

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**  
**Consent**

**AGENDA ITEM: 5 – I (2)**  
**DATE: December 11-12, 2024**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUBJECT**

**Articulation Agreements – USD**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 2.2.2.1](#) – Seamless Transfer of Credit

[BOR Policy 2.2.2.3](#) – External (Non-Regental System) Accredited University/College  
Transfer of Credit

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

BOR Policy 2.2.2.1 – Seamless Transfer of Credit establishes requirements for institutions seeking to develop program level agreements for interested transfer students. The policy further establishes the distinction between AA, AS, and AAS degrees which are classified as transferable, terminal, or non-transferable degrees (respectively). However, the AAS is “transferable when a specific degree articulation agreement exists between a given A.A.S. degree and a specific Baccalaureate degree.” Agreements established with regionally accredited institutions must be developed in conjunction with the faculty, following all institutional guidelines and are monitored as a function of the institutional program review process. Once approved, the agreements apply only at Regental institutions with equivalent programs.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

To comply with BOR Policy 2.2.2.1, the University of South Dakota requests approval to update the following articulation agreement:

- Students who have completed an AAS degree in: Administrative Assistant – Medical, EMS – Paramedic, Firefighter/Paramedic, Physical Therapy Assistant, Sports Medicine-Athletic Training, or Surgical Technology at Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) may apply up to 52 credits toward the BS in Health Sciences at USD.

The revised agreement will replace the August 2017 agreement between USD and WITCC. Board staff recommends approval.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – USD Articulation Agreement

\*\*\*\*\*

**DRAFT MOTION 20241211\_5-I(2):**

I move to approve the University of South Dakota to finalize and execute the articulation agreement between USD and Western Iowa Tech Community College in substantially similar form to that set forth in Attachment I.

## PROGRAM TO PROGRAM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA (USD)  
and  
WESTERN IOWA TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE (WITCC)

---

### Agreement with Respect to Applying the

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-MEDICAL

EMS-PARAMEDIC

FIREFIGHTER/ PARAMEDIC

PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

AND

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

### Associate of Applied Sciences Degree Programs at WITCC

Towards the

**HEALTH SCIENCES**

### Bachelor of Science Degree Program at USD

---

#### I. Parties

The parties to this agreement are The University of South Dakota (USD) and Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC).

#### II. Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to:

- A. have a signed articulation agreement that addresses the varying needs of students and the complementary nature of the institutions' programs;
- B. provide increased educational opportunities for students from South Dakota and the region;
- C. extend and clarify educational opportunities for students;
- D. provide WITCC students who have completed an AAS degree in Administrative Assistant-Medical, EMS-Paramedic, Firefighter/Paramedic, Physical Therapy Assistant, and Surgical Technology an opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Health Sciences.
- E. encourage students to graduate from both the AAS (WITCC) listed programs and Bachelor of Science with a major in Health Sciences (USD) program and work collaboratively on marketing and admissions guidance.

#### III. Academic Program

##### **Graduation Requirements for the BS in Health Sciences at USD**

Health Science Major Requirements:	44
General Education Credits:	24
<u>Transfer up to 52 additional credits from WITCC AAS Degree:</u>	<u>52</u>
<b>Total credits required:</b>	<b>120</b>

A. Requirements to be completed at USD for the B.S. in Health Sciences are reflected in the catalog website: <http://catalog.usd.edu/index.php> Select the start year catalog, then click Academic Programs from the menu on the left and find the Health Sciences (B.S.) degree under majors.

B. The general education coursework to meet Regental System General Education Requirements must also be completed as outlined below. This coursework may be taken at WITCC if courses are delivered under the current General Education agreement with the Board of Regents. General education coursework will be transferred if the Regental System General Education transfer requirements are met. If students have additional coursework that meets the Health Science degree requirements, a total of 90 transfer credits may be allowed.

### General Education Course Requirements

USD General Education Requirements		Credit Hours	WITCC Coursework (Must meet SD Regental System Requirements)	Credit Hours
<b>SGR 1</b> <b>Written Communication and Literacy Skills (6 credits required)</b>	English 101 Composition	3	ENG 105 Composition I	3
	Approved SGR 1 Course	3	ENG 201 Composition II or ENG 221 Intro to Creative Writing	3
<b>SGR 2</b> <b>Oral Communication (3 credits required)</b>	Approved SGR 2 Course	3	SPC 112 Public Speaking	3
<b>SGR 3</b> <b>Social Sciences (3 credits required; two disciplines)</b>	Approved SGR 3 Course; Discipline 1	3	SOC 110 Intro to Sociology OR SPC 122- Interpersonal Communication	3
	Approved SGR 3 Course; Discipline 2	3	PSYC 111 General Psychology	3
<b>SGR 4</b> <b>Humanities &amp; Fine Arts (6 credits required; 3 Humanities &amp; 3 Fine Arts)</b>	Approved Humanities Course	3	PHI 105 Introduction to Ethics	3
	Approved Fine Arts Course	3		
<b>SGR 5</b> <b>Mathematics</b>	Approved SGR 5 Course	3	MATH 111- Math for Liberal Arts OR MATH 121 College Algebra OR MAT 156 Intro to Stats	3
<b>SGR 6</b> <b>Natural Sciences (6 credits required)</b>	PHGY 220/L Human Anatomy/Physiology I** PHGY 230/L Human Anatomy/Physiology I <b>OR</b> HSC 280/L Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology <b>AND</b> Approved SGR 6 Course	8*	BIOL 168 Human Anatomy and Physiology BIO 173 Human Anatomy and Physiology II <b>OR</b> BIOL 163 Essentials of A&P (approved to meet SGR 6 without direct equivalency)	8
<b>Total General Education Credits</b>		<b>24*</b> <b>(32)</b>		<b>32</b>

<b>+This is not a comprehensive list of the general education courses that transfer to USD from WITCC. The classes listed are common courses taken at WITCC for the specific AAS degree listed above.</b>			
<b>B.S. in Health Sciences Coursework</b>			
<b>Health Science Major Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>WITCC Coursework</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>HSC 110 The Interprofessional Health Team</b>	<b>3</b>	Students in the Forward Articulation pathway will complete HSC Elective in place of HSC 110.	<b>3</b>
<b>HSC 250 Healthcare Terminology in Clinical Setting</b>	<b>3</b>	HSC 114 Medical Terminology	<b>3</b>
<b>HSC 280/L Essentials of Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology</b>	<b>5</b>	Substitution allowed for BIOL 163 Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology	<b>4</b>

\*Science credits already counted in total for major

\*\*USD PHGY 220/L Requires Chem 106/L or higher as a prerequisite; Chem 106 or higher requires appropriate level math

The Health Sciences Major requires an anatomy and physiology sequence: either PHGY 220/230 OR HSC 280/281

#### **IV. Pathway One: Reverse Articulation (completing years one and two at USD, years three and four at WITCC, and transferring WITCC credits back to USD for completion of degree)**

A. Students will complete the required B.S. in Health Sciences courses through the University of South Dakota during the first two years of their education. During the third year of their education and upon acceptance into the program at WITCC, students will enter one of the Associate of Applied Science programs listed above at WITCC and complete the requirements for the AAS at the end of the fourth year. Students are not guaranteed admission into AAS programs at WITCC.

B. Upon successful completion of the requirements of the AAS degree, the student will transfer back to USD and apply for graduation. At that time, USD will accept a block of up to 52 technical course credits in transfer. In addition to the technical AAS degree course block credits, general education coursework that is equivalent to Regental courses will be transferable and accepted by USD.

C. USD will waive the graduation requirement that 15 of the last 30 credits for the baccalaureate degree must be earned as institutional credit.

D. Students must meet all other Board of Regents and university graduation requirements in order to receive a degree.

E. To return to USD students must submit a new application through the USD admissions office. Students are allowed to waive the admission fee with proper notification.

F. Upon completion of the Technical Program and conferral of the AAS degree, students must notify the Department of Public Health and Health Sciences to complete the block credit transfer form.

G. Upon re-acceptance to USD, students must set up their USD accounts and submit a Degree Audit/ Application for Graduation form to the Registrar's Office, marking the "joint program" box to indicate they are completing an "Articulation" program.

H. To participate in spring commencement, students must reapply to USD through the admissions office, be fully accepted, and complete a degree audit and graduation application form

through the registrar's office. Students must submit the following documents to the Health Sciences program director: a completed Walk-Early form, degree audit results, transcript from the technical program, and a confirmation letter from the technical school program director.

**V. Pathway Two: Forward Articulation (completing the AAS degree at WITCC and transferring to USD to complete the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences)**

A. Upon successful completion of the requirements of the AAS degree students may transfer to USD to complete the BS in Health Sciences. At that time, USD will accept a block of up to 52 technical course credits from the AAS degree. Students must successfully complete the AAS degree from WITCC prior to transferring to USD for the technical course credits to be accepted. Transferable general education coursework in addition to up to 52 technical course block credits will be accepted.

B. Students will complete the requirements for the B.S. in Health Sciences and any other general education or free elective requirements that remain unsatisfied. Students who have earned a health care associates degree and are in the Health Career Advancement pathway may choose one HSC 3 credit hour elective in place of HSC 110.

B. Students must meet all Board of Regents policies and university graduation requirements in order to receive a degree.

**VI. Additional requirements**

Students transferring coursework from WITCC must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

**VII. Obligations**

Both parties agree to confer with each other on a yearly basis regarding changes in curricula involved in this articulation agreement.

**VIII. Modification**

This agreement may be modified periodically by the South Dakota Board of Regents and Western Iowa Tech Community College upon agreement by both parties.

**IX. Termination**

This agreement may be terminated by either party upon one year's written notice to the other. Student(s) enrolled in the program at that time shall be allowed to complete the program.

**X. Effective Date of Agreement:**

The agreement applies to students who graduated from WITCC in 2000 or later. This agreement was updated in 2024 and is in effect upon the approval of all parties.

For University of South Dakota:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Haifa Abou-Samra  
Dean, School of Health Sciences  
University of South Dakota

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila K. Gestring  
President  
University of South Dakota

For Western Iowa Tech Community College

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Darin Moeller  
Executive Dean of Instruction  
Western Iowa Tech Community College

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Terry A Murrell  
President  
Western Iowa Tech Community College