Articulation Agreement
Northwestern Michigan College
and
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
for the
MSU-CHM Early Assurance Opportunity Program at Michigan State University

Northwestern Michigan College and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine ("MSU-CHM") agree to establish a cooperative program of premedical/medical education by which Northwestern Michigan College students who become undergraduate premedical students at Michigan State University be prepared and considered for an early assurance of admission to MSU-CHM through the Early Assurance Opportunity Program at Michigan State University. This agreement shall be in full effect upon final signatures by the respective administrators and other appropriate institution representatives.

Program Rationale: The Early Assurance Opportunity Program ("Program") provides an enhanced opportunity for admission to medical school for premedical students who are interested in practicing in an underserved area of medicine. Preference for admission to the Program will be given to students who otherwise might not have access to or be familiar with the intricacies of premedical preparation and medical school application by virtue of being a first generation college student, graduating from a low income high school as defined by the United States Department of Education, being eligible or a recipient of an undergraduate PELL or institutional need-based grant, graduating from an underserved (health professional shortage) urban or rural area, and those who have demonstrated interest and familiarity with a high need medical service or specialty area. By cooperatively identifying and developing such students Northwestern Michigan College and MSU-CHM will make a substantial contribution to the diversity and cultural competence of the physician work force of the future and to the Michigan health care community.

Northwestern Michigan College agrees to engage in broad-based outreach to identify, recruit, and develop potential premedical students who may be eligible for consideration in the Program and to monitor the progress of all these premedical students to ensure their continued qualification for the Program. Specifically, Northwestern Michigan College agrees to:

1. Offer recruitment events/seminars and/or workshops aimed at informing students who may be interested in the Program
2. Include program information in appropriate pre-college recruitment materials and efforts
3. Advertise and make the Program accessible to all current potential premedical students at Northwestern Michigan College
4. Identify and engage Northwestern Michigan College students who are first generation college students, graduates from low income high schools, PELL or institutional need-based grant eligible or recipient, graduate of an underserved (health professional shortage) urban or rural area high school, likely to practice in an underserved urban or rural location or demonstrate interest in a high need medical specialty in a health professional shortage area
5. Make MSU-CHM academic, non-academic, and experiential premedical expectations, as communicated by MSU-CHM advising and website, known to students (as identified above in 3 and subsequently identified as “students”)
6. Ensure continued course offerings for the appropriate academic preparation of students for transfer to MSU for their continued premedical preparation
7. Make MSU-CHM advising resources known to students
8. Facilitate engagement between students and MSU-CHM experiential, enrichment and developmental opportunities
9. Monitor the progress of and facilitate opportunities for students consistent with current practice and informed by MSU-CHM advising
10. Work collaboratively with MSU-CHM to identify any Northwestern Michigan College students who may be eligible for MSU-CHM generated scholarships, awards, and targeted developmental experiences
11. With student permission, inform MSU-CHM about potential transfer students and transfer students who may be eligible for and interested in consideration for the Program

MSU-CHM agrees to work with Northwestern Michigan College in the development of students for the Program. Specifically, MSU-CHM agrees to:

1. At the Northwestern Michigan College level
   a. Assist Northwestern Michigan College efforts to increase awareness of MSU-CHM and the feasibility of medical education for local Northwestern Michigan College students
   b. Work collaboratively with Northwestern Michigan College premedical advisors
      i. Provide reference to MSU undergraduate transfer expectations and timeline
      ii. Communicate with Northwestern Michigan College regarding premedical course requirements
      iii. Offer professional development for Northwestern Michigan College advising faculty
      iv. Discuss Program considerations, activities, and timelines
   c. Invite Northwestern Michigan College student participation in CHM activities at MSU-CHM preclinical campuses and in the nearest community campus that develop/enrich pre-medical students
   d. Work collaboratively with Northwestern Michigan College to identify any students who may be eligible for MSU-CHM generated scholarships, awards, and developmental experiences at the pre-transfer level
   e. Include Northwestern Michigan College program participation information to the MSU-CHM Admissions website

2. At the Michigan State University undergraduate student level:
   a. Engage Northwestern Michigan College premedical students subsequent to their transfer to offer support for their success using means such as offering advising and student-to-student relationships with transfer students to help
them negotiate MSU, find a peer group, utilize academic support, become aware of available programs and opportunities, and establish a relationship with an MSU undergraduate advisors

b. Advise Northwestern Michigan College transfer students regarding preparation for EAO application

c. Review in accordance with the timeline all Early Assurance Opportunity applications from Northwestern Michigan College-Michigan State University premedical transfer students who are in their in their junior year or year prior to completion of first baccalaureate degree and meet the minimum academic standards of a 3.0 overall GPA, 3.0 science GPA, and a minimum 25 MCAT composite score, with the biological science score being equal to or greater than 8. 

NOTE: For those taking the MCAT after April, 2015, the MCAT composite score is a minimum 500, with a minimum 125 on both the Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems and the Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems sections.

d. Offer and accept for review MSU-CHM secondary application information materials submitted by eligible Northwestern Michigan College- Michigan State University premedical transfer students

e. Waive secondary application fees for Northwestern Michigan College- Michigan State University premedical transfer students invited to complete secondary applications for the Program

f. Invite for an admissions interview in accordance with the timeline any Northwestern Michigan College-Michigan State University premedical transfer student that MSU-CHM deems qualified and most competitive for admission according to provisions of the Program

g. Present all interviewed students to the CHM Committee on Admissions. The MSU-CHM admissions committee shall make admissions decisions in its sole discretion

h. Notify Northwestern Michigan College-Michigan State University premedical transfer students selected for admission of acceptance to MSU-CHM in accordance with the timeline

i. Allow accepted Northwestern Michigan College-Michigan State University premedical students to accept or reject the offer of Early Assurance admission to MSU-CHM and, furthermore, allow these students to be considered for regular admission without prejudice should the student choose to decline the offer of Early Assurance admission and apply to MSU-CHM as well as other medical schools as a regular applicant

j. Communicate each accepted student’s Early Admission status to AMCAS

k. With student permission, inform Northwestern Michigan College of the outcome for Northwestern Michigan College- Michigan State University premedical transfer students who applied to MSU-CHM through the Program.

l. Grant the Doctor of Medicine degree to students who successfully complete the MSU-CHM requirements for graduation

To be eligible for the Program, the student shall:

1. Have significant experiences at Northwestern Michigan College with a minimum of 30 credit hours completed at Northwestern Michigan College
2. Complete remaining medical school prerequisites at Michigan State University. Transfer coursework from an institution other than Northwestern Michigan College may be accepted provided the courses completed at another institution are approved by MSU-CHM.
3. Establish a relationship with MSU-CHM advisors.
4. Complete an academic major of their choice.
5. Subscribe to the mission of MSU-CHM to meet the needs of patients, families, and communities by providing medical care with respect and dignity with particular concern for and responsiveness to medically underserved populations and communities.
6. Demonstrate experience and interest in a career in medicine through shadowing, volunteering, and/or employment in a setting providing patient care.
7. Evidence leadership through participation in extra-curricular, academic, research, organizational, volunteer, or employment activities.
8. Demonstrate the professional behavior expectations of competence, honesty, compassion, respect for others, and responsibility in their academic, clinical and volunteer experiences.
9. Complete MSU-CHM Early Assurance Opportunity Program Application during the junior year or year prior to receiving the first baccalaureate degree.
10. Submit letters of evaluation and recommendation as required by the MSU-CHM Early Assurance admission process.
11. Provide MSU-CHM with transcripts reflecting all college courses and credits.
12. Complete the Program secondary application.
13. Participate in a MSU-CHM Admission Interview Day.
14. If admitted and choosing to attend CHM, submit an AMCAS application indicating the MSU-CHM Early Assurance Program acceptance in accordance with time guidelines set by MSU-CHM.
15. Maintain or improve their GPA during coursework prior to matriculation to MSU-CHM.
16. Follow through on planned courses and activities as outlined in their application unless changed are agreed to by MSU-CHM.
17. Meet Technical Standards as in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
18. Submit to MSU-CHM any criminal background check as in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
19. Submit to MSU-CHM any drug testing that may be in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
20. Meet any other pre-matriculation expectations in place for their year of matriculation.
21. Be eligible for scholarships, dual or combined degree, or any special program offerings, benefits or accommodations as available for their MSU-CHM entering class.

Time Line and Program Implementation:

Beginning at the effective date of this agreement:

- Marketing and recruitment: On-going.
- Northwestern Michigan College /Michigan State University premedical students intending to matriculate in 2016 are eligible for the Program.
- Students submit an Early Assurance Opportunity application in the winter of the application year (junior year or one year prior to graduation with first baccalaureate degree).
• Students who are invited for interview will have the interview completed by May 15 of the application year
• MCAT: Students will need to take the MCAT no later than the May date specified by MSU-CHM for their application year
• Notification of admissions decision: June of the application year
• Accepted students who accept admission to MSU-CHM will notify MSU-CHM and submit an AMCAS application designating the MSU-CHM Early Assurance Program within two weeks of the offer of acceptance.

Program Publicity:
Each institution agrees that all program materials, media releases, and interview comments concerning the Program shall be mutually approved prior to publication, release, or comment.

Program Review:
The Program shall be reviewed by representatives of each institution annually during the course of a three year pilot. Upon satisfactory review of the conditions and effectiveness of the Program, the Program shall undergo a comprehensive review every third year. The Program may be suspended or revoked only upon written request by an institution with sixty (60) day advance notice to: Assistant Dean for Admissions (MSU-CHM) and admin rep from Northwestern Michigan College. Should an institution provide a written request for suspension or revocation, any students currently in the program shall be permitted to continue.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

By: [Signature] Lou Anna K. Simon, PhD
President

By: [Signature] June Youatt, PhD
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

By: [Signature] Marsha Rappley, MD
Dean
College of Human Medicine

Date: 7-16-15

Date: 7-16-15

Date: 7/14/15
NORTHEASTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

By: Timothy J. Nelson, MS
   President

Date: June 29, 2015

By: Stephen N. Siciliano
   Stephen N. Siciliano, PhD
   Vice President for Educational Services

Date: June 29, 2015

By: Chris Weber
   Chris Weber, PhD
   Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Services

Date: June 29, 2015

By: Keith Overbaugh, DVM
   Science and Math Academic Chair

Date: June 30, 2015