



**Articulation Agreement  
Accelerated Dual Degree Program (OTD 3+3)  
Bachelor of Science and Doctorate in Occupational Therapy  
Between the University of Delaware and Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences of  
Thomas Jefferson University**

**I. Purpose of Agreement**

This Articulation Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into as of May 17, 2024, (the “Effective Date”) by and between the University of Delaware (“the Undergraduate Institution”) and Thomas Jefferson University (“Jefferson”), on behalf of its Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences (“JCRS”), for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an accelerated dual admission program (“the Accelerated Dual Degree Program”) between the Undergraduate Institution and JCRS and facilitating the advanced acceptance of students from the Undergraduate Institution to JCRS for the purpose of completing the Accelerated Dual Degree Program. This Agreement shall apply to students who are accepted into the Undergraduate Institution for the 2024-2025 academic year, such that students proceeding through the Accelerated Dual Degree Program would transfer to Jefferson beginning with the 2027-2028 academic year.

Students in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program can earn both a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (“OTD”) degree in 6 years. Students will spend the first three years of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program at the Undergraduate Institution and then proceed to JCRS’s OTD program (Addendum A) at the Center City Campus for the final three years of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program. The bachelor’s degree from the Undergraduate Institution will be awarded after successful completion of the first year at JCRS. Academic credits earned during the first year in the OTD program at JCRS (i.e., the fourth overall year in the Program) will be counted toward the completion of the Undergraduate Institution bachelor’s degree. The OTD degree will be awarded after successful completion of the remainder of the OTD Program.

All advanced acceptance students from the Undergraduate Institution to JCRS in connection with the Accelerated Dual Degree Program are accepted on a contingent basis, which may be rescinded in JCRS’s sole discretion. Spaces in the JCRS portion of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program are limited and competitive, and acceptance into or participation in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program at the Undergraduate Institution does not guarantee that the student will be accepted for transfer to JCRS. Students must complete all of the requirements as listed in section V of this agreement to successfully transfer to JCRS.

## II. Articulated Curriculum

Students in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program will follow a specific 3-year curricular track at the Undergraduate Institution that will include the prerequisite coursework and additional required Undergraduate Institution coursework needed to transfer into the OTD program at JCRS and to receive the articulated bachelor's degree from the Undergraduate Institution. All Jefferson prerequisite coursework for the first three years of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program must be completed at the Undergraduate Institution unless otherwise permitted by JCRS. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, students who have received college credits for prerequisite courses in the required curriculum, as a result of College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations, International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs, or Dual Enrollment College Credit, may transfer these credits to JCRS, per JCRS transfer credit policy. However, the following courses must be taken at the Undergraduate Institution: KAAP309, KAAP310, STAT200.

JCRS requires that these credits are listed specifically on the University of Delaware's transcript specifically as AP, IB, or Dual enrollment credit OR the student can send Jefferson official score reports for their AP or IB exams or official transcripts from the college they had dual enrollment credit at.

## III. Minimum Eligibility for Admission to Program

Current sophomore-level students interested in applying for the Accelerated Dual Degree Program must possess the following minimum qualifications, all of which are subject to change at JCRS's sole discretion upon 90 days advance written notice from JCRS to the Undergraduate Institution:

1. Successful completion of all prerequisite coursework prior to starting at Jefferson (listed below).
2. Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. Students must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 at the time of application, and if accepted maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 through the end of junior year.
3. Grade of "B-" or above in all Occupational Therapy program prerequisite coursework that have been taken up until time of application. JCRS will require the following four (4) prerequisite courses to be completed by time of application:

ENGL 110 - First Year Writing  
 SOCI 201 - Introduction to Sociology  
 STAT 200 - Basic Statistical Practice  
 KAAP 309 - Human Anatomy and Physiology I

4. Maintained good academic and social standing at the Undergraduate Institution. Any violation of the Undergraduate Institution's code of conduct or policies can result in loss of the student's seat in the program.

#### **IV. Program Application Materials**

Current sophomore-level students wishing to apply for admission to the Accelerated Dual Degree Program shall submit a completed application for admission to Jefferson by the applicable deadline. Jefferson will provide the University of Delaware Department of Health Behavior and Nutrition Sciences (within the College of Health Sciences) with specific links to the application materials to provide in turn to eligible students. The application will include:

- 1) a personal statement describing their experiences in Occupational Therapy along with their desire for the profession; and
- 2) a resume that includes proof of leadership, teamwork and/or community service experiences, along with documented occupational therapy experiences, if applicable.

The application window will be from January 1 to February 1 of each year.

#### **V. Program Admissions Decisions**

##### **A. Admissions Process**

Accelerated Dual Degree Program admissions decisions are made by the Admissions Committee of JCRS. The Admissions Committee is made up of admissions personnel and faculty or advisors from both JCRS and the Undergraduate Institution. Up to fifteen candidates will be selected for admission to the Accelerated Dual Degree Program per year. Candidates will be selected in the following manner:

1. The Undergraduate Institution will review application materials from candidates meeting established criteria. Application materials for qualified candidates will be shared with Jefferson, including the following data points, as applicable:
  - i. First name
  - ii. Middle name
  - iii. Last name
  - iv. Gender
  - v. Date of birth
  - vi. Race
  - vii. Ethnicity
  - viii. Email address
  - ix. Mailing address
  - x. Phone number
  - xi. Undergraduate Institution academic transcript, as well as any transcripts from other colleges where students have earned credits, which have been accepted as transfer credits at Undergraduate Institution.
2. JCRS's Admissions Committee will select candidates to interview from the candidate pool who submitted a timely and complete application;
3. JCRS's admissions committee will interview final candidates in a group setting on Jefferson's campus (unless a virtual interview will suffice);

4. Select candidates will receive offers of Contingent Admission to the Accelerated Dual Degree Program;
5. If accepted, candidates will be required to pay a non-refundable enrollment deposit to Jefferson as stipulated in their admission letter.

## **VI. Progression Criteria for Transferring From the Undergraduate Institution to JCRS**

All transfers from the Undergraduate Institution to JCRS are at JCRS's sole discretion. Spaces in the JCRS portion of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program are limited and competitive, and acceptance into or participation in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program at the Undergraduate Institution does not guarantee that the student will be ultimately permitted to transfer to JCRS.

### **A. Academic Progression Criteria**

Students who are contingently accepted into the Accelerated Dual Degree Program must adhere to the following criteria in order to complete the transfer to JCRS:

1. The student must enroll in prerequisite coursework as listed in the designated Undergraduate Institution Transfer Equivalency Guide (Addendum Item D) to ensure the transferability of prerequisite coursework. If the student wishes to enroll in a prerequisite course that is not listed in the Transfer Equivalency Guide, approval must be granted by JCRS;
2. The student must complete all prerequisite coursework requirements prior to transferring to JCRS:
  - a. Anatomy and Physiology I w/Lab\* (4 Semester Credits) (UD: KAAP309)
  - b. Anatomy and Physiology II w/Lab\* (4) (UD: KAAP310)
  - c. Statistics (3) (UD: STAT200)
  - d. Abnormal Psychology or Psychopathology (3) (UD: PSYC334)
  - e. Developmental or Lifespan Psychology (3) (UD: HDFS201)
  - f. Cultural Anthropology\*\*\* (3) OR any Sociology course (3) (UD: SOCI201)
  - g. English/Writing (3) (UD: ENGL110)
    - \* 8 credits of A&P I and II or 4 credits of Human Anatomy and 4 credits of Human Physiology required. Labs must be included.
    - \*\*Algebra or Calculus based
    - \*\*\*Any sociology course will meet this prerequisite or cultural anthropology. If a student's institution does not offer cultural anthropology, a course that covers multiple cultures and/or ethnicities from a broad perspective based in anthropology or the social sciences will be accepted.
3. All prerequisite coursework requirements of the first three years of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program's articulated curriculum must be successfully completed at the Undergraduate Institution or otherwise approved by JCRS, with a transcript review performed by both the Undergraduate Institution and JCRS; The JCRS transcript review will occur after fall semester of junior year (year 3);

4. A cumulative grade point average (“Qualifying Cumulative GPA”) of a 3.0 is required;
5. The student must have earned at least a grade of a “B-” in all prerequisite coursework (If a student repeats a course at the partner school, both course grades will be factored into the student’s cumulative GPA);
6. The student must maintain Qualifying Cumulative, after 5 semesters at the Undergraduate Institution and at the time of transfer to JCRS;
7. If a student repeats a course at the Undergraduate Institution, both course grades will be factored into the student’s cumulative GPA; however, the lower grade will be excluded from the Prerequisite GPA calculation;
8. The student must be in good academic and social standing at the Undergraduate Institution. Any violation of the Undergraduate Institution’s code of conduct or policies can result in loss of the student’s seat in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program; and
9. The student must have earned a conferred Undergraduate Institution baccalaureate degree prior to the start of the second year of the OTD program at JCRS.

#### **B. Occupational Therapy Shadowing Criteria**

1. The student must have documented proof of at least 8 hours of required occupational therapy volunteer or shadowing hours spread evenly between at least two different occupational therapy settings over the student’s career at the Undergraduate Institution; and
2. The shadowing hours are required to be completed by the end of the last term of enrollment at the Undergraduate institution.

#### **C. Advising Sessions**

1. The student can attend advising sessions either on Jefferson’s Campus or remotely the year prior to enrollment at JCRS. These advising sessions will review the requirements for both JCRS enrollment and Undergraduate Institution graduation.

#### **D. Program Performance Requirements and Technical Standards**

1. The student must confirm they understand the prerequisite requirements, performance requirements, and technical standards required for being an OT student at Jefferson. This information will be presented in their initial acceptance email and each student must acknowledge their understanding of the requirements at the time of acceptance and at the time of transfer.

#### **E. JCRS’s OTD Program New Student Clinical Clearance Requirements**

1. Students who are offered admission to JCRS are required to complete clinical clearance requirements as part of the new student requirements and annually while enrolled in coursework in JCRS;
2. The clinical clearance requirements will be communicated to students in or around the spring semester prior to transferring;
3. Please see section VIII for more information on clinical clearance requirements.

## **F. Jefferson's New Student Requirements**

1. Jefferson has mandatory requirements of all full-time, new students that students in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program will need to complete as part of the transfer process. These requirements will be communicated to students on or around the spring semester prior to transferring. These may include University Orientation and Health Insurance Verification.

## **VII. Final Decision**

All decisions on admission to the Accelerated Dual Degree Program, transfer to JCRS, or on any of the individual requirements of the application process, are within the exclusive discretion of JCRS.

## **VIII. Clinical Clearance Requirements**

Students who are offered admission to JCRS are required to complete a criminal background check (including fingerprinting), and child abuse clearance, as well as a urine drug screen and any other screening requirement imposed by Jefferson as part of the new student onboarding and thereafter annually while enrolled in coursework at JCRS.

Clinical rotation and fieldwork sites that require a criminal background check, drug screening, and/or child abuse clearance may deny a student's participation in the clinical experience, rotation or fieldwork because of information revealed as a result of those screenings. As participation in clinical experiences, rotations, or fieldwork is a required part of the curriculum and a requirement for graduation, denial of participation by a clinical site may result in delay of graduation or the inability to graduate from the Accelerated Dual Degree Program. JCRS reserves the right to deny or rescind admission based on the results of background checks or drug screens.

## **IX. Scholarships / Financial Aid**

Scholarships and other forms of financial aid are not transferrable between JCRS and the Undergraduate Institution.

## **X. Deferral Policy**

Only students accepted into the Accelerated Dual Degree Program and who remain in good academic standing may request a deferral to a future term. Students must have achieved the Qualifying Cumulative and Science Prerequisite GPA's at the time of their request for deferral. A request for deferral can only occur before the student begins their 5<sup>th</sup> semester at the Undergraduate Institution. Students are required to submit a deferral request form, which shall be distributed, reviewed, and approved by the JCRS Admissions Committee. Students will receive notification within two weeks of a deferral request. Deferral to a future term will be honored for a period of up to one year.

## **XI. Maintenance**

1. The Undergraduate Institution shall designate a person(s) who will serve as coordinator (s) of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program and as advisor of students who plan to enroll in JCRS. The coordinator (s) will:
  - a) Maintain files for those Undergraduate Institution students who have been accepted into the Accelerated Dual Degree program and intend to enroll in JCRS;
  - b) Assist each applicant in assembling all necessary credentials to transfer into JCRS;
  - c) Be the responsible party for promoting and marketing this opportunity to the Undergraduate Institution prospective students;
  - d) Be responsible for inviting JCRS admissions personnel and faculty to the Undergraduate Institution campus for the purpose of recruiting and advising students and to educating faculty, advisors and administrators about the Accelerated Dual Degree Program;
  - e) Ensure that entering JCRS students have fulfilled all degree requirements prior to enrollment at JCRS;
  - f) Be responsible for communicating to JCRS any changes to the titles or identification numbers of any Undergraduate Institution courses included in the Accelerated Dual Degree Program's prerequisite courses in the required curriculum as listed on the Undergraduate Institution Transfer Equivalency Guide, and for communicating to JCRS each June 1 either that no such changes have been made or the substance of any changes made.
  
2. JCRS shall designate a person(s) who will serve as coordinator of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program and as advisor of students who plan to enroll in JCRS. The coordinator will:
  - a. Provide a copy of each student's acceptance letter and signed agreement at point of initial acceptance, and provide this documentation to the Undergraduate Institution;
  - b. Provide the Undergraduate Institution with verification that students who have transferred to JCRS have met the requirements for their undergraduate degree;
  - c. Provide annual updates to the Undergraduate Institution regarding accepted students status in the program,
  - d. Notify the Undergraduate Institution of JCRS curriculum changes.
  - e. Attend activities at the Undergraduate Institution related to providing information and guidance to students about the Program;
  
3. Both the Undergraduate Institution and JCRS will assure that appropriate personnel in their respective colleges are made aware of the existence of this Agreement and are encouraged to support it. Such persons at the Undergraduate Institution and JCRS will include, at a minimum, the offices of the deans, admissions staff, career planning and placement officers, transfer coordinators, and faculty.

4. Personnel from JCRS will visit the Undergraduate Institution on a regular basis to meet with the coordinator and other appropriate faculty and administrators. Meetings with students will also be arranged, including potential candidates who intend to enroll in JCRS as well as other students who may simply wish to seek general information.
5. The faculty, staff, and administration of the Undergraduate Institution are encouraged to visit Jefferson's campus.
6. JCRS will supply the Undergraduate Institution with promotional literature. Promotional literature created by JCRS or the Undergraduate Institution must be reviewed by both parties prior to the Undergraduate Institution's distribution of the promotional literature to appropriate student groups. Neither party may use the name, trademark, logo, symbol, or other image or trade name of the other party or its employees and agents in any advertisement, promotion, or other form of publicity or news release, or for any other reason without the prior written consent of an authorized representative of the party whose name is being used.

### **XIII. Term and Termination of Agreement**

1. This Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue for a period of five years, and will be reviewed and renewed unless terminated or amended as provided herein.
2. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the other party. Such notice shall be sent by overnight commercial carrier or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall be effective upon delivery. The Agreement may also be terminated any time by mutual consent. Any student enrolled in JCRS's portion of the Accelerated Dual Degree Program plan of study at the time notice of termination is provided shall be permitted to complete such plan of study under the terms and conditions set forth herein. The addresses to which written notice is to be sent are specified below.

JCRS:

Steve Williams, MD  
Dean  
Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences  
Thomas Jefferson University  
C/O Office of Admissions  
130 S 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
TJU.Admissions@jefferson.edu



With a Copy to:

Thomas Jefferson University  
Office of Legal Affairs  
1101 Market Street, Suite 2400  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Attn: EVP & Chief Legal Officer

UNDERGRADUATE  
INSTITUTION:

William Farquhar, PhD  
Dean, College of Health Sciences  
University of Delaware  
100 Discovery Blvd., 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
Newark, DE 19713  
wbf@udel.edu

#### **XIV. No Third Party Beneficiaries**

None of the benefits or obligations of either party under this Agreement shall or are intended to run to, benefit or be enforceable by any student or other third party. No student is intended to or shall be permitted to claim to be a third party beneficiary of this Agreement, the Accelerated Dual Degree Program or the parties' relationship with one another.

#### **XV. General Provisions**


1. Neither party shall assign, sell or otherwise transfer this Agreement without the express written consent of the other. Any such purported assignment, sale or transfer shall be void.
2. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, without regard to its principles of conflicts of law or choice of laws. The parties agree that disputes arising from or related to this Agreement or the Program will be litigated in the federal or state courts located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
3. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same document, which shall be binding on the parties notwithstanding that each of the parties may have signed different counterparts. Facsimiles or scanned copies of signatures or electronic images of signatures shall be considered original signatures unless prohibited by applicable law.
4. It is mutually understood and agreed that the relationship between the parties is that of independent contractors. Neither party is the agent, employee, partner, joint venturer, or servant of the other. Except as specifically set forth herein, neither party shall have nor exercise any control or direction over the methods by which the other party performs obligations under this Agreement. Further, nothing in this Agreement is intended to create any partnership, joint ventures, lease, or equity relationship, expressly or by implication, between the parties.
5. This Agreement is not intended to conflict with or affect any existing or future affiliation between the parties and institutions not a party to this Agreement. This Agreement is not exclusive.
6. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties concerning the subject matter, and supersedes all other or prior agreements or understandings, whether

written or oral, with respect to that subject matter. The invalidity or unenforceability of any term or provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision hereof.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the authorized representatives of the parties, *intending to be legally bound*, have signed this Agreement as of the Effective Date: May 17, 2024.

**For Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences:**


Matt Dane Baker, PA-C, DHSc  
Provost  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Date: 5/22/2024

**For University of Delaware:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
08349059285C4CB...  
Laura Carlson, PhD  
Provost  
University of Delaware  
Newark, Delaware

7/17/2024  
Date

DocuSigned by:  
  
24929247D36B4FC  
William Farquhar, PhD  
Dean  
College of Health Sciences  
University of Delaware  
Newark, Delaware

6/27/2024  
Date