



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Agreement is made and entered into as of the execution of the Agreement by both parties by and between Azusa Unified School District ("District") located in Azusa, California, and Concordia University Irvine ("University") a non-profit religious corporation located in Irvine, California.

### WITNESSETH

**WHEREAS**, the governing board of a school district may enter into agreements with a college or university approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) as a teacher education institution (Ed. Code Section 44227), to provide educational field experiences as may be called for in the requirements of the various authorized credentials for public school service; and

**WHEREAS**, any such agreement may provide for the payment in money or in services for the services rendered by the school district of an amount not to exceed the actual cost to the school district of the services rendered; and

**WHEREAS**, the University operates fully accredited educational programs for its students; and

**WHEREAS**, it is to the mutual benefit of the University and the District to make a program of educational fieldwork experiences available to the University's students at the District's facilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is mutually agreed upon between the parties as follows:

### GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Term.** The term of this agreement shall commence on 8/3/2021 and terminate on 8/2/2024. (Three year agreement – May be renewed with consent of both parties)
- 2. Termination.** Notwithstanding anything herein contained to the contrary, either party may terminate this agreement with thirty (30) days written notice to the undersigned. In the event of early termination of this agreement, students who have not yet completed their K-12 Educational field experience assignment in the District may complete their assignment at the discretion of the University. Nothing in this agreement shall limit the right of the University, acting in its sole discretion, to remove a student from the K-12 setting at any time.

**3. Insurance.**

a. University shall maintain professional liability insurance coverage at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. Further, University agrees to maintain comprehensive general liability insurance at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. University shall ensure that such policies provide for notification to District at least thirty (30) days in advance of any material modification or cancellation of such coverage. University also agrees to maintain statutory Workers' Compensation coverage on any individuals characterized as employees of University working at District pursuant to this Agreement at all times during the course of this Agreement. University shall provide certificates evidencing all coverage referred to in this section upon request of District.

b. District shall maintain professional liability insurance coverage at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. Further, District agrees to maintain comprehensive general liability insurance at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. District shall ensure that such policies provide for notification to University at least thirty (30) days in advance of any material modification or cancellation of such coverage. District also agrees to maintain statutory Workers' Compensation coverage on any individuals characterized as employees of District working at District at all times during the course of this Agreement. District shall provide certificates evidencing all coverage referred to in this section upon request of University.

**4. Employment Status of Students.** Except in the specific situations described below, University students shall not be considered to be employees of the District.

a. Students Participating in Unpaid K-12 Educational Field Experience not at Student's Place of Employment: If the students are participating in an unpaid K-12 educational field experience not at the student's place of employment, it is understood that the University's students are fulfilling specific requirements for field experiences as part of a degree or credential program requirement, and therefore, the University's students do not thereby become employees of the District by virtue of their field experience.

b. Students Participating in Unpaid K-12 Educational Field Experience at Student's Place of Employment: If the students are participating in an unpaid internship or field experience at the student's place of employment, it is understood by the University and the District that the field experience and work duties of the students shall be kept strictly separate.

c. Students Participating in Paid K-12 Educational Field Experience: If the students are provided with a nominal payment from the District intended to reimburse them for estimated expenses related to their field experience, the students do not thereby become employees of the

District. If, however, the students are paid wages by the District for their service, then they become employees of the District, and the District is responsible for all employee obligations.

**5. Confidentiality.**

a. All verbal and written information exchanges, as well as proprietary information relating to business practices, procedures or methods of the District shall remain strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed without consent of the District. The University agrees to notify students that they are responsible for respecting and maintaining the confidentiality of all information with respect to all students of the District.

b. The University and the District agree to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to regulation of the Department of Education to the end that the rights and privacy of the students enrolled in the District and of their parents are not violated or invaded. This assurance is given to obtain access to individual student data for the purpose of using said data to fulfill assignments or contractual obligations with the District. The provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 include, but are not limited to ensuring that (a) no identification of students or their parent(s)/guardian(s) by persons other than representatives of the University and required persons performing activities mandated by the California Department of Education, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (i.e. auditors) is permitted; (b) the individual student data will be destroyed when no longer needed for the purpose(s) for which they were obtained; (c) no access to individual student data shall be granted by the University to any other persons, agency, or organization without the written consent of the pupil's parent/guardian, except for sharing with other persons within the District or representatives of the University, so long as those persons have a legitimate interest in the information; (d) the District will not disclose the student records of the University's students except to University and District officials who have a legitimate need for the information consistent with their official responsibilities.

**6. Non-Discrimination.** Neither party shall unlawfully discriminate against any student on the basis of disability, age, race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national and ethnic origin, or any other protected class in administration of the programs subject to this agreement.

**7. Transportation of Students.** Neither the University nor the District will provide transportation for students between the University and the District school. Each student shall be responsible for his or her transportation.

**8. Scope of Authority.** The District shall exercise exclusive control over the administration, operation, maintenance and management of the District and its schools, and the University's students while they are in residence at the District. Subject thereto, the University shall exercise control and supervision over the operation, curriculum, faculty and students of the

University within the prescribed framework.

**9. Indemnification.** Except as otherwise may be provided in this Agreement, each party shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the other party from any and all loss, liability, claim, lawsuit, injury, expense or damage whatsoever including but not limited to attorneys' fees and court costs, arising out of, incident to or in any manner occasioned by the performance or nonperformance by such indemnifying party, its agents, employees, servants, students, or subcontractors, of any covenant or condition of this Agreement or by the negligence, improper conduct or intentional acts or omissions of such indemnifying parties, its agents, employees, servants, students, or subcontractors.

**10. Scope of Work.**

**SCHOOL COUNSELING PRACTICUM**

“Practicum” as used herein refers to the hours that a student, enrolled in practicum-embedded course(s) in the University program, develops skills learned in previous and current courses under the supervision of a site supervisor working in a K-12 setting.

Practicum is to be completed under the direct supervision of a District employee who currently holds a Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential with an authorization in school counseling and has a minimum of three years full time experience as a School Counselor.

For School Counseling students, it is the expectation that students are required to meet one-on-one with a client for six 30-minute sessions to gain experience developing counseling relationships through the application of counseling skills. Additionally, students should complete direct, as well as, indirect counseling experience in clinical settings working with other clients.

The University will ensure students who participate in practicum have met the requirements of a valid CTC document, which includes a fingerprint and background check. Students will be informed that a District has the authorization to require additional documentation before beginning their practicum assignment.

The District recognizes the importance of facilitating Practicum placements that will enhance the students' confidence as a professional counselor. Settings for School Counselors should build basic counseling skills which include body language, listening, and development of trust with clients.

The University agrees to appoint a faculty member as a University Supervisor to administer the University's responsibilities related to the Program and oversee the students' Practicum experience at the District. The University Supervisor shall be responsible for ongoing

communication with the District.

The District agrees to assume ultimate responsibility for the counseling services provided to students and the psycho-educational assessments administered to students, as well as, the delivery of results through reports and IEP meetings.

### **SCHOOL COUNSELING FIELDWORK**

“Fieldwork” as used herein refers to the hours that a student, enrolled in fieldwork course(s) in the University program, develops and practices skills learned in previous and current courses under the supervision of a university supervisor and a site supervisor working in a K-12 setting.

The District agrees to appoint a District employee as a District Representative to administer the District’s responsibilities related to the Program and collaborate with the Fieldwork and Internship Coordinator for School Counseling and implementing the student’s fieldwork at the District.

The District Representative shall be responsible for on-going communication with the University, as well as the designation of District employees to serve as site supervisors responsible for direct supervision of assigned students. District employees designated as site supervisors shall meet the CTC criteria for supervising students. School Counseling site supervisors must have a current PPS credential with an authorization in school counseling and a minimum of three years full-time experience as a school counselor. In the absence of the site supervisors so designated, suitable alternate persons will be designated and available.

The District Representative and site supervisors shall be granted with sufficient time to supervise, plan and implement the fieldwork including, when feasible, time to attend relevant meetings and conferences.

The District shall (a) support continuing education and professional growth and development of those staff members of the District responsible for supervision of assigned students; (b) provide the physical facilities and equipment necessary to conduct the fieldwork; (c) provide assigned students, whenever possible, with the use of library facilities, reasonable study and storage space; (d) make efforts to assist student in meeting course objectives; (e) advise the University of any changes in its personnel, operations or policies which may affect the fieldwork; (f) permit inspection by the University of the facilities, services available for learning experiences, student records, and other items pertaining to the fieldwork; (g) determine the number of students which the District can accommodate during a given period of time and accept only the number of students which the District can accommodate; and (h) provide access to the University and its students the applicable District rules and regulations with which they are expected to comply.

The University will provide a valid and reliable assessment that the District will use to assess the student's competence, a minimum of twice, at the mid-point and at the conclusion of fieldwork.

The completed assessment will be forwarded to the University after each administration of the assessment and upon the conclusion of each student's fieldwork. Notice will be provided to the University, as soon as practical and at least by mid-term of a student's fieldwork, of any serious deficiency noted in the ability of the student to progress toward achievement of the stated objectives of the field experience. The District shall otherwise have the right to terminate any student whose health or performance is a detriment to any student's well-being or to achievement of the stated objectives of the student's field experience. Prior to such termination, the District shall notify the University's Fieldwork and Internship Coordinator.

The University agrees to appoint a faculty member as Fieldwork and Internship Coordinator to administer the University's responsibilities related to the Program and oversee the students' fieldwork at the District. The Fieldwork and Internship Coordinator shall be responsible for ongoing communication with the District.

The University agrees to assume responsibility for assuring compliance with applicable educational standards established by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), and National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

The University agrees to notify the District, at a time mutually agreed upon, of its planned schedule of student assignments, including each student's name, level of academic preparation, and length and date of the fieldwork. The University shall refer to the District only those students who have satisfactorily completed the prerequisite didactic portion of the curriculum.

The University agrees to advise assigned students regarding appropriate health and professional liability insurance. All students will be covered by the University's group professional liability insurance as required by the terms of this agreement. The University agrees to require assigned students to comply with existing pertinent rules and regulations of the District and all reasonable directions given by qualified District personnel during periods of fieldwork assignment and while on District premises.

The University and the District agree to establish the educational objectives for the Program, devise methods for their implementation, and continually evaluate the Program to determine its effectiveness.

### **SCHOOL COUNSELING INTERN**

The Intern School Counselor is approved to assume the functions authorized by the Pupil Personnel Services School Counseling Intern Credential provided that the Intern's services meet the needs of the participating district, the Intern does not displace other certificated employees in the participating district, and this agreement meets with the District's contractual specifications with certificated employees.

The University shall ensure students in the Intern Program hold a Baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and have satisfied the additional requirement of meeting the California Basic Skills requirement, most commonly met by the passage of the CBEST assessment and are enrolled in internship courses in the University program.

The University shall provide a University supervisor to work cooperatively with the Intern School Counselor and site supervisor.

The University will provide a valid and reliable assessment that the District will use to assess the Intern's competence, a minimum of twice, at the mid-point and at the conclusion of the Internship. The completed assessment will be forwarded to the University after each administration of the assessment and upon completion of the Internship. Notice will be provided by the District to the University, as soon as practical and at least by mid-term of a student's Internship, of any serious deficiency noted in the ability of the Intern to progress toward achievement of the stated objectives of the Internship.

The District shall authorize a District employee who currently holds a Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential with an authorization in school counseling and has a minimum of three years full time experience as a School Counselor to supervise the Intern student. The site supervisor shall be granted with sufficient time to supervise, plan, and implement the Internship, including, when feasible, time to attend relevant meetings and conferences.

The District shall (a) support continuing education and professional growth and development of staff members of the District responsible for supervision of assigned Interns; (b) provide the physical facilities and equipment necessary to conduct the Internship; (c) advise the University of any changes in its personnel, operations, or policies which may affect the Internship; (d) permit inspection by the University of the facilities, services available for learning experiences, student records, and other items pertaining to the Internship; and (e) provide access to the University and its students the applicable District rules and regulations with which they are expected to comply.

The District shall ensure no Intern School Counselor will have his/her salary reduced by more than one-eighth of the total contracted pay to cover costs of site supervision. The salary of the Intern School Counselor shall not be less than the minimum base salary paid regularly certificated personnel in similar positions.

The District agrees that the Intern School Counselor will remain an employee of the District for the term of the issued Intern Credential or completion of the program, whichever occurs first.

The District shall ensure that the Intern School Counselor does not displace other certificated Pupil Personnel Services employees in the District.

1530 Concordia West

Irvine, CA 92612

Copy to:

General Counsel ([ronald.vanblarcom@cu.edu](mailto:ronald.vanblarcom@cu.edu))

MOU Coordinator ([charlie.rodriques@cu.edu](mailto:charlie.rodriques@cu.edu))



**11. General Provisions.**

a. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement including the attachments and exhibits hereto contains the complete and full agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and shall supersede all other agreements relative to the subject matter hereof by and between the parties. This Agreement may be amended but only by an instrument in writing signed by both parties to the Agreement.

b. Assignment. University shall not subcontract, assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Agreement without the prior written consent of District. This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of successors and permitted assigns of each party.

c. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any action arising out of this Agreement shall be instituted and prosecuted only in a court of proper jurisdiction in Orange County, California.

d. Severability. The provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed severable and if any portion shall be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall be effective and binding upon the parties.

e. Waiver. Any waiver of any terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof must be in writing and signed by the parties hereto. A waiver of any of the terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof shall not be construed as a waiver of any other terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof nor shall any waiver constitute a continuing waiver.

f. Execution. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute one and the same document. Counterparts may be exchanged by facsimile or email. Each counterpart, whether an original signature or a facsimile copy, shall be deemed an original as against any party who signed it.

g. Removal. The district can remove practicum/fieldwork student from TK-12 setting for unprofessional conduct.

The following signatures hereby indicate approval of this agreement:

Concordia University Irvine

By: *Scott Ashmon*  
Name: Rev. Dr. Scott Ashmon  
Title: Senior Vice President and Provost  
Date: Jul 23, 2021

Concordia University Irvine  
Attn: Dr. Charlie Rodrigues

DISTRICT

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: Jorge A. Ronquillo  
Title: Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
546 South Citrus Avenue  
Address: Azusa, CA 91702