

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF  
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
and  
SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF  
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**3+2 BS/MS-AT Arrangement**

**THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**, made and entered into this\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, between Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania (CU) and Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (SU), each a member of the 10-university Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, combines resources of the two universities to prepare athletic trainers to enter the workforce.

**PURPOSE:**

The universities seek to:

1. Cooperatively provide a career pathway for students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree and to expand their knowledge and skills through matriculation to the Master of Science in Athletic Training (MS-AT) at Commonwealth University.
2. Provide opportunities for qualified students and graduates of SU to build upon their education and training by earning a Master of Science in Athletic Training Degree at Commonwealth University-Lock Haven.
3. Assist CU in attracting a more diverse population of students to the MS-AT program and demonstrate commitment to expanded academic pathway partnerships within the State System.
4. Provide opportunities for SU students to expand their educational goals, and to advance the prospects of employment for these students through advanced education that will provide the Commonwealth of PA and surrounding areas with certified athletic trainers.

**PROCEDURES:**

Shippensburg University and Commonwealth University desire to facilitate the progression of students from a Bachelor of Science program at SU to the subsequent MS-AT program at Commonwealth University – Lock Haven campus with the purpose of providing these students the opportunity to complete an accelerated pathway model between BS and MS programs. SU agrees to publicize this Agreement to students who are enrolled in or plan to enroll in the Pre- Athletic Training concentration of the Exercise Science major, and to prospective students of this major at SU. The following items are the responsibility of SU students participating in this MOU.

### **Admission Requirements & Process:**

1. To be eligible for matriculation to CU's MS-AT program (prior to completing the SU degree), the SU student must have (a) completed a minimum of 96 credits of approved SU coursework requirements toward fulfilling the SU Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science (see Appendix A); (b) have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 before taking graduate courses in the MS-AT program; (c) will have completed all CU's MS-AT admission requirements prior to attendance at CU; and will have been recommended by the Program Coordinator at SU.
2. The student must complete Commonwealth University's 3+2 MS-AT Application through ATCAS by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the third year at SU. The student is responsible for submitting current postsecondary official transcripts of all college courses taken up to and including the time of application and two references. Prior to enrollment in the program the student must complete an interview and completed 75 hours of direct observation of an Athletic Trainer.
3. Commonwealth University guarantees minimum admission for five (5) qualified Shippensburg University students per year.
4. A SU-recommended student not selected to the guaranteed admission pathway may still apply and be accepted to CU's MS-AT program as part of the standard application process.
5. Students formally admitted to CU's MS-AT program must pay the Admission to Deposit to reserve their seat in the program. The fee will be credited towards the student's first semester fees.
6. Upon successful completion of the appropriate number of credits in the MS-AT program at Commonwealth University, it will be the responsibility of the accepted student in the accelerated program to have an official CU transcript sent to the SU registrar for completion of the SU Bachelor of Science Degree. Up to 24 credits may be transferred from the MS-AT program at Commonwealth University to complete the SU Bachelor of Science Degree.
7. Upon receiving the Bachelor of Science Degree from SU, the accepted student is responsible for having an official SU transcript sent to the CU registrar to demonstrate completion of the SU Bachelor of Science Degree.
8. The accepted student must pay CU graduate tuition and fees for those semesters which they are attending CU.
9. Both parties will send and receive regular updates about curricular changes in advance as they relate to the pathway in this agreement.

**CONDITIONS OF THE AGREEMENT:**

1. The Program Director of the MS-AT at CU and the Program Coordinator at SU will monitor compliance with the terms of this agreement. The CU MS-AT Program Director and SU Program Coordinator will share relevant data and student information necessary for program success.
2. The term of this agreement shall be five years commencing when all applicable signatures are obtained.
3. Either institution may withdraw from the Agreement by giving the other at least 90 days of written notice, except that commitments already in effect for students who have applied to the accelerated pathway model will be honored.
4. This agreement represents the entire underling between the parties. This agreement can be modified only in writing with the same formality as the original agreement
5. This MOU is not intended and does not create any contractual rights or obligations with respect to the "signatory agencies or other parties.
6. This MOU is not a legally binding contract and is not enforceable in a court or in the Board of Claims. In the event of a dispute between the parties, advice and direction will be requested from the Office of the Chancellor or Office of Chief Counsel.
7. This MOU is not intended to modify the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and the parties will adhere to the CBA at all times.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this Understanding as of the date previously indicated.

APPROVED:

Commonwealth University

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Shippensburg University

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Patterson, President

12/2/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darrell Newton,  
Provost and Vice President for Academic  
Affairs

12/2/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved as to Form and Legality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
University Legal Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Appendix A

### Commonwealth University Shippensburg University 3+2 BS/MS-AT Arrangement

<b>Commonwealth University M.S., Athletic Training Program</b>			
<b>Undergraduate Prerequisite Coursework</b>	<b>Shippensburg University Course Equivalent</b> <b>** Shippensburg students need to complete these courses to be eligible for the MS-AT Degree</b>		
	<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I with Lab</b>	<u>BIOL 237</u>	<u>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</u>	<u>4</u>
<b>Anatomy &amp; Physiology II with Lab</b>	<u>BIOL 238</u>	<u>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</u>	<u>4</u>
<b>Physics</b>	<u>PHYS 110</u> <u>PHYS 121</u> <u>PHYS 123</u>	<u>Physics for Society OR</u> <u>Introductory Physics I</u> <u>Physics Ia Laboratory</u>	<u>3</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<u>CHEM 105</u> <u>CHEM 121</u> <u>CHEM 125</u>	<u>An Observational Approach OR</u> <u>Chemical Bonding</u> <u>Laboratory IB: Stoichiometry</u>	<u>3</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u>
<b>Biology</b>	<u>BIOL 161</u>  <u>BIOL 162</u>	<u>Principles of Biology: Cell Structure &amp; Function OR</u>  <u>Principles of Biology: Organismal Diversity</u>	<u>4</u>  <u>4</u>
<b>General Psychology</b>	<u>PSYC 101</u>	<u>General Psychology</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>Biomechanics/Kinesiology</b>	<u>EXER 333</u>	<u>Biomechanics</u>	<u>4</u>
<b>Exercise Physiology</b>	<u>EXER 343</u>  <u>EXER 321</u>	<u>Foundations of Exercise Physiology OR</u>  <u>Exercise Physiology I</u>	<u>4</u>  <u>4</u>
<b>Nutrition</b>	<u>EXER 260</u>	<u>Principles of Nutrition</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>Statistics</b>	<u>MATH 117</u>	<u>Applied Statistics</u>	<u>3</u>