

3 Plus ONE and Beyond
Agreement Between
MOUNT WACHUSETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
and
MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES
(Worcester, MA campus)

This agreement dated December 16, 2010 is between **Mount Wachusett Community College**, a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with its usual place of business in Gardner, Massachusetts, hereinafter called MWCC, and **Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**, a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with its usual place of business in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, hereinafter called MCPHS.

It is agreed by and between MWCC and MCPHS for the mutual considerations and covenants herein contained as follows:

1. MWCC and MCPHS hereby agree to an articulated program whereby students from MWCC may complete an **Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN)** at MWCC, and then transfer to MCPHS-Worcester to complete the requirements of the **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Family Nurse Practitioner Bridge Program**, hereinafter called the Bridge Program.

2 (a). MCPHS shall accept up to twenty-five (25) qualified MWCC students each year into the Bridge Program. If more than twenty-five students meet the established requirements, the twenty-five students deemed most qualified by MCPHS [based upon overall grade point average, grade point average on required prerequisite coursework, and Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) (minimum score: 213 computer-based/79 internet-based) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (minimum score: 6.5) scores, if applicable] will be assured admission, with the remaining students given equal consideration as other applicants to the Bridge Program and accepted on a space-available basis to the Worcester campus. Students must notify, in writing, the Office of Admission at MCPHS of their intent to apply at least ninety (90) days prior to the start of the semester they wish to enroll in (i.e. if applying for fall enrollment, they must notify the Admission Office of their intent by June 1). Completed applications must be submitted to the Office of Admission at MCPHS by October 1 prior to anticipated matriculation in January, and by June 1 prior to anticipated matriculation in September.

2 (b). Upon the successful completion of the degree program at MWCC, which completion shall be in accordance with all the standards applicable to MWCC students, said students will be accepted by MCPHS, in accordance with its published standards, to the Bridge Program in Worcester, subject to the limitations and procedures set forth in paragraph 3. All reference to standards will be those published in the respective current catalog of each institution and other applicable materials published by each institution.

3. MWCC students, who have successfully completed an MWCC Associate's Degree in Nursing program with an overall grade point average of 3.2 (on a scale of 4.0). In addition, students must obtain a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 in the specified prerequisite coursework, with no

grade below C and no repeats, with a minimum of 84 [note that students are NOT eligible for financial aid for 13 of these credits – neither MWCC nor MCPHS can award financial aid for these 13 credits because the bridge courses are not part of a bachelor degree program] completed (see attached *Degree Plan Table*), are eligible for assured admission to the Bridge Program in Worcester, contingent upon other admissions requirements, and subject to the availability of openings in the Bridge Program within the limit set forth in paragraph 2(a). Students for whom English is a second language must also submit a TOEFL or IELTS score. **A current Massachusetts RN License must be submitted to the MCPHS Admission Office prior to matriculation.** MCPHS retains the right to make the final decision on each student's application.

4 (a). MWCC students accepted in the Bridge Program are subject to the graduation requirements of the college catalogs (and other published standards) issued by MWCC and MCPHS in the years of respective matriculation at each institution, subject to changes that may be required to meet accreditation standards, including those established by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the Massachusetts Board of Nursing, or which are determined by the MWCC or MCPHS faculty as warranted to ensure a quality educational program.

4 (b). The required prerequisite courses offered by MWCC must be the equivalent of those offered by MCPHS at its Boston campus. The current approved MWCC prerequisite courses appear on the attached *Degree Plan Table*. MWCC students may apply a maximum of 18 credit hours toward the prerequisite requirements through College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests and up to 33 credit hours toward the prerequisite requirements through transfer coursework from institutions other than MWCC, with written approval from the Office of Admission at MCPHS. A minimum of 84 prerequisite and nursing credits must be completed prior to enrollment. **Any changes to the approved MWCC prerequisite courses must be agreed upon by both parties in writing.**

5. A faculty or staff member at MWCC will act as advisor to students interested in the nursing program and will serve as the liaison with the MCPHS Admission office on all aspects of the Bridge Program.

6. The Admission offices of both institutions agree that the Admission directors will communicate at the beginning of each fall term to discuss recruiting, entrance requirements, and any other concerns that either may have about the affiliation. Other communications between them may be scheduled as needs arise. Each party agrees that it will communicate as soon as practicable to the other party any changes to its programs as will impact this Agreement. Each institution shall provide the other with advance copies of any written materials that it publishes to describe the terms of this Agreement.

7. *Indemnification.* Each party hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other party from and against any and all losses, damages, liabilities and other expenses of every kind and nature, including reasonable attorney's fees, sustained by or incurred by the other party as a result of any debts, actions, causes of action, claims, suits, liabilities, obligations or damages whatsoever resulting from the indemnifying party's (i) breach or default under this Agreement; and (ii) the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the indemnifying party. The right to indemnification set forth herein shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other rights contained in this Agreement. Each party shall promptly notify the other party of any action commenced or claim made or threatened against the notifying party arising from the

indemnifying party's conduct. The indemnifying party may assume the defense of, and may settle that part of any such action commenced against the notifying party which relates to the indemnifying party's indemnification, and the indemnifying party may take such other steps as may be necessary to protect itself. If the indemnifying party assumes such defense, the notifying party shall have the right to participate in such defense at the notifying party's expenses and through counsel of its own choice. If the indemnifying party does not assume such a defense, the notifying party may take such other steps as may be necessary to protect itself. In such a case, the notifying party shall conduct the proceedings through its own counsel, but the indemnifying party shall have the right to participate through counsel of its own choice. The assumption of such defense by the notifying party shall in no way affect the indemnification by the indemnifying party of all liabilities and expenses. The indemnifying party shall not be liable to the notifying party on account of any settlement of any such claim or litigation effected without the indemnifying party's consent. The right of the indemnifying party to assume the defense of any action shall be limited to that part of the action commenced against the notifying party which relates to the indemnifying party's indemnification.

8. This Agreement shall be effective on the date of the final signature, and shall continue until terminated by either party. Either institution may terminate this Agreement in any year, without cause, provided that the terminating institution has given the other institution written notice at least six (6) months prior to the effective date of such termination and further provided that termination may occur only at the end of a full academic year. In the event that said Agreement is not terminated, it will automatically be extended year by year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that MCPHS terminates this Agreement with respect to the Bridge Program in Worcester, the Bridge Program will continue to be offered for two years to MWCC students so as to afford them an opportunity to complete the program, or those students will be provided the opportunity to undertake the program at another MCPHS campus.

9. Both MCPHS and MWCC represent and agree that they are and shall remain during the term of this Agreement fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (or any successor organization). Each party further represents and warrants to the other that it is duly commissioned by the appropriate state governing authorities to offer post-secondary educational degrees.

10. This Agreement is being executed within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the parties agree that this Agreement shall be interpreted under the laws of said Commonwealth.

11. The parties agree that this Agreement embodies all of the agreements made by and between them and supersedes any prior agreements and understandings with regard to acceptance of MWCC students into the MCPHS Bridge Program, and that any modifications or amendments thereof must be in writing executed by both parties in order to be effective.

12. All notices or other communications made or given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed made or given upon receipt, or three business days after deposits in the U.S. Mail, in an envelope, postage prepaid, registered or certified mail, and addressed as follows:

If to MWCC:

Office of the President
Daniel M. Asquino
Mount Wachusett Community College
444 Green Street
Gardner, MA 01440
Ph: (978) 630-9101
Fax: (978) 632.8925

With copy to:

Advising & Counseling Center
Nancy Greenlaw
Mount Wachusett Community College
444 Green Street
Gardner, MA 01440
Ph: (978) 630.9321
Fax: (978) 630.9340

If to MCPHS:

Office of the President
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences
179 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
Ph: (617) 732-2880
Fax: (617) 732-2242

With copy to:

Robert W. Holmes, Jr. Esq.
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences
179 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
Ph: (617) 732-2249
Fax: (617) 732-2784

EXECUTED AS A SEALED INSTRUMENT THE DAY AND YEAR FIRST ABOVE WRITTEN.

MT. WACHUSETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By: _____
Daniel M. Asquino, President

Date: _____

By: _____
Melissa Fama, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Date: _____

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

By: _____
George E. Humphrey
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: _____

**Mount Wachusett Community College and
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Associate Degree in Nursing to Master of Science in Nursing
Family Nurse Practitioner
Degree Plan Table**

Mount Wachusett Community College Associate Degree in Nursing			Mass College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences MSN Family Nurse Practitioner		
Credits			Credits		
7	NUR111	Foundations of Nursing			
4	NUR113	Nursing Care of Children and Family			
4	NUR114	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family			
6	NUR220	Medical Surgical Nursing, Part 1			
4	NUR230	Psychiatric Nursing			
3	NUR204	Trends in Nursing			
10	NUR222	Medical Surgical Nursing, Part II			
2 or 3	PER126 or 130	Health, Fitness & Wellness Elective			
Pre-requisites for MSN Bridge Program Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)					
4	BIO203	Anatomy and Physiology I			
3	ENG101	English Composition I			
3	PSY105	Introduction to Psychology			
4	BIO204	Anatomy and Physiology II			
4	BIO205	Microbiology			
3	PSY110	Human Growth and Development			
3	ENG102	English Composition II			
3	SOC103	Introduction to Sociology			
3	HUM212	Medical Ethics			
70/71	Total credits for Associate Degree in Nursing				
3	MAT143	Statistics			
4	MAT163	Pre-calculus (prerequisite = MAT128)			
3	HIS	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx			
3	HUM	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx			
<u>13</u>					
83/84					
			Bridge Courses – 20 credits		
			3		Chemistry of Nutrition
			3		Professional Role Development
			4		Community Health Nursing
			3		Scholarly Inquiry
			4		Health Assessment
			3		Informatics Technology for Nurses
			Graduate FNP Courses – 40 Credits		

			3		Professional Role Development in Nursing
			3		Human Diversity, Ethics, and Social Policy Issues
			4		Advanced Health Assessment across the lifespan
			3		Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice
			3		Advanced Pathophysiology
			3		Advanced Pharmacology
			3		Evaluation Research and Statistical Analysis
			5		Family Health Nursing I
			5		Family Health Nursing II
			5		Family Health Nursing III
			3		Master's Thesis in Nursing
			144		Total credits Associate in Nursing Degree, Bridge Program and MSN Family Nurse Practitioner Program