

The University of Tennessee Zero-Dollar Agreement

This standard zero-dollar agreement (“Agreement”) is between The University of Tennessee on behalf of its Health Science Center, an instrumentality of the state of Tennessee (“University”), and Southwest Tennessee Community College (“SWTCC”).

The parties agree as follows:

1. **Term:** The term of this Agreement shall be one (1) year commencing upon execution (the “Effective Date”) and shall renew automatically for additional one year terms, unless notice of termination is given by SWTCC or The University’s College of Nursing (“CON”), as provided for herein. Under no circumstances shall the term of this Agreement extend beyond five (5) years from the Effective Date.
2. **Scope:** To offer a Partnership Enrollment Program (“PEP”) that guarantees full admission to the traditional concentration of the BSN nursing program at University TN Health Science Center to any SWTCC student who completes a minimum of an Associate’s Degree in Allied Health or General Studies and prerequisite courses. Students may also elect to participate in a Bridge DNP PEP if all requirements are met. **See attached proposal for University’s & SWTCC’s obligations.**
3. **Financial:** This Agreement is a zero-dollar agreement. Neither party will pay the other under this Agreement.
4. **Compliance:**
 - A. **Premises Rules:** When SWTCC is physically present on University property, SWTCC shall make reasonable efforts to cause its employees and permitted sub-contractors to become aware of, and in act full compliance with, University’s rules, policies, and procedures (collectively referred to as “rules.”). For example, SWTCC shall ensure that it complies with the University’s applicable rules regarding safety, smoking, noise, access restrictions, parking, security, and consideration for minors (students and University visitors under age 18).
 - B. **Conduct:** SWTCC shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that SWTCC’s employees and subcontractors will conduct themselves in a professional manner while on University property, and while interacting with University employees, students, or visitors. SWTCC must report, within 24 hours, to the University’s Office of Procurement Services any complaints about SWTCC’s employees or subcontractors engaging in the following behavior: sexually suggestive or harassing behavior; unwanted physical touching; unwanted photographs; alcohol use; illegal drug use; or physical manifestations of alcohol or drug use (e.g. SWTCC’s employee emits smells that indicate that the individual consumed alcohol recently).
 - C. **Debarment:** SWTCC hereby attests that the following are true statements:
 - i. SWTCC is not currently debarred by the U.S. federal government.
 - ii. SWTCC is not currently suspended by the U.S. federal government.
 - iii. SWTCC is not currently named as an “excluded” supplier by the U.S. federal government.
5. **Termination:**
 - A. **For Cause:** If SWTCC materially breaches this Agreement, University may terminate this Agreement immediately.
 - B. **Unrestricted Right:** Either party may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving the other party at least thirty (30) days’ prior notice.
6. **General:**

- A. Assignment: Neither party may assign this Agreement, or any right or duty hereunder, or enter into a subcontract for any of the services performed under this Agreement, without the prior written approval of the other party.
- B. Governing Law: The laws of the state of Tennessee, without giving effect to its principles of conflicts of law, govern this Agreement. The University's liability will be governed by the Tennessee Claims Commission Act.
- C. Self-Insurance: The University is self-insured under the Tennessee Claims Commission Act, Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 9-8-301 et seq., which covers certain tort liability for actual damages of up to \$300,000 per claimant and \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- D. Use of University Intellectual Property: Except as allowed in this section, SWTCC shall not use the University's name, marks, logos, or any other University-owned intellectual property for any reason, without the written consent of an authorized official of the University.
- E. Third-Party Beneficiaries: There are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement.
- F. Severability: The parties intend as follows:
 - i. that if any provision of this agreement is held to be unenforceable, then that provision will be modified to the minimum extent necessary to make it enforceable, unless that modification is not permitted by law, in which case that provision will be disregarded;
 - ii. that if an unenforceable provision is modified or disregarded in accordance with this section, then the rest of the agreement will remain in effect as written; and
 - iii. that any unenforceable provision will remain as written in any circumstances other than those in which the provision is held to be unenforceable.
- G. Modification; Waiver: No amendment of this Agreement will be effective unless it is in writing and signed by authorized officials of the parties. No waiver of satisfaction of a condition or failure to comply with an obligation under this Agreement will be effective unless it is in writing and signed by an authorized official of the party granting the waiver, and no such waiver will constitute a waiver of satisfaction of any other condition or failure to comply with any other obligation.
- H. Counterparts: If the parties sign this Agreement in several counterparts, each will be deemed an original but all counterparts together will constitute one instrument.
- I. Force Majeure: Neither party's delay or failure to perform any provision of this Agreement, as result of circumstances beyond its control (including, without limitation, war, strikes, floods, governmental restrictions, power, telecommunications or Internet failures, or damage to or destruction of any network facilities) will be deemed a breach of this Agreement.
- J. Notice:
 - i. For a notice or other communication under this Agreement to be valid, it must be in writing and delivered (1) by hand, (2) by a national transportation company, with all fees prepaid, or (3) by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid;
 - ii. Subject to sub-section (iv) below, a valid notice or other communication under this Agreement will be effective when received by the party to which it is addressed. It will be deemed to have been received as follows:
 - a. if it is delivered by hand, delivered by a national transportation company, with all fees prepaid, or delivered by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt; and
 - b. if the party to which it is addressed rejects or otherwise refuses to accept it, or if it cannot be delivered because of a change in address for which no notice was given, then upon that rejection, refusal, or inability to deliver.
 - iii. For a notice or other communication to a party under this Agreement to be valid, it must be addressed using the information specified below for that party or any other information specified by that party in a notice in accordance with this section. [REDACTED]

Company:

Southwest Tennessee Community College
Macon Campus
ATTN: Dr. Carol Ash, VP of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development
5983 Macon Cove
Memphis, TN 38134

With a copy to:

Tennessee Board of Regents
ATTN: Contracts and Reporting
1 Bridgestone Park, Third Floor
Nashville, TN 37214
Email: contracts.reporting@tbr.edu

University:

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
62 S. Dunlap, Suite 217
Memphis, TN 38163
ATTN: Office of Business Contracts

With a copy to:

UT Health Science Center College of Nursing
ATTN: Jada Harding
874 Union Ave, RM 404
Memphis, TN 38163

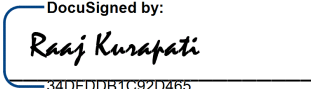
iv. If a notice or other communication addressed to a party is received after 5:00 p.m. on a business day at the location specified in the address for that party, or on a day that is not a business day, then the notice will be deemed received at 9:00 a.m. on the next business day.

7. Entire Agreement: This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement and supersedes all other agreements, whether written or oral, between the parties. In the event that SWTCC maintains terms and conditions on its website, software, invoices, etc., such terms and conditions do not apply to the University.

[Signature page follows]

Agreed:

**The University of Tennessee
on behalf of its Health Science Center**

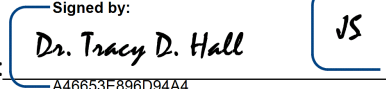
Signature: 34DFDDB1C92D465...

Name: Raaj Kurapati

Title: Executive Vice Chancellor and COO

Date: 10/15/2025 | 16:36:17 PDT

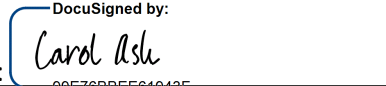
**Southwest Tennessee Community
College**

Signature: A46653E896D94A4... Initial JS

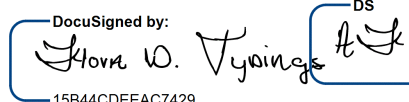
Name: Dr. Tracy D. Hall

Title: President

Date: 2025-10-30 | 7:51 AM PDT

Signature: 99E768BEE61943F...
Dr. Carol Ash, Vice President of Academic Affairs
and Workforce Development

Date: 2025-10-29 | 3:30 PM CDT

15B44CDEEAC7429 DS

Flora W. Tydings, Chancellor
Tennessee Board of Regents

2025-10-30 | 10:51 AM CDT

SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER COLLEGE OF NURSING PARTNERSHIP ENROLLMENT PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Southwest Tennessee Community College (“SWTCC”) and The University of Tennessee (“UT”) Health Science Center College of Nursing (“CON”) offer a Partnership Enrollment Program (“PEP”) that guarantees full admission to the traditional concentration of the BSN (“TBSN”) program at UT Health Science Center to SWTCC students who complete an Associate's Degree in Allied Health or General Studies and the required general education and prerequisite courses. The number of SWTCC students participating as a PEP student cannot exceed five percent (5%) of the total number of TBSN students for each cohort. All other PEP students will either be delayed until the next semester or compete for a seat with all other regular applicants for that cohort. In addition, SWTCC students may elect to participate in a Bridge DNP PEP if all requirements are met. The requirements for participation are outlined in this document.

Program Eligibility

The requirements to participate are:

- Current enrollment at SWTCC.
- Successful completion of courses.
- In good academic standing.
- Confirmed compliance with the SWTCC code of conduct during the time of enrollment.
- Complete the UT Health Science Center CON *Agreement Intent to Enroll Form* no later than the first week of the semester the student is graduating from SWTCC. Students missing this deadline must compete for a seat with all other regular applicants for the cohort.
- Complete a minimum of an Associate's Degree in Allied Health or General Studies and the required general education and prerequisite courses from SWTCC with a minimum overall combined 3.0 GPA for the TBSN PEP and/or the Bridge DNP PEP as computed by the UT Health Science Center CON.
 - 2.67 or better GPA for science prerequisite courses: **BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4 credits)** and **BIOL 2020 Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4 credits)** or **BIOL 1230 Microbiology (4 credits)** Calculation is based on the highest grade achieved in the science courses, and only one science course may be repeated. Applicants must earn a C or better on all prerequisite science coursework.
- To enroll in the Bridge DNP PEP, applicants must be in good academic standing and be in compliance with the UT Health Science Center CON code of conduct. Students may matriculate to any DNP concentration with the exception of the Dual DNP/PhD, Nurse Anesthesiology, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, and Nurse Midwifery concentrations. If the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Midwifery concentrations are desired, a special agreement will be required and preapproved by UT Health Science Center CON to ensure clinical requirements are met prior to entry into these concentrations. There is no bridge option for the Dual DNP/PhD, PhD, or Nurse Anesthesiology concentrations.
- For Bridge DNP PEP eligibility, a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required to be maintained during the TBSN program and the NCLEX-RN must be passed and an unencumbered RN license obtained and maintained.
- Compliance with the provisions listed below in the *Agreement Intent to Enroll Form*.

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- o Will not attend another institution between the time of completion of courses at SWTCC and official enrollment to the UT Health Science Center CON.
- o Will enroll at the UT Health Science Center CON within one year of completion of an associate's degree and the required general education and prerequisite courses at SWTCC.

Prior to Admission

The requirements for participants to proceed with admission to UT Health Science Center CON are:

- Successful completion of all courses and general education and prerequisite courses from SWTCC.
- Maintain good academic standing.
- Complete the University Parallel, Allied Health Science Emphasis, General Studies, Associate Science, A.S. including the required general education and prerequisite courses from SWTCC with a minimum overall combined 3.0 GPA as computed by the UT Health Science Center CON.

Requirements for Admission to the Bridge DNP PEP

- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 during the TBSN program.
- Successfully pass the NCLEX-RN and obtain an unencumbered RN license prior to matriculation into any of the Bridge DNP PEP options.
- Meet the technical standards of the desired concentration.

Matriculation & Advising

When the student is approved for the UT Health Science Center CON PEP, their proposed undergraduate program of study will be reviewed by a UT Health Science Center CON advisor to ensure that all program requirements will be met under the plan. UT Health Science Center will be provided with a paper or electronic copy of the SWTCC catalog each year. Any changes to the student's curriculum plan of study must be approved in advance by a SWTCC advisor and UT Health Science Center CON advisor to ensure that the plan continues to meet all requirements. Advising will be ongoing throughout the student's enrollment at SWTCC and continue through their enrollment at UT Health Science Center CON.

Benefits to Participating in SWTCC - UT Health Science Center CON PEP

- Guaranteed admission to UT Health Science Center CON when all eligibility criteria are met, except those DNP programs requiring special agreement or DNP programs for which there is no bridge option.
- Access to academic advising and degree plans from both SWTCC and UT Health Science Center CON advisors throughout their tenure in the program.
- Guaranteed Enrollment Deposit (GED) waiver.
- Voucher provided for previously paid Nursing CAS fee.
- Limited privileges to UT Health Science Center library, access to free group tutoring for UT Health Science Center CON courses, and access to UT Health Science Center CON Distinguished Visiting Professor lectureships.

If you are interested in making an appointment to speak with a representative, please speak with your advisor or contact the UT Health Science Center CON Office of Student Affairs at 901-448-6125.

Admission Criteria Prerequisites Effective Fall 2025

Courses	Non-nurses (pre-licensure) with an associate's degree
General Education Courses	
English Composition	3 credits
English Literature*	3 credits
Humanities/Fine Arts**	3 credits
Social/Behavioral Sciences**	3 credits
American History	6 credits
General education subtotal	18 credits
General Education Electives	
<i>Recommended Elective Courses</i>	
Chemistry with lab	
General Psychology	
Algebra	
Nutrition	
Growth and Development	
Natural Science/Math/Statistics	
General Education Elective Subtotal	30 credits
Prerequisite courses	
Human Anatomy & Physiology I/II with labs	8 credits with labs
Microbiology with lab	4 credits with lab
Prerequisite subtotal	12 credits
Minimum total semester credits completed prior to enrollment	Associate's degree
Required GPA	3.0

*English Composition I and II and First-Year Writing coursework may be evaluated for consideration of 6-hour English Composition and Literature requirement. Courses in literature may be used to fulfill the Humanities/Fine Arts requirement.

**Students with a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing field are considered as having met the general education requirements but must complete the required microbiology and the human anatomy and physiology courses.

***Students lacking the required one unit (one year) of American History from high school must complete six (6) credit hours of American History or three (3) credit hours of American History and three (3) credit hours of Tennessee History to fulfill the requirements in General Education. Students who successfully completed one unit (one year) of American History in high school will need to complete six (6) credits of elective to have thirty 30 credit hours in General Education. These six (6) credit hours may be, but are not required to be, in American History.

****Pre-licensure BSN applicants must have completed their science prerequisites within five (5) years of the application date.

*****The preadmission semester credit requirements represent post-high school, non-nursing, collegiate academic studies with a grade of “C” or higher, from regionally accredited colleges and universities. The prerequisite courses in the tables are not offered by UT Health Science Center CON.

All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to beginning studies at the UT Health Science Center, but do not need to be completed prior to application. Students who have been dismissed from another nursing program are not eligible for admission.