



3+3 ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY AND NORTHWESTERN HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

Created upon a mutual regard for the integrity of parallel academic programs and in an effort to better serve students preparing to pursue a career in chiropractic, Black Hills State University and Northwestern Health Sciences University (NWSU) enter into an agreement for an articulated program. This agreement will define preparatory course work to be completed at Black Hills State University for students intending to matriculate into NWSU; this agreement will articulate the special terms for admission into NWSU to earn a Doctor of Chiropractic, and the distinctive criteria for the awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree to participating students from Black Hills State University.

OBJECTIVES OF THE AGREEMENT

1. The purpose of this Agreement is to foster a spirit of cooperation between these two educational institutions and thereby provide Black Hills State University students with an opportunity to earn degrees from both institutions.
2. It is agreed and understood that each institution has the right and responsibility to make changes to its curricula and enrollment standards to maintain its academic integrity and meet accreditation standards. Such changes, if any, will be communicated to the other institution as they occur through the office of each institution responsible for implementing this dual degree program.
3. At the request of either institution a meeting or conference will be held to resolve any problems, monitor the progress, and develop any improvements in this dual degree program.
4. Neither institution will discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, physical or mental disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, status as a U.S. military veteran per federal guidelines 41 C.F.R. 60-300.5(a) and 41 C.F.R. 60-741.5(a.), parental status, and pregnancy in the selection and participation of students in the dual degree program. With respect to a disability, a qualified student with a disability is an individual who (with or without reasonable accommodations-academic adjustments) meets the legitimate standards and criteria that are rationally related to the stated goals or purposes of each institution's educational program.

5. Beginning with the first semester of the 2019/2020 Black Hills State University academic year, a dual degree program leading to a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from Black Hills State University and a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from NWSU will be available to qualified students. This dual degree program will require approximately three years of attendance at Black Hills State University followed by a minimum of three and one third consecutive years at NWSU. Students must complete and meet all NWSU graduation requirements in order to graduate with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree.
6. Students who express an interest in the dual degree program must meet all the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science with the exception of courses and credits to be transferred from NWSU to Black Hills State University and receive Black Hills State University credit for 90 semester hours in courses which meet the prerequisite requirements for the Doctor of Chiropractic degree at NWSU.
7. Black Hills State University students will be accepted for admission to NWSU under this dual degree program upon:
 1. Meeting the prerequisite requirements for admission to NWSU.
 2. Attaining a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average in Black Hills State University coursework.
 3. Receiving a positive recommendation from the program director of the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science at Black Hills State University and/or the pre-health coordinator at Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science.
 4. Timely submission of all application materials to NWSU.
8. Upon successful completion of the first year of studies at NWSU, a maximum of 30 NWSU credit hours may be transferred toward completion of the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science. It is the student's responsibility to apply for graduation with the Registrar's Office at Black Hills State University and to have an official transcript sent from NWSU to the transfer coordinator in the Black Hills State University Admissions Office.
9. Students who successfully complete the dual degree program will be eligible to participate in appropriate commencement ceremonies (i.e. Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science and Doctor of Chiropractic at NWSU) at the time each degree is conferred.
10. Recruitment of students for this program will be the responsibility of Black Hills State University with the cooperation of NWSU.
11. Under the terms of this Agreement, neither institution is obligated to make any payments of any kind to the other institution.
12. This Agreement will, in no way, be interpreted as creating an agency or employment relationship between the institutions, or as giving rise to a joint venture or partnership between the institutions.
13. This Agreement is intended to solely benefit the institutions, and is not intended to create rights in any third party. Students participating in the program, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, will not be considered third party beneficiaries of the Agreement.

14. This Agreement may be terminated by either institution by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the other institution at the address hereinafter set forth. If the Agreement is terminated, Black Hills State University students who have earned more than 90 credits applicable to the dual degree program and students already enrolled in NWSU's Doctor of Chiropractic program will be allowed to complete their programs.

MUTUAL PROMOTION OF THE PROGRAM

Black Hills State University and Northwestern Health Sciences University both agree to encourage qualified students to participate in this joint degree program through advisement and dissemination of information. The pre-health coordinator at Black Hills State University will make every effort to maintain a list of students actively pursuing the program with the intent to enroll at NWSU and will periodically inform the Admissions Office at NWSU of the current list. Care will be taken to make students aware that some state boards of chiropractic require completed baccalaureate degrees PRIOR TO CHIROPRACTIC STUDY, and to advise students planning to practice in those states accordingly.

Both Institutions agree to develop an annual communication calendar and promote the "3+3" program in their recruitment activities and literature and to refer prospective students, when appropriate, to the other's admission office.

STUDENT ADVISEMENT

An appropriate faculty member at Black Hills State University shall be assigned and be responsible to advise students regarding their academic preparation for admission to Northwestern Health Sciences University and for their ultimate goal of chiropractic licensure. This advisement shall include attention to special requirements for licensure in some states, such as completion of the baccalaureate degree prior to matriculation in a chiropractic college. In addition, NWSU will provide advisement during the enrollment process and throughout the program to ensure students have a clear understanding of the sequence of courses and graduation requirements for their program.



APPROVALS

Black Hills State University

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by 

Dr. Chris Crawford

title Provost

date 2/18/2019

by 

Dr. Laurie Nichols

title President

date 7-16-2019

Northwestern Health Sciences University

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by 

Dr. Deborah Bushway, Ph.D.

title President and Chief Executive Officer

date 7/24/19