

Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program
ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
Loras College
AND
St. Ambrose University

This articulation agreement outlines the understanding established between Loras College and St. Ambrose University for a Loras College undergraduate student to transition to St. Ambrose University to pursue the University's Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program. The agreement details the requirements for students to be considered for admission to the OTD program and the understanding between Loras College and St. Ambrose University for the reverse transfer of credits that will count toward the student's requirements for the bachelor's degree (at Loras College) and the requirements for the OTD degree (at St. Ambrose).

A. Intent

1. Loras College has developed an articulation agreement with St. Ambrose University to establish the responsibilities of each institution and the corresponding admission criteria, to allow students to pursue their OTD degree through the ACOTE accredited occupational therapy program at St. Ambrose University. The pathways include options for (1) high school students who plan to attend Loras College for their bachelor's degree, (2) first-year Loras College students, and (3) Loras College juniors, seniors, graduate students or alumni. These pathways include a traditional 4+3 option and an accelerated 3+3 option available for students who meet specified criteria. Students who successfully complete all requirements will be awarded a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) from Loras College and a doctor of occupational therapy degree (OTD) from St. Ambrose University.

B. Articulation Agreement

1. Admissions Pathways:
 1. High school students accepted at Loras College intending to pursue a doctoral degree in OT will receive automatic, conditional admission if they meet the high school requirements listed on the St. Ambrose OTD website and satisfactorily maintain the college requirements also listed on the website. High school students seeking automatic, conditional admission must complete the automatic, conditional admission request form by March 1 of their senior year in high school.
 2. First-year Loras College students intending to pursue a doctoral degree in OT receive automatic, conditional admission if they meet the first-year college requirements and satisfactorily maintain the college requirements listed on the St. Ambrose OTD website. First-year Loras College students seeking automatic, conditional admission must complete the automatic, conditional admission request form by June 1 following their first year.

3. Loras College students or alumni, who elect to apply through the general admission pathway as college juniors, seniors, or graduate students, will apply for admission to the OTD program through the Occupational Therapist Centralized Application Service (OTCAS) by September 15 for an early decision or by December 1 to be considered in the general application pool.
2. 3+3 Option: Loras College students who have completed a minimum of 90 credits and are on track to satisfactorily complete all required courses toward the bachelor's degree, have met the admission requirements for the OTD program, and have been admitted to the OTD program will be eligible for an accelerated 3+3 program that awards the bachelor's degree from Loras College in the student's 4th year and the OTD degree from St. Ambrose University in the student's 6th year.
 - i. Students who have successfully completed the required first-year OTD coursework at the conclusion of the 4th year of study will request that an official St. Ambrose University transcript be sent to Loras College.
 - ii. Loras College will award the bachelor's degree to students who have completed all requirements of the bachelor's degree typically at the conclusion of the student's 4th year.
 - iii. After the bachelor's degree has been conferred, students will request that an official transcript from Loras College be sent to St. Ambrose University so the student can officially be designated a graduate student.
 - iv. Students who successfully complete all requirements for the OTD program by the conclusion of May of the 6th year will be awarded the OTD degree by St. Ambrose University.
 - v. Students participating in this agreement will pay tuition and fees to Loras College while enrolled at Loras College for the first three years of this agreement and will pay tuition and fees to St. Ambrose University for the 3 years enrolled at St. Ambrose University. Institutional aid from Loras College does not carry forward to St. Ambrose University and students will pay the published, one-price plan tuition beginning with their first year in the OTD program at St. Ambrose.

3. Communication will occur on a regular and ongoing basis between designated liaisons at Loras College and St. Ambrose University regarding the progress of conditionally admitted students and students pursuing the 3+3 program.

C. Responsibilities of Loras College

1. Loras College will be responsible for identifying and communicating the three admission pathways to students to determine which best fits the student's situation and circumstances.

2. Loras College will be responsible for identifying and communicating with students in appropriate majors that allow students to complete an accelerated pathway to the OTD degree.
3. For students in a 3+3 admission pathway, Loras College will advise the student while they are enrolled at Loras College on the completion of the necessary courses for general education, the major of choice, the necessary pre-requisites, and a minimum of 90 credits.
4. Loras College will make eligible students aware of the 3+3 program.
5. For students in a 3+3 admission pathway, Loras College will accept the first-year of St. Ambrose OTD program credits toward the completion of the undergraduate degree via reverse transfer in accordance with the Loras College's institutional credit transfer policies.
6. For students in a 3+3 admission pathway, Loras College will confer the bachelor's degree for students who have completed a minimum of 90 undergraduate credits, the general education requirements, and requirements of the undergraduate major upon the receipt of the transfer of a minimum of 30 credits of coursework completed at St. Ambrose University.

D. Responsibilities of St. Ambrose University

1. St. Ambrose University will interview all qualified Loras College students as a part of the application process.
2. One or more designated St. Ambrose University employees will advise any Loras College student on an early conditional admission pathway (i.e., serving in the capacity of a secondary advisor) prior to the start of the OTD Program.
3. One or more designated St. Ambrose University employees will advise any Loras College student as a primary advisor after starting the OTD Program coursework.
4. St. Ambrose University will send each student's official transcript, upon the request of the student, to Loras College after completion of the student's first year of courses at St. Ambrose University.
5. St. Ambrose University will share marketing materials and promotional information with Loras College to promote the OTD program to prospective students.
6. St. Ambrose University will confer the OTD degree upon completion of all OTD degree requirements.

E. Responsibilities of the Student

1. The student will select the most appropriate admission pathway and complete the necessary paperwork by the applicable deadlines for the automatic, conditional admission high school senior; automatic, conditional admission first year Loras College student; or General Admission pathway.
2. The student will declare the necessary major at Loras College to be eligible for the 3+3 program or 4+3 program.
3. Once the student has been accepted to the graduate program at St. Ambrose University, they should complete the FAFSA for the following year and each year

thereafter. FAFSAs should be submitted to St. Ambrose University prior to March 1 or as soon as possible after the student has been accepted.

4. Students pursuing the 3+3 program will complete at least 90 undergraduate credits including general education requirements, baccalaureate major required courses, and necessary pre-requisites in order to meet eligibility requirements for the 3+3 program.
5. If in a 3+3 program,
 - a. the student will complete the first year of St. Ambrose OTD Program required courses, and request that an official transcript be sent to Loras College upon completion of the fourth year.
 - b. prior to beginning the second year of study in the St. Ambrose University OTD Program, the student will complete the FAFSA as a graduate student at St. Ambrose University.
 - c. the student must complete their baccalaureate degree prior to beginning the second year in the OTD Program.
 - d. after the bachelor's degree is conferred, the student will request that the official transcript from Loras College be sent to St. Ambrose University to verify the student is eligible for graduate coursework.

F. Admission Criteria

- a. To be eligible for admission to the St. Ambrose OTD program on any of the pathways, students must meet the admissions criteria posted on the St. Ambrose University Occupational Therapy Department website and the OTCAS website.

G. Terms and Terminations

- a. This agreement will take effect upon review and approval with signatures from both institutions. The agreement will remain in effect for three years, after which the agreement will be reviewed for accuracy and may be renewed or amended. Should either party decide to terminate the agreement, 12 months prior notice is required to the other institution, provided in writing.

H. Mutual Indemnification

- a. Each party shall indemnify and hold harmless the other party and its officers, employees, directors, and/or agents from and against all suits, actions, claims, or liability of any character, type, or description brought by third part including, but not limited to, all expenses of litigation, court costs, penalties, and whatsoever and of any kind or nature directly resulting or arising from any breach of party and/or its agents of any provisions of this Agreement, or and negligent or willful act or omission of a party and/or its agents.

I. Relationships

- a. The parties are acting herein as independent contractors. Nothing herein contained shall create or be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture or agency relationship between either of the parties and no party shall have the authority to bind to the other in any respect.

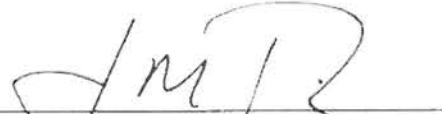
J. Entire Agreement

a. The Agreement shall constitute the complete and exclusive written expression of the intentions of the parties hereto and shall supersede all previous communications, representations, Agreements, promises or statements, either oral or written, by and between either party.



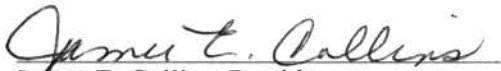
Dr. Donna Heald, Provost and Academic
Dean
Loras College

10-2-23
Date



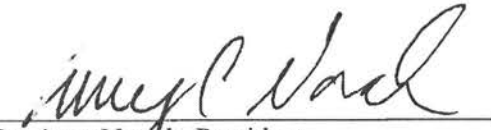
Dr. Joseph Roidt, Provost and Vice
President for Academic Affairs
St. Ambrose University

09-27-23
Date



James E. Collins, President
Loras College

10-2-2023
Date



Dr. Amy Nozak, President
St. Ambrose University

9-27-23
Date