

Joint Agreement FAQs

What is a Joint Agreement?

Triton College participates in the Comprehensive Agreement Regarding the Expansion of Educational Resources (CAREER), which allows students interested in completing an Associate of Applied Science or certificate program not offered at their home community college to receive in-district tuition at another participating community college with proper documentation and approval.

When do I apply for a Joint Agreement?

Applications for a Joint Agreement must be filed with Triton College at least 30 calendar days prior to the official start of classes at the college the applicant plans to attend. If a student is applying for a selected admission type program, usually in health careers, the student can show an acceptance letter if accepted after the 30 calendar day rule. Joint Agreements are valid for one academic year, usually consisting of Fall, Spring, and Summer sessions depending on the student's Joint Agreement filing date. Joint Agreements must be renewed every Fall if the student wants to continue their program of study for another year.

What is the definition of a *Program of Study*?

A program is a sequence of courses that would lead a student to graduate with a certificate or associate in applied science degree which is publicized in the official catalog of an Illinois public community college and approved by the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois State Board of Education. The student is allowed full and part time attendance. Individual courses, Adult Education, Continuing Education, and non-credit offerings are not considered programs for Joint Agreement approval.

How do I know if my program is offered at Triton College?

If a program is offered by Triton College, a Joint Agreement will not be authorized. Triton College will evaluate the student's desired program and compare the curriculum with our available programs to consider approval for Joint Agreement. Also, if Triton College offers a similar program, a Joint Agreement will not be authorized.

What is the definition of a Triton College resident?

A resident is a person whose permanent residence has been determined to be within the Triton College District; Community College district #504. The student must provide documentation to prove residency. Acceptable forms: Driver's license or State ID. If a student moves from Triton College district while on an approved Joint Agreement, the Joint Agreement will be valid only for the remaining unexpired semesters.

Note: If a student works in the Triton College district 35 hours or more a week, the student may be considered for in-district tuition. An *"In-District Worker"* form must be completely filled out and turned in to the Records Office for consideration.

How about consideration for distance and inconvenience?

Distance and inconvenience are not grounds for approval of a Joint Agreement. Schedule conflicts such as time of day, day of the week, or semester offerings does not merit approval for Joint Agreements.

What happens if Triton College develops a similar program once I have started my Joint Agreement approved program?

If Triton College has authorized a Joint Agreement for the first year of a program in another district, and subsequently Triton College develops a comparable program, the student is not required to transfer back to Triton to complete the program. If a student should withdraw from a program requiring a Joint Agreement and Triton has implemented the same program, a Joint Agreement will not be renewed and the student must attend Triton.

How many Joint Agreement programs may I have at the same time?

A student may only be approved for one Joint Agreement program at any given time.