



Memorandum of Understanding

Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium

Arkansas State University – Newport
Black River Technical College
Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas
Ozarka College
University of Arkansas Rich Mountain
South Arkansas Community College
University of Arkansas Hope/Texarkana
University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton

This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes an agreement among the member institutions of the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium. The purpose of the consortium is to implement, maintain and evaluate a high quality LPN/LVN to RN transition program offering an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and the Arkansas State Coordinating Board of Higher Education. This Memorandum of Understanding will cover the three-year period from January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2019 of the LPN/LVN to RN program.

Objective of Agreement: The member colleges of the consortium – Arkansas State University – Newport, Black River Technical College, Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, Ozarka College, University of Arkansas Rich Mountain, South Arkansas Community College, the University of Arkansas Hope/Texarkana, and the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton – have partnered to provide an associate degree nursing program to their students. This Memorandum of Understanding is a continuation of the original agreement that began in January 2005. The consortium has obtained approval from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to offer a Registered Nursing program offering accessibility in a non-traditional delivery format to working LPNs/LVNs.

Governance: Each of the member colleges will have equal representation and an equal voice in the administrative decisions to be made by the consortium. The chief executive officer of each institution shall designate the chief academic officer, or other designee of her/his choosing to represent the institution in matters pertaining to the consortium. This group will serve as the Governing Board of ARNEC.

As curriculum is developed under the guidance of the Program Director, the chairs of the nursing departments of the member institutions will constitute the Curriculum and Program Committees (CPC) for development and recommendation of policies and procedures to assure the quality of the program. Further, the CPC committee will assess and evaluate the program at the end of each graduating class

period in cooperation with the staff of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. Recommendations of the CPC will be made to the Governing Board by a majority of votes of those present at a regularly scheduled meeting by the Program Director.

Financial Responsibilities: Each institution shall be responsible for providing the facilities, distance learning labs, materials and supplies, faculty and staff and other resources to support the degree program on its individual campus. An annual budget will be developed for the consortium by the Governing Board, which shall be approved by the majority of the Chief Executive Officers of the member institutions. Expenditures incurred for the program shall be based on an equivalent per student cost, proportionate to the number of students enrolled at the member institution.

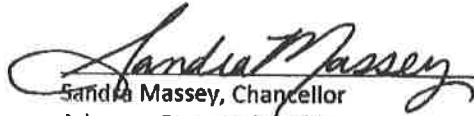
Instruction and Selection: The instructional component of the program will be approved by the Governing Board upon the recommendation of the Program Director. Each institution shall assume an equivalent share, based on the number of students enrolled in the member institution, for the expenses incurred by the consortium for the instructional component of the program. Each institution shall be responsible for providing the clinical instructors needed to support the program on the local campus. Classes will be taught using a team approach and facilitated by interactive video and online testing.

Each institution shall be allocated a specified number of student spaces in the program, as determined by the Governing Board and approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. Each institution shall abide by the selection policy established by the Governing Board.

Tuition and Fees: Each institution shall charge students tuition and fees based on its own institutional tuition and fee structure. Each institution shall also receive credit for the SSCH (student semester credit hours) and FTEs (full time equivalents) generated by its students enrolled in the program, and award the Associate of Applied Science Degree for its students.

Length of Agreement: This agreement is entered into by the member institutions and is subject to review by all members of the Consortium desiring to continue as a Consortium member. The agreement will automatically renew annually within the three year period in which it is in effect, unless revision is deemed necessary by a majority vote of Consortium members. Any institution may withdraw from the Consortium with written notification of intent between April 1, and July 1, of each calendar year to the Program Director, Presidents and Chancellors and Governing Board Representatives of the Consortium member institutions. This notification of intent will enable reorganization by the remaining Consortium members.

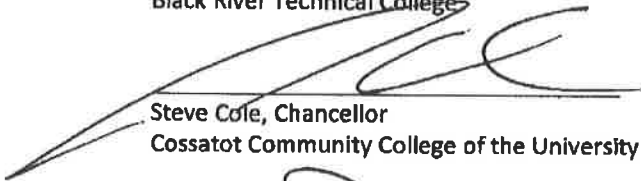
This agreement is entered into on January 1, 2017 and continues through December 31, 2019.


Sandra Massey, Chancellor
Arkansas State University – Newport


10-10-16
Date


Wayne Hatcher, President
Black River Technical College

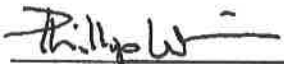
October 10, 2016
Date


Steve Cole, Chancellor
Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas

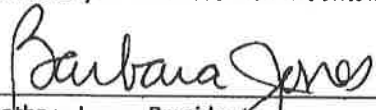
10/10/16
Date


Richard Dawe, President
Ozarka College


10-10-16
Date


Phillip Wilson, President
University of Arkansas Rich Mountain


10-10-16
Date


Barbara Jones, President
South Arkansas Community College

10/10/16
Date


Chris Thomason, Chancellor
University of Arkansas of Hope/Texarkana

10/10/2016
Date


Larry Davis, Chancellor
University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton

10/13/2016
Date