

HONORS PARTNERSHIP MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DREW UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Drew University, College of Liberal Arts (Drew) and Westchester Community College (WCC) enter into this collaborative relationship specifically to facilitate the transfer of honors program students into a baccalaureate program at Drew.

This collaborative Agreement will enable honors program students with an Associate's degree from WCC to complete a Bachelor's degree at Drew. For the purposes of this Agreement, an "honors program student" is a WCC student who has taken at least four honors classes prior to earning an Associate's degree. To be eligible to participate in this Agreement, WCC honors program students should apply to Drew at the beginning of the semester in which their Associate's degree will be completed. Subsequently, students must graduate from WCC with an Associate's degree, and a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.50.

I. ACADEMICS AND ADMISSION

Obligations of Drew University:

1. Qualified students who have successfully completed at least two semesters in the honors program at WCC, who have earned an Associate's degree with at least a 3.50 GPA, and who are admitted to Drew will be granted junior (5th semester) status.
2. Transfer courses will be evaluated as outlined in Drew's Transfer Credit Policy for Students with an Associates of Arts or Associates of Science Degree (see Appendix I for policy approved for AY 2020-21 catalog).
3. Beginning in a student's first semester in the honors program at WCC, an admission counselor from Drew will visit WCC to meet with interested students in a group and individually along with WCC staff in order to review curricular choices that will maximize the transferable credits to Drew. These meetings will assure that interested students pursue courses that will transfer to Drew.
4. Interested students from the honors program at WCC will visit the Drew campus as a group, will attend classes of interest and will meet with Drew faculty and staff to discuss their academic interests and their progress toward transfer. Transportation will be financed by Drew upon WCC request.
5. Beginning in the second year, qualified students who have completed two honors courses at WCC may take a course at Drew at no charge in the fall semester and, upon application to transfer, may take a second course in the spring or summer semester at no charge.
6. Admission applications will be due by February 1st of the student's last semester at WCC and candidates will be notified of admission, financial aid and scholarship decisions by April 1st. Candidates must notify Drew of their intention to accept or decline the offer by May 1st. (For students receiving their Associate's degree in December, applications will be due by October 1st and candidates will be notified of admission, financial aid and scholarship decisions by December 1st. Candidates must notify Drew of their intention to accept or decline the offer by January 1st.) The application fee for students who apply pursuant to this Agreement will be waived.
7. Admissions requirement include (1) a completed Common Transfer Application, (2) a copy of the student's high school diploma, (3) Official WCC Transcripts, and (4) a letter of recommendation from the WCC Honors director.

8. A cohort of qualified students (target=5) will be admitted to Drew each year, assuming interest and qualified applicants. The actual number may vary from year to year depending on available space.
9. Qualified students will be admitted under this Agreement for the semester beginning Fall 2021.
10. Drew will conduct a special orientation session for new transfer students. It will also arrange for WCC students admitted under this Agreement to form a cohort with honors transfers from other community colleges. Dependent of student interest, this cohort will be guided by a relevant faculty or staff mentor during the first transitional semester at Drew.
11. For the first year of this Agreement, current sophomores will be eligible to take a course at no charge at Drew upon application for admission for Fall 2021.

Obligations of Westchester Community College:

1. To continue the tradition of academic rigor and excellence for which their honors program is known.
2. To dedicate an advisor to work with the honors students while at WCC and in preparation for transfer.
3. To facilitate Drew staff visits to campus and to publicize this to prospective students.
4. To facilitate a trip to Drew once a year.

Joint Obligations:

1. Agree to develop and implement advertising and promotional efforts to communicate the benefits of this Agreement, including posting information of 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.
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. Keep each other informed of major changes in policy or curricula that directly affect students transferring under the terms of this Agreement.
7. Facilitate and support consultation and collaboration between the institutions as it relates to this Agreement, degree requirements, and other academic matters.

II. FINANCIAL AID

Obligations of Drew University:

1. Each admitted honors student with a GPA of 3.75 or higher will receive a Transfer Presidential Scholarship¹ annually from Drew. Each admitted honors student with a GPA of

¹ For the 2019-20 academic year, the Transfer Presidential Scholarship was \$20,000 and the Transfer Dean's Scholarship was \$15,000.

- 3.50 or higher will receive a Transfer Dean's Scholarship.
2. Each admitted WCC honors student will receive an additional \$3,000 grant from Drew annually.
 3. Students who are members of Phi Theta Kappa will receive an additional \$2,500 scholarship per year.
 4. All students admitted under this agreement, including those awarded the academic scholarships above, will be eligible to receive need-based grants, loans and work-study to meet their demonstrated financial need according to Drew's analysis of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, minus an expected student summer earnings contribution. Academic scholarship recipients who also demonstrate financial need according to the college's aid policies will hold the scholarship as a part of their need-based financial aid package.
 5. Each honors student admitted under this agreement who qualifies for academic and/or need-based aid will be eligible to receive up to four semesters of financial aid and scholarships for full-time study.

III. REVISION, RENEWAL AND TERMINATION OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Drew University and Westchester Community College are responsible for identifying and communicating to each other any change in the policies or requirements of their respective institutions that affect this Agreement.

This Agreement will be in effect as of the date of its signing. The initial term of this agreement shall be four years from the date of the signature, with three (3) automatic renewals of two years each. The appropriate individuals at each institution will review it upon request. Either institution may terminate this Agreement at any time by written notice at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination. Should this Agreement be terminated, it is understood that all honors students who have been accepted to Drew, as a part of this Agreement, will be provided all of the obligations as stated.

The willingness of both institutions to enter into this Agreement in order to facilitate the transfer of honors students from Westchester Community College into Drew University, and to expand their opportunities for academic success there, is indicated by the following signatures.

The undersigned representatives of the parties, Westchester Community College and Drew University, have executed this Agreement on the dates indicated:

For Westchester Community College:

For Drew University:



President

7-14-21

Date



President

6/24/2021

Date



Vice President,
Academic Affairs

7/7/2021

Date



Vice President,
Academic Affairs

6/24/2021

Date

Transfer Policy for Students with an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree

If a transfer student has completed the Associate Degree, they will be granted junior status (64 credits, including a minimum of 8 intermediate- and 4 upper-level credits²) upon transfer to Drew.

If a student has completed the Associate Degree, they must complete the following general education requirements:

- 64 credits of which at least 48 must be earned at Drew University.
 - If a student has completed more than 64 transferable credits up to 80 transfer credits could be awarded
- 52 intermediate and upper level credits, of which at least 28 must be at the upper level. (If a student has completed more than 12 transferable intermediate and upper level credits, each additional credit may apply toward this requirement. If a student has completed more than 4 transferable upper level credits, each additional credit may apply toward this requirement.)
- A major area of study;
- The equivalent of one four credit course in the following course categories:
 - Writing Intensive course (unless student has taken two equivalent courses in their Associate Degree);
 - Quantitative course (unless student has taken two equivalent courses in their Associate Degree);
 - Diversity course (unless student has taken two equivalent courses in their Associate Degree).
- Students are required to complete three semesters of foreign language between their Associate and Drew degrees. If they have not completed three semesters of language upon transfer to Drew, a placement test will determine the appropriate course level for completion of the remaining semester(s) at Drew. Students may also complete the language requirement for their Drew degree in one of the following ways:
 - if their application to Drew requires them to submit a TOEFL score;
 - by providing documentation to the Office of Academic Services that they attended school taught in a language other than English up through at least the 6th grade;
 - by demonstrating proficiency equal to Drew's language requirement on a Drew placement test;
 - by demonstrating proficiency equal to Drew's language requirement on a placement test administered through the Office of Academic Services in a language not offered at Drew;
 - by scoring 680 or higher on an appropriate SAT II exam;
 - by scoring a 4 or 5 on an appropriate Advanced Placement (AP) exam;
 - by scoring a 5 or higher in an appropriate IB language course (SL or HL).

NOTE 1: While not required, students transferring in to Drew with an Associate Degree are encouraged to complete immersive experiences. These experiences provide students with the opportunity to practice what they have learned outside a traditional classroom setting. Transfer students are highly encouraged to talk with their advisers about how to integrate such experiences into their Drew program of study. These might include internships, community-engaged projects and community-based learning courses, study abroad or domestic programs, undergraduate research or creative projects, and peer mentoring or student leadership positions.

² 200-level courses or the equivalent are defined as intermediate level; 300-level or above are defined as upper-level.

NOTE 2: While not required, students transferring in to Drew with an Associate Degree are encouraged to take DREW 110 Launch Workshop: Preparation for Career and Academic Success. This one-credit course is offered for all transfer students in fall semesters, and with limited spots in spring semesters. This course helps provide students with an introduction to Launch strategies and resources, including initial career design steps, career and identity communities, mentoring opportunities, and job postings.