

Memorandum of Understanding
Articulation Agreement for Early Acceptance between
National Park Community College, Respiratory Care Program
and
The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Health Professions,
Department of Respiratory and Surgical Technologies

Statement of Purpose

This memorandum establishes an agreement whereby National Park Community College (NPCC) graduates who complete the A.A.S. degree in Respiratory Therapy may transfer coursework to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and be admitted to the UAMS College of Health Professions (CHP) for completion of the B.S. degree in Cardio-Respiratory Care.

Overview

National Park Community College prepares students to graduate with the A.A.S. degree in Respiratory Therapy. NPCC students who desire to matriculate to the UAMS CHP and who meet the admission requirements are eligible for early acceptance to the Cardio-Respiratory Care RRT – BS clinical track program, immediately after graduation. NPCC graduates who enter the program will complete up to 36 semester credits (SC) of professional coursework and clinical practice. Students will receive up to 38 SC of ungraded upper-level credit for obtaining the RRT credential. Upon successful completion of the RRT credential, all core curriculum coursework and the CHP professional coursework, UAMS will award a B.S. degree in Cardio-Respiratory Care.

Admission Requirements

To be eligible for early acceptance to the UAMS Cardio-Respiratory Care program, students must:

1. Be a NPCC student enrolled in good standing in the NPCC Respiratory Therapy program.
2. Submit a signed, non-binding Letter of Intent for Early Acceptance by November 1st of final academic year of the students NPCC program.
3. Submit a personalized degree plan (developed with an UAMS advisor).
4. Complete all CHP application procedures by March 15th prior to graduation from NPCC.

5. Have a minimum cumulative NPCC program G.P.A. of 3.00. (Students with a cumulative GPA below 3.00 may be considered for admission to the program as openings are available.)
6. Complete all CHP Cardio-Respiratory Care prerequisite courses for admission as a full-time student; or complete the required prerequisite courses for admission as a part-time student (all other prerequisite coursework will be completed as co-requisite courses).
7. Provide a letter of support from the NPCC Program Director or Director of Clinical Education.

For students transferring to UAMS under this agreement the following conditions apply:

1. Transfer students will receive academic credit for only transferable college level courses completed with a grade of "C" or better. Remedial and developmental courses will not be accepted in transfer.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 29 SC through CHP.
3. Eligible NPCC students who have completed all prerequisite coursework for the B.S. degree in Cardio-Respiratory Care at CHP may be admitted to the program as a full-time student in the summer semester.
4. Eligible NPCC students who have remaining prerequisite coursework to complete may be admitted to the program as a part-time student in the fall semester. In this case, it is strongly recommended that all pre-requisite coursework be completed by the beginning of the subsequent fall semester.
5. All NPCC students who are admitted to the CHP respiratory care program must earn the RRT credential within 6 months of graduation from NPCC in order to register for the spring semester following admission to UAMS. Students who do not achieve the RRT credential within 6 months are encouraged to re-apply to UAMS after obtaining the RRT credential.
6. Admission to the UAMS program may be contingent upon positions available, which may be limited by availability of clinical resources.
7. When early admission positions are limited, preference will be given to applicants based on total admission score.

Institutional Responsibilities

To assure the academic success of participating students, and to maintain and improve the transfer program, NPCC and UAMS each agree to:

- Appoint a liaison to monitor and coordinate affiliation activities, communicate with the partner institution, advise prospective students, evaluate and maintain the affiliation activities.
- Meet annually to update program and admission information to be used the subsequent academic year.
- Collaborate to ensure required NPCC core curriculum courses are freely transferable from NPCC to CHP.
- List the transfer option on the institution's website and in the appropriate publications.
- Exchange regularly updated copies of the general catalogs and any other publications which may be helpful in advising students.
- Provide timely information about significant changes in the program of study that relate to the preparation of participating students, and any other information that NPCC and UAMS believe helpful to monitor and assure students' academic success.
- Arrange advising conferences each semester for current and prospective program students.
- Arrange access to an interactive video network for advising and faculty conferences.

NPCC will:

- Provide early admission / transfer information to all respiratory care students.
- Identify students interested in the program as soon as possible and provide a list of those students to UAMS at the beginning of each academic year.
- Provide unofficial transcripts for advising at the student's request.

College of Health Professions will:

- Develop a "Transfer Guide" utilizing NPCC course numbers for all courses that meet prerequisite course requirements for the B.S. degree in Cardio-Respiratory Care.
- Develop an individual degree plan for each student who submits a Letter of Intent to Transfer.
- Provide assistance with financial aid planning.
- Offer to students who have a signed Letter of Intent various opportunities for shared social and learning experiences, professional development, inter-professional education and service-learning. This may include continuing education programs, exposure to patient care in neonatal / pediatrics, outpatient clinic, tobacco cessation, patient- and family-centered care, interventional pulmonology and experiences in the UAMS Clinical Simulation Center, among others.

- Provide an on-campus orientation for transferring students.
- Arrange individually-tailored clinical internships in a student's preferred area of specialty, as available.

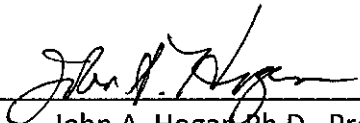
Continuation, Modification and Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to change or modification by mutual written consent between the parties hereto. It is understood and agreed that the agreement shall be reviewed on an annual basis or any time program changes are to be made by either institution. Any program changes will be identified and incorporated into subsequent agreements. The NPCC President and the CHP Dean, or their designees, must approve amendments to this agreement. This Memorandum of Understanding will continue until such time as written termination is requested and all students currently enrolled in the program have matriculated.

This agreement shall be in effect beginning October 1, 2014.

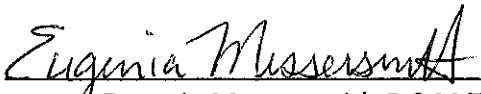
Signatures

National Park Community College:



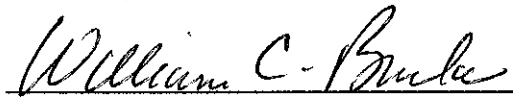
 John A. Hogan Ph.D., President

12/12/14
 Date



 Eugenia Messersmith B.S.M.T., M.Ed.
 Interim Chair, Division of Health Sciences

12/5/14
 Date



 William C. Burke Ph.D., RRT
 Program Director, Respiratory Therapy

12/5/14
 Date

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences:



 Suzanne Leslie
 Director of Contract Services

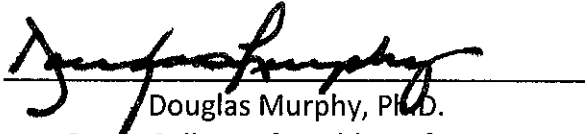
2-3-15
 Date

Board of Trustees of the Univ. of Arkansas acting for and
on behalf of the Univ. of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



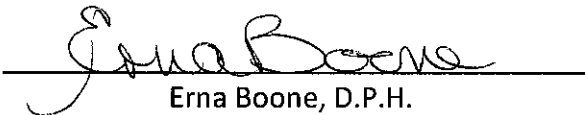
William R. Bowes
Vice Chancellor for Finance / CFO

2-9-15
Date



Douglas Murphy, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Health Professions

01/28/15
Date



Erna Boone, D.P.H.
Program Director, Respiratory Care

1/28/15
Date