

EARLY ASSURANCE ADMISSION PROGRAM

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), effective as of July 1, 2016, is by and between The Pennsylvania State University (“PSU”), and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences on behalf of its Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (“RSDM”).

WHEREAS, PSU offers baccalaureate degrees and is dedicated to the provision of undergraduate educational programs consistent with the overall mission of RSDM;

WHEREAS, RSDM is an instructional unit of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey offering a Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) and is dedicated to the provision of professional dental school education;

WHEREAS, PSU is seeking to provide its students with an opportunity to enter the dental profession through an early admission process and RSDM is to offer an early assurance admission program for its D.M.D.;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the provisions contained herein, PSU and RSDM agree as follows:

I. The Early Assurance Admission Program

- A. The Early Assurance Admissions Program (“Program”) allows for exceptional students who are in their fourth semester at PSU with the opportunity to apply for provisional early acceptance into the D.M.D. program at RSDM. Students accepted into the Program are given provisional acceptance into RSDM, which becomes final when students complete the requirements for their baccalaureate degree at PSU and meet Program standards.
- B. Executive Committee. PSU will form a committee (“Executive Committee”) to review and select qualified applicants from PSU for the Program.
 - 1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for coordinating the baccalaureate requirements at PSU with the pre-requisites for admission to RSDM, and shall recommend students for RSDM based upon their performance in the Program.
 - 2. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for advising, counseling and reviewing the progress of each student admitted into the Program and will inform all accepted students of the requirements for the Program and for formal acceptance into RSDM.
 - 3. The Executive Committee will inform students that admission into RSDM is within the complete discretion of RSDM.
 - 4. The PSU director of the Program will meet regularly with students in the Program and inform the Executive Committee of any matters or recommendations concerning the Program or individual students.
- C. RSDM Admissions Committee. RSDM Admissions Committee is to review and approve the applicants selected by the Executive Committee for the Program. RSDM

Admissions Committee shall retain final authority to admit students into its D.M.D. program.

- D. Both Committees will be responsible for establishing criteria for admission into the Program, advertising and publicity, evaluating, interviewing, and selecting candidates based on the established criteria, and notifying applicants of Committee decisions.

II. Eligibility and Application to the Program

- A. Eligibility. In order to apply for the Program, students must meet the following criteria:
1. Students must be in the fourth semester of their studies at PSU.
 2. Students must have completed first year English (3 credits) and at least eight of the following courses:
 - i. Calculus I and II (8 credits);
 - ii. General Biology I and II with laboratory (8 credits)
 - iii. Physics I and II with laboratory (8 credits);
 - iv. General Chemistry I and II with laboratory (8 credits);
 - v. Organic Chemistry I and II with laboratory (8 credits).
 - vi. In the event of advanced placement (AP), international baccalaureate (IB) or advanced standing credit in the aforementioned courses, applicants will still be required to take substituted upper level science courses with same amount of credit weight.
 3. Students must have a cumulative science grade point average of 3.50 or higher.
 4. The Executive Committee shall periodically review the eligibility and admission criteria and modify them as deemed appropriate.
- B. Application. A complete application for admission into the Program shall be submitted to the Program Director and shall include: (1) a personal statement, (2) official college transcripts, (3) at least three letters of recommendation (at least two must be from instructors of science courses), and (4) any other information required by the Executive Committee.
- C. Interviews. After preliminary evaluation of the applications by the Executive Committee and the RSDM Admissions Committee, selected applicants will be invited for interviews. Each Committee will conduct an interview with the selected applicants. Following these interviews, the RSDM Admissions Committee will compile the evaluations of all interviews and make final selection of students to be admitted to the Program. RSDM reserves the right to make independent acceptance decisions and to require additional evaluations and interviews at any time.
- D. Notification of Admission Decision. The RSDM Admissions Committee will notify students of their admission decisions in writing as early as possible after the interviews. Students who are not invited for an interview, or not selected for admission to RSDM, shall be notified of the decision as early as possible, and can reapply for regular admission the following year through the American Dental Education Association Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS).
- E. Provisional Offer. Students who are offered and accept a position in the Program are expected to honor their commitment and matriculate to RSDM. However, students are not bound by law and are free to apply to other dental schools.
- F. Accepted students in the Program must satisfy all PSU and RSDM requirements, including, but not limited to, student immunization and health requirements, disciplinary disclosure forms and criminal background checks.

III. Program Requirements

- A. In order to maintain good standing in the Program and receive a formal offer of admission into RSDM, students must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Complete their baccalaureate degree at PSU, including all of the requirements provided in Section I.A(2) herein, and the major electives required by PSU;
 - 2. Receive a recommendation by the Executive Committee;
 - 3. Achieve minimum scores on the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) (at the time of execution of this MOU, the academic average minimum score is 20 and the total science minimum score is 20) and submit scores to RSDM Office of Admission by January 1st of the year they seek to enroll at RSDM;
 - 4. Submit an application to RSDM through the AADSAS by December 1st of the year preceding the year they seek to enroll at RSDM; and
 - 5. Any other information required by the Executive and/or RSDM Admissions Committee
- B. Formal Acceptance. Formal offer for admission into RSDM becomes final when the student has met all Program standards, including the requirements listed in Section III. A. of this MOU and receives a favorable admissions decision from RSDM.
- C. Student Status. While matriculated at PSU, each student will be entitled to the same services and privileges accorded to all regularly enrolled PSU students, and while enrolled at RSDM each student will be entitled to the same services and privileges accorded to all regularly enrolled RSDM students.

IV. Miscellaneous

- A. Term and Termination.
 - 1. The Term of this MOU shall be from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021 (“Term”). At least six (6) months prior to the termination of this MOU, or no later than December 30, 2020, the parties agree that they will enter into negotiations regarding extending the Term of this MOU for one (1) additional year. If the parties agree to extend the Term of the MOU, its present conditions may be modified or changed only with the written consent of both parties.
 - 2. Either party may terminate this MOU with six (6) months prior written notice to the other party.
 - 3. In the event either party terminates this MOU, students currently participating in the Program will be permitted the opportunity to complete the Program.
- B. Nondiscrimination. Both parties shall assure that the obligations performed under this MOU are rendered without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, genetic information or political ideas.
- C. Assignment. Neither party may assign this MOU, or any rights or obligations hereunder, without the other party’s prior written consent.
- D. Independent Entities. This MOU shall not be construed to create general partnerships, joint venture or any other organizational combination of the parties, nor shall it authorize either to act as an agent for, or bind the other party in any manner. RSDM and PSU shall be and remain independent entities with respect to the performance of their respective duties and

obligations hereunder. There shall be no payment of charges or fees between RSDM and PSU.

- E. Notice. Any notice required under this MOU shall be in writing and shall be given, and be deemed to have been duly given, upon the date delivered, if delivered personally, or upon the date received, if mailed postage pre-paid by certified mail return receipt requested, in either case addressed to the address of the other party as indicated below, or to such other address as either party may designate in writing by notice.

If to RSDM:

Rosa Chaviano-Moran, DMD
Assistant Dean of Admissions/ Student Recruitment
110 Bergen Street, B-829
Newark, NJ 07103

If to PSU:

Ronald A Markle, Ph.D.
Director, Premedicine and Science Majors
221 Ritenour Bldg.
The Pennsylvania State University
Univeristy Park, PA 16802

- F. Entire Agreement. This MOU constitutes the entire agreement between the parties regarding this subject matter. No modification or amendment shall be binding upon either party until produced in writing and signed by both parties. This MOU, when fully executed, shall supersede any and all prior or existing MOU, either oral or written, with respect to the subject matter hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, RSDM and PSU have executed this MOU, intending to be legally bound hereby, on the day and year first written above.

For The Pennsylvania State University:

Susan E. Wiedemer
Assistant Treasurer

Date

Robert N. Pangborn
Vice President and Dean, Undergraduate Education

Date

Douglass Cavener
Dean, Eberly College of Science

Date

Ronald A. Markle
Director, Premedicine and Science Majors, PSU

Date

For Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey:

Cecile Feldman
Dean, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine

Date

Brian L. Strom
Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences

Date

Barbara A. Lee
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date