

**Joint Admission Agreement between the UPMC Schools of Nursing  
(Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, St. Margaret School of Nursing, UPMC  
Shadyside School of Nursing) and  
Carlow University for RN to BSN**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agreement is to outline the process for a Joint Admission program between the UPMC Schools of Nursing (UPMC SON) which consists of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Saint Margaret School of Nursing, UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing and Carlow University (CU). This agreement pertains to the joint admission of students into the RN Diploma Programs at the UPMC Schools of Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree in the RN-BSN Program at CU.

The UPMC SON and CU stipulate that upon admission to the RN Diploma Program at the UPMC Schools of Nursing, students are simultaneously admitted into the RN to BSN program (or BSN) at CU. These students are guaranteed admission and will seamlessly enter into the RN to BSN program at CU, provided they have completed their RN Diploma Program with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and have successfully passed the NCLEX exam, having obtained a PA Registered Nursing License, prior to beginning the RN-BSN nursing core courses in the Carlow program.

**Procedure**

To be eligible for the Joint Admission Program, students must complete the joint admission application form provided by UPMC SON.

**The Joint Admission Program is open to:**

1. Applicants to UPMC SON who are first-time, matriculated freshmen, or
2. Returning adult students to UPMC SON, or
3. Transfer students to UPMC SON
4. Any currently matriculated UPMC SON student who applies to the Joint Admissions Program prior to completion of the UPMC SON (RN Diploma) program
5. All students must meet CU's admission requirements and CU's RN to BSN admission requirements as stated in the CU catalog and must meet all other admission and eligibility requirements. CU has sole discretion in admissions decisions.

## **Stipulations**

### **UPMC SON and CU agree jointly to provide the following:**

1. Each institution will designate a coordinator and an academic advisor for the Joint Admission Program.
2. UPMC SON and CU will develop cooperatively, publications pertaining to the joint admission program.

### **CU agrees to provide the following for the RN Diploma in Nursing Degree candidates at UPMC SON who apply for Joint Admissions:**

1. CU agrees to waive the application fee for all students who apply for Joint Admission to CU pursuant to the provisions of this agreement.
2. CU representatives will meet at UPMC SON with students in the Joint Admission Program. The purpose of these meetings will be to provide academic advice about CU's curriculum and general information about CU.
3. CU will outline for UPMC SON students the potential option for earning a *Master of Science in Nursing in an Accelerated format* with up to 12 graduate credits being earned while in Carlow's undergraduate RN-BSN program.
4. CU agrees to provide, as needed, information sessions with faculty and staff of UPMC SON who will be involved in consulting and advising students enrolled in the Joint Admission Program.
5. The CU Transfer Guide for UPMC SON students will be periodically updated. The guide will outline course equivalencies for required and recommended courses.
6. The Transfer Guide will be made accessible to all students on the CU website.
7. Students admitted under the provisions of this agreement will be given a Carlow University ID for use in Carlow facilities.

### **UPMC SON agrees to provide the following for the RN Diploma in Nursing Degree candidates at UPMC SON who apply for Joint Admission:**

1. UPMC SON will provide the necessary applications for students who want to apply for joint admission to UPMC SON and CU.
2. UPMC SON will be responsible for selection of candidates to the Joint Admissions Program. Applications; candidates will be evaluated according to the basic criteria in effect at UPMC SON and CU for the Joint Admissions Program. Once admitted, UPMC SON will share the admitted applications with CU.
3. By September 15<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, UPMC SON will provide CU with a list of all students participating in the Joint Admissions Program. Also at this time, UPMC SON will provide a list of the Joint Admissions students scheduled to graduate at the end of each semester who have indicated their intent to attend CU the following

semester along with copies of their transcripts to ensure that Carlow RN-BSN Program admission standards have been met.

4. By July 1<sup>st</sup> (for fall enrollees) and February 1<sup>st</sup> (for spring enrollees) UPMC SON will send CU official proof of receipt of the RN Diploma Degree for Joint Admission students and final transcripts.
5. UPMC SON will assist in setting up advisement programs involving CU faculty and staff.

### **Articulation for Transfer Students Not Participating in Joint Admission:**

Procedures outlined herein relate specifically to students who simultaneously apply to the UPMC SON and CU. Some students who apply to UPMC SON have not yet decided on their transfer destination, but during the course of study at UPMC SON may decide to transfer to CU.

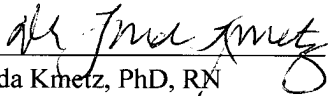
The UPMC SON and CU agree to facilitate transfer to CU of the UPMC SON graduates not covered by this agreement by making available to them the same academic advisement and consultation made available to Joint Admission students. It is understood, however, that students not covered by the Joint Admission agreement must apply and meet the admission standards of CU.

### **Terms and Conditions**

- A. **Term of the Agreement.** This agreement is intended to be in effect for five (5) years from the date of signature. It will be reviewed annually.
- B. **Termination of the Agreement.** The UPMC Schools of Nursing (Mercy Hospital, Shadyside School of Nursing, St. Margaret School of Nursing) or Carlow may terminate this agreement for any reason or without reason with ninety (90) days written notice from either party.
- C. **Nondiscrimination.** The parties agree to continue their respective policies of nondiscrimination based on sex, age, race, color, creed, national origin, disability and any other category protected by federal, state, and/or local law.
- D. **Relationship of Parties.** The relationship between the parties to this Agreement to each other is that of independent contractors. The relationship of the parties to this contract to each other shall not be construed to constitute a partnership, joint venture or any other relationship, other than that of independent contractors.
- E. **Modification of Agreement.** This agreement shall be modified only in writing, with the signed authorization of the UPMC SON and Carlow University.
- F. **Promotion of Agreement.** Both parties have the right to use this agreement and the name of the UPMC Schools of Nursing and Carlow University in all promotional activities, including college catalogs and recruitment or advisement activities.

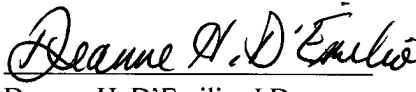
- G. **Liability.** Neither of the parties shall assume any liabilities of the other. As to liability to each other or death to persons or damages to property, the parties do not waive any defense as a result of entering into this agreement.
- H. **Entire Agreement.** This agreement represents the entire understanding between the parties. No other prior or contemporaneous oral or written understandings or promises exist in regard to this relationship. Any changes, corrections or additions to this agreement shall be in writing in the form of a supplemental agreement signed by all appropriate parties and setting forth therein the proposed change, correction or addition. This agreement between UPMC SON and CU does not affect any other agreements between UPMC SON and CU.

For UPMC Schools of Nursing  
Mercy Hospital School of Nursing,  
Shadyside School of Nursing,  
St. Margaret School of Nursing  
5900 Baum Boulevard,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

  
Linda Kmetz, PhD, RN  
Executive Director, UPMC Schools of Nursing  
Director, UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing

3-17-2015  
Date

For Carlow University  
3333 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

  
Deanne H. D'Emilio, J.D.  
Interim Provost/V.P for Academic Affairs  
Carlow University

March 17, 2015  
Date