

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
CONCORD UNIVERSITY
ATHENS, WEST VIRGINIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE, WEST VIRGINIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is effective from the date of signature by the duly authorized representatives of the two universities and is entered into by and between the parties listed below who have come together for the purpose of promoting social work education through collaboration of the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and Master of Social Work (MSW) programs. This agreement will establish terms for the four plus one agreement offering qualified students in the Bachelor of Social Work program at West Virginia State University priority admission with the Master of Social Work Program at Concord during the undergraduate program application process. The terms of this Memorandum of Understanding will continue with annual renewal each year upon mutual acceptance by the parties.

Article I

KEY COLLABORATIVE AGENCIES

- A. West Virginia State University
PO Box 1000
Institute, WV 25112

Hereinafter referred to as "WVSU."

- B. Concord University
1000 Vermillion Street
PO Box 1000, Box F-42
Athens, WV 24712-1000

Hereinafter referred to as "Concord."

Article II

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTIES

- A. This is a voluntary collaboration intended to promote social work education between WVSU and Concord.

- B. This MOU shall relate only to the promotion of social work education in academic programs, faculty and administrative staff, academic materials, and jointly exploring research and other scholarly activities. Nothing herein shall be deemed to confer any right to impose any obligation or restriction on any party with respect to any other agreement, proposal or funding activity.
- C. Nothing in this MOU shall be deemed to constitute, create, give effect to, or otherwise recognize a partnership, joint venture, or formal entity of any kind.
- D. Either party may terminate this MOU by written notice 30 days in advance of the effective date of termination.
- E. Supplemental Agreements under this MOU shall be negotiated and decided separately. No alteration or modification of this MOU shall be valid unless made by an instrument in writing, signed by authorized representatives of WVSU and Concord. No such alteration or modification shall be construed to alter or amend any provisions of this MOU unless expressly so stated in such written instrument.
- F. Should either Party terminate this agreement prior to the completion of the academic year, all WVSU students enrolled in Concord's MSW program may continue their education as it would have concluded absent the termination.

Article III

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

- A. Each University will make an effort to promote and develop cooperation in the following activities, upon the principles of equality and reciprocity:
 - 1. Ensuring social work programs remain accredited programs through the Council on Social Work Education.
 - 2. Mutually agree on the number of admits to the program annually.
 - 3. Develop admissions procedure for transition from the BSW to the MSW level.
 - 4. Timely submission of required documentation and information ensuring proper management of the program.
 - 5. Development of mutually beneficial marketing materials.
- B. Unless otherwise stated in writing and mutually agreed upon by the parties:
 - 1. Concord's Responsibilities and Obligations;
 - a) Concord will offer an agreed number of slots for admission to the MSW program annually / per semester for qualified WVSU BSW students;

- b) Students must meet Concord admission criteria for acceptance into the University and advanced standing MSW program as outlined in Appendix A;
 - c) Concord will meet with WVSU students interested in the program at least once per year;
 - d) Concord will provide targeted marketing materials for the program;
 - e) Concord will waive application fees to their MSW program.
2. WVSU's Responsibilities and Obligations:
- a) WVSU will ensure that proposed student participants meet the minimum admission criteria as determined with mutually acceptable conditions;
 - b) WVSU will coordinate student admission with the Concord University MSW office including forwarding Concord written conditional approval and recommendation for each proposed student participant;

Article IV

NOTICES

All reports, notices and communications given to the Parties, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be directed to the following representatives:

To Concord University:

Scott Inghram, Ed.D, Associate Professor and MSW Program Director
PO Box 1000, Campus Box F-42
Athens, WV 24712-1000
Phone: 304-384-5215
Email: inghramcs@concord.edu

To WVSU University:

Dr. Kerri Steele
Dean, College of Professional Studies
West Virginia State University

916 Wallace Hall
PO Box 1000
Institute, WV 25112
Email: ksteele1@wvstateu.edu

Article V

AMENDMENTS

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by an agreement in writing executed by authorized representatives of Concord and WVSU.

The parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of Understanding, this 18th day of August, 2023.

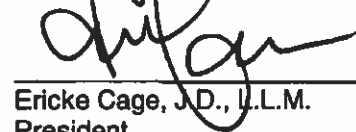
Concord University:



Dr. Kendra Boggess
President
Concord University

8/18/2023
Date

WVSU University:



Ericke Cage, J.D., LL.M.
President
West Virginia State University

8/9/23
Date

Appendix A
Concord University Master of Social Work
Advanced Standing MSW Program Admissions Criteria

Applicants Must:

- Hold a conferred baccalaureate degree in social work from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program at a four-year institution no more than seven years before initial enrollment in the MSW program;
- Submit an official transcript with a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher on a 4-point scale;
- Have a 3.0 grade point average in the social work classes (in rare cases a conditional status may be granted, this will be determined on a case-by-case basis by recommendation of reviewing faculty and consequently the program director);
- Submit three letters of reference (two from the student's academic program including one from a social work faculty member and one from the undergraduate faculty field supervisor; the third reference from either the agency field instructor or an employer/supervisor);
- Provide a personal statement addressing the areas identified below. Preparation of this material will help you to reflect and better define your plans for professional social work education. It will also help us to know something about you and assist us in assessing your potential and readiness for graduate education and the social work profession. Be mindful of your grammar, spelling, and syntax.
 - The personal statement should be double-spaced and typed, 4-6 pages in length, include your name on each page, and number your answers (e.g. 1., 2., etc). Your personal statement should address the following:
 1. What key life experiences have led you to select social work as a profession? In what ways do you think your experiences have prepared you for this profession?
 2. Describe briefly some of the major social issues and problems that you are particularly concerned with in your community and country. Include your perception of the role of social workers in dealing with these issues and problems.
 3. What, if any, are your long-range professional goals? What work do you see yourself doing and where do you see yourself practicing after graduation? (What community? What agency/service? What population? What issues?)
 4. Have you worked or volunteered in a human service agency? How would you describe that experience? If you have not had any work experience in the area of human services, describe your interest and participation in activities in the community or in college that illustrate how you have been personally involved with people. Specify your duties and responsibilities.
 5. Why is the Concord University MSW online program of particular interest to you?
 6. A fully online graduate program can create unique challenges and opportunities for students. Describe the prior experience you have with

online learning. Additionally, briefly describe your strategies for academic success, to include personal time-management, interactions with faculty and other students, and faculty advisement.

- Although not required, applicants may submit a résumé of work and related volunteer experience. Preference given to applicants with work experience in the social work profession. (While work experience is recognized for the admission process, CSWE does not allow academic credits to be given for previous life and/or work experience.)