

Contract Number: 734-2026-MOU-005333  
Start Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
End Date: Sunday, January 19, 2031



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**Between**  
**Lamar University**  
**And**  
**East Chambers ISD**

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is made and entered into on 1/20/2026 12:00 AM (the “Effective Date”), between Lamar University, an institution of higher education in the State of Texas and a component of The Texas State University System, (“University”), which is located at 4400 MLK Parkway, Beaumont, Texas 77710 and East Chambers ISD, (“Facility”), which is a Texas Independent School District and is located at 216 Champions Loop, Winnie, Texas 77665. Lamar University and Facility shall be known collectively as “the Parties” and singularly as “a Party” or “the Party.”

- A. Purpose.** Lamar University provides an educational strategy whereby students complement their academic preparation with direct practical experience. The effort to combine a productive work experience with an intentional learning component is a proven method for promoting the academic, personal, and career development of students.
- B. Responsibilities.** To help ensure the interests and promote the benefits of an internship arrangement for all parties involved, the University has developed this memorandum of understanding to describe the mutual responsibilities between the University and your organization. The University and Facility agree as follows:

**Responsibilities of the University**

1. Encourage the student's productive contribution to the overall mission of the Facility;
2. Certify the student's academic eligibility to participate in an internship assignment;
3. Establish guidelines and standards for the conduct of its program and to make these available to the Facility;
4. Designate a campus-based advisor to assist the student in setting learning objectives, to confer with Facility personnel, to monitor the student's progress, and to evaluate the academic performance of the student;
5. Maintain communication with the Facility and to clarify University policies and procedures;
6. Maintain the confidentiality of any information obtained about the Facility to the extent permitted by law;
7. Require each participating student to maintain professional liability insurance as may be reasonably required, and shall provide proof upon request;
8. Inform students prior to the internship that the student is not entitled to unemployment compensation benefits upon completion of the internship experience; and
9. Enforce any additional rules and procedures that are mutually agreed upon in advance in writing between the University and the Facility.

Contract Number: 734-2026-MOU-005333  
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End Date: Sunday, January 19, 2031



### Responsibilities of the Facility

1. Encourage and support the learning aspect of the student's internship assignment;
2. Designate an employee to serve as student advisor with responsibilities to help orient the student to the Facility and its culture, to assist in the development of learning objectives, to confer regularly with the student and his/her campus-based advisor, and to monitor progress of the student;
3. Provide adequate supervision for the student and to assign duties that are career-related, progressive and challenging;
4. Make available equipment, supplies, and space necessary for the student to perform his/her duties;
5. Provide safe working facilities, and facilities free from all forms of harassment;
6. Will not displace regular workers with students secured through internship referral;
7. Notify University personnel of any changes in the student's work status, schedule or performance;
8. Allow campus-based advisor to conduct at least one visit to the work site to confer with the student and his/her supervisor;
9. Provide two written appraisals of the student's performance (provided by the Internship Center midway and at the end of the internship); if applicable to Program
10. Communicate Facility policies and standards to University personnel; and
11. Maintain worker's compensation and employee's liability insurance as required by law for any student classified as an employee of the Facility.
12. Require students to comply with any background check, drug screening, health clearance, or other pre-placement requirements applicable to Facility personnel performing similar duties, at the student's expense unless otherwise agreed in writing.

### Program Objectives

- A. Facility is a Texas Independent School District engaged in public education.
- B. University has established and sponsors a Bachelor of Science Degree in Family Science program for students and seeks to educate students by providing and coordinating educational and clinical practice sites for qualified students for the completion of the training offered by the University, subject to applicable accreditation standards and regulations.
- C. The University's program is a 4-year program designed to offer students an in-depth study of the family and its interrelationships with the larger community, the socialization of the child and human interaction throughout the lifespan.

### Parties Representatives

The officials who will have the responsibility in coordinating the academic objectives of this MOU for the Parties are:

**Second Party:** East Chambers ISD  
**LU Dept:** COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Contract Number: 734-2026-MOU-005333  
Start Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
End Date: Sunday, January 19, 2031



For: Lamar University

For: East Chambers ISD

Name: Dr. Eunjin Kwon  
Title: Chair, Nutrition, Hospitality, & Human Services  
Email: ekwon@lamar.edu  
Phone: (409) 880-8662

Name: Andrea Smith  
Title: Superintendent  
Email: andrea@eastchambers.net  
Phone: (409) 396-6100

**Term:** This MOU shall commence on the Effective Date and shall be in effect for five (5) years, unless sooner terminated by mutual consent of the Parties.

Either Party may terminate this MOU without cause at any time upon (30) days written notice to the other Party. However, Students participating in the internship arrangement at the time of termination will be allowed to complete their assignment.

The University may terminate the internship arrangement for any student not complying with University guidelines and procedures for the internship program. If possible, Facility will be notified in advance of such termination.

The Facility shall have the authority to immediately remove any student who fails to comply with the Facility's policies and procedures. If such removal occurs, the Facility shall immediately notify the University coordinator in writing.

**Confidentiality:** Students shall comply with all applicable federal and state confidentiality and privacy laws and regulations, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and any Facility-specific confidentiality policies. The Facility shall provide students with appropriate training or orientation regarding such policies as required.

**Intellectual Property Issues:** Any intellectual property matters that arise from the collaboration shall be governed by the Texas State University System Rules and Regulations and the Lamar University Policies.

**Governing Law:** The Parties agree that this MOU shall be construed by the laws of the State of Texas.

**Entire Agreement:** This MOU constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter herein and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements, representations, or understandings, whether written or oral.

**Indemnification:**

To the extent authorized by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, University shall indemnify and hold Facility harmless against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities and costs incurred by Facility which directly or indirectly result from, or arise in connection with, any negligent act or omission

Contract Number: 734-2026-MOU-005333  
Start Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
End Date: Sunday, January 19, 2031



of University, its agents, or employees, pertaining to its activities and obligations under this Agreement. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement, nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver by University of its constitutional, statutory or common law rights, privileges, immunities or defenses. To the extent the terms of this paragraph conflicts with any other provision in this Agreement, the terms of this paragraph shall control.

Facility shall indemnify and hold University, System, their Regents, officers, agents, and employees harmless against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities and costs which directly or indirectly result from, or arise in connection with, any negligent act or omission of Facility, its agents, or employees, pertaining to its activities and obligations under this Agreement.

**Nondiscrimination:** In their execution of this agreement, all contractors, subcontractors, their respective employees, and others acting by or through them shall comply with all Lamar University and Texas State University System Policies and, federal and state policies and laws prohibiting discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct. Any breach of this covenant may result in termination of this agreement.

**Miscellaneous:** This MOU may not be amended or otherwise modified except by the written agreement of both Parties. Neither Party may assign this MOU without the other Party's prior written consent. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision(s) of this MOU will not impair the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as obligating either Party to expend funds, enter into future agreements, or assume financial obligations beyond those expressly stated herein.

*Signatures on following page.*

Contract Number: 734-2026-MOU-005333  
Start Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
End Date: Sunday, January 19, 2031



*In witness whereof*, the Parties have caused their fully authorized representatives to execute this MOU effective as of the Effective Date written above.

**FOR: LAMAR UNIVERSITY**

**FOR: East Chambers ISD**

Printed Name: Dr. Brett C. Welch

Printed Name: Andrea Smith

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:   
Andrea Smith (Apr 14, 2026 13:33:35 CDT)

Title: Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

Title: Superintendent

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 04/14/2026