

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
by and between
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
and
Northern Essex Community College

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made by and between the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD or University) with a usual place of business of 285 Old Westport Road, North Dartmouth, MA and Northern Essex Community College (NECC), located at 100 Elliot Street, Haverhill, MA 01830.

Whereas, the Parties represent that they have the right, resources and authority to enter into and be bound by this MOU; and

Whereas, the University will offer dual admission to students admitted to the Northern Essex Community College Associate in Science program in Nursing and the UMass Dartmouth College of Nursing and Health Sciences RN-BS Online degree program that provides an accredited quality program of study with small class sizes with attention to individual student learning; and

Now therefore, in consideration of mutual promises and covenants set forth in this MOU the Parties agree as follows:

1. Term

This MOU shall commence on September 1, 2026 ("Commencement Date") and shall expire on May 31, 2031 ("Termination Date"). The MOU may be extended prior to the Termination Date upon mutual written agreement of the Parties in accordance with the Amendments section of this MOU.

2. The UMass Dartmouth RN-BS Online Degree

- Provides an affordable, flexible, fully online BS in Nursing for licensed nurses who want to meet the demands of today's health care environment and advance their careers
- Produces a dynamic learning environment that promotes analytical thinking and safe patient centered care so important for 21st century nursing careers
- Meets the academic needs of busy adult learners in convenient 7 or 14 weeklong online courses in a part-time enrollment format

3. Transfer Credit Stipulations for the RN-BS Online Degree

- This agreement applies to Northern Essex Community College transfer students with an Associate in Science in Nursing and Registered Nurse Licensure in the state they reside.
- Northern Essex Community College graduates who successfully completed the courses noted in the current articulation agreement (or their updated equivalents) may transfer up to 90 credits into UMass Dartmouth's RN - BS in Nursing program. Of the 90 transfer credits, graduates from NECC's Associate of Science in Nursing and successful enrollment into UMass Dartmouth's RN-BS in Nursing online degree program will receive 45 nursing portfolio credits and 30 non-nursing credits. Outside of NECC's associate degree, students may transfer, although not required for admissions, an additional 15 credits from an accredited institution(s) to fulfill UMass Dartmouth's non-nursing requirements. These credits must meet the minimum transfer grade point average and fulfill a UMassD degree requirement. See transfer equivalency grid on page 3 for specifics.
- Students will be responsible for completing all graduation requirements in effect at the time of graduation from UMass Dartmouth to earn a bachelor's degree.

4. Making the UMass Dartmouth RN-BS Online Program More Affordable

Participants receive a 15% Success by Degree tuition credit for meeting the following criteria:

- Completed the Associate in Science in Nursing degree from Northern Essex Community College with a 3.00 GPA or higher
- Matriculated in the fully online UMass Dartmouth undergraduate degree program within two years of receiving the associate's degree

To remain eligible for the Success by Degree tuition credit, students must:

- Maintain a 3.00 cumulative GPA or higher at UMass Dartmouth
- Continuously enroll in undergraduate online courses each fall and spring semester
- Complete the bachelor's degree within 4 years of the initial matriculation term at UMass Dartmouth (to avoid ambiguity with their initial matriculation at NECC)
- Students under this Agreement receive equal consideration with others seeking financial aid as long as they qualify.

The University will waive the current application fee of thirty dollars (\$30)

5. Termination

- Without Cause: The MOU may be terminated without cause by either Party by giving written notice to the other Party at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the effective date of termination stated in the notice
- With Cause: If either Party fails to fulfill its obligations, the non-breaching Party may terminate this MOU by giving written notice to the breaching Party at least thirty (30) calendar days before the effective date of termination stated in the notice
- The parties agree that notwithstanding the termination of this MOU under this Section, any student already enrolled in a course or who has applied for transfer from NECC to UMass Dartmouth at the time of notice of termination is given by either party shall be given the opportunity to complete their course within the prescribed period

6. Waivers

- All conditions, covenants, duties and obligations contained in this MOU can be waived only by written agreement. Forbearance or indulgence in any form or manner by a party shall not be construed as a waiver, nor in any way limit the legal or equitable remedies available to that party.

7. Amendments

- This MOU may be amended only by written agreement of the Parties, executed by the Parties' authorized representatives and in compliance with all other regulations and requirements of law.

8. Choice of Law

- This MOU is entered into in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the laws of the Commonwealth, without giving effect to its conflicts of law principles, govern all matters arising out of or relating to this Contract and all the transactions it contemplates, including, without limitation, its validity, interpretation, construction, performance and enforcement.

9. Force Majeure

- Neither party shall be liable to the other or be deemed in breach of this MOU for any failure or delay in rendering performance arising out of causes beyond its reasonable control and without fault or negligence. Such causes may include but are not limited to, acts of nature or of a public enemy, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or unusually severe weather. Dates or times of performance shall be extended to the extent of delays excused by this section, provided that the party whose performance is affected notifies the other promptly of the existence and nature of such delay.

Entire Agreement

The Parties understand and agree that this MOU constitutes the entire understanding between the Parties and supersedes all other verbal and written agreements and negotiations by the Parties relating to the services under this MOU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOFF, the Parties hereto have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed by their respective duly authorized officers.

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth **Approval**

Northern Essex Community College **Approval**

Dr. Ramprasad Balasubramanian
Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs

DocuSigned by:
Michael McCarthy 6/9/2026
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Michael McCarthy
Executive Vice President and CFO/COO

Signed by:
Austin Gilliland 6/11/2026
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Dr. Austin Gilliland
Vice President of Academic Affairs

KAC

Dr. Kimberly Christopher
Dean, College of Nursing and Health
Sciences

DocuSigned by:
Kathy Hudson 6/11/2026
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Kathy Hudson
Dean of Health Professions

6/16/2026

Date

Articulation Agreement

Institution: Northern Essex Community College

Transfer Institution: University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO UMASS DARTMOUTH TRANSFER EQUIVALENCY GRID

Northern Essex Community College AS in Nursing degree requirements that fulfill UMass Dartmouth RN-BS in Nursing degree requirement

Northern Essex Community College course	credits	UMass Dartmouth required course	credits
BIO 121 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4	BIO 221 Anatomy & Physiology I BIO 223 Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	3 1
BIO 122 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	BIO 222 Anatomy & Physiology II BIO 224 Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	3 1
BIO 220 Microbiology	4	BIO 251 Medical Microbiology BIO 261 Medical Microbiology Lab	3 1
ENG 101 English Composition I	3	ENL 101 Critical Writing & Reading I	3
ENG 102 English Composition II	3	ENL 102 Critical Writing & Reading II	3
PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology	3	PSY 101 General Psychology	3
PSY 110 Lifespan Psychology	3	PSY 220 Lifespan Human Development (Social Science)	3
SOC101 Introduction to Sociology	3	SOA 101 Intro to Sociology	3
Humanities Elective 3 credits of non-remedial courses in Art History, History, Music, Philosophy (PHL) or Spanish - example of NECC courses: ART 105 Art Hst Renaissance to Present; HIS 101 U.S. History I; MUS 101 Intro to Music; SPN 111 Intro to Spanish; PHL 101 Intro to Philosophy; PHL110 Ethics	3	Humanities	3
Northern Essex Community College Associate Degree in Nursing, nursing coursework, and NCLEX licensure	45	Nursing Portfolio	45
TOTAL ARTICULATION TRANSFER CREDITS			75

Additional transfer credits from Northern Essex Community or other institutions to fulfill UMass Dartmouth RN-BS degree requirement *

Northern Essex Community College course	credits	UMass Dartmouth required course	credits
MAT 125 Statistics	3	MTH 147 Fundamentals of Statistics	3
3 credits of non-remedial courses in Art History, History, Music, Philosophy (PHL) or Spanish - example of NECC courses: ART 105 Art Hst Renaissance to Present; HIS 101 U.S. History I; MUS 101 Intro to Music; SPN 111 Intro to Spanish; PHL 101 Intro to Philosophy; PHL110 Ethics (PHL must be different from the PHL used to satisfy a UMassD Philosophy requirement)	3	Humanities	3
3 credit non-remedial course in Psychology, Sociology, Economics, or Political Science (POL) - example of NECC courses: PSY 203 Child Psychology; PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology; SOC 107 Contemporary Social Problems; ECO 202 Intro to Macroeconomics	3	Social Science	3
3 credits of non-remedial courses in Philosophy (PHL) example of NECC courses: PHL 101 Intro to Philosophy; PHL110 Ethics (PHL must be different from the PHL if it used to satisfy a UMassD Humanities requirement)	3	Philosophy	3
Elective credit (3 non-remedial credits)	3	Elective credit	3
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CREDITS*			15

UMass Dartmouth RN-BS Online Course Requirements

NUR 301 Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing	3
NUR 306 Professional Nursing	3
NUR 214 Scholarly Inquiry in Nursing	3
NUR 322 Holistic Health Assessment for RNs	4
NUR 302 Selective Mechanics of Disease & Related Pharmacology	3
NUR 328 Population Health Nursing	3
NUR 410 Healthcare Informatics	3
NUR 452 Nursing Care of Persons with Chronic Illness	3
NUR 409 Leadership in Nursing	3
Elective	3

UMASS DARTMOUTH MINIMUM RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT CREDITS

TOTAL RN-BS IN NURSING REQUIRED CREDITS	31
TOTAL RN-BS IN NURSING REQUIRED CREDITS	121

Northern Essex Community College graduates may transfer up to 45 nursing portfolio credits upon successful enrollment into UMass Dartmouth's RN-BS online degree program. These credits along with the 30 non-nursing credits result in a cumulative total of 75 transfer credits toward UMass Dartmouth's BS in Nursing degree. Students may transfer up to 15 additional credits into UMassD while fulfilling the 31 credit residency requirement.

*Additional transfer credits may be taken at UMassD or transferred from an accredited institution(s). If transferred, these credits follow the standard transfer policy of the University where a minimum grade, course equivalency, and credit requirements must be met. The additional credits are not required for admissions but are required to fulfill UMassD degree. Students are encouraged to contact UMassD prior to taking a course to confirm course equivalency fulfills the degree requirement.

Courses highlighted in blue represent the 31 minimum residency credits to be completed at UMass Dartmouth. The 31 residency credits consist of 28 nursing core credits and 3 non-nursing credits.