

September 9, 2025

## ADDENDUM VI

### PURCHASE OF CREDIT MOBILITY SOLUTION RFP-2025-0075

I. In response to questions received:

- A. **Question:** What's the integration plan with Ellucian, Modern Campus Catalogue, and DegreeWorks? Are there programmable interfaces for integration. Will integration support provided?  
**Response:** Ellucian offers Ethos Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), but they require vendors to partner with them to use the APIs. Alamo Colleges District's Information Technology Services Department can provide support, but our access is limited. The awarded vendor will have to work with Ellucian for greater access.
- B. **Question:** What is the expected integrations of catalogues from universities. (Brochure file upload, any API integration, pull the details from public site etc.)  
**Response:** API is preferred.
- C. **Question:** How frequently is this data updated, and what is the typical latency for new course additions or changes?  
**Response:** Catalogues are published annually in April for the upcoming academic year. There is little to no latency period for course additions or changes. Once additions/changes have completed approval processes, the catalogue is updated twice a year for the corresponding effective term.
- D. **Question:** Are there existing historical datasets of manually approved course equivalencies that can be used for initial ML model training?  
**Response:** General course equivalencies can be found online through TCCNS.org, Banner form SHATATR has approved course equivalencies between ACD and university partners and Transfer Advising Guides (TAGs) will show approved course equivalencies agreed upon from the university partner or the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS).
- E. **Question:** If fine-tuning is allowed, may we leverage historical TAG data from ACD for model training?  
**Response:** Yes, TAGs can be found online at <https://myalamocatalog.alamo.edu/index.php>, from 2017-2018 to 2024-2025.
- F. **Question:** Can we access the course prerequisites and credit hour details programmatically?  
**Response:** Yes, course prerequisites and credit hour details can be accessed programmatically.



- G. **Question:** What is the granularity of mapping required — only course-to-course or does it extend to outcomes, competencies, or topics?  
**Response:** The granularity of mapping required is course to course for degree applicability or substitution/equivalency by major by transfer institution.
- H. **Question:** Should the AI provide confidence levels and alternate suggestions for courses with weak or ambiguous equivalencies?  
**Response:** Yes, should AI provide confidence levels and alternate suggestions for courses with weak or ambiguous equivalencies
- I. **Question:** Who approves final articulation mappings: partner institution advisors, articulation officers, or both? What is the process?  
**Response:** Both partner institution advisors and articulation officers approve final articulation mappings. University partner approves TAG information that Alamo Colleges District (ACD) provides to the university partner. However, ACD will review any feedback from university partners if they are requesting possible changes.
- J. **Question:** Is the AI system expected to run real-time simulations or operate in batch mode?  
**Response:** Alamo Colleges District would have to see a demonstration of both modes and weigh the pros and con before deciding on which mode to operate.
- K. **Question:** How are current guides or agreements maintained and updated, who are the actors involved?  
**Response:** TAGs are updated annually due to university annual catalogue changes. The TAG team builds each from scratch when university catalogues are made available/released. TAGs are sent to partner universities for approval and then any changes must be discussed and agreed upon by both ACD and the partner university.
- L. **Question:** [Are there] Any specific pain points that you have faced with the current process or any specific scenarios that lead to failures, lost credits.  
**Response:** One pain point would be when a university catalogue or degree plan has an error, ACD has to build TAGs with assumptions and wait for the university to confirm if ACD's assumptions were correct.
- M. **Question:** How do students currently find information about transferring credits to or from your institution?  
**Response:** Students currently find information about transferring credits to or from ACD via advising departments and online resources.
- N. **Question:** How do you currently maintain relationships with your partner institutions, challenges that you face in keeping the articulation agreements up to date.  
**Response:** Alamo Colleges District's transfer compact Memorandum of Understanding is agreed upon for five years. It allows Alamo Colleges to build any pathway for any major for any institution for five years. All pathways/TAGs are protected for five years.



- O. **Question:** How do you communicate transfer policies and course equivalencies today?  
**Response:** Transfer policies and course equivalencies are communicated through Alamo Colleges' TAGs.
- P. **Question:** Do you have a central office responsible for managing transfer agreements, or is it handled by each University department?  
**Response:** Transfer agreements are managed centrally by the Alamo Colleges District's Academic Success office.
- Q. **Question:** Who manages articulation?  
**Response:** Articulation is managed centrally by the Alamo Colleges District's Academic Success office.
- R. **Question:** Is there any specific template for articulation agreement?  
**Response:** There is a general template for articulation agreements which is edited on case-by-case basis.
- S. **Question:** Who all are typically involved in a Transfer Articulation Guide generation process. We are trying to identify all the constituents.  
**Response:** The Academic Success TAG Team and sometimes the partner universities are involved with the TAG generation process.
- T. **Question:** Is there any restriction in updates (Example: only in the beginning of semester?)  
**Response:** Revisions are updated as needed and a "Revision Date" is placed at the bottom of TAG.
- U. **Question:** What is your current process of notifying transfer partners and advisors about updates?  
**Response:** ACD communicates through each partner university's POC. After TAGs are approved, the Academic Success TAG Team emails the Directors of Advising at each of the Alamo colleges to inform them that they are approved and ready for use. The Academic Success TAG Team also attends trainings/information sessions requested by the Advising departments at each of the colleges.
- V. **Question:** Do you require multi-region failover (multi-Availability Zone (AZ) Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)), geo-redundant storage, or defined Recovery Time Objective / Recovery Point Objective (RTO/RPO) targets?  
**Response:** Yes, but pricing may play a role in the final decision.
- W. **Question:** Are there specific security compliance requirements (e.g., FERPA, SOC 2, ISO 27001)?  
**Response:** Security compliance requirements include FERPA and GLBA.

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- II. Additional questions will be answered via Addendum VII.
- III. Please acknowledge receipt of this Addendum VI, with your proposal.

**REMINDER:**

**The deadline to submit a proposal for this project is no later than 2:00 p.m. (CT), Tuesday, September 23, 2025.**

All questions related to this RFP should be directed to Mariano Alaniz, Senior Purchaser, via email to: [malaniz1@alamo.edu](mailto:malaniz1@alamo.edu) with a copy to [dst-purchasing@alamo.edu](mailto:dst-purchasing@alamo.edu).