

**Michigan State University
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Institute of Agricultural Technology
and
St. Clair County Community College**

**CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT
Updated January 6, 2026**

Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources ("MSU CANR") and St. Clair County Community College (SC4), pursuant to this Consortium Agreement (the "Agreement"), agree to provide inter-institutional instructional programs in Agricultural Operations Certificate and Associate in Science (each a "Program" and collectively, the "Programs"). The specific courses and requirements for the Programs are outlined in Appendices A and B. The inter-institutional understanding includes the following major points:

A. Both Parties Desire to Enhance Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Post-Secondary Education in Michigan and Increase Student Access to Such Educational Opportunities; therefore, MSU CANR and St. Clair County Community College shall use reasonable efforts to:

1. Engage in an inclusive planning process to enhance post-secondary educational opportunities and student recruitment in the agriculture, food, and natural resources disciplines.
2. Identify and recruit potential partners and sponsors of agriculture, food, and natural resources programs.
3. Identify resource needs related to future programming.
4. Foster connections and partnerships with stakeholders that enhance post-secondary agriculture, food, and natural resources education.

B. Certificate Program

MSU CANR, with instructional coordination provided by its Institute of Agricultural Technology ("IAT"), will offer coursework that, combined with credits from St. Clair County Community College, will allow students to complete a certificate program in Agricultural Operations.

1. MSU will provide students with a schedule of MSU courses needed to complete a certificate in the respective Programs (see Appendix A for MSU courses).
2. St. Clair County Community College will provide the coursework that students must complete in addition to the MSU courses required to earn a certificate in the respective Programs, including developmental and prerequisite coursework, and student tutoring as necessary (see Appendix B for St. Clair County Community College courses). Students must earn a minimum grade of 2.0 in all St. Clair County Community College courses that are to be transferred to MSU for completion of a certificate program.

C. Associate Degree

1. St. Clair County Community College will offer an Associate in Science for those students who wish to add an associate degree to an MSU certificate. St. Clair County Community College agrees to accept all MSU Certificate coursework in transfer toward the associate degree where the grade is a 2.0 or better. To be awarded an associate degree at St. Clair County Community College, students must complete all required coursework, with at least 18 credits of coursework at St. Clair County Community College, and any other program requirements for the associate degree.
2. MSU CANR will keep its course equivalencies up to date in Transfer MSU (<http://transfer.msu.edu/>) and will provide St. Clair County Community College with curriculum guidelines, as needed, beyond those found in the MSU Academic Programs catalog (<https://reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Default.aspx>).
3. MSU CANR will also keep its transfer course equivalencies with St. Clair County Community College up to date on the Michigan Transfer Network (MTN) website (<https://www.mitransfer.org/>).

D. Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Coordinator

1. MSU CANR agrees to designate a coordinator for the Institute of Agricultural Technology (the "MSU Coordinator") for the purpose of student recruitment, curriculum coordination, workplace internship placements, certificate coursework review, academic advising assistance, support to students participating in the Program and work with the St. Clair County Community College-MSU Agricultural Operations stakeholder groups.
2. St. Clair County Community College shall reimburse MSU CANR 50% of the MSU Coordinator's annual salary and fringe benefits costs. St. Clair County Community College shall make the reimbursement payment to MSU CANR within 30 days of receiving an invoice detailing such payments. St. Clair County Community College agrees that its reimbursement of the MSU Coordinator's annual salary and fringe benefits shall remain in effect for all periods covered by this Agreement.
3. MSU CANR shall be responsible for supervising and evaluating the MSU Coordinator. A representative of St. Clair County Community College shall participate in the selection and annual evaluations of the MSU Coordinator; however, MSU CANR shall have final decision-making responsibility.
4. The MSU Coordinator will serve as the academic advisor, for both St. Clair County Community College and IAT, to work directly with students in the program and industry partners to establish workplace internships.

E. Community College Program Representative

1. St. Clair County Community College agrees to designate a representative (the "St. Clair County Community College Representative") to serve as a single point of contact for the MSU Coordinator and for prospective students in the Programs. The St. Clair County Community College Representative, working together with the MSU Coordinator, will coordinate inter-institutional communication and information regarding admissions, enrollment status, course scheduling, and advising.

F. St. Clair County Community College and MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' Institute of Agricultural Technology Admissions, Dual Enrollment, Student Reporting and Financial Aid

1. Institute of Agricultural Technology students shall apply simultaneously for admission to both St. Clair County Community College and the IAT Program offered by MSU, permitting them to enroll in the required coursework offered by both institutions. Fundamental to the effective and efficient administration of the Programs is the need to regularly share information, including student records, between St. Clair County Community College and MSU. To that end, MSU and St. Clair County Community College agree to share academic and other information concerning dually enrolled students for the purpose of administering the Programs. Each institution agrees to comply with applicable law and regulations promulgated under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g et seq. regarding the use and redisclosure of any such records. All dually enrolled students will be notified that St. Clair County Community College and MSU will disclose their student records to the other institution.
2. St. Clair County Community College will assume the responsibility of processing, awarding, and disbursing financial aid for those students who qualify for aid. Accordingly, St. Clair County Community College will be responsible for monitoring student eligibility, monitoring satisfactory academic progress, refund/repay calculations, record retention and reporting including the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). Both schools shall be responsible for reporting data on the Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP).

The guiding operational principle is that St. Clair County Community College will act as the home institution and MSU as the host institution for the purposes of delivering financial aid.

Under this Agreement, the responsibility for administering outside scholarships awarded to the student will be a shared arrangement. Generally, outside scholarship funds will be sent

to and processed by St. Clair County Community College. In most cases, the administration of local promise zones will be processed by St. Clair County Community College. MSU will be notified of any scholarship that is not processed by St. Clair County Community College.

The MSU Coordinator at St. Clair County Community College will provide a list of enrolled students for both MSU and St. Clair County Community College to both financial aid offices to ensure that there is no duplication of aid. Any institutional aid awarded by MSU will be reported to St. Clair County Community College as well.

3. The student will be charged tuition and fees by St. Clair County Community College for only the St. Clair County Community College courses and the student will separately owe tuition and fees charges to MSU at MSU rates for courses taken through MSU. It is the student's responsibility to pay each school respectively. Financial aid refunds received by students through St. Clair County Community College must be used to help cover the costs of tuition, fees, room and board, and other educational related expenses for coursework at MSU.
4. For students dually enrolled under this Agreement, both Michigan State University (MSU) and St. Clair County Community College (SC4) agree that credits taken at either institution, as part of the Programs outlined herein, will be counted together each semester to determine the student's enrollment status (e.g., full-time, part-time) for all official purposes. This determination shall apply to, but is not limited to, eligibility for financial aid, access to student services, and any other institutional or regulatory policies contingent upon enrollment status. Each institution will recognize and accept the combined credits enrolled at both MSU and SC4 for such determinations, consistent with existing institutional and federal guidelines.

G. Use of Classroom Facilities on the St. Clair County Community College Campus (es) for Michigan State University Coursework in the Programs

1. MSU and St. Clair County Community College agree to cooperate in the use of classroom space and facilities. When MSU courses are offered on the campus(es) of St. Clair County Community College, classroom usage fees and equipment (such as those used for Interactive Television or other distance learning technology) may be waived. If there is a need for a classroom facilitator to operate equipment, MSU will be responsible for those charges. MSU courses will be offered during normal operating hours of St. Clair County Community College.
2. In the event of campus delays or closure, MSU courses will follow St. Clair County Community College operational decisions.
3. The St. Clair County Community College support services are available for collaboration on student accommodations, but if there is a need for student accommodations within an MSU course, MSU will be responsible for any charges associated with the accommodations. St. Clair County Community College will be responsible for any accommodations and charges associated with accommodations as a part of any St. Clair County Community College course.
4. St. Clair County Community College will provide access to current technology systems that they use at their college. Systems provided by MSU are MS 365, ZOOM, and D2L. If another system is required for compatibility, an agreement must be developed between MSU and St. Clair County Community College prior to implementation.
5. St. Clair County Community College will proctor MSU online course exams as needed in the Testing Center at no charge for students that are dually enrolled. Proctoring online courses must occur during Testing Center operational hours.
6. The MSU Coordinator at St. Clair County Community College will be provided a computer by MSU. However, the MSU Coordinator will be provided access to the St. Clair County Community College authenticated network.

H. Additional Certificate Programs

1. This Agreement serves as the operating agreement for any additional IAT certificate programs as agreed to by both parties. Additional programs will be jointly agreed upon and an additional agreement, or written amendment to this Agreement, will need to be signed before additional programs can be implemented.

I. Program Review & Termination

1. The Programs will be reviewed annually by representatives from both institutions using assessment criteria to be developed by both institutions during the one-year period after the date this Agreement is signed.
2. Either Michigan State University or St. Clair County Community College may terminate the Agreement at any time by notifying the other party in writing 90 days in advance. Should either party terminate the Agreement, any St. Clair County Community College student who has become dually enrolled in one of the Programs prior to termination will be allowed to complete such Program within two (2) years from the date of enrollment, subject to the payment of applicable course fees and compliance with applicable academic regulations.
3. This Agreement is valid for three (3) years from the last dated signature below. Prior to the expiration of this Agreement, the parties may modify, extend, or amend the Agreement in writing signed by authorized signatories of both parties.

Therefore, in support of the Programs, Michigan State University and St. Claire County Community College are signatories to this Agreement, which will take effect upon the last dated signature below:

St. Claire County Community College

Kirk Kramer, President

Michael Belleman, Chief Academic Officer

Pete Lacey, Chief Partnership Officer
/Senior Vice President

Michigan State University

Laura Lee McIntyre, Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic
Affairs

Matthew Daum, Dean
College of Agriculture and Natural
Resources

Jeno Rivera, Director
Institute of Agricultural Technology

Anthony Krolak
Senior Associate Director
Office of Financial Aid

Beau Hill
Associate General Counsel

Appendix A

Michigan State University IAT Agricultural Operations Certificate Requirements

The Agricultural Operations program provides students with a solid background in plant and soil science, precision agriculture, water management, entomology, plant pathology and business management. It exposes students to exciting opportunities available in the industry.

Requirements for Agricultural Operations

Students must complete 60 credits from the following:

1. All the following courses (28 credits):

AFRE	130	Farm Management I	3
AE	131	Agricultural Water Resources Management	3
AE	143	Application of Precision Agriculture Technologies	3
AT	100	Career Development in Agricultural Technology	1
AT	202	Agricultural Regulation, Compliance and Safety	3
AT	293	Professional Internship in Agricultural Technology	3
CROP	101	Introduction to Crop Science	3
CROP	126	Introduction to Weed Management	2
SOIL	203	World of Soils	2
ENT	110	Applied Entomology of Economics Plants	3
PLP	105	Fundamentals of Applied Pathology	1
PLP	105L	Fundamentals of Applied Plant Pathology Lab	1

2. Complete a minimum of 6 elective credits in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources as approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology.

3. Complete 26 credits of additional course work through the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a community college partner (St. Clair County Community College, Delta College, Glen Oaks Community College, Kellogg Community College, Monroe County Community College, Montcalm Community College, Muskegon Community College, Northwestern Michigan College, Southwestern Michigan College, and West Shore Community College) or an approved transferring institution. All Course work must be approved by the program coordinator in the Institute of Agricultural Technology.

Appendix B

St. Clair County Community College Associate in Science (Transfer Program) for Michigan State University Agricultural Operations
Program Code: ASTSC

The agricultural operations pathway provides students with a solid background in plant and soil science, precision agriculture, agriculture management, entomology, plant pathology and additional fundamentals of agriculture. Michigan State University and SC4 have partnered to offer students an opportunity to earn a certificate in agricultural operations from MSU and an associate in science transfer degree from SC4.

The MSU certificate is comprised of 34 credits of agriculture-oriented courses through MSU's Institute of Agricultural Technology. The associate in science degree awarded by SC4 will satisfy the Michigan Transfer Agreement and includes the MSU credits, plus 27 credits from SC4 to equal 61 total credits.

Students need to complete a minimum of 60 credits with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better in all SC4 courses to earn this degree.

Overview of degree:

Communication: ENG 101 or ENG 100 and ENG 102

Humanities: ART 120 and THA 101

Mathematics: MTH 1130 or higher

Science: AGR 103 and one course from MSU's Agricultural Operations Certificate

Social Science: ECON 221 and PS 101

Additional Requirements: CHM 111 and one course from MSU's Agricultural Operations Certificate

Electives will be satisfied from MSU's Agricultural Operations courses.

For more information about the SC4/MSU Agricultural Operations certificate and associate degree, or for assistance enrolling in the program, contact the MSU/SC4 IAT Program Coordinator.