

**STUDENT PLACEMENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, BY AND THROUGH  
THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
AND  
WEST COAST UNIVERSITY, INC**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024 between **West Coast University, Inc.** (“Institution”) and the County of Monterey, on behalf of Monterey County Department of Health (“COUNTY”).

- A. Institution is committed to service in the community and applied learning experiences for students. This is accomplished both through field education and service-learning requirement. Field education and service learning involve the completion of internship or externship assignments in the local community that tie meaningful learning experiences directly to course content. Through reflective activities, service, and field seminars, students enhance their understanding of course content, sense of civic responsibility, self-awareness, professional development, and commitment to the community.
- B. The mission of the COUNTY is to excel at providing quality services for the benefit of all Monterey County residents while developing, maintaining and enhancing the resources of the region.
- C. COUNTY and Institution recognize the opportunity for meaningful learning experiences for Institution, COUNTY, and students. Institution supports the goals and objectives of the COUNTY program in which students will participate.
- D. Health services provided and administered by the COUNTY are governed by but not limited to: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164 as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act and its implementing regulations; California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, Ca. Civil Code §§ 56 et seq.; Lanterman-Petris-Short Act [Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5000 et seq.]; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, § 51009; Confidential Nature of Records; Welfare and Institutions Code section 14100.2 and 42 Code of Federal Regulations section 431.300 et.seq.

The parties agree as follows:

**I. INSTITUTION’S RESPONSIBILITIES**

A. Student Profile. Institution shall make available to COUNTY a field application student profile which shall include the student’s name, address, telephone number, other pertinent information. The COUNTY shall review student applications and select students for internship with the COUNTY. Each student shall be responsible for submitting his or her

student profile before the Program training period begins. COUNTY shall regard this information as confidential and shall use the information only to identify each student.

B. Schedule of Assignments. Institution shall notify COUNTY designated staff of student assignment, including the name of the student, level of academic preparation, and length and dates of proposed experience. The maximum number of students shall be mutually agreed by the parties. The starting date and length of each Program training period shall be mutually agreed by the parties.

C. Program Coordinator. Institution shall designate a point of contact to coordinate with COUNTY's designee in planning the Program to be provided to students.

D. Records. Institution shall maintain all personnel records for its staff and all academic records for its students. COUNTY will ensure any records kept for student performance are sent to the Institution as proof of student accomplishments.

E. Student Qualifications: Institution shall provide appropriate health and safety training to all students on a regular basis, in accordance with prevailing Federal and State laws and regulations. Institution shall require that each student designated by Institution for clinical and/or practicum experience under this Agreement shall meet the minimum qualifications for a student in the designated Program. Additionally, Institution shall ensure that: (i) all students have documented training to meet OSHA Regulations on occupational Exposure to Blood-borne Pathogens prior to the beginning of the internship experience; and (ii) each student assigned to the COUNTY meet the COUNTY's requirements, see Exhibit A. Where Institution maintains any and all records of such testing, such records shall be made available to COUNTY upon request.

F. Health Insurance. Institution shall ensure each student has his or her own health insurance if not provided by the Institution.

G. Student Responsibilities. Institution shall notify students in the program that they are responsible for:

- 1) Complying with COUNTY's clinical and administrative policies, procedures, rules, and regulations, as outlined in Exhibit A of this Agreement.
- 2) Arranging for his/her own transportation and living arrangements.
- 3) Assuming responsibility for personal illnesses, necessary immunizations, tuberculin tests, annual health examinations and other requirements as identified by the COUNTY; refer to Exhibit A for COUNTY training requirements.
- 4) Maintaining the confidentiality of patient information.
  - a) No student shall have access to or have the right to receive any medical record, except when necessary in the regular course of the practicum

experience. The discussion, transmission, or narration in any form by students of any individually identifiable patient information, medical or otherwise, obtained in the course of the program is forbidden except as a necessary part of the practical experience.

b) Neither the Institution nor its employees or agents shall be granted access to individually identifiable information unless the patient has first given consent using a form approved by COUNTY that complies with applicable state and federal law as defined in Recital D of this Agreement and its implementing regulations.

c) COUNTY shall reasonably assist student in obtaining patient consent in appropriate circumstances when applicable. In the absence of consent, students shall use de-identified information only in any discussions about the clinical experience with Institution, its employees, or agents.

5) Complying with COUNTY's dress code and wearing name badges identifying themselves as Student Intern, if specified by COUNTY.

6) Students should be informed and aware of the hazards currently known to be associated with the novel coronavirus referred to as "COVID-19." Students acknowledge and agree to follow all current County health and safety requirements as may be required by local, state and/or federal laws, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment.

7) Insurance requirements. See Section V.

H. Field Experience Plan. Institution shall assist in establishing a plan/learning agreement for the field experience by mutual agreement between the COUNTY's representative and the Institution's Field Faculty representative and the student.

I. Field Conference. Institution may facilitate periodic conferences between appropriate representatives of the Field Faculty and COUNTY to evaluate the field experience program provided under this Agreement.

## II. COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Field Experience. At the COUNTY's discretion, COUNTY shall accept from Institution the student and shall provide the student with a supervised field experience.

B. COUNTY Designee. COUNTY shall designate a member of its staff to participate with Institution's designee in planning, implementing, and coordinating the Program. COUNTY shall notify the Institution in advance of any change in the COUNTY's personnel appointments that may affect the student field program.

C. Access to Facilities. COUNTY shall permit students enrolled in the Program access to COUNTY facilities as appropriate and necessary for their Program, provided that the students' presence shall not interfere with COUNTY's activities.

D. Records and Evaluations. COUNTY shall maintain complete records and reports on student's performance and provide an evaluation to Institution on forms the Institution shall provide.

E. Withdrawal of Students. COUNTY shall have the right to immediately terminate a student's placement/assignment if student who, in the judgment of the COUNTY, is not participating satisfactorily or refuses to follow the COUNTY's administrative policies, procedures, rules and regulations, including but not limited to inappropriate behavior, dress and/or hygiene, and non-compliance with the use of Personal Protective Equipment, as may be required by health and safety protocols. COUNTY shall immediately notify the student and the Institution by telephone or in person. The student and representative(s) of the Institution may meet the COUNTY to determine whether the student will be reinstated in the internship assignment at the COUNTY, and if so, upon terms and conditions determined by COUNTY to be appropriate. Such withdrawal must also be in writing and must include a statement as to the reason or reasons COUNTY desires to have the student withdrawn.

F. Emergency Health Care/First Aid. COUNTY shall, on any day when a student is receiving training at its facilities, ensure student has access to emergency health care or first aid for accidents occurring in its facilities at Institution and/or student expense.

G. COUNTY's Confidentiality Policies. As trainees, students shall be considered members of COUNTY's "workforce," as that term is defined by the HIPAA regulations at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, and shall be subject to COUNTY's policies respecting confidentiality of medical information (as defined in Recital D). If Institution suspects a breach of any of these policies, Institution must notify the COUNTY Privacy Officer immediately. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, in the event of a breach of this Section, the County of Monterey shall have the right to seek direct damages from the Institution.

H. Safety. COUNTY shall orient the students with respect to policies and procedures with which students are expected to comply. These policies and procedures include but are not limited to those that promote personal safety, security measures, and workplace security. COUNTY agrees to take reasonable steps to ensure the personal security and safety of students while engaged in the supervised clinical practice experience.

### III. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

The parties agree that all students receiving field education training pursuant to this Agreement shall be selected without discrimination on account of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age or veteran status.

#### IV. STATUS OF STUDENTS

Institution represents that the students enrolled in the Program are in attendance for educational purposes, and such students are not considered employees of Institution or of the COUNTY for any purpose, including, but not limited to, payroll taxes, withholdings, compensation for services, welfare and pension benefits, or workers' compensation insurance. Students are considered members of COUNTY's "workforce" for purposes of Recital D compliance and COUNTY policies and procedures. If the student is a paid employee of the COUNTY, the student will be covered under the COUNTY's insurance policies, including Workers' Compensation, to the extent available to other employees.

#### V. INSURANCE

The Institution and COUNTY mutually agree that each shall provide and maintain commercial general liability insurance acceptable to both parties in the minimum amounts of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$3,000,000 general aggregate. Each shall be responsible for providing the other with a Certificate of Insurance evidencing the required coverage prior to execution of this agreement.

The parties shall each further secure and maintain at all times during the term of this Agreement, at their respective sole expense, professional liability insurance covering themselves and their respective employees. Such coverage provided by the Institution and COUNTY may be afforded via commercial insurance, self-insurance, a captive, or some combination thereof at limits of at least \$1,000,000 per claim or occurrence and \$3,000,000 in the aggregate.

The Institution shall maintain or shall cause each student to maintain professional liability, public liability, and property damage insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for any single occurrence and a minimum of \$3,000,000 in the aggregate during the trainee's supervised field experience. The Institution shall furnish proof of such insurance coverage prior to execution of this agreement.

In addition, Institution shall maintain in effect throughout the term of this Agreement a policy or policies of insurance with the following minimum limits of liability:

Business automobile liability insurance, covering all motor vehicles, including owned, leased, non-owned, and hired vehicles, used in providing services under this Agreement, with a combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

The Institution shall provide commercial general liability and automobile liability Endorsement(s) naming the County of Monterey, its officers, agents, and employees as Additional Insureds with respect to liability arising out of the Institution's work, including ongoing and completed operations, and shall further provide that such insurance is primary insurance to any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the

COUNTY and that the insurance of the Additional Insureds shall not be called upon to contribute to a loss covered by the Institution's insurance.

Student Automobile liability insurance, students who drive to/from any clinical work location, must provide proof of valid California driver's license for in-state students or other valid state driver's license for out-of-state students and proof of insurance.

Workers' Compensation Insurance, for Institution's employees in the performance of this Agreement, in accordance with California Labor Code section 3700 and with Employer's Liability limits not less than \$1,000,000 each person, \$1,000,000 each accident and \$1,000,000 each disease.

Except for ten (10) days' notice of non-payment, the Institution and the COUNTY will require thirty (30) days written notice if the policy is canceled, non-renewed, or coverage/limits that are reduced or materially altered.

## VI. INDEMNIFICATION.

- A. The Institution shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County of Monterey (hereinafter "COUNTY"), its officers, agents, employees, or subcontractors from any claim, liability, loss, injury or damage arising out of, or in connection with, performance of this Agreement by Institution and/or its officers, agents, employees, students, or subcontractors, excepting only loss, injury or damage caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the COUNTY and/or its officers, agents, employees and subcontractors. It is the intent of the parties to this Agreement to provide the broadest possible coverage for the COUNTY. The Institution shall reimburse the COUNTY for all costs, attorneys' fees, expenses, and liabilities incurred with respect to any litigation in which the Institution is obligated to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the COUNTY under this Agreement.
- B. The County shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless West Coast University, Inc, (hereinafter "Institution"), its officers, agents, employees, students, or subcontractors from any claim, liability, loss, injury, or damage arising out of, or in connection with, performance of this Agreement by County and/or its officers, agents, employees, or subcontractors, excepting only loss, injury or damage caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the INSTITUTION and/or its officers, agents, employees, students, and subcontractors. It is the intent of the parties to this Agreement to provide the broadest possible coverage for the INSTITUTION. The COUNTY shall reimburse the INSTITUTION for all costs, attorneys' fees, expenses, and liabilities incurred with respect to any litigation in which the County is obligated to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the INSTITUTION under this Agreement.

## VII. TERM AND TERMINATION

A. Term. This Agreement shall be effective as of the date first written above and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2028.

B. Renewal. This Agreement may be renewed by mutual agreement.

C. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by the written agreement or upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice by one party to the other. Such termination shall not take effect, however, with regard to students already enrolled until those students have completed their training for the Institution term during which such termination notice is given.

## VIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. Amendments. In order to ensure compliance with HIPAA, the following provisions of this Agreement shall not be subject to amendment by any means during the term of this Agreement or any extensions: Section I, Paragraph G, subdivisions 4.a), 4.b), and 4.c); Section II, Paragraph G, to the extent it provides that students are members of COUNTY's "workforce" for purposes of HIPAA; Section II, Paragraph E; and Section IV. This Agreement may otherwise be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the parties without additional consideration, provided that before any amendment shall take effect, it shall be reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

B. Assignment. Neither party shall voluntarily or by operation of law, assign or otherwise transfer this Agreement without the other party's prior written consent. Any purported assignment in violation of this paragraph shall be void.

C. Attorney's Fees. In the event that any action is brought by either party to enforce or interpret the terms of this Agreement, each party shall bear its own attorney's fees and costs.

D. Captions. Captions and headings in this Agreement are solely for the convenience of the parties, are not a part of this Agreement, and shall not be used to interpret or determine the validity of this Agreement or any of its provisions.

E. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all such counterparts together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

F. Entire Agreement. This Agreement is the entire agreement between the parties. No other agreements, oral or written, have been entered into with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

G. Governing Law. The validity, interpretation, and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

H. Severability. Wherever possible, each provision of this Agreement will be interpreted in a manner to be effective and valid, but if any provision is held invalid or unenforceable by any body of competent jurisdiction, then such provision will be ineffective only to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability, without invalidating or affecting in any manner the remainder of such provision or the other provisions of this Agreement.

J. FERPA. The COUNTY agrees to maintain the confidentiality of all participating students' academic records pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA"), as amended.

K. Governing Law. The validity, interpretation, and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

L. Waiver. Any failure of a party to enforce that party's right under any provision of this Agreement shall not be construed as an act of waiver of said party's subsequent right to enforce any provisions contained herein.

M. Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement shall not create any rights, including without limitation third-party beneficiary rights, in any person or entity not a party to this Agreement.

L. Notices. Notices required under this Agreement shall be sent to the parties by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, at the addresses set forth below.

West Coast University  
Director Clinical Contracts  
151 Innovation Drive  
Irvine, CA 92617  
949-783-4800

County of Monterey, Department of Health  
Director, Department of  
1270 Natividad  
Salinas, CA 93906  
Phone :831-755- 4500

IX. EXECUTION

By signing below, each of the following represent that they have authority to execute this Agreement and to bind the party on whose behalf their signature is made.

INSTITUTION

DocuSigned by:  
By: Cheryl Rojas  
Name: Cheryl Rojas  
Title: Director Clinical Contracts  
Date: 7/15/2024 | 3:45 PM MDT

COUNTY OF MONTEREY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Director of Health  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

DocuSigned by:  
By: Stacy Satta  
Deputy County Counsel  
Date: 7/22/2024 | 11:31 AM PDT

APPROVED AS TO RISK PROVISIONS:

DocuSigned by:  
By: David Bolton  
Risk Management  
Date: 7/22/2024 | 12:54 PM PDT

## EXHIBIT A

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The County of Monterey Department of Health (MCH) policies/procedures listed below indicate the pertinence to this specific internship. The County of Monterey Department of Health reserves the right to amend the policies/procedures below and add additions as needed.

The following is a list of activities students must complete to become/remains an Intern:

- I. **Pre-Boarding** (After Student is Matched but *Before* Student is Accepted as a MCH Intern)
  - a. Complete Intern Application
  - b. Pass Live Scan
  - c. Provide DMV Printout
  - d. Provide Driver's License
  - e. NPI number (for interns who will provide clinical services)
  
- II. **On-Boarding**
  - a. Health Department Human Resources (HD HR) Orientation – First day of Internship
    - i. Review and sign the following policies
      1. Drug Free Workplace
      2. HIV/AIDS
      3. Asbestos Notification
      4. Vehicle Use\*
      5. Discrimination and Sexual Harassment
      6. Smoke Free
      7. Information Technology Appropriate Use
      8. Protected Information
    - ii. Complete TB Blood Draw
  - b. By end of first week of Internship review and sign the following policies
    - i. Confidentiality\*
    - ii. Compliance

Items followed by an asterisk \* require Interns to take and pass an on-demand course within the first week of their on-boarding.