

**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
AND
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, INC.,
on behalf of its
DR. PALLAVI PATEL COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE DEGREE
AND
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY THERAPY
POST-PROFESSIONAL COMPLETION PROGRAMS**

THIS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is hereby made and entered into on this **6th day of February, 2020**, between the **District Board of Trustees of Hillsborough Community College** (“HCC”) and **Nova Southeastern University, Inc.** on behalf of its **Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences** (“NSU”). This Agreement shall apply only to HCC student admissions into NSU’s the Bachelor of Health Science (B.H.Sc.) Degree Program and the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (B.S.R.T.) Post Professional Completion Program.

WITNESSETH

The purpose of this Agreement is to facilitate the admission of HCC students into either the NSU B.H.Sc. degree or B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion program under the following conditions:

- HCC and NSU are both accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (“SACS COC”).
- Students who obtain an Associate of Science degree in a health science field from HCC and successfully pass the corresponding certification or licensing requirements may apply for admission into NSU’s B.H.Sc. online bachelor degree program.
- Students who obtain an Associate of Science in Respiratory Therapy degree and successfully obtain the respiratory therapy certification credential may apply for admission into NSU’s online B.S.R.T. Post-Professional Completion Program.
- Both the B.H.Sc. Degree Program and the B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program are offered online.
- HCC graduates who apply to either the B.H.Sc. Degree Program or B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program may be required to complete additional courses, based on NSU’s academic assessment of the student’s transcripts, in order to satisfy the prerequisites of the selected bachelor’s degree program.

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A. Students must submit an application and official transcripts to the Admissions Office at NSU at least one month prior to the start of the academic semester.
- B. Students must successfully complete the required course of study required for issuance of the bachelor’s degree.
- C. HCC students enrolling in the B.H.Sc. Degree Program must complete at least 33 credits of B.H.Sc. program-related coursework at NSU in addition to the 30 credits of general education coursework required for all NSU undergraduate degrees.
- D. HCC students enrolling in the B.S.R.T. Completion Program having a current Registered Respiratory Therapist (“RRT”) credential will receive a block of 45 credits. The students will be required to complete 45 credits of post professional curriculum at NSU in addition to

fulfilling 30 credits of general education coursework required for award of all NSU undergraduate bachelor degrees.

- E. Students must meet all admission requirements as set forth in the current NSU Undergraduate Catalog.
- F. HCC student applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.6 on a 4.0 point scale to be eligible for admission into NSU's B.H. Sc. Degree Program.
- G. For the NSU B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program, HCC students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 point scale to be eligible for admission.
- H. Students who have not met all general education requirements at the time of application may be allowed to complete the missing general education coursework as co-requisites. All general education requirements must be successfully completed prior to graduation from the B.H.Sc. Degree Program or B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program and award of the bachelor's degree.
- I. Students matriculating in either the B.H.Sc. Degree Program or B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program may want to and are eligible to enroll in either the "Generalist" or the "Health Administration Track". Those tracks require an additional 15 hours of coursework beyond all program required courses (see the attached Exhibits A and B).

II. CREDIT TRANSFERABILITY

- A. For students admitted into NSU's B.H.Sc. Degree Program, all credits from courses with grades of "C" or better that were applied to the award of the Associate in Science Degree from HCC will be accepted by NSU, with the exception of any courses in which students earned a grade of "D" or less.
- B. NSU will accept and apply no fewer than 60 credits from the Associate in Science degree and no more than 90 credits from an HCC degree program towards the B.H.Sc. degree.
- C. HCC graduates enrolled in the B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program will receive a 45 credit block toward the degree coursework requirements. Credits for general education courses taken will be counted towards meeting the general education credit requirements, as applicable.
- D. Program is in NSU's sole and absolute discretion. NSU may accept results of standardized exams e.g., AP, IB, AICES, DANTES based on score and exam. NSU will evaluate all coursework and test credits from regionally accredited institutions that students wish to be applied towards program requirements; it being understood that acceptance and application of credits from such coursework or tests toward credits required in either the B.H.Sc. Degree Program or B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program is in NSU's sole and absolute discretion.

III. COORDINATION

- A. HCC will allow NSU representatives to conduct on-campus visits in accordance with HCC policy to provide information about their bachelor degree programs offered under this Agreement to HCC students, alumni, faculty and staff.
- B. NSU will provide HCC with current admissions information and relevant catalogs and brochures.
- C. NSU will refrain from encouraging HCC students to apply to or enroll at NSU until they complete their associate degree program of study at HCC.
- D. Both institutions will provide information about the arrangement for entry into the B.H.Sc. Degree Program and B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program in connection with this Agreement to students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Neither party may use the other's name or

logo (mark) in any descriptive or promotional literature, materials, webpages or communication of any kind without the other's prior written approval. This does not prohibit either party from informing prospective students about the existence and nature of the programs subject to this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, either party may use materials provided it by the other for the purposes of advertising the NSU bachelor degree programs to the HCC students, alumni, faculty, and staff provided the materials are used without change.

- E. NSU will provide HCC with links to designated landing pages on the NSU website. All content on the NSU website is the property of the NSU. All modifications, additions, or deletions to the links or desired by HCC must be reviewed and approved in writing by the NSU. Likewise, NSU produced information about HCC will receive prior written approval from HCC.
- F. In any joint promotions, HCC will be identified as the provider of the first two years of the associate's degree or certificate, and NSU will be identified as the provider of the junior and senior level courses required for the award of the bachelor's degree.
- G. Both institutions will notify each other promptly in writing of any curricular changes that would impact admission of HCC students into either of the bachelor programs subject to this Agreement, and they will exchange any other information each believes may be helpful to assure the academic success of participating students.

IV. TUITION AND FEES

- A. NSU will offer a reduction of its advertised/published tuition to students recruited by HCC who enroll in either of the B.H.Sc. Degree Program or the B.S.R.T. Post Professional Completion Program. NSU agrees to discount for those students the current tuition for the program by twelve percent (12%) per credit hour. This discount of tuition will commence with students entering during the 2019/2020 academic year and continue to the earlier of the student's completion of or withdrawal from the program, or termination of this Agreement.
- B. NSU also agrees to waive the application fee for students referred by HCC.
- C. Students who fail courses and who are eligible to re-take a course will be charged full tuition for repeated courses.
- D. Tuition rates are subject to change by NSU, in its sole discretion.
- E. The reduction offered only applies to tuition. Students would be responsible for all other fees and costs associated with the Programs, such as the NSU student service fee, registration fees, graduation fees, costs associated with texts and course equipment. Payments will be made directly to NSU.
- F. FAFSA is available for eligible students.

V. TERM AND TERMINATION

This Agreement shall commence on January 2, 2020 and expire on January 1, 2021. This Agreement will renew for five (5) consecutive one (1) year terms, unless terminated as provided for herein. Either party may terminate at any time with ninety (90) days prior written notice to the other. This Agreement may be immediately terminated with notice to the other for any adverse change in accreditation status. Termination of this Agreement will not affect students who have been accepted into NSU' bachelor's degree program selected.

VI. NOTICES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed given and received (i) when personally delivered with a written receipt obtained, (ii) on the date noted as the date received, refused or uncollected if sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid

and return receipt requested, (iii) the earlier of receipt or two (2) business days after deposit with a nationally overnight delivery service (e.g., Federal Express), or (iv) if by email with confirmation of receipt sent by the recipient to the sender by return email, at the below addresses, or to such other address that a party provides to the other party pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph.

Hillsborough Community College
Richard Senker
Vice President, Academic Affairs
39 Columbia Drive
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 253-7144
Email: rsenker@hccfl.edu

Nova Southeastern University, Inc.
Stanley Wilson, B.S., P.T., M.S., Ed.D., CEAS
Dean, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
3200 South University Drive
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018
(954) 262-1203
Email: swilson@nova.edu

VIII. MODIFICATION FOR CHANGE IN LAW

To the extent that any law, rule, regulation or standard of any authority (including other relevant accrediting agency) shall raise question as to the legality, enforceability or appropriateness of this Agreement or any provision hereof, the parties agree to negotiate promptly and in good faith regarding modification as may be required to bring this Agreement into compliance with such applicable law, rule. Regulation or accreditation standard. Should the parties be unable to agree upon such modification within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date any party shall give notice to the others of such changes in law, rule, regulation or standard, this Agreement shall be deemed terminated.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

Confidentiality. Each party agrees not to disclose the other party's confidential information to any person other than employees or Students who have a need to know the information in order to perform their obligations under this Agreement.

Independent Contractor. The parties agree that their relationship is at all times that of independent contractors, and not that of an employee, partner, agent or joint venturer.

Assignment. Neither party may assign or delegate this Agreement or any interest herein or responsibility hereunder without prior written consent of the other party.

Waiver. Failure by either party to enforce at any time any provision of this Agreement shall not be construed to be a waiver of such provision nor of the right of that party to enforce each and every provision.

Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is as a matter of law unenforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be deleted and this Agreement shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

Entire Agreement. Both parties agree that this Agreement represents the entire understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter covered and supersedes and nullifies any previous agreements, whether oral or in writing, regarding the covered subject matter.

Amendments. Any additional responsibilities, obligations or duties undertaken by either party in connection with the performance of this Agreement or alterations, modification of this Agreement shall be detailed in writing, must be signed by authorized representatives of both parties, and attached as an addendum to this Agreement.

Nondiscrimination. It is mutually agreed that no person shall be subject to unlawful discrimination in connection with the Program on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, genetic information, national origin, age, veteran status, disability or any other legally protected characterization.

Compliance with Laws. Both parties will comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws in connection with performance of activities under this Agreement.

Interpretation. Neither party shall be considered the drafter of this Agreement. No provision in this Agreement shall be interpreted for or against either party because that party or that party's legal representative drafted such provision.

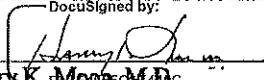
Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida without regard to principles of choice of law. In any action to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the parties agree and consent to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in the state and/or federal court located in Broward County, Florida.

Counterparts and Signatures. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts by facsimile or electronic signature or otherwise electronically transmitted, each of which shall be deemed an original and each counterpart together shall constitute one document.

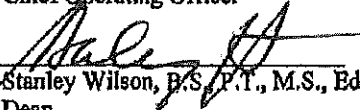
Signatures on the Following Page

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, HCC and NSU have adopted this Agreement and caused it to be executed by their respective chairmen, chief executive officers, or other authorized representatives.


NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, INC.

By: 
Harry K. Moon, M.Ed.
Executive Vice President &
Chief Operating Officer


Date: 2/6/2020 | 12:08 PM EST

By: 
Stanley Wilson, B.S., P.T., M.S., Ed.D., CEAS
Dean
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences


Date: 2/5/2020

By: 
Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., Ed.D.
Vice President of Operations, Health Professions Division

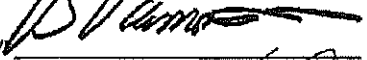
Date: 2/5/2020

By: 
Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Interim Provost &
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

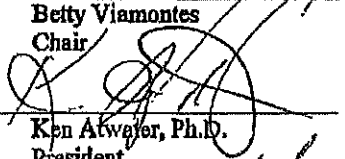
Date: 2/6/2020

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
REVIEWED BY LEGAL
By: 
Rebecca S. Rosenthal, Esq., Senior Associate
Counsel, Office for Legal Affairs


DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By: 
Betty Viamontes
Chair

Date: 1/31/2020

By: 
Ken Atwater, Ph.D.
President

Date: 1/31/2020

By: 
Richard Senker
Vice President, Academic Affairs

Date: 1/31/2020

Approved as to Form & Legality

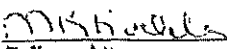

College Attorney

EXHIBIT A: Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy Completion Program Admission Requirements and Curriculum

This program will be delivered entirely online. Admission to the program will require the following:

1. Hold National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) registration as a Registered Respiratory Therapist. (A Block Grant of 45 credits will be applied toward the BSRT upon proof of RRT),
2. Currently hold a license to practice respiratory therapy, where applicable,
3. Application
4. Official transcripts from each university/college attended, and
5. Completion of 30 prerequisite general education coursework, with a minimum grade of C. All general education coursework will be evaluated for equivalency. Students can be dual enrolled while completing any additional general education requirements. Credits can be transferred in prior to completion of the program. Degree will not be granted until all general education requirements are met.

Curriculum:

PRE/CO-REQUISITES GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

Written Communication above 1500 level	6 credits
Mathematics above 1040 level	6 credits
Humanities	6 credits
Social and Behavioral Sciences	6 credits
Natural and Physical Sciences	6 credits

TOTAL CREDITS: 30

PROFESSIONAL COURSES

The following professional courses will be required for completion.

NSU Post-Professional Curriculum

RRT 3016	Advanced Cardiopulmonary Physiology for Respiratory Therapy	3
RRT 3018	Advanced Pharmacology in Respiratory Therapy	3
RRT 3015	Critical Care Pathophysiology for Respiratory Therapy	3
RRT 3017	Outpatient Services in Respiratory Therapy	3
RRT 3021	Sleep Medicine	3
RRT 3020	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	3
RRT 3014	Advanced Patient Monitoring and Assessment	3

BHS 4031	Statistics for Health Sciences	3
RRT 4005	Evidence-Based Practice	3
RRT 4006	Leadership and Management for Respiratory Care	3
RRT 4007	Education Principles in Health Care	3
RRT 4009	Legal and Ethical Considerations in Respiratory Care	3
RRT 4010	Case Management Theory & Process	3

TOTAL CREDITS: 39

Practical Course Work and Experiences (2 Required)

RRT 4502	Practicum	3
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RRT 4505	Scientific Investigation I.	3
RRT 4506	Internship.	3
RRT 4507	Scientific Investigation II	3
TOTAL CREDITS: 6		

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM THE BSRT

Total Prerequisite General Education Courses	30
Total Professional Course Requirement	39
Total Practical Course Requirement	6
Total Block Grant Credit for current RRT	45

TOTAL CREDITS: 120

OPTIONAL SPECIALIZATION IN MANAGEMENT

These courses can be taken in addition to the post-professional curriculum and required practical course work. Completion of the following (15 credits / 5 courses) will grant a specialization in Health Care Management in addition to the BSRT degree.

BHS 3155	Conflict Management in Health Care	3
BHS 3161	Health Care Finance	3
BHS 3162	Economics of Health Services	3
RRT 4103	Strategic Planning and Organizational Development for Healthcare	3
RRT 4014	Operational Analysis and Quality Improvement	3

TOTAL CREDITS: 15

EXHIBIT B: Bachelor of Health Science Program Admission Requirements and Curriculum

The BHSc. program will admit entry-level and mid-level clinicians, allied health professionals and health care administrators with diverse education, work, and life experiences who have demonstrated capacity to pursue the course of study and increasingly responsible positions in health care.

1. Prior to matriculation, all applicants must have completed 3 semester hours (or the equivalent) of college level written composition course from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum grade of a C (GPA of 2.0 on a four-point grading scale).
2. An associate's degree in a professional field of health from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.6 on a 4.0 grading scale OR a post-high school level diploma or certificate of completion in a field of health care with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.6 on a 4.0 grading scale. In order for this coursework and education to be considered for credit, an applicant may be required to submit a student-prepared learning portfolio requesting assessment of prior experiences for academic credit. This will describe all traditional, online, military, and other health care education, as well as work-related experience and health care-related conferences attended. A resume or CV, transcripts, and/or official documentation of attendance must accompany all prior learning portfolios. The admissions committee will review the portfolio to determine the amount of credit given for prior learning.
3. Documented evidence demonstrating education or experience in the health care field within the past five years.

Required Bachelor of Health Science Courses:

BHS 3110: Health Care Ethics

3

BHS 3120: Introduction to Epidemiology	3
BHS 3150: Principles of Leadership	3
BHS 3155: Conflict Resolution in Health Care	3
BHS 3160: Health Policy	3
BHS 4000: Cultural Competency in Health Care	3
BHS 4100: Academic and Professional Writing <i>(must be taken during first semester of enrollment in program)</i>	3
BHS 4140: Independent Capstone Health Science Studies Course pre-requisites, if any: COMP 1500, COMP 2000, BHS 4100 and Senior Academic Status	3
BHS Electives Minimum of 9 credits of any course with BHS prefix <i>other</i> than required core courses listed above.	9
Subtotal of the Required B.H.S. Courses	33

Minimum Total Degree Semester Hours Required: 120

In addition to the required BHS courses, these courses must be taken in order to successfully complete the Health Care Administration Track.

BHS 3151: Health Services Management	3
BHS 3161: Health Services Finance	3
BHS 3162: Economics of Health Care Services	3
BHS 3170: Health Care Delivery Systems	3
BHS 4031: Statistics for Health Sciences	3
Subtotal required for the Health Administration Track	15