



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

CONNECTICUT

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UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH AND CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGES PRIME THE TALENT PIPELINE WITH TRANSFER ADMISSION GUARANTEE PROGRAM (TAG)

New partnership will “meet students where they are” and enable them to complete a bachelor’s degree to be better qualified for the regional workforce as quickly as possible

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (Aug. 1, 2019) – Employers are counting on public-private higher education partnerships to develop job-ready graduates. Students in community colleges also count on these partnerships to provide a smooth path to a bachelor’s degree and in-demand careers. And while they are in college, students want options to work part-time, receive academic support to help ensure their success, develop skills in relevant internships, and participate in extracurricular activities.

Today, the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) and Connecticut Community Colleges (CCC) deliver a partnership that addresses these expectations for businesses and students. The Transfer Admission Guarantee Program (TAG) is designed to make the pathway to transferring to a bachelor’s degree program at USJ easier than ever for qualified community college students. In doing so, it facilitates an expanded pipeline of prepared graduates in high-demand fields for area employers, providing an enhanced role for higher education in supporting the region’s economic growth.

“At USJ, we meet students where they are and help them earn the degree they need to achieve their career goals. With TAG, we expect to see more students take the path to complete their bachelor’s degree locally and be ready to join the full-time workforce in the Connecticut area,” said University of Saint Joseph President Rhona Free. Special tuition rates for USJ’s “Completion” programs make the private college as affordable as the state’s public universities.

Under the terms of the partnership:

- Any Connecticut Community College graduate with an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree, from 2014-2020 and beyond, and a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 is guaranteed admission to the University of Saint Joseph. Several academic majors have additional requirements.

- USJ accepts almost all credits from CCC students. Completion of an associate degree or 60 transferable credits satisfies the majority of USJ's General Education requirements and many students will need to take only two General Education courses at USJ.
- Students may enroll full-time, apply for USJ scholarships and institutional aid, live on campus or commute, and become eligible to participate on Division III athletic teams.
- Part- or full-time students in USJ's Pathway to Completion Programs for degrees in Management, Psychology, and Social Work take classes year-round to complete degrees in approximately two calendar years. USJ's online RN to B.S. in Nursing program is designed for associate degree graduates who hold a current Connecticut RN license.
- To help community college students prepare for transfer to USJ and shorten the time to completion of the bachelor's degree, students enrolled in at least 12 credits at one of the state's community colleges can take one course per semester for free at USJ.

Interim Campus Chief Executive Officer Duncan Harris, Ed. D., noted, "We are truly excited USJ has decided to extend this offer to Capital graduates. Management, social work, and nursing are some of our largest programs with many students matriculated in these programs intending to transfer upon completion. As a commuter institution, most of our students reside in Hartford and the surrounding towns. This program allows our students to continue their academic journey, in a quality institution, at an affordable rate, without having to relocate."

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of coeducational undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with opportunities for mentored research, community service, clinical field work, and internships. Programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph offers degrees with value and values. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.