

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Articulation Agreement of Shorter College with Wilberforce University, Edward Waters College, Allen University, Paul Quinn College, Morris Brown College, and Payne Theological Seminary.

I. OVERVIEW

Today's competition for students, the offering of relevant degree programs, and the economy place new challenges on institutions of higher learning. The African Methodist Episcopal Church's six undergraduate institutions of higher learning are poised in unique positions of potential strength to assist each other and to be feeder institutions for each other.

Shorter College

Shorter College is the only two year private institution in the country and the AMEC's only two year institution. Founded by the AME Church in 1886, it was a logical and pragmatic response to the needs of recently freed slaves to overcome the many disadvantages and deprivations of slavery and racial discrimination. At that time, the prevailing attitude was that Blacks had no capacity for learning. The Church seized an opportunity to provide instruction leading to a general education, but also aimed at developing competent leadership among Black people. From 1891 to 1903, Shorter College underwent several name changes; however, on August 14, 1903, the charter was amended to change the name of the institution to Shorter College. In 1955, a decision was made to operate the college as a two-year institution.

Wilberforce University

Wilberforce University is the first college owned and operated by African Americans. Its founding was unique. Collaboration began in 1856 by the Cincinnati, Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the African Methodist Episcopal Church. They planned a college to provide classical education and teacher training for Black youth. The AME Church purchased the institution in 1863.

Edward Waters College

Edward Waters College is distinctively Florida's oldest independent institution of higher learning as well as the state's first institution established for the education of African Americans. When EWC was established in 1866, it was faced with both abject poverty and widespread illiteracy among its constituents resulting from pre-war conditions of servitude and non-schooling of African Americans; however, the school met the needs of its community. In 1892, the school's name was changed to Edward Waters College in honor of the 3rd Bishop of the AME Church.

Allen University

The Allen University story began seven years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and five years after the end of the American Civil War. Allen University grew out of the church's desire to educate newly freed slaves and to ensure a well-trained clergy for the AMEC. On July 29, 1870, the Right Reverend John Mifflin Brown and assembled clergy of the Columbian District of the AME Church agreed to raise funds to purchase a 150 acre farm in Cokesbury, South Carolina. It was to be the "First Institution of Learning Consecrated to Negro Self Activity and Negro Manhood", in the state of South Carolina.

Paul Quinn College

Paul Quinn College was founded by a small group of African Methodist Episcopal preachers in Austin, Texas on April 4, 1872. The school's original purpose was to educate freed slaves and their offspring. In 1877, the college moved to Waco, Texas, renamed Waco College.

Under Bishop William Paul Quinn, funds were raised to improve the College. The college expanded its land ownership. The college curriculum grew to include Latin, mathematics, music, theology, English, carpentry, sewing, and other subjects. In May, 1881, the college was chartered by the state of Texas and the name was changed to Paul Quinn College.

Morris Brown

Morris Brown Colored College (its original name) was founded by African Americans affiliated with the AMEC, which had expanded in Georgia following the American Civil War. When the school formally opened its doors on October 15, 1885, there were 107 students and 9 teachers. Morris Brown was the first educational institution in Georgia under sole African American patronage. For more than a century, the college enrolled many students from poor background, large numbers of whom returned to their hometown as teachers.

Payne Theological Seminary

Payne Theological Seminary is one of the oldest Black seminaries primarily concerned with the training of men and women for the ministry. The purpose of Payne has always been to prepare men and women of faith to be spiritual leaders, intellectual leaders, and agents of constructive school change in the church and world. In 1871, the Board of Trustees of Wilberforce University voted and approved the organization of a seminary to be named for Bishop Daniel Payne. Payne Theological Seminary was incorporated in 1894 as an independent institution for the redemption of Africa and other foreign lands.

The common thread then and now is our *raison d'être*. We continue to provide education primarily for African Americans by giving them choices at historical Black colleges and universities. Shorter College can serve as a feeder institution collectively and individually to these institutions. Additionally, the AMEC can realize the advantage of educational programs that can provide a seamless transfer and help solve diminishing enrollment and threats of closing AME church institutions. It is a win-win plan.

The objectives of this Articulation of Shorter College and Said Institutions (the reference to the six colleges from this point on), therefore, would be to serve as a feeder institution where the first two years of general education and degree content will be awarded at Shorter College and seamlessly transferred to one of the participating institutions.

The program objectives, however, must be thoroughly understood and supported at all levels within each institution if they are to be effective and successful tools in preparing students for seamless transition from the two year institution to the four year college.

II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A. The purpose of this Articulation agreement is fivefold:

1. To enhance student enrollment at each Said Institution and Shorter College;
2. To foster great collaboration with and among the Said Institutions and Shorter College in order to share knowledge, various experiences, and innovative ideas between Shorter College and Said Institutions, students, educators, and corporate contacts in the delivery and attainment of student educational goals;
3. To increase the enrollment at the six Said Institutions through Shorter College as a feeder two year institution;
4. To provide seamless transfer from Shorter College as a two year institution to six Said institutions for matriculation in general studies with options in Christian leadership, Basic Studies, and Child Development; and associate degrees in Criminal Justice, Entrepreneurship and Small Business, and Religious Education and Theology.
5. To be proactive in adding the concerns of the Commission for Higher Education of the AMEC as well as to provide a plan for the Dept. of Education as to how its member institutions will be strengthen and remain viable in the higher education system;

B. The scope of this Articulation will cover the five undergraduate African Methodist Episcopal Church Schools and Payne Theological Seminary.

III. SHORTER COLLEGE RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND SAID INSTITUTIONS.


- A. Shorter College will graduate students with an Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies, Criminal Justice, and Entrepreneurship and Small Business to transfer to any of the six Said Institutions for continuation of the baccalaureate degrees.
- B. Said Institutions will receive the Shorter College graduates, accept general education credits, and counsel with students to help ensure their successful matriculation and graduation.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION of the ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

- A. As part of this agreement, Said Institutions and Shorter College will agree to the following:
1. Share performance data and analysis for the purpose of institutional effectiveness;
 2. Said Institutions and Shorter College will provide students in their programs with all information pertaining to this agreement;
 3. Said Institutions will list the other institutions and any publications that refer to the articulation agreement;
 4. Said Institutions may visit and recruit students from Shorter College to their respective programs;
 5. Any contracts/grant opportunities that materialize as a result of the Articulation Agreement will be shared by all institutions;
 6. Shorter College will visit the respective campuses to look at programs and assist with the recruitment of students;
 7. Said Institutions will assist in providing scholarships, financial aid, work programs or any appropriate resources toward the affordability of the student's matriculation and graduation at the specified institution.
- B. Individual MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) can emanate from this general articulation agreement.

We look forward to a fruitful period of a win-win endeavor which will serve our students.

This Articulation Agreement shall become effective once it has been signed by an authorized representative from each institution and/or the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of each institution. The agreement may be modified in writing at any time upon request of any party with the consent of the other party. Any party may withdraw from this Articulation Agreement by giving a six month notice to the other institutions.



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