

**TRINITY COLLEGE OF NURSING  
& HEALTH SCIENCES  
AND  
BLACK HAWK COLLEGE**

Articulation Agreement: Dual Degree Program  
Medical Laboratory Science Program and Associate Degree

**Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences** of Rock Island, IL, and **Black Hawk College** of Rock Island, IL (the Parties) believe that a cooperative program benefits students by allowing students an opportunity to earn degrees from both institutions.

This Articulation Agreement (the Agreement) defines the Dual Degree Program between the Parties for qualified students seeking to complete their associate degree from Black Hawk College and the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Program curriculum at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

**Agreement**

The Agreement is designed to provide participating students with a specific pathway to meet degree requirements for an associate degree at Black Hawk College and a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in Medical Laboratory Science at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

It is agreed and understood that each institution has the right and responsibility to make changes to its curricula, admission, enrollment, and graduation standards to maintain its academic integrity and meet accreditation standards. Such changes, if any, will be communicated in writing to the other Party at least 90 days prior to the effective date of the respective change.

At the request of either institution, a meeting or conference will be held to resolve any problems and monitor progress under the terms of this Agreement.

Under the terms of this Agreement, neither institution is obligated to make any payments of any kind to the other institution.

**Academic Requirements**

1. The student is required to earn a minimum of 80 semester hours of MLS required pre-requisite and general education courses before starting the 40-semester credit hour MLS program at Trinity.
2. Students intending to complete the associate degree must meet all Black Hawk College graduation requirements. Refer to Appendix A for the Associate in Arts course requirements. Black Hawk College may award the associate degree

prior to Trinity College of Nursing and Health Sciences awarding the bachelor's degree.

3. The cumulative GPA and the science and math cumulative GPA required for the MLS program must be met. Refer to the GPA standards in place at the time of application to the MLS program.
4. Upon acceptance into the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, 80 semester hours may be transferred toward the completion of the MLS Program. For approved transfer credits refer to Appendix A of this Agreement.
5. Upon successful completion of the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, 40 credit hours will be awarded towards the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in Medical Laboratory Science. For approved MLS credits refer to Appendix B of this Agreement.
6. Students who successfully complete the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences (40 credits) will be eligible to participate in Trinity's commencement.

### **Accreditation**

The Parties will ensure that they maintain accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission regional accrediting body and ensure all operations will be in keeping with the respective accreditation requirements of the Parties.

### **Duration and Termination of Agreement**

The Parties agree that this Agreement shall be in force the date of the signing of the Agreement and shall remain in force until modified or terminated in writing, following reasonable and mutual discussion by representatives of the Parties.

The Parties reserve the right to revise or eliminate programs and courses. Such changes will be communicated in writing to the appropriate parties noted in this section. This Agreement will be reviewed annually to ensure currency with each Party's degree requirements and may be modified by attachment.

Should this Agreement be terminated, for any student already admitted into the MLS Program, Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences will continue to apply the transferred pre-requisite courses and credits to the MLS Program as specified in this Agreement provided the student continues to meet satisfactory academic progress toward their bachelor's degree.

Send written notifications by U.S. Mail and email to:

Trinity College of Nursing  
and Health Sciences  
2122 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Rock Island, IL 61201

ATTN:  
Misty Stick-Mueller, DC, MHA, MS  
Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences  
[misty.stick-mueller@trinitycollegeqc.edu](mailto:misty.stick-mueller@trinitycollegeqc.edu)  
(309) 779-7708

Black Hawk College  
6600 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Moline, IL 61265

ATTN:  
Amy Maxeiner, Ed.D, P.T.  
Vice President for Instruction and  
Interim Dean of Health and  
Human Services

[maxeinera@bhc.edu](mailto:maxeinera@bhc.edu)  
(309) 796-5043

-and-

Cathryn Lass  
Articulation/Transfer Coordinator  
[lassc@bhc.edu](mailto:lassc@bhc.edu)  
(309) 796-5474

### **Other Provisions**

The Parties agree to publicly disclose this Agreement in order to make it known to potential students. Excluding jointly generated or agreed upon marketing materials, neither Party will use the other Party's name, marks, or any other trade designations without the prior written approval of such Party, which may be withheld for any reason.

### **Notification of Equal Educational Opportunities**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences is committed to providing equal employment and promotion opportunities to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, Veteran Status, or disability. Applicants for admissions and in employment together with sources of referral are hereby notified that this Institution does not discriminate among applicants or employees based upon their status of race, color, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, or disability in any aspect of the employment relationship from hiring through termination. Any person having inquiries concerning Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences' compliance with the regulations implementing Title IV, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Director of Student Services and External Relations or Chancellor. Inquiries also may be addressed to the Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Candice Jackson, U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-421-3481.

Black Hawk College does not discriminate in its education programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions, marital status, medical condition, genetic information, service

in the uniformed services, political activities and affiliations, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. Specifically, Title IX/SaVE requires the College not to discriminate on the basis of gender/sex in its education programs and activities. Gender/sex harassment, including gender/sex violence, is a form of prohibited gender/sex discrimination. Examples of covered acts are found in the College's policies in the Student Resources section of this catalog.

### **Liaisons**

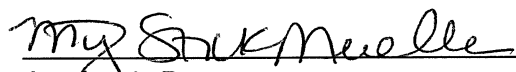
To facilitate a student's participation in the program, the Parties have designated liaisons:

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences:  
Stephanie Tieso, Program Director/BSHS Program Coordinator


Black Hawk College:  
Darcie McAndless, Director of Advising; or designee (student's assigned Educational Advisor & Success Coach)

### **Signatures**

The Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed on their behalf by their duly authorized representatives to be effective as set forth above in the *Duration and Termination of Agreement* section.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Academic Dean  
Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences

11/30/23  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President for Instruction and  
Interim Dean of Health and Human Services  
Black Hawk College

11/20/2023  
Date



**Appendix A** General Education Prerequisites for MLS  
and Approved Black Hawk College Transfer Credits

Prerequisite General Education Courses		
Humanities	Credits	Courses (& credits) applied to Associate in Arts (AA) degree
Written Communication	3	ENG 101 or ENG 101C (3)
Oral Communication	3	SPEC 101 (3)
Humanities *	6	take GECC IAI-coded Humanities courses (6) <i>select different course prefixes</i>
Humanities Electives *	6	<i>For the MLS take 6 more credits of IAI-coded Humanities courses</i>
<b>Humanities total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
Sociology	3	SOC 101, SOC 102, SOC 250, or SOC 264 (3)
Psychology	3	PSYC 101 (3)
<b>Social Sciences total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Natural Sciences and Mathematics</b>		
Anatomy and Physiology 1	4	BIOL 145 (4)
General Chemistry 1	4	CHEM 101 (4)
General Chemistry 2	4	CHEM 102 (4)
Biochemistry or Organic Chemistry	4	CHEM 111 Organo-Bio-Chemical Principles (4), or CHEM 203 Organic Chemistry I (5)
Biology	4	BIOL 100 (4), BIOL 101 (4), or BIOL 105 (5)
Microbiology	4	BIOL 261 (4)
College Algebra	3	MATH 112 or MATH 112C (4)
Statistics	3	MATH 108, MATH 108C or MATH 228 (3)
<b>Natural Sciences and Mathematics total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31-33</b>
<b>Electives</b>		
Medical Terminology (MLS directed elective)	2	BIOL 150 (3)
Electives *	9	ENG 102 (3); a GECC IAI-coded Fine Arts course (3); and a GECC IAI-coded Social & Behavioral Science course (3) <i>required for AA degree</i>
Electives *	15	<i>select general electives to reach 80 total prerequisite credits for the MLS</i>
<b>Electives total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23 - 25</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>60 credits minimum for the AA degree plus electives to total 80 credits</b>

\* Select at least one course that satisfies Black Hawk College's Non-Western Studies graduation requirement.

Appendix B    MLS Required Courses    8/20/2024    course sequence modified; no other changes.

SUMMER		
14 Weeks		
Course #:	Description:	Semester Hours
MLS 310	Urinalysis and Body Fluids	2
MLS 320	Laboratory Math and Operations	1
MLS 330	Phlebotomy and Pre-analytical Variables	1
MLS 340	Cell Morphology	2
MLS 345	Clinical Immunology	2
MLS 420	Educational Development	1
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

FALL		
16 weeks		
Course #:	Description:	Semester Hours
MLS 410	Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine	1
MLS 415	Clinical Chemistry	7
MLS 425	Clinical Hematology and Hemostasis	7
MLS 440	Laboratory Management	1
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

SPRING		
16 weeks		
Course #:	Description:	Semester Hours
MLS 430	Immunohematology	7
MLS 435	Clinical Microbiology	7
MLS 450	Medical Laboratory Science Review	1
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

All general education prerequisites must be completed prior to admission to the BSHS-MLS Program. Transfer credit evaluated on a course-by-course basis.

<b>Pre-Requisite General Education Total</b>	<b>80 SH</b>
<b>MLS Total</b>	<b>40 SH</b>
<b>BSHS-MLS Program Total</b>	<b>120 SH</b>