



THE
**AMERICAN
COLLEGE**
OF FINANCIAL SERVICES®

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF CREDIT(S) BETWEEN THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES AND FIRST COMMAND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

EFFECTIVE CALENDAR YEAR 2023-2024 (Renewed Annually)

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
FINANCIAL SERVICES

FIRST COMMAND EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

Gwen Hall, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

Charles Bowen
Chief Executive Officer

09/28/2023

Date

10/30/2024

Date

R. William Jacobs II, MHR, M.Ed.
Registrar and Assistant Provost

Tom Kuhar
President

09/28/2023

Date

10/30/2024

Date



ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

This transfer of credit articulation agreement will partner the First Command Educational Foundation (“FCEF”) and The American College of Financial Services (“TAC”) in the completion of the full Take Command® program, including at least 20 courses to lead to the equivalent of three (3) undergraduate college credit hours at TAC (Consumer Financial Education 197, 198 & 199).

The credit transfer policy for TAC permits a student who completed comparable courses at a domestically accredited college or university, financial entity, or in The American College of Financial Service's Solomon Huebner School, to apply for transfers of credit into certain programs.

FCEF and TAC wish to facilitate the transfer of students who complete training at FCEF to a program at TAC. This Agreement is intended to clarify the terms and conditions of transfer for students.

FCEF and TAC agree to cooperate by communicating with each other and with their common and respective publics concerning this established relationship.

To the extent permitted and if applicable by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and any implementing regulations (“FERPA”), FCEF and TAC agree to share data on student achievement for purposes of assessing program effectiveness. Any exchange by the Parties of student record information protected by FERPA, if applicable, shall occur in compliance with FERPA, including, without limitation, committing the receiving party to limit the use of such information to the purposes for which the disclosure was made, and to impose such limits on any re-disclosure, and the parties agree to comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions.

FCEF and TAC agree to communicate any curriculum changes or policies, which affect the agreed-upon relationship, as soon as it is reasonably possible. Both parties reserve the right to amend or revise this agreement. These changes must be submitted in writing and signed by both parties.

FCEF and TAC further agree to communicate concerning the development of plans that might lead to future opportunities for cooperation between the two institutions. Responsibility for communication related to the agreement will be given to Dr. Gwen Hall (Gwendolyn.Hall@TheAmericanCollege.Edu), Executive Vice President and Provost and or her designee, the Registrar and Assistant Provost, Will Jacobs (Will.Jacobs@TheAmericanCollege.edu).

This section outlines recognition of credit at TAC for verified completers, with a passing grade, of the FCEF Take Command® program. This Agreement is specific to Consumer Financial Education (“CFE”) courses at TAC and can be reviewed by either Party at any time.

FCEF Course(s)/Program	The American College Equivalent
TAKE COMMAND®	Consumer Financial Education 197, 198, & 199



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The American College's Credit Recognition Requirement(s):	
The student must have completed the comparable course(s) within seven (7) years prior to the date of application. Any course completed more than seven (7) years prior to the date of this application is ineligible for recognition and/or transfer of credit.	The student must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course requested for credit recognition/transfer. A grade of "Pass" will be recognized as successful completion of courses in this Agreement.
The student must be matriculated with The American College of Financial Services in order to apply for recognition/transfer of credit.	The student must provide the Registrar at The American College of Financial Services with proof of completion of the comparable course(s) in the form of official documentation from the FCEF originating course Learning Management System (LMS).

Course Title	Credit Hours	Course Description	CFE Course Learning Outcomes	Approved Take Command [®] Courses
CFE 197 – Consumer Financial Education <i>Level 1.1</i>	1	<p>Beginner level financial education content comprising of between 18- 34 hours of effort.</p> <p>[7-12 Take Command[®] Courses]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn and apply essential personal finance principles, including budgeting, saving, and responsible borrowing. Understand various financial products and services and make informed decisions about their use. Develop practical skills in budgeting, setting financial goals, and making wise spending choices. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Challenges Unique to Service Members Understanding Your Leave & Earning Statement (LES) OR Understanding Your Payslip (for Coast Guard) Creating a Spending Plan Preparing a Financial Plan Understanding Banking Services Preparing Financially for Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Fundamentals of the Blended Retirement System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing Your Financial Status Preparing Financially for Deployment Post Deployment Financial Strategies

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage, Money, and the Military
CFE 198 – Consumer Financial Education Level 1.2	1	<p>Beginner level financial education content comprising of between 18- 34 hours of effort.</p> <p>[6-12 Take Command® Courses]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate and make informed decisions about various financial products and services, considering their advantages, risks, and alignment with individual financial goals. • Develop practical skills in budgeting, setting realistic financial goals, and making informed spending choices to optimize personal financial outcomes. • Gain a foundational understanding of investment concepts and apply basic investment strategies to support long-term financial planning and wealth accumulation. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessing Your Financial Status 2. Fundamentals of Investing 3. Vested in the Thrift Savings Plan 4. Preparing Financially for Deployment 5. Post Deployment Financial Strategies 6. Marriage, Money, and the Military <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Challenges Unique to Service Members • Creating a Spending Plan • Preparing a Financial Plan • Understanding Banking Services • Preparing Financially for Permanent Change of Station (PCS)
CFE 199 – Consumer Financial Education Level 1.3	1	<p>Beginner level financial education content comprising of between 18- 34 hours of effort.</p> <p>[7-13 Take Command® Courses]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain a foundational understanding of investment concepts and apply basic investment strategies to support long-term financial planning and wealth accumulation. • Identify trends in others financial situations and be able to make simple observations and recommendations for areas of education. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Divorce and Your Finances 2. Preparing Financially for Your First Child 3. Continuation Pay Financial Decisions 4. Preparing Financially to Transition to the Reserve Component 5. Preparing Financially for Separating from Military Service 6. Preparing Financially for Retiring from the Military 7. Marriage, Money, and the Military



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define and identify key components of holistic financial wellness for self and others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Challenges Unique to Service Members Fundamentals of Investing Preparing Financially for Deployment Post Deployment Financial Strategies Financial Leadership Financial Aspects of a Disabling Condition or Sickness
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GENERAL CREDIT RECOGNITION & ARTICULATION PROVISIONS

- A. The Parties understand that this Agreement does not guarantee admission into any program at TAC. Verified completers with a passing grade of the FCEF Take Command® course must meet all applicable admission requirements at TAC to matriculate and be eligible for credit recognition.
- B. The College and FCEF will maintain curricular and course equivalency information.
- C. Changes in the Take Command® course content or program or changes in CFE 197, CFE 198 and CFE 199 or changes to credit requirements are to be communicated in advance to the corresponding Parties.
- D. TAC will review and determine if said changes or modifications shall require a written amendment to this Agreement.
- E. This Agreement is not a third-party beneficiary contract and confers no rights upon any students or employees of the Parties.
- F. The Parties will share data including total numbers for the transfer of credit applications and total number of official transcript requests from Parchment. No dashboards will be created for external monitoring, and all aggregated reports will be snapshots.

TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS & PAYMENTS

TAC has agreed to waive its Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) fee of \$250.00 for each of the three (3) Consumer Financial Education courses: CFE 197, CFE 198, and CFE 199.

FCEF agrees that it will post a written statement to be provided by TAC on FCEF's learning management system ("LMS") to notify and direct its Take Command® students to TAC's Parchment credentialing service for transcript requests and payments. Official transcripts have TAC's seal, are signed by The Registrar, and can be delivered via email or physical mail. Official Transcript costs plus shipping and handling (if a physical copy is requested) may apply.



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TAC shall provide the statement prior to execution of the Agreement and FCEF agrees to finalize the LMS posting prior to implementation of this Agreement.

The Parties agree and understand that transcript payments will not be accepted or received from any Title IV, GI BILL® and/or other federal financial funding or awards. The Parties further agree to notify their respective students in writing of this payment limitation.

Final Outcome of First Command Educational Foundation Course

Completion of the full Take Command® program, including at least 20 courses is acceptable to apply for CFE 197, CFE 198, & CFE 199 for a total of 3 undergraduate college credit hours at The American College.

Disclaimer: This articulation agreement is in effect until 12/31/2024 upon execution of signatures by the two parties. After the agreement date of 12/31/2024 has elapsed, the agreement will be up for annual review and renewal.

END AGREEMENT (V.2.5_wj_2023)