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KVCC Agreement with Unity Environmental University Allows Community College Students to Earn a Bachelor's in Three Years

FAIRFIELD, Maine — Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) has signed a new transfer agreement with Unity Environmental University that creates one of the fastest pathways in Maine for community college students to earn a bachelor's degree.

Unity Environmental University is the first private college in Maine approved to offer a regionally accredited 90-credit Applied Bachelor of Science degree, rather than the traditional 120-credit bachelor's degree offered by most colleges and universities. Through this new partnership, KVCC becomes the first Maine community college to provide students with a transfer pathway that allows them to complete a bachelor's degree in just one additional year after earning their associate degree.

Under the agreement, students graduating from KVCC's Accounting, Business Administration, Culinary Arts, Mental Health, and Psychology programs can transfer directly into select bachelor's degree programs at Unity Environmental University. Students will transfer 60 credits earned at KVCC and complete an additional 30 credits to earn their bachelor's degree.

The agreement offers students a cost-effective and time-saving option to continue their education while entering the workforce sooner with an advanced credential. Eligible Unity programs include Sustainable Business Management, Psychology and Human Services, Culinary Innovation and Food Systems, and Entrepreneurship.

"This partnership creates an exciting new opportunity for our students to continue their education," said KVCC President Karen Normandin. "Students can begin their academic journey at KVCC, benefit from our strong support systems and affordable tuition, and then seamlessly continue on to earn a bachelor's degree in significantly less time."

Dr. Jennifer Cartier, Executive Vice President of Educational Solutions at Unity Environmental University, said the new model maintains the rigor of a traditional bachelor's degree while creating a more efficient pathway for students.

“Our students reach upper-level coursework sooner and graduate with both subject expertise and practical skills employers value most,” Cartier said.

For more information about earning a bachelor’s degree in three years, contact KVCC Admissions at (207) 453-5822 or KVCCadmissions@maineccc.edu.

Kennebec Valley Community College offers more than 30 associate degree and certificate programs, along with workforce training opportunities for career advancement. Known for its small class sizes and strong student support, KVCC provides the lowest tuition in New England and offers eligible recent high school graduates the opportunity to attend college tuition-free through Maine Free College.

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