

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

LENOIR RHYNE UNIVERSITY

and

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This Memorandum of Understanding (this "MOU") is a non-binding agreement and is entered into this 10th day of August, 2023. The parties agree to cooperate and work together toward the development of the Bear Bound Co-Admission Program by and between Lenoir-Rhyne University and Southwestern Community College. Any specific activity developed under this MOU shall be detailed in a subsequent agreement, signed by each party's authorized representative, prior to the implementation of the Bear Bound Co-Admission Program.



Frederick Whitt, Ed.D.
President
Lenoir-Rhyne University



Don Tomas, Ed.D.
President
Southwestern Community College

Bear Bound Co-Admission Program

A Partnership between

Lenoir-Rhyne University and Southwestern Community College

This non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (this "MOU") is made on the 10th day of August, 2023, by and between Lenoir-Rhyne University ("LR") and Southwestern Community College ("SCC") to promote collaboration in the establishment and management of the Bear Bound Co-Admission Program (the "Bear Bound Program").

The Bear Bound Program is a program to allow students to take advantage of campus resources simultaneously at LR and SCC. A student accepted into the Bear Bound Program would take coursework for an associate's degree at SCC while also having access to campus resources at LR. The program is designed to provide a Bear Bound Program student admission to LR after graduating from SCC with an associate's degree so long as LR's admissions requirements are met.

The parties to this MOU mutually agree as follows:

1. The Bear Bound Program shall be effective at the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester, subject to the parties entering into a subsequent agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the administration of the Bear Bound Program.
2. Any SCC student who is a candidate for one of the following associate's degrees may apply to the Bear Bound Program during their first (or any subsequent) semester at SCC:
 - a. Associate in Arts (AA);
 - b. Associate in Science (AS);
 - c. Associate in Arts in Teacher Preparation (AATP);
 - d. Associate in Science in Teacher Preparation (ASTP);
 - e. Associate in Applied Science (AAS);
 - f. Associate in Fine Arts (AFA);
 - g. Associate in Engineering (AE); or
 - h. Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN).
3. Application to the Bear Bound Program is not the same as application to LR and students accepted into the Bear Bound Program will still need to submit an application for admission to LR. However, students accepted into the Bear Bound Program can take advantage of LR's student life programming and facilities while enrolled at SCC, to include:
 - a. Athletic events and performing arts events;
 - b. Library;
 - c. Most student activities, intramural sports, clubs & organizations;
 - d. Recreation facilities (additional cost and/or application required);
 - e. Housing (if available; additional cost and/or application required); and

- f. Dining plans (additional cost and/or application required).
4. Students who graduate from SCC with one of the associate's degrees listed in paragraph 2 above will be admitted to LR so long as they meet the following admissions requirements:
 - a. Must have a minimum 2.25 cumulative GPA over all transferable credit;
 - b. Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing at previous institutions;
 - c. Must complete an admissions application by July 1 (for fall admits), December 1 (for spring admits), or May 1/April 15 (for summer admits); and
 - d. Must send all final official transcripts to LR prior to matriculation.
 5. Students who have completed the AA, AS, AATP, or ASTP with a minimum GPA of 2.25 and a minimum grade of C/2.0 in all transferable courses will be considered to have met the LR general education curriculum requirements. Other degree programs will have their courses with a minimum grade of C/2.0 transfer in based on a course-for-course articulation.

This MOU shall be effective from the date last signed above for a period of four years or until it is terminated by either LR or SCC by submitting written notice to the other party at least one year prior to the effective date of termination. A joint evaluation of this MOU will be conducted by the parties' authorized representatives every four years. The purpose of such evaluation shall be to ensure that the academic content and quality of courses offered by SCC and the services provided by LR continue to meet the goals and intentions of this MOU. Any renewal of or alterations or modifications to this MOU shall be in writing and signed by an authorized representative of each party.