

**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
MANKATO STATE UNIVERSITY
AND
SOUTH CENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

January, 1995

Mankato State University (hereinafter MSU) and the South Central Technical College (hereinafter SCTC) share a student centered approach to the delivery of nursing education. This Articulation Agreement, hereafter referred to as agreement, is designed to facilitate student access to nursing education. We believe that articulation is the intentional planning and coordination of nursing education between programs so that one program serves as a foundation for the next educational level. Our goal is to make the transition from the curriculum preparing for licensure in practical nursing to the program leading to registered nursing with a baccalaureate degree (RN-BS) smooth, educationally sound and with minimal duplication, gaps or revalidation.

This agreement has been prepared to conform with the recognized transfer principles, practices and policies of the Minnesota State University System and MSU. MSU receives its authority under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 136 and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Its nursing baccalaureate program is approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing. SCTC is chartered by the Minnesota Technical College System and has been recommended for North Central Accreditation status. SCTC is preparing for National League for Nursing accreditation.

MSU School of Nursing faculty desire to assist the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the pursuit of the baccalaureate degree with a minimum of repetitive learning. "Learning is promoted by active participation in real life situations and by experiences that consider the learner's needs, abilities and goals... The faculty role is to nurture the learner by structuring learning activities that promote inquiry and stimulate intellectual curiosity and creativity... The curriculum is designed to offer an opportunity for the student to develop sound theoretical, clinical, and research bases for the professional practice of nursing" (Philosophy Statement of the School of Nursing, Mankato State University).

Admission Requirements

Licensed practical nurses are accepted at MSU in the same manner as basic students and are under the same policies. Admission to the School of Nursing is a separate process from admission to the University and occurs on a yearly basis for LPN students. Applications will be accepted during spring quarter each year for fall admission to the School of Nursing.

Requirements for admission to the School of Nursing under this agreement include:

Admission to Mankato State University
Completion of a minimum of 46 quarter credits, including the 33 required prerequisite Courses
A minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale)
Current licensure as a Licensed Practical Nurse
Coverage by professional liability insurance prior to beginning clinical courses

Current certification in CPR, a current physical examination, TB testing verification and evidence of MMR prior to beginning clinical courses
Graduation from South Central Technical College Practical Nursing Program with a 2.5 cumulative GPA
Completion of required prenursing courses

Graduation Requirements

A total of 192 quarter credits is required to qualify for graduation from Mankato State University with a bachelor's degree. A student entering the nursing program under this agreement would complete these credits as follows:

a. Required prenursing courses	33 credits
b. Required foundational courses	19 credits
c. General education courses	36 credits
Because 31 of the required prenursing and foundational credits are counted as general education credits, an additional 36 general education credits are required to total the minimum of 67 quarter hours.	
d. Basic nursing courses	74 credits
e. LPN Track nursing courses	6 credits
f. Transferred nursing courses	11 credits
g. Transferred electives	<u>13 credits</u>
Total	192 credits

The course of studies pursued by the students in the MSU Nursing Program shall be set forth in the MSU Undergraduate Bulletin. The Associate Dean of the School of Nursing at MSU shall notify the Health & Safety Division Instructional Dean of SCTC in writing of any changes in the courses required which would impact this agreement prior to the effective date of such changes.

Students successfully completing the MSU Nursing Program shall be awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Nursing and are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN).

Policies concerning MSU academic standards, including pass/fail decisions, grading systems and other educational procedures, shall be as set forth in the MSU Undergraduate Bulletin.

Required Prerequisite and Foundational Nursing Courses

Certain courses or their equivalents must be successfully completed prior to application to the School of Nursing. Others must be taken prior to enrollment in the School of Nursing, prior to enrollment in specific courses or by the end of the first quarter of enrollment. These enrollment prerequisites are identified in the MU Undergraduate Bulletin. Students enrolling under this agreement shall be bound by the terms and conditions of the Bulletin in effect at the time of enrollment.

Credit for Previous Nursing Knowledge

Students who have graduated from the Practical Nursing program at SCTC and who have passed the National Council Licensure Examination-Licensed Practical Nursing (NCLEX-LPN) will be awarded academic credit for the following courses which are part of the basic baccalaureate curriculum at MSU:

Nursing Perspectives
Communication Strategies in Nursing
Psychomotor Strategies in Nursing
Gerontological Clinical
Altered Physiologic Mode Clinical I

Transition Courses

A two credit theory course is designed specifically for LPN students to incorporate areas not currently addressed in the practical nursing program: issues of transition from the role of licensed practical nurse to professional nurse, history of nursing, physical assessment and therapeutic communication for the professional nurse. A four credit clinical course provides application of professional nursing skills in the clinical setting. These courses will be offered with other first year nursing courses.

Credit by Examination

Students may receive credit for the following courses by completing examinations administered by faculty in the School of Nursing:

Gerontological Nursing
Altered Physiologic Mode Nursing I
Childbearing Family Nursing
Child Health Nursing

Arrangements must be made to complete these examinations the quarter prior to testing. Credit will be granted only as "Pass" (P) credit. A fee is charged for each to be taken. Applications for such examination must be secured from and receive the approval of the Director of Undergraduate programs in the School of Nursing as well as that of the Associate Dean. Credit by examination is to be given only for an extremely high level of efficiency, usually represented by a grade of A or B on the examination.

Credit by CLEP and Self-Paced Course

Credits may be awarded through the successful completion of the College Level Program (CLEP) of the College Entrance Examination Board in the general examinations in humanities, mathematics, natural sciences, and social sciences/history provided no previous academic credits have been earned in these areas. To earn credit in general education toward English composition, it is necessary to apply to the English Department for permission to attempt credit by examination. This locally developed examination is used at Mankato State in place of the CLEP English examination.

Students may also register for a self-paced course, Psychology 101. There are specific meeting times listed in each quarter's schedule during which students complete a certain number of examinations and receive individual assistance where needed.

This Articulation Agreement shall be effective when signed by all parties and shall continue until terminated. The agreement may be terminated by either party, with or without cause, upon written notification to the other party at least one (1) year in advance of any such termination.

Meetings between appropriate faculty members at MSU and SCTC shall be held at least annually to discuss current curriculum effectiveness and proposed curriculum changes, and other matters of mutual concern.

This agreement shall be reviewed periodically by both parties but not less than once per year. Any amendments or revisions shall be in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both parties.

For Mankato State University

_____/S/_____
President

_____3/31/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
VP for Academic Affairs

_____3/30/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
College Dean

_____3/8/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
Associate Dean

_____2-28-95_____
Date

For South Central Technical College

_____/S/_____
President

_____4/11/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
VP of Institution & Academic Affairs

_____4/10/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
Health & Safety Div Instructional Dean

_____4/11/95_____
Date

_____/S/_____
Practical Nursing Director

_____4/12/95_____
Date