STATE ORCHESTRATED TRANSFER AGREEMENT [Community College of Baltimore County] and MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

In order to serve the students impacted by the precipitous closure of Education Corporation of America, doing business as Brightwood College in Maryland ("Brightwood"), which had locations in Towson, Baltimore, and Beltsville, Maryland, [Community College of Baltimore County("CCBC"), located in [Baltimore], Maryland, has entered into this *State Orchestrated Transfer Agreement* ("Agreement") with the Maryland Higher Education Commission ("MHEC").

A. Qualifying Brightwood Students

This Agreement pertains only to the transfer of "Qualifying Students", i.e., those students who:

1. Fall into one of these categories:

- o Enrolled in Brightwood when Brightwood precipitously closed on December 7, 2018;
- o Enrolled in Brightwood during the 120 days prior to closure (August 9, 2018); or
- Were on an approved Leave of Absence from Brightwood between the dates of August 9, 2018 and December 7, 2018; and
- 2. Were enrolled in one of Brightwood's MHEC-approved programs.

B. Duties of CCBC

CCBC agrees to implement the transfer of Qualifying Students in accordance with the following requirements and protocols:

- 1. A Qualifying Student may transfer into a comparable program that CCBC is approved by MHEC to offer.
- 2. Comparable programs that CCBC is willing to accept credit for include:

Brightwood Program of Study	CCBC Comparable Program of Study		
AAS Computer Networking Technology	AAS Networking/Cybersecurity		
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3. Comparable courses that CCBC is willing to transfer credits for include:

Networking/Cybersecurity

Brightwood Course			CCBC Comparable Course		
Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Course	Course Name	Credits
IT190	Computer Hardware and Operating Systems	5 qch	DCOM 141	Introduction to PC Repair and Operation	4
IT273	Networking Concepts	5 qch	DCOM 251	Local Area Networks	4

Networking/Cybersecurity

Brightwood Course			CCBC Comparable Course		
Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Course Number	Course Name	Credits
IT287	Introduction to Routing and Switching	5 qch	DCOM 101	Introduction to data Communications	3
IT275	Linux System Administration	5 qch	DCOM 142	Introduction to Linux/Unix	3
IT283	Networking with TCP/IP	5 qch	DCOM 252	Advanced TCP/IP	3
IT 286	Introduction to Network Security	5 qch	DCOM 258	Introduction to Information Security	3
IT276	Windows Administration	5 qch	DCOM 202	Windows Server	4

- 4. The Qualifying Student shall not pay, and CCBC shall not charge to the student, any tuition or fees in excess of the <u>lesser</u> of: (1) the remaining amount that the student would have paid to Brightwood to complete the program pursuant to the student's enrollment contract with Brightwood; or CCBC's otherwise applicable tuition and fees. For example, if the student paid tuition in full to Brightwood, the student may be charged only the cost of books and materials to complete the program. If partial tuition was paid to Brightwood, the student may be charged no more than the lesser of the balance due to Brightwood, CCBC's otherwise applicable tuition and fees.
- 5. If additional books, materials, or industry test exams are required to complete the program, the Qualifying Student shall be given the choice of purchasing these through the CCBC, or through other sources.
- 6. CCBC must ensure that the Qualifying Student signs an enrollment agreement with the CCBC before enrolling. The enrollment agreement shall disclose the program for which the student will be enrolled in, the Brightwood courses for which the student will receive credit for, and the tuition to be charged, which shall not exceed the maximum permitted amount under Paragraph 4, above.
- 7. CCBC shall enroll the Qualifying Student only in a program comparable to the one that the student was unable to complete at Brightwood, as stated under Paragraph 2. Enrollment in a non-comparable, different program is not covered by the terms of this Agreement.
- 8. CCBC shall designate, and shall provide to MHEC the contact information for, a staff person at CCBC who is responsible for the oversight of the transfer of Qualifying Students.

- 9. If the Qualifying Student is using federal Title 38 VA Education Benefits (GI Bill® Education Benefits), CCBC shall adhere to all applicable U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' regulations, including the regulations governing the awarding prior credit, as regulated under Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 21.4253(d)(3) and 21.4254(c)(4).
- 10. CCBC shall enroll a Qualifying Student who is using Title 38 VA Education Benefits (GI Bill® Education Benefits) only in a VA-qualified program or educational institution.
- 11. Regarding GI Benefits, CCBC understands that courses that were successfully completed by the Qualifying Student at Brightwood generally may not be certified again for VA purposes if the courses are repeated. However, if a student failed a course, or if a program requires a higher grade than the one achieved in a particular course for successful completion, then CCBC may be able to re-certify the course in accordance with applicable federal regulations.
- 12. CCBC shall require each Qualifying Student to sign an acknowledgment that the student has been provided with information regarding the U.S. Department of Education's loan discharge policy by CCBC. CCBC will not advise Brightwood students regarding whether the student is eligible for loan discharge.

C. <u>Duties of Maryland Higher Education Commission</u>

- 1. MHEC shall provide to CCBC the contact information of MHEC staff members who are coordinating the transfer options for Brightwood students, including the contact information of a staff person from whom to obtain Qualifying Students' transcripts.
- 2. MHEC shall provide to Qualifying Students information concerning the transfer opportunity with CCBC

D. Termination

- 1. MHEC or CCBC may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Agreement upon delivering 30 days written notice to the other party.
- 2. Upon any termination, Sections G, I (if applicable), and J shall survive the termination of this Agreement and remain in full force and effect.

E. Amendment

- 1. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of MHEC and CCBC with respect to their rights and obligations in carrying out the terms of the Agreement, and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreements or understandings.
- 2. This Agreement may be modified only by written amendment executed by both parties.

F. Term of Agreement

This Agreement is for a term commencing on the date that this Agreement has been executed by both parties (the "Effective Date"), and shall terminate upon: (1) either party delivering notice to

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the other pursuant to the terms of Section D of this Agreement; or (2) the program completion of all Qualifying Students at CCBC.

G. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Maryland.

H. Counterparts.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which, taken together, shall constitute one and the same agreement.

I. Indemnification (NOTE – Delete this section for public institutions.)

To the extent permitted under the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland, [INSERT ABBREVIATION FOR YOUR SCHOOL] shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State of Maryland, its officers, and employees, and MHEC, its commissioners, employees, and contractors, from and against all claims, actions, suits, demands, proceedings, costs, damages, and liabilities, including without limitation attorneys' fees and court costs, arising out of, connected with, or resulting from any acts or omissions of [INSERT ABBREVIATION FOR YOUR SCHOOL] or any agent, employee, or subcontractor of [INSERT ABBREVIATION FOR YOUR SCHOOL] in the execution or performance of this Agreement.

J. Representations and Warranties of the Parties

Both parties to this Agreement represent and warrant that the following shall be true and correct as of the Effective Date of this Agreement, and shall continue to be true and correct during the Term of this Agreement:

- 1. The parties are and shall remain in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, laws, ordinances, and regulations relating to this Agreement, as amended from time to time.
- 2. Each party has taken all action necessary for the approval and execution of this Agreement, and execution by the persons signing on behalf of each party is duly authorized and has been made with complete and full authority to commit the party to all terms and conditions of this Agreement, which shall constitute valid, binding obligations of each party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
By:
Dr. James D. Fielder
Secretary Maryland Higher Education Commission

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Signature

Signature

12/13/18

Date

12/19/18

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

By: Christie Wellow
Assistant Attorney General
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Date: 12/19/18

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