

**TRINITY COLLEGE OF NURSING  
& HEALTH SCIENCES  
AND  
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE**

Articulation Agreement

**Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences** of Rock Island, IL, and **Rock Valley College** of Rockford, IL believe that a cooperative program benefits students by allowing students an opportunity to earn degrees from both institutions.

This agreement defines the Dual Degree Program Articulation Agreement between Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences and Rock Valley College for qualified students seeking to complete their Associates degree from Rock Valley College and the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Program curriculum at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

**Agreement**

The Articulation Agreement is designed to provide participating students with a specific pathway to meet degree requirements established by Rock Valley College for an Associate degree and a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in Medical Laboratory Science at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

It is agreed and understood that each institution has the right and responsibility to make changes to its curricula and enrollment standards to maintain its academic integrity and meet accreditation standards. Such changes, if any, will be communicated to the other institution as they occur through the office of each institution responsible for implementing this dual degree program.

At the request of either institution, a meeting or conference will be held to resolve any problems and monitor progress under the terms of this Articulation Agreement.

Under the terms of this agreement, neither institution is obligated to make any payments of any kind to the other institution.

**Academic Requirements**

1. The student must earn a minimum of 80 semester hours in pre-requisite courses before starting the MLS program.
2. The student must complete all General Education, University, major/minor, and graduation requirements (if applicable), except for the 40 credits of the MLS program.
3. Upon acceptance into the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, 80 semester hours may be transferred toward the completion of the MLS Program. For approved transfer credits refer to Appendix A.
4. Upon successful completion of the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, 40 credit hours will be awarded towards the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in Medical Laboratory Science. For approved MLS credits refer to Appendix B.

5. Students who successfully complete the MLS program at Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences (40 credits) will be eligible to participate in commencement.

### **Accreditation**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences and Rock Valley College will ensure that they maintain accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission regional accrediting body and ensure all operations will be in keeping with accreditation requirements of the two institutions.

### **Duration and Termination of Agreement**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences and Rock Valley College agree that this Agreement shall be in force the date of the signing of the Agreement and shall remain in force until modified or terminated in writing, following reasonable and mutual discussion by representatives of the two institutions.

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences and Rock Valley Community College reserve the right to revise or eliminate programs and courses. Such changes will be communicated to the appropriate parties. This articulation agreement will be reviewed annually to ensure currency with each party's degree requirements and may be modified by attachment.

**Notification of Equal Educational Opportunities**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences is committed to providing equal employment and promotion opportunities to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, Veteran Status, or disability. Applicants for admissions and in employment together with sources of referral are hereby notified that this Institution does not discriminate among applicants or employees based upon their status of race, color, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, or disability in any aspect of the employment relationship from hiring through termination. Any person having inquiries concerning Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences' compliance with the regulations implementing Title IV, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Director of Student Services and External Relations or Chancellor. Inquiries also may be addressed to the Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Candice Jackson, U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-421-3481.

**Nondiscrimination Clause at Rock Valley College**

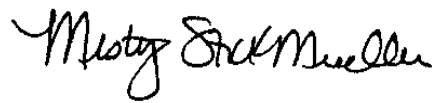
It is the policy of Rock Valley College to provide equal opportunity in its admissions, employment and educational programs and activities consistent with federal and state law. Discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, order of protection status, sexual orientation, gender identity (including gender expression and gender questioning), veteran status, or unfavorable military discharge, use of lawful products while not at work, genetic information, or other legally protected categories.

**Liaisons**

To facilitate a student's participation in the program, Rock Valley College and Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences have designated liaisons:

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences:  
Stephanie Tieso, Program Director/BSHS Program Coordinator

Rock Valley Community College: Tim Spielman, Director of  
Academic, Career, and Transfer Advising



April 28, 2025

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Academic Dean  
Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences

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Date



April 19, 2025

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Caroline Gulbrandsen, Ed.D.  
Dean of Health Sciences

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Date

Rock Valley College

## Appendix A

| <b>Prerequisite General Education Courses</b> |                |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Humanities</b>                             | <b>Credits</b> |
| Written Communication                         | 3              |
| Oral Communication                            | 3              |
| Humanities Electives                          | 12             |
| <b>Humanities total</b>                       | <b>18</b>      |
| <b>Social Sciences</b>                        |                |
| Sociology                                     | 3              |
| Psychology                                    | 3              |
| <b>Social Sciences total</b>                  | <b>6</b>       |
| <b>Natural Sciences and Mathematics</b>       |                |
| Anatomy and Physiology 1                      | 4              |
| Chemistry                                     |                |
| General Chemistry 1                           | 4              |
| General Chemistry 2                           | 4              |
| Biochemistry and/or Organic Chemistry         | 4              |
| Biology                                       |                |
| Biology                                       | 4              |
| Microbiology                                  | 4              |
| Math                                          |                |
| College Algebra                               | 3              |
| Statistics                                    | 3              |
| <b>Natural Sciences and Mathematics total</b> | <b>30</b>      |
| <b>Electives</b>                              |                |
| Medical Terminology                           | 2              |
| General Electives                             | 24             |
| <b>Electives total</b>                        | <b>26</b>      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  | <b>80</b>      |

## Appendix B

| SUMMER SEMESTER |                                         |                |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Course #:       | Description:                            | Semester Hours |
| MLS 320         | Lab Math and Operations                 | 1              |
| MLS 330         | Phlebotomy and Pre-analytical Variables | 1              |
| MLS 340         | Cell Morphology                         | 2              |
| MLS 345         | Clinical Immunology                     | 2              |
| MLS 410         | Evidence Based Lab Medicine             | 1              |
| MLS 420         | Educational Development                 | 1              |
| TOTAL           |                                         | 8 SH           |
| FALL SEMESTER   |                                         |                |
| MLS 310         | Urinalysis and Body Fluids              | 2              |
| MLS 415         | Clinical Chemistry                      | 7              |
| MLS 425         | Clinical Hematology and Hemostasis      | 7              |
| MLS 440         | Lab Management                          | 1              |
| TOTAL           |                                         | 17 SH          |
| SPRING SEMESTER |                                         |                |
| MLS 430         | Immunohematology                        | 7              |
| MLS 435         | Clinical Microbiology                   | 7              |
| MLS 450         | Medical Lab Science Review              | 1              |
| TOTAL           |                                         | 15 SH          |

All general education prerequisites must be completed prior to admission to the BSHS-MLS Program.

Transfer credit evaluated on a course by course basis.

|                                              |               |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Pre-Requisite General Education Total</b> | <b>80 SH</b>  |
| <b>MLS Total</b>                             | <b>40 SH</b>  |
| <b>BSHS-MLS Program Total</b>                | <b>120 SH</b> |