

FIVE-YEAR MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between



**Tennessee
TECH**

&



Republic State Enterprise “Zhetysu State University named after I. Zhansugurov”

In recognition of the Tennessee Technological University’s goal of enhancing International programs campus-wide, Tennessee Tech University is initiating a new Memorandum of understanding between Tennessee Tech University and Republic State Enterprise “Zhetysu State University named after I. Zhansugurov” agrees to cooperate with TTU in the development of academic and cultural exchanges which further this goal. This agreement will be for a period of five years beginning 2019/2020 and ending 2024/2025. The agreement is a general enabling document for inter-institutional cooperation between Tennessee Tech University (hereinafter referred to as TTU) and Republic State Enterprise “Zhetysu State University named after I. Zhansugurov (hereafter referred to as ZHSU).

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Specific areas of cooperation between the two institutions, subject to the availability of funds and the approval of the President, the Provost of TTU and the responsible parties of ZHSU and Irina Udodova as their representative will be included, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Articulation agreement as part of an American Degree Program or Community College agreement
2. Exchange of students for credit instruction
3. Visiting students for credit instruction
4. Exchange of faculty members and researchers*
5. Special short-term academic programs, i.e. ESL or Summer camps
6. Dual degree or 2+2 partnership or Pathway program
7. Faculty Exchange

The development and operation of all international programs at TTU is under the authority of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, subject to approval by the Provost and the President. Each university will designate a Liaison Officer to supervise the daily operation of exchange/international program activities at TTU. The Liaison Officer at TTU is the International Education Director.

* Departments hosting faculty and researchers are responsible for locating housing for these guest, they may consult with the Office of International Education, but the departments do understand it is not the responsibility of the Office of International Education to find housing for their guest faculty and researchers.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT EXCHANGE

1. The Universities will work together to decide on the requirements governing their students in the pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate course of study, and the universities will make their regulations known.
2. The exchange agreement is based on a one-to-one (reciprocal) exchange of students between the two universities. Any deviation from parity will require students wanting to study at the other university to be treated as the Visiting International Program (formerly Direct exchange). The Visiting International Program Direct exchange applicants must pay tuition, housing, meals and other fees which are necessary (in-state tuition will be permitted for exchange students only). Degree-seeking students will be charged out of state tuition.
3. *Direct exchanges* are encouraged between partners if the request for each site's programs exceeds the agreement or is out of parity.

PROTOCOL FOR STUDENT EXCHANGE (2019/2020 through 2024/2025)

Qualified upper division (2nd year and above) students from each university may apply to the other institution for the purpose of pursuing an approved course of instruction extending over one semester or one academic year. It is understood that each university will nominate for the exchange students of high scholarship, maturity, and promise. The Host Institution will reserve the right to make the final decision on the admissibility of each student nominated for exchange.

1. Exchange and/or visiting students may apply to select academic programs offered at the Host Institution at a level determined by the Host Institution. The Host Institution reserves the right to exclude students from restricted programs. For example TTU is currently closing enrollment to nursing, education licensure programs, and accounting based on the incapability of the programs with institutions curriculums abroad.
2. Exchange and/or visiting students must satisfy language proficiency and all other requirements for admission to the Host Institution as determined by the regulations of the Host Institution unless exceptions are noted and added to this agreement in an appendix. As the language of instruction at TTU is English, some formal evidence of English proficiency is generally required of applicants who are not native speakers. A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 61 (IBT)/ 500 (Paper based TOEFL-PBT) or IELTS of 5.5 is required for undergraduate students. Requests for acceptance of alternative tests can be and usually permitted (i.e. EIKEN, TOEIC, GCSE,CET, SLEP/ ELTiS, Cambridge, ITEP, Pearson's Test of English and MELAB-Michigan Test scores).
3. For definition purposes, the first semester of the academic year begins near the end of August or in September and the second semester begins some time after the middle of January. All prospective students should submit complete applications to their liaison officer no later than May 15th to start the program in the first semester of the academic year or October 15th to start the program in the second semester of the academic year. The liaison officer of the home institution will forward the applications and all other required documents to the liaison officer of the host institution. Students accepted to the program should be notified one month to six weeks after the deadline for application. Students from countries which have delayed visa appointment periods, i.e. India, China, Indonesia, should apply very early so not to miss the expected orientation period and week of welcome which is mandatory.
4. Exchange students will pay full tuition at their home institution as if they were in full-time attendance at the Home Institution. No tuition payment will be required from the exchange students at the Host Institution.

Payment of tuition will be required if a one-to-one reciprocity for the exchange is not met. The Intensive ESL Program offered at TTU Intensive English program provided by our current provider will be at a student's own expense and the program is not eligible to be part of the exchange program.

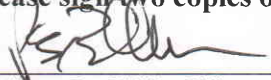
If a student arrives to TTU and their English language skills are not at a level to be successful and thus an inconvenience to the class, TTU reserves the right to require the student to take ESL classes so to maintain their immigration status.

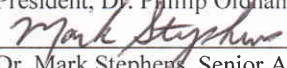
5. Exchange students will be responsible for all other expenses including:
 - a. Transportation to and from the Host Institution via plane, bus or car
 - b. Housing and meals
 - c. Medical insurance, health service fees, cost for required inoculations (if any)
 - d. Textbooks, clothing, and personal expenses
 - e. Passport issuance, SEVIS and visa costs
 - f. **Since the exchange is based on *reciprocity* between the partner institutions, until such time that TTU has outgoing students to ZHSU, all incoming exchange are hereby referred to as visiting students ZHSU must be considered *visiting* students and TTU will require tuition payments to be assessed to the partner institution's students. Out of state tuition rate is waived and in-state rates will be assessed.**
 - g. Students on the exchange/ visiting program will be issued a DS2019 for the J-1 visa, administrators must understand students from some countries will have a 2 year residency requirement upon completing their program and TTU cannot waive the Department of State 2 year residency requirement. Summer camp students will be issued I-20s.

For example: China and India students usually have the 2 year residency requirement. TTU can provide a list of the majors and countries which have this requirement imposed on them by the US Department of State.

6. The exchange student must agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the host institution. Any academic credit earned at the host institution may be transferred to the Home Institution in accordance with the procedures amended and determined by the latter. Each institution agrees to provide the home institution an official academic report for all exchange students at the end of their exchange program. The host institution also agrees to furnish the exchange student with an official transcript of credit at the student's request. The host institution agrees to provide appropriate counseling and other assistance to exchange students, including assistance in finding adequate on-campus housing.
7. It is understood by both parties that this Memorandum of Agreement shall not act to impose obligations or liabilities on either party but is intended to state the parties' intent to engage in discussion concerning the specified Areas of Cooperation with the possible result of such discussions being a Memorandum of Agreement which will specify the rights and obligations of both parties.

**To be signed by school officials of Tennessee Tech University and partner school
(please sign two copies one for each institution to maintain)**



President, Dr. Phillip Oldham


Dr. Mark Stephens, Senior Associate Provost

Date 05/07/2019
Month/ Day/ Year



ZHSU Official


ZHSU Official

Date 05/21/2019
Month/ Day/ Year