

AFFILIATION AGREEMENT UNIVERSITY OF PROVIDENCE and SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAM

The University of Providence, a nonprofit corporation ("University of Providence"), and Salish Kootenai College Nursing Program ("Salish Kootenai College"), agree to cooperate to promote successful progression from undergraduate to graduate nursing education for Salish Kootenai College nursing program graduates and faculty who wish to attend the University of Providence as part of an Affiliation Agreement hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement".

GOALS OF THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

The University of Providence and Salish Kootenai College (SKC) agree to partner to facilitate successful academic progression for students pursuing graduate degrees in nursing education.

- Provide SKC nursing program graduates and SKC employees with consistent program communication, academic advising, and faculty mentorship.
- Develop individualized academic plans for SKC graduates and SKC employees that recognize their diverse academic experiences.
- Increase the number of SKC graduates and SKC employees that progress to the University of Providence graduate nursing program.
- Strengthen the nursing education workforce in Montana, particularly in rural, tribal communities.

IMPLEMENTATION

Effective June 1, 2021, the University of Providence and Salish Kootenai College hereby agree as follows:

A. Recruitment and Admission

1. SKC graduates and SKC employees who meet the admission requirements will be considered for priority admission to the University of Providence MSN program.
2. Students in their final year of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at SKC will have the opportunity to apply to the University of Providence Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) to benefit from early academic advising and faculty mentorship provided by the University of Providence.
3. SKC employees in the nursing program who meet the admission requirements of the University of Providence MSN program have access to the benefits of the agreement.
4. To be eligible to begin the MSN program, applicants will be required to:
 - a. Submit official transcripts verifying completion of the BSN
 - b. Demonstrate evidence of an unencumbered RN license
 - c. Meet all general graduate student admission requirements for the University of Providence
 - d. Meet all admission requirements for the University of Providence MSN program
5. The University of Providence application fee will be waived for SKC graduates and SKC employees participating in the affiliation agreement.
6. The University of Providence will monitor demographic, progression, and completion data to measure the outcomes of the affiliation agreement and guide next steps of the agreement.

B. Tuition, Fees, Financial Aid

1. Students will pay tuition according to the annual partner rate for graduate programs in the School of Health Professions, University of Providence.
2. Students will be required to pay applicable fees associated with the MSN program.
3. Students may apply for financial aid at the University of Providence.

C. Graduate Program: Academic Advising & Faculty Mentorship

1. The affiliation agreement will be coordinated through the School of Health Professions at the University of Providence.
2. Academic advising and faculty mentorship for SKC graduates and SKC employees will be coordinated by the MSN Program Director and/or Division Chair for Nursing in the School of Health Professions.
3. Faculty and program leaders at both institutions agree to promote the agreement on behalf of the SKC community, including among graduates, employees, and the local nursing community. Possibilities for promoting the program include:
 - a. SKC will invite University of Providence representatives to campus to participate in career fairs or information sessions to share opportunities.
 - b. The University of Providence will invite SKC students and faculty to participate in virtual meetings and information sessions to learn about opportunities at the University of Providence.
4. When possible, the SKC nursing program will support graduate internship and placement opportunities for University of Providence graduate students. Internship opportunities may include clinical or simulation teaching, online and virtual teaching, campus lecture experiences, or other community leadership experiences.

D. Registration and Student Records

1. Students will register for courses through the regular registration process at the University of Providence.
2. The Registrar's Office at University of Providence will be responsible for transcript evaluation and maintaining student records.
3. Students participating in the agreement will be coded and tracked in the student information systems of the University of Providence based on participation in the agreement.

F. Student Expectations and Conduct

1. Students are required to meet the academic progression policies, program expectations, and standards for student conduct at the University of Providence.

2. The University of Providence reserves the right to rescind admission to any student admitted through the affiliation agreement for reasons related to unsuccessful academic progression or professional conduct. Students will be notified in writing.

G. Parties and Termination

1. The only parties to this agreement are Salish Kootenai College and the University of Providence.
2. The agreement can be terminated at any time by mutual written agreement of both institutions. Notice of termination shall be in writing to the chief academic officer at the institution.

H. Signatures

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