

**Occupational Therapy Assistant**  
**Articulation Agreement Between**  
**University of North Dakota**  
**&**  
**North Dakota State College of Science**

This Articulation Agreement (the “Agreement”) is entered into by and between North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) and The University of North Dakota (UND) 501 University Avenue, Stop 8357, Grand Forks, ND 58202, each individually a “Party” and collectively the “Parties”. This Agreement shall have an effective date (“Effective Date”) as of the last signature received.

The Parties wish to collaborate to facilitate the transfer and degree completion of students earning the Associates of Science in Occupational Therapy at NDSCS to the OTD Program at UND. This Agreement will allow students to complete an AAS in OT at NDSCS and the set general education credits to apply for the OTD program at UND. The Parties enter into this Agreement in the spirit of cooperation and mutually recognize each other as quality postsecondary institutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Transfer Credit.** UND agrees to transfer NDSCS credit using the criteria outlined below:  
Students satisfactorily completing the courses below may transfer them to UND in fulfillment of the corresponding course requirements for this degree. Essential Studies equivalencies, courses, and major requirements may change. An official evaluation of transfer credit will be done upon admission to the university. Transfer credits will be evaluated and applied according to the current catalog and the approved Essential Studies list at the first semester of enrollment at UND.  
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2. **Admission to UND.** The UND’s Process and Consideration for Evaluating Applicants. It is agreed that those students who receive the AAS in OT at NDSCS and meet all the criteria listed above can apply to UND’s OTD program. However, final admission to UND contingent on submission of the student’s application.

Transfer students will have satisfied UND's Essential Studies requirements if they have completed an Associate of Arts Degree (AA), an Associate of Science Degree (AS), or a four-year bachelor’s degree (An Associate of Applied Science and Bachelor of Applied Science do not fulfill these requirements).

Students who do not meet one of these conditions will have their transfer credit evaluated for applicable Essential Studies transfer credit on an individual course-by-course basis.

A complete list of approved Essential Studies courses can be found online at Essential Studies Approved Courses. Additional classes will be required to earn the above degree; a minimum of 120 credits is required to graduate from UND. A complete listing of program requirements can be found in the Academic Catalog. Transfer credit for courses other than those listed above will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Students can apply for admissions up to one year in advance of when planning to transfer to UND. Review the transfer process here [Transfer Admissions Process](#).

3. **Participant Criteria.** The criteria that shall be met by students seeking to participate in the Agreement are as follows:  
UND Occupational Therapy will accept 43 pre-requisite requirements plus 45 OTA credits to equal 88 credits. Students entering with the stated plan above would not be eligible to earn a bachelor’s degree at

the conclusion of year 1 of the OTD program. All OTD pre-requisite courses must be completed with a grade of 'C' or higher. For more information, please visit the OTD admissions webpage. If a student wishes to earn a bachelor's degree from UND, the student should work with a UND academic advisor to ensure the student meets the essential studies requirements.

Students planning to transfer to UND are encouraged to contact a UND advisor. Please call or email the advising office at 701.777.2209 or [neva.sellers@UND.edu](mailto:neva.sellers@UND.edu).

4. **UNDs Obligations.** UND official evaluation of transfer credit will be done upon admission to the university. Transfer credits will be evaluated and applied according to the current catalog and the approved Essential Studies list at the first semester of enrollment at UND.
5. **NDSCSs Obligations.** NDSCS agrees to actively promote this articulation agreement by listing it on its website and allowing UND to market transfer opportunities to graduating students.
6. **The Parties' Joint Obligations.** UND and NDSCS will exchange data and documents as agreed that will contribute to the maintenance and improvement of transfer agreements and promote effective cooperation between the two institutions.
7. **Review & Termination.** The term of this Agreement shall be for **5 years**, beginning on the "Effective Date". The Parties agree to review this Agreement and the Program once during this period at a time mutually convenient for the Parties but aiming for during the year prior to the end of this agreement's term. Notification of revisions to NDSCS current and anticipated course offerings will also be sent to UND during the above review period. A Letter of Review will be sent between 30 and 60 days prior to contract expiration to ensure both parties can continue to fulfill the terms of this agreement or if contract revisions may be required. This Agreement can be terminated by either party by giving written notice to the other party's designated representative at least 60 days prior to the commencement of a new academic semester.
8. **Notices.** All notices concerning this memorandum of agreement and understanding shall be in writing and will be considered to have been given at the time of receipt of notice by the other Party.

Notices to UND:

Sarah Nielsen, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
Professor and Chair  
Occupational Therapy Department  
School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
University of North Dakota

Notices to NDSCS:

Missi Twidwell  
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director  
North Dakota State College of Science

Deb Smith, MSN, RNC-NIC  
Associate Dean of Allied Health  
North Dakota State College of Science

9. **Insurance.** The liability of the Parties shall be determined solely in accordance with Chapter 32-12.2 of the N.D.C.C and shall be subject to the conditions and limitations set forth therein.
10. **Independence of the Parties.** The Parties are independent contractors. Nothing contained in this Agreement will constitute either Party the agent, partner, or legal representative of the other Party for any purpose or constitute the Parties as partners. Neither Party has any right, power, or authority to create any obligation or responsibility on behalf of the other.

The Parties have signed below to indicate their acceptance of the terms of this AGREEMENT.

**Signatures:**

Signed by:

*Marjorie Jenkins*

5/23/2025

Date

Marjorie Jenkins  
Dean/VP For Health Affairs  
UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences  
1301 North Columbia Rd  
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037

*Missi Twidwell*

6-3-25

Date

Missi Twidwell, M.Ed., OTR/L  
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director  
800 6<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Wahpeton, ND 58076  
O: 701-671-2685

*Deb Smith*

6/3/2025

Date

Deb Smith MSN, RNC-NIC |  
Associate Dean of Allied Health/Nursing Program Director  
Allied Health, GAHC 213E  
North Dakota State College of Science  
O: 701-671-2968

*Lisa L. Karch*

6/3/2025

Date

Lisa Karch, Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs  
North Dakota State College of Science  
800 6<sup>th</sup> St. N, Wahpeton, ND 58076  
O: 701-367-3528