

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY

AND

SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania ("Bloomsburg") and Sussex County Community College ("Sussex"), have entered into this Articulation Agreement ("Agreement") for the transfer of credits to benefit those students who wish to pursue a Baccalaureate degree at Bloomsburg subject to the following:

WHEREAS, Sussex is an accredited County Community College with a primary address located at: One College Hill Road Newton, NJ 07860.

Whereas, Sussex operates a program called the Honors Program ("HP") for students that have taken at least four honors classes prior to earning an associate's degree.

WHEREAS, Bloomsburg and Sussex enter into this Agreement specifically to facilitate the transfer of up to five (5) HP students into a baccalaureate program at Bloomsburg University with a guarantee to enter Bloomsburg's Honors Program and fulfillment of the five basic courses at Bloomsburg University that will allow students to move directly to Bloomsburg's capstone experience.

WHEREAS, Admission is guaranteed to Bloomsburg University but not into a specific major or degree program.

WHEREAS, nothing contained within this Agreement shall apply to the following majors; *Nursing, Speech Pathology and Audiology, Medical Imaging and American Sign Language (ASL)*.

I. ACADEMICS AND ADMISSION

Obligations of Bloomsburg University:

1. Subject to the conditions above, Bloomsburg will grant successful Honors Program transfers the status as Juniors (5th semester student).
2. Qualified HP students who have successfully completed at least two semesters in the honors program at Sussex, who have earned an Associate's degree with at least a 3.50 GPA, and who are admitted to Bloomsburg University, will be granted junior (5th semester) status.
3. Complete a course-by-course articulation for all Sussex general education courses, in addition to electives that round out an applicant's HP at Sussex.
4. Provide access to, an admissions counselor from Bloomsburg that will review and recommend curricular choices that will maximize the transferable credits to Bloomsburg. Any meetings conducted under this paragraph shall not be considered academic advising services by Bloomsburg.
5. Admission applications will be due April 1 for fall semester, with a deposit deadline of May 1. Admission applications will be due December 1 for spring semester, with a deposit deadline of December 15.
6. Waive the application fee for students who apply pursuant to the Agreement.
7. Admit a maximum cohort of qualified HP students (target=5) each year, assuming interest and qualified applicants. The actual number may vary from year to year depending on available space.

8. Qualified HP students will be admitted under the Agreement for the semester beginning Fall 2021.
9. Conduct a special orientation session for students admitted under this Agreement, as well as similar Agreements with other entities, in order to form a cohort with honors transfers from other community colleges. This cohort will be guided by a faculty or staff mentor during the first transitional semester at Bloomsburg.

Obligations of Sussex County Community College:

1. To ensure the procedures set forth in this Agreement are advertised and understood by potential HP students.
2. Continue the transition of academic rigor and excellence for which their HP is known.
3. Dedicate an advisor to work with the honors students while at Sussex and in preparation to transfer.
4. Facilitate Bloomsburg staff visits to campus, and to publicize this to prospective students.
5. Organize at least one trip to Bloomsburg for HP students during the spring semester of the first year.

Joint Obligations:

1. Continue to develop and implement advertising and promotional efforts to communicate the benefits of the Agreement, including posting information regarding this Agreement on each institution's website.
2. Designate a representative or representatives who will coordinate the Agreement between the two institutions.
3. Collaborate in providing students with information and academic advising about this Agreement, academic requirements, and the process of transferring.
4. Work together to coordinate the application process and the tracking of students in the cohort year over year.
5. Exchange data and documents that will contribute to the maintenance and improvement of this Agreement, enhance the transfer process, and promote effective cooperation between institutions. These will consist of data about individual transfer students, including admissions information and grades. The institutions will exchange data only after obtaining appropriate permission from the students.
6. Consult with each other through appropriate channels prior to implementing major changes in policy or curricula that directly affect students transferring under the terms of this Agreement, and keep each other informed of any other changes of policy or curricula that affect those students.
7. Facilitate and support consultation and collaboration between the institutions as it relates to this Agreement, degree requirements and other academic matters.

Revision, Renewal and Termination of this Agreement

1. The term of this agreement shall be five years commencing when all applicable signatures are obtained.
2. Either institution may withdraw from the Agreement upon written notification of the other, except that commitments already in effect for students who have applied to Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania will be honored. In the event of a substantial breach, such as, a lack of response to requests for information or a lack of adequate participation, either party may terminate this agreement.
3. The relationship of the parties to this contract shall not be construed to constitute a partnership, joint venture, or any other relationship, other than that of independent contractors.

4. Neither of the parties shall assume any liabilities as a result of this agreement. As to liability to each other or death to persons, or damages to property, the parties do not waive any defense as a result of entering into this contract. This provision shall not be construed to limit the Commonwealth's rights, claims, or defenses which arise as a matter of law pursuant to any provisions of this contract. This provision shall not be construed to limit the sovereign immunity of the Commonwealth or of the State System of Higher Education or the University.
5. This agreement represents the entire understanding between the parties. This agreement can be modified only in writing with the same formality as the original agreement.

The undersigned representatives of the parties, Sussex County Community College and Bloomsburg University have executed this Agreement on the dates indicated:

For Sussex County Community College:

Jan P. Conolly 1/28/20
President Date

[Signature] 1/24/2020
Provost/VP Academic Affairs Date

For Bloomsburg University:

[Signature] 2.20.2020
President Date

[Signature] 2/17/20
Provost and Senior VP
for Academic Affairs Date

[Signature] 2/28/20
PASSHE Legal Counsel Date

EFFECTIVE DATE
FEB 28 2020
OF CONTRACT