

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM**

**Statement of Need**

Maine has a growing number of Maine adults who recognize the need to enter postsecondary institutions in order to improve their employability and workforce productivity. Many adult learners and high school graduates who desire to attend college lack the preparation and/or skills required for entry and success in academic coursework at the postsecondary level. Adult and nontraditional students often lack the financial, social and/or academic resources required for a transition to a college experience.

Maine has 847,268 working age adults (age18-64) and 583,224 have not completed an associate's degree or higher. Our common goal is to increase the number of adult learners who graduate from Maine's public universities and enter Maine's workforce.

**Statement of Purpose**

Maine Adult Education and the University of Maine System have a long history of collaboration and share the goal of supporting students to succeed at post-secondary endeavors.

**Maine College Transitions** helps adults who are earning a high school diploma or have a high school diploma, and may need additional support to successfully transition to college. Maine College Transitions provides academic college preparation as well as a college orientation, mentoring, career counseling and relevant support services to enable adult students' transition to college and earn a degree.

**The University of Maine System (UMS)** consists of seven unique universities and ten University College regional outreach centers. Within the context of each university's distinct mission, they all share two overarching goals: 1) to provide high-quality, accessible and affordable learning opportunities and 2) to undertake activities that promote creativity, innovation and outreach to improve Maine's economy and quality of life.

**Statement of Agreement**

This MOA is between the Maine Adult Education Division, Maine Department of Education and the University of Maine System. The parties are entering into this agreement in recognition of the need to coordinate, cooperate and facilitate a seamless pathway for Adult Education College Transitions students to enter and succeed at the University of Maine System's universities.

1. Both parties will work to facilitate local agreements which may address and include such items as: course alignment, dual enrollment, student assessments, career counseling, articulation agreements and other administrative and/or curricula items.

2. Both parties will encourage and support shared and joint professional development activities that promote academic excellence and student success.
3. Both parties will, to the extent possible given individual learner needs, work to provide a smooth and seamless transition from adult education to enrollment and completion of programming at the University of Maine System.
4. Both parties will promote and foster best, common and promising practices across the University of Maine System to facilitate the matriculation of adult education's College Transitions students.
5. Both parties will review and share data that supports student success and that positively impacts program design.
6. Both parties will meet on a regular basis on both a system as well as a local level to encourage clear and direct communications that support student success.

#### **Amendment, Modification and Termination**

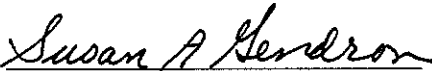
This Agreement may be amended or modified only by written, mutual agreement of the parties. Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing written notice to the other party.

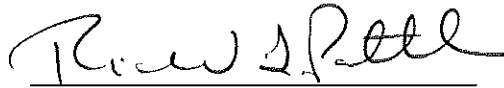
#### **Renewal**

This agreement will be reviewed annually and will remain in effect indefinitely until superseded, rescinded, or modified by written, mutual agreement of both parties.

Agreed to this date: **December 7, 2009**

Signature lines:

  
Susan A. Gendron  
Commissioner of Education

  
Richard L. Patten  
Chancellor, University of Maine System

12/7/09  
Date

12-15-09  
Date