each school respectively. Financial aid refunds received by students through Montcalm Community College must be used to help cover the costs of tuition, fees, room and board, and other educational related expenses for coursework at MSU.

**G. Use of Classroom Facilities on the Montcalm Community College Campus (es) for Michigan State University Coursework in the Programs**

1. MSU and Montcalm Community College agree to cooperate in the use of classroom space and facilities. When MSU courses are offered on the campus(es) of Montcalm Community College, classroom usage fees and equipment (such as those used for Interactive Television or other distance learning technology) may be waived. If there is a need for a classroom facilitator to operate equipment, MSU will be responsible for those charges. MSU courses will be offered during normal operating hours of Montcalm Community College.
2. In the event of campus delays or closure, MSU courses will follow Montcalm Community College operational decisions.
3. The Montcalm Community College Disability Support Services office is available for collaboration on student accommodations, but if there is a need for student accommodations within an MSU course, MSU will be responsible for any charges associated with the accommodations. Montcalm Community College will be responsible for any accommodations and charges associated with accommodations as a part of any Montcalm Community College course.
4. Montcalm Community College will provide access to current technology systems that they use at their college. Systems provided by MSU are MS 365, ZOOM, and D2L. If another system is required for compatibility, an agreement must be developed between MSU and Montcalm Community College prior to implementation.
5. Montcalm Community College will proctor MSU online course exams as needed in the Testing Center at no charge for students that are dually enrolled. Proctoring online courses must occur during Testing Center operational hours.
6. The MSU Coordinator at Montcalm Community College will be provided a computer by MSU. However, the MSU Coordinator will be provided access to the Montcalm Community College authenticated network.

**H. Additional Certificate Programs**

1. This Agreement serves as the operating agreement for any additional IAT certificate programs as agreed to by both parties. Additional programs will be jointly agreed upon and an additional agreement, or written amendment to this Agreement, will need to be signed before additional programs can be implemented.

**I. Program Review & Termination**

1. The Programs will be reviewed annually by representatives from both institutions using assessment criteria to be developed by both institutions during the one-year period after the date this Agreement is signed.
2. Either Michigan State University or Montcalm Community College may terminate the Agreement at any time by notifying the other party in writing 90 days in advance. Should either party terminate the Agreement, any Montcalm Community College student who has become dually enrolled in one of the Programs prior to termination will be allowed to complete such Program within two (2) years from the date of enrollment, subject to the payment of applicable course fees and compliance with applicable academic regulations.
3. This Agreement is valid for three (3) years from the last dated signature below. Prior to the expiration of this Agreement, the parties may modify, extend, or amend the Agreement in writing signed by authorized signatories of both parties.

Therefore, in support of the Programs, Michigan State University and Montcalm Community College are signatories to this Agreement, which will take effect upon the last dated signature below:

**MONTCALM COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Dr. Connie Steward, Interim President

Steven Fosgard, Vice President for Academic Affairs

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Thomas D. Jeitschko, Interim Provost and  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Kelly Millenbah, Dean  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Jenó Rivera, Director  
Institute of Agricultural Technology

Anthony Krolak, Associate Director  
Office of Financial Aid

Lynn Kriser, Associate General Counsel

## Appendix A

### Michigan State University IAT Agricultural Operations Certificate Requirements

#### Requirements for Agricultural Operations

The Agricultural Operations program provides students with a solid background in plant and soil science, precision agriculture, water management, entomology, plant pathology and business management. It exposes students to exciting opportunities available in the industry.

#### Students must complete 60 credits from the following:

1. All of the following courses (28 credits):

AFRE	130	Farm Management I	3
AE	131	Agricultural Water Resources Management	3
AE	143	Application of Precision Agriculture Technologies	3
AT	100	Career Development in Agricultural Technology	1
AT	202	Agricultural Regulation, Compliance and Safety	3
AT	293	Professional Internship in Agricultural Technology	3
CSS	101	Introduction to Crop Science	3
CSS	126	Introduction to Week Management	2
CSS	203	World of Soils	2
ENT	110	Applied Entomology of Economics Plants	3
PLP	105	Fundamentals of Applied Pathology	1
PLP	105L	Fundamentals of Applied Plant Pathology Lab	1

2. Complete a minimum of 6 elective credits in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources as approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology.

3. Complete 26 credits of additional course work through the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a community college partner (Bay College, Delta College, Glen Oaks Community College, Kellogg Community College, Monroe County Community College, Montcalm Community College, Muskegon Community College, Northwestern Michigan College, Southwestern Michigan College, West Shore Community College) or an approved transferring institution. All Course work must be approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology.

## Appendix B

### Montcalm Community College Associate of Applied Science in Agricultural Operations

#### General Education Requirements

ENGL 100 Freshman English I or ENGL 101 Freshman English II – 3 Credits

COMM 210 Speech or COMM 220 Interpersonal Communication – 3 Credits

AGRI 102- Introduction to Crop Science – 3 Credits

AGRI 110 Introduction to Animal Science – 4 Credits

MATH 159 College Algebra or MATH 190 Introductory Statistics – 4 Credits

POLI 240 American Political System – 3 Credits

ACCT 115 - Principles of Accounting I – 4 Credits

BUSN 200 - Legal Environment of Business – 3 Credits

MGMT 237 - Concepts of Management – 3 Credits

One of the following Michigan Transfer Agreement Recommended Courses:

- ANTH 260 - Cultural Anthropology 3 Credit
- ECON 215 - Principles of Macroeconomics 3 Credit
- ECON 216 - Principles of Microeconomics 3 Credit
- HIST 250 - United States History to 1865 3 Credit
- HIST 251 - United States History Since 1865 3 Credit
- PSYC 120 - General Psychology 3 Credit
- SOCI 230 - Sociology 3 Credit
- SOCI 235 - Social Problems 3 Credit

Two of the following Michigan Transfer Agreement Recommended Courses (from two different disciplines and only one may be a foreign language):

- ARTS 190 - Art Appreciation 3 Credit
- ARTS 265 - Introduction to Film 4 Credit
- CHNS 130 - Elementary Mandarin Chinese I 4 Credit
- CHNS 131 - Elementary Mandarin Chinese II 4 Credit
- ENGL 195 - Introduction to Literature 3 Credit
- ENGL 200 - American Thought & Literature I 3 Credit
- ENGL 201 - American Thought & Literature II 3 Credit
- ENGL 220 - British Literature to 1798 3 Credit
- ENGL 221 - British Literature since 1798 3 Credit
- FREN 120 - Elementary French I 4 Credit
- FREN 121 - Elementary French II 4 Credit
- GERM 101 - German I 4 Credit
- GERM 102 - German II 4 Credit
- MUSI 101 - Music Appreciation 3 Credit
- PHIL 220 - Introduction to Philosophy 3 Credit
- PHIL 221 - Philosophy of World Religions 3 Credit
- PHIL 222 - Bioethics 3 Credit
- SPAN 130 - Elementary Spanish I 4 Credit
- SPAN 131 - Elementary Spanish II 4 Credit