

**Doctor of Physical Therapy Program  
ARTICULATION AGREEMENT  
St. Ambrose University  
AND  
Mount Mercy University**

This articulation agreement outlines the understanding established between St. Ambrose University and Mount Mercy University and for a Mount Mercy University undergraduate student to transition to St. Ambrose University to pursue the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. The agreement details the requirements for students to be considered for admission to the DPT program and the understanding between Mount Mercy University and St. Ambrose University for reverse transfer of credits that will count toward the student's remaining requirements for the bachelor's degree and the requirements for the DPT degree.

**A. Intent**

1. Mount Mercy University has developed an articulation agreement with St. Ambrose University to establish the responsibilities of each institution and admission criteria, to allow students to complete the first three years of the undergraduate degree at Mount Mercy University and then transfer to St. Ambrose University for completion of coursework for the DPT degree, through a 3+2.5 pathway. Students who successfully complete all requirements will be awarded a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) from Mount Mercy University and a doctor of physical therapy degree (DPT) from St. Ambrose University.

**B. Articulation Agreement**

1. Mount Mercy University students who have completed a minimum of 90 credits toward the bachelor's degree, have met the admission requirements for the DPT program, and have been admitted to the DPT program will be eligible for an accelerated 3+2.5 program that awards the bachelor's degree from Mount Mercy University in the student's 4<sup>th</sup> year and the DPT degree from St. Ambrose University in the student's 6<sup>th</sup> year.
2. Mount Mercy University students will apply for admission to the DPT program in their third year by December 1 through Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS).
3. Students will request an official St. Ambrose University transcript be sent to Mount Mercy University at the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> year of study.
4. Mount Mercy University will award the bachelor's degree to the student at the conclusion of the student's 4<sup>th</sup> year.
5. After the bachelor's degree has been conferred, students will request an official transcript from Mount Mercy University be sent to St. Ambrose University so the student can officially be designated a graduate student.
6. Students who successfully complete all requirements for the DPT program by the conclusion of the December of the 6<sup>th</sup> year will be awarded the DPT degree by St. Ambrose University.

7. Students participating in this agreement will pay tuition and fees to Mount Mercy University while enrolled at Mount Mercy University for the first three years of this agreement and will pay tuition and fees to St. Ambrose University for the 2.5 years enrolled at St. Ambrose University. Institutional aid from Mount Mercy University does not carry forward to St. Ambrose University and students will pay the one-price plan tuition starting their first year in the DPT program. .

#### C. Responsibilities of Mount Mercy University

1. Mount Mercy University will be responsible for identifying and communicating the necessary majors that allow students to complete this accelerated pathway to the DPT degree.
2. Mount Mercy University will advise the student within the first three years to complete necessary courses for general education, the major of choice, the necessary pre-requisites, and a minimum of 90 credits.
3. Mount Mercy University will make eligible students aware of the 3+2.5 program.
4. Mount Mercy University will confer the bachelor's degree after the student's fourth year upon the receipt of the transfer of a minimum of 30 credits of coursework completed at St. Ambrose University.

#### D. Responsibilities of St. Ambrose University

1. St. Ambrose University will interview the top five qualified Mount Mercy University students.
2. St. Ambrose University will advise the student in their fourth, fifth, and sixth years of the program, so they successfully complete all of the coursework necessary for the reverse transfer to Mount Mercy University and the DPT program.
3. St. Ambrose University will send each student's official transcript, upon request from the student to Mount Mercy University after completion of the student's first year of courses at St. Ambrose University.
4. St. Ambrose University will share marketing materials and promotional information with Mount Mercy University to promote the DPT program to prospective students.
5. St. Ambrose University will confer the DPT degree upon completion of all DPT degree requirements, completing the 3+2.5 agreement.

#### E. Responsibilities of the Student

1. The student will declare the necessary major at Mount Mercy University to be eligible for the 3+2.5 program.
2. The student will complete 90 credits including general education requirements, major courses, and necessary pre-requisites.
3. The student will apply to the St. Ambrose University DPT program by December 1 in their third year or once they have completed at least 72 credits and are on track to complete all pre-requisite courses by the start of the DPT program.
4. Once the student has been accepted to the 3+2.5 program at St. Ambrose University, they should complete the FAFSA for their 4th year. FAFSA's should

be submitted to St. Ambrose University prior to March 1 or as soon as possible after acceptance as been received.

5. The student will complete the fourth year of required coursework at St. Ambrose University and request an official transcript be sent to Mount Mercy University upon completion of the fourth year.
6. Prior to beginning the fifth year at St. Ambrose University, the student will complete the FAFSA as a graduate student at St. Ambrose University.
7. After the bachelor's degree is conferred, the student will request the official transcript from Mount Mercy University be sent to St. Ambrose University to verify the student is eligible for graduate coursework.

#### F. Admission Criteria

- a. To be eligible for admission to the St. Ambrose DPT program, students must meet the admissions criteria posted on the St. Ambrose University Physical Therapy Department website and the PTCAS website.

#### G. Terms and Terminations

- a. This agreement will take effect upon review and approval with signatures from both institutions. The agreement will remain in effect for three years, after which the agreement will be reviewed for accuracy and may be renewed. Should either party decide to terminate the agreement, 12 months prior notice is required to the other institution, provided in writing.

#### H. Mutual Indemnification


- a. Each party shall indemnify and hold harmless the other party and its officers, employees, directors, and/or agents from and against all suits, actions, claims, or liability of any character, type, or description brought by third part including, but not limited to, all expenses of litigation, court costs, penalties, and whatsoever and of any kind or nature directly resulting or arising from any breach of party and/or its agents of any provisions of this Agreement, or and negligent or willful act or omission of a party and/or its agents.

#### I. Relationships

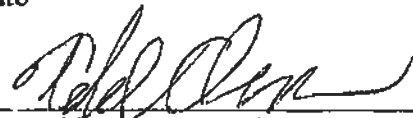
- a. The parties are acting herein as independent contractors. Nothing herein contained shall create or be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture or agency relationship between either of the parties and no party shall have the authority to bind to the other in any respect.

#### J. Entire Agreement


- a. The Agreement shall constitute the complete and exclusive written expression of the intentions of the parties hereto and shall supersede all previous communications, representations, Agreements, promises or statements, either oral or written, by and between either parties.

  
Dr. Tom Castle, Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs  
Mount Mercy University

1-19-24  
Date

  
Dr. Todd Olson, President  
Mount Mercy University

1-19-2024  
Date

  
Dr. Joe Roidt, Provost and Vice President  
Academic and Affairs  
St. Ambrose University

02-29-2024  
Date

  
Dr. Amy Novak, President  
St. Ambrose University

02-29-2024  
Date