

**AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT INTERNSHIP
(PRIVATE AND OUT-OF-STATE POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS)**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of this 15 day of May, 2024 by and between

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA,
a body corporate and political subdivision of the State of Florida, whose principal place of business is 1960 Landings Boulevard, Sarasota, FL 34231 (hereinafter referred to as “SBSC”),

and

(Samford University),
whose principal place of business is (800 Lakeshore Drive) (hereinafter referred to as “UNIVERSITY”).

WHEREAS, SBSC and UNIVERSITY wish and intend by this Agreement set forth the terms and conditions of engaging in a cooperative program (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”) for the classroom field placement of selected University Students enrolled at UNIVERSITY with the mutual objective of preparing students for entry into the teaching profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 – RECITALS

1.01 **Recitals.** The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and that such recitals are incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE 2 – SPECIAL CONDITIONS

2.01 **Term of Agreement.** The term of this Agreement shall commence upon execution of this Agreement by all parties and continue until terminated by either party pursuant to Section 3.05 of this Agreement.

2.02 **UNIVERSITY Responsibilities.**

2.02.1 UNIVERSITY shall plan and administer the UNIVERSITY educational program for its students and be responsible for the enrollment of its students in UNIVERSITY courses, including the clinical field placement.

2.02.2 UNIVERSITY shall maintain all educational records and reports relating to the UNIVERSITY educational programs completed by UNIVERSITY students during the clinical field experience.

2.02.3 UNIVERSITY shall determine, in its sole discretion, which of its enrolled students shall be eligible to participate in the Program.

2.02.4 UNIVERSITY shall provide a person to serve as its Coordinator to oversee its education program and coordinate Programmatic activities with SBSC.

2.02.5 UNIVERSITY shall work through the SBSC office of Curriculum and Instruction to determine the placements for student teachers in the Program, including dates and the number of students.

2.02.6 UNIVERSITY shall inform students that their participation in the Program is conditioned on meeting SBSC's requirement that students complete a security information background check form provided by SBSC and submit to fingerprinting and criminal records background check to be performed by SBSC or at its direction.

2.02.7 UNIVERSITY shall, in consultation with SBSC, be responsible for grading of the field placement experience and determining whether a UNIVERSITY student has completed the requirements of the UNIVERSITY educational program.

2.02.8 UNIVERSITY students shall not be considered as employees or agents of the UNIVERSITY.

2.02.9 UNIVERSITY shall be solely responsible for the conduct of any academic or disciplinary proceedings affecting its students.

2.02.10 UNIVERSITY agrees to inform its students that they are responsible for following the rules and regulations of SBSC, including recognition of the confidential nature of information regarding SBSC students and their records.

2.02.11 UNIVERSITY will provide SBSC with a copy of course objectives for the learning experience. SBSC, together with UNIVERSITY, will make arrangements for evaluating the learning experience of student teachers.

2.03 **SBSC Responsibilities.**

2.03.1 SBSC shall be responsible for the conduct of its operations, supervision of its staff and the education of its District students. UNIVERSITY shall not control any of SBSC property or operations.

2.03.2 SBSC shall determine, in consultation with UNIVERSITY, the University students who will be placed at SBSC schools and at which particular schools.

2.03.3 SBSC shall provide to UNIVERSITY a security background information form to be completed by UNIVERSITY students and provide a process for fingerprinting and criminal records background check to be performed by SBSC or at its direction. SBSC, in its sole discretion, shall determine whether a UNIVERSITY student has satisfactorily cleared the security screening.

2.03.4 SBSC shall in consultation with UNIVERSITY, assign its teachers to serve as supervising teachers for the evaluation of the UNIVERSITY student teachers. SBSC, supervising teachers shall complete evaluation forms provided by UNIVERSITY. Supervising teachers selected by SBSC will (a) assist in orienting UNIVERSITY students to the school, the classroom and the SBSC students; (b) explain relevant school and district policies, rules and regulations to UNIVERSITY students; (c) provide prompt and substantive feedback to UNIVERSITY students regarding performance activities and interactions with SBSC personnel, pupils and parents; (d) complete evaluation of UNIVERSITY student progress and submit them to UNIVERSITY after reviewing them with applicable UNIVERSITY students; (e) immediately inform the UNIVERSITY faculty supervisor of any concerns regarding a UNIVERSITY student; (f) establish a time to meet and discuss with UNIVERSITY students their activities, impressions,

reflections, and suggestions for goals and areas of improvement; (g) under no circumstance require a UNIVERSITY student even if he/she is certified, to serve as the substitute of record during the student teaching experience unless a separate agreement has been negotiated in writing by the SBSC and the UNIVERSITY.

2.03.5 Students of UNIVERSITY shall not be deemed to be employees of SBSC for purposes of compensation, fringe benefits, worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, minimum wage laws, income tax withholding, social security or any other purpose, by virtue of their participation in the Program. Each UNIVERSITY student is placed with SBSC to receive clinical field experience as a part of his or her academic curriculum; those duties performed by a UNIVERSITY student are not performed as an employee, but in fulfillment of these academic requirements and are performed under supervision. At no time during their practicum shall UNIVERSITY students replace or substitute for an employee of SBSC. This provision shall not be deemed to prohibit the employment of any such UNIVERSITY student by the SBSC under a separate employment agreement for separate or additional duties.

2.03.6 SBSC shall retain the right, in its sole discretion, to request the removal of any individual from any area of the school premises. UNIVERSITY students shall be instructed by the UNIVERSITY to promptly and without protest leave an area whenever they are requested to do so by an authorized SBSC representative.

2.03.7 SBSC will provide to UNIVERSITY students the policies and procedures and other relevant materials to allow UNIVERSITY students to function appropriately within the school.

2.03.8 SBSC will permit UNIVERSITY students access to the library/media facilities and curriculum resources available to personnel. UNIVERSITY students may not remove materials from the school without appropriate approval.

2.03.9 SBSC shall keep confidential and shall not disclose to any person or entity (a) UNIVERSITY student applications; (b) UNIVERSITY student health records or reports; and/or (c) any UNIVERSITY student records as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232G (FERPA), concerning any UNIVERSITY student participating in the education experiences unless required by law.

UNIVERSITY may disclose information from a University student's education record and personal data, as appropriate, to personnel at SBSC who have a legitimate need to know in accordance with FERPA. For purposes of this agreement, UNIVERSITY hereby designates SBSC as a school official with a legitimate education interest in education records of the participating University student.

2.03.10 UNIVERSITY students shall not be considered employees or agents of SBSC.

2.04 **Notice.** When any of the parties desire to give notice to the other, such notice must be in writing, sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the party for whom it is intended at the place last specified; the place for giving notice shall remain such until it is changed by written notice in compliance with the provisions of this paragraph. For the present, the Parties designate the following as the respective places for giving notice:

To SBSC:	School Board of Sarasota County, Florida Attention: Executive Director, Exceptional Student Education 1960 Landings Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34231
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To UNIVERSITY:

With a Copy to:

2.05 **Background Screening:** If a UNIVERSITY employee is permitted access to school grounds, UNIVERSITY agrees to comply with all requirements of Sections 1012.32 and 1012.465, Florida Statutes, and all of its personnel who (1) are to be permitted access to school grounds when District students are present, (2) will have direct contact with District students, or (3) have access or control of school funds, will successfully complete the required background screening. This background screening will be conducted by SBSC in advance of UNIVERSITY or its personnel providing any services under the conditions described in the previous sentence. UNIVERSITY, or its students participating in the program, shall bear the cost of acquiring the background screening required by Section 1012.32, Florida Statutes, and any fee imposed by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to maintain the fingerprints provided with respect to UNIVERSITY and its personnel. The parties agree that the failure of UNIVERSITY to perform any of the duties described in this section shall constitute a material breach of the Agreement entitling SBSC to terminate immediately with no further responsibilities or duties to perform under this Agreement.

2.06 **Liability.** Each Party assumes any and all risks of personal injury and property damage attributable to the negligent acts or omissions of their respective officers, employees, servants, and agents thereof while acting within the scope of their employment. The UNIVERSITY and SBSC further agree that nothing contained herein shall be construed or interpreted as (1) denying to either Party any remedy or defense available to such Party under the laws of the State of Florida; and (2) the consent of the UNIVERSITY or SBSC or its officers, employees, servants, agents and agencies to be sued.

2.07 **Insurance.** During the term of this Agreement, the UNIVERSITY shall maintain public liability and malpractice insurance in at least the following amounts: TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) per person; FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) per occurrence; ONE MILLION AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00) umbrella coverage with the SBSC listed as a co-insured, and, if workers' compensation insurance is required by Florida law, ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) workers' compensation insurance per accident. As evidence of such insurance coverage, the UNIVERSITY shall furnish SBSC with a Certificate of Insurance prior to commencing Services under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3 – GENERAL CONDITIONS

3.01 **No Waiver of Sovereign Immunity.** Nothing herein is intended to serve as a waiver of sovereign immunity by any agency or political subdivision to which sovereign immunity may be applicable or of any rights or limits to liability existing under Section 768.28, Florida Statutes. This section shall survive the termination of all performance or obligations under this Agreement and shall be fully binding until such time as any proceeding brought on account of this Agreement is barred by any applicable statute of limitations.

3.02 **No Third Party Beneficiaries.** The parties expressly acknowledge that it is not their intent to create or confer any rights or obligations in or upon any third person or entity under this Agreement. None of the parties intend to directly or substantially benefit a third party by this Agreement. The parties agree that there are no third party beneficiaries to this Agreement and that no third party shall be entitled to assert a claim against any of the parties based upon this Agreement. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by an agency or political subdivision of the State of Florida to be sued by third parties in any matter arising out of any contract.

3.03 **Independent Contractor.** The parties to this agreement shall at all times be acting in the capacity of independent contractors and not as an officer, employee or agent of one another. Neither party or its respective agents, employees, subcontractors or assignees shall represent to others that it has the authority to bind the other party unless specifically authorized in writing to do so. No right to SBSC retirement, leave benefits or any other benefits of SBSC employees shall exist as a result of the performance of any duties or responsibilities under this Agreement. SBSC shall not be responsible for social security, withholding taxes, and contributions to unemployment compensation funds or insurance for the other party or the other party's officers, employees, agents, subcontractors or assignees.

3.04 **Equal Opportunity Provision.** The parties agree that no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of age, race, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, religion, sex or sexual orientation in the performance of the parties' respective duties, responsibilities and obligations under this Agreement.

3.05 **Termination.** This Agreement may be cancelled with or without cause by either party during its term upon thirty (30) days written notice. Any UNIVERSITY student teacher will be permitted to complete his or her student teaching assignment unless the particular student teacher is removed pursuant to paragraph 2.03.6 of this Agreement.

3.06 [THIS SECTION INTENTIONALLY DELETED.]

3.07 **Public Records.** Each Party shall maintain its own respective records and documents associated with this Agreement in accordance with the records retention requirements applicable to public records. Each Party shall be responsible for compliance with any public records request served upon it pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Each Party acknowledges that this Agreement and all attachments thereto are public records.

IF UNIVERSITY HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES TO ITS DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT 941-927-4009, publicrecordrequest@sarasotacountyschools.net, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, 1960 LANDINGS BLVD., SARASOTA, FL 34231.

3.08 **Student Records:** UNIVERSITY does not intend to have access to or possession of SBSC student records. However, should UNIVERSITY employees gain access to or possession of said records and notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary within this Agreement any party contracting with SBSC under this Agreement shall fully comply with the

requirements of Section 1002.22, Florida Statutes, or any other state or federal law or regulation regarding the confidentiality of student information and records.

3.09 **Compliance with Laws.** Each party shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, codes, rules and regulations in performing its duties, responsibilities and obligations pursuant to this Agreement.

3.10 [THIS SECTION INTENTIONALLY DELETED.]

3.11 **Governing Law and Venue.** This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Florida. The sole and exclusive jurisdiction for controversies or legal problems arising out of this Agreement and any action involving the enforcement or interpretation of any rights hereunder shall be in the State courts of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Sarasota County, Florida.

3.12 **Entirety of Agreement.** This document incorporates and includes all prior negotiations, correspondence, conversations, agreements and understandings applicable to the matters contained herein and the parties agree that there are no commitments, agreements or understandings concerning the subject matter of this Agreement that are not contained in this document. Accordingly, the parties agree that no deviation from the terms hereof shall be predicated upon any prior representations or agreements, whether oral or written.

3.13 **Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

3.14 **Assignment.** Neither this Agreement nor any interest herein may be assigned, transferred or encumbered by any party without the prior written consent of the other party. There shall be no partial assignments of this Agreement including, without limitation, the partial assignment of any right to receive payments from SBSC.

3.15 **Captions.** The captions, section designations, section numbers, article numbers, titles and headings appearing in the Agreement are inserted only as a matter of convenience, have no substantive meaning, and in no way define, limit, construe or describe the scope or intent of such articles or sections of this Agreement, nor in any way effect this Agreement and shall not be construed to create a conflict with the provisions of this Agreement.

3.16 **Severability.** In the event that any one or more of the sections paragraphs, sentences, clauses or provisions contained in this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, unlawful, unenforceable or void in any respect, such shall not affect the remaining portions of this Agreement and the same shall remain in full force and effect as if such invalid, illegal, unlawful, unenforceable or void sections, paragraphs, sentences clauses or provisions had never been included herein.

3.17 **Preparation of Agreement.** The parties acknowledge that they have sought and obtained whatever competent advice and counsel as was necessary for them to form a full and complete understanding of all rights and obligations herein and that the preparation of this Agreement has been their joint effort. The terms of this Agreement shall not, solely as a matter of judicial construction, be construed more severely against one of the parties than the other.

3.18 **Amendments.** No modification, amendment, or alteration in the terms or conditions contained herein shall be effective unless contained in a written document prepared with the same or similar formality as this Agreement and executed by each party hereto.

3.19 **Waiver.** The parties agree that each requirement, duty and obligation set forth herein is substantial and important to the formation of this Agreement and, therefore, is a material term hereof. Any party's failure to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of such provision or modification of this Agreement unless the waiver is in writing and signed by the party waiving such provision. A written waiver shall only be effective as to the specific instance for which it is obtained and shall not be deemed a continuing or future waiver.

3.20 **Force Majeure.** Neither party shall be obligated to perform any duty, requirement or obligation under this Agreement if such performance is prevented by fire, hurricane, earthquake, explosion wars, sabotage, accident, flood, acts of God, strikes, or other labor disputes, riot or civil commotions or by reason of any other matter or condition beyond the control of either party, and which cannot be overcome by reasonable diligence and without unusual expense ("Force Majeure"). In no event shall a lack of funds on the part of either party be deemed Force Majeure.

3.21 **Survival.** All representations and warranties made herein regarding obligations to maintain and allow inspections and audit of records and property, obligations to maintain the confidentiality of records, reporting requirements, and obligations to return public funds shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

3.22 **Authority.** Each person signing this Agreement on behalf of either party individually warrants that he or she has full legal power to execute this Agreement on behalf of the party for whom he or she is signing, and to bind and obligate such party with respect to all provisions contained in this Agreement.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.]

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have made and executed this Agreement on the date first above written.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Its: _____

Approved for Legal Content
by Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP
Attorneys for The School Board
of Sarasota County, Florida
Signed: MRM
Date:

UNIVERSITY:

Samford University

DocuSigned by: _____

By:  _____
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Marci Johns

Printed name: _____

Senior Associate Provost

Its: _____