

## Partnership Agreement for the Cochise College-Pacific Bridge Program

This partnership agreement outlines a path for Cochise College undergraduate students to pursue guaranteed admission interviews at Pacific University School of Pharmacy through the *CC-Pacific Bridge Program*. For eligible Cochise College students, this CC-Pacific pharmacy track aims to nurture career interests, provide enriching pre-professional development, and pave a way for success in Pacific University's 3-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program.

Faculty and staff at Pacific University and Cochise College support students through four key phases of the Bridge Program: i) outreach to prospective students, ii) applying to the Bridge Program, iii) completing Bridge Program requirements, and iv) transitioning to the PharmD program.

### I. Outreaching to Prospective Students (1st year)

- Representatives from Pacific University collaborate with a Cochise College Health Professions Advisor to facilitate information sessions at Cochise College to educate students about pharmacy careers, explain criteria for admissions to PharmD, and discuss opportunities provided through the Bridge Program.
- Cochise College Health Profession Advisors let their advisees know about the program through targeted outreach, advising sessions, workshops, and newsletters.

### II. Applying to the Bridge Program (summer/fall following the 1<sup>st</sup> year at CC)

Cochise College students may apply to the CC-Pacific Bridge program at any time after completing their 1<sup>st</sup> year's grades. This timing allows students to complete sufficient coursework to assess their interest in the PharmD program, and whether they meet initial qualifications for entering the Bridge Program. To be admitted to the Bridge Program, students must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Complete at least 30 quarter credit hours, including the following core courses at Cochise College:

General Biology I	4	General Biology II	4
General Chemistry I	4	General Chemistry II	4
Composition	3	English Composition	3
Intro to Psychology	3	Calculus I	5

- 2) Complete a graduation plan that includes:

- the applicant's general education courses that will complete requirements for an AS degree in Biology

- courses that will complete admissions requirements for the Doctor of Pharmacy Program (for information on PharmD requirements, see <http://www.pacificu.edu/future-graduate-professional/colleges/college-health-professions/areas-study/pharmacy/admissions/prerequisites>)

The graduation plan must be approved by a Cochise College Health Professions Advisor.

- 3) Maintain minimum grades in coursework, including:
  - Grade of C or higher in all core courses
  - Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
  - Science GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 4) Remain in good academic standing as certified by Cochise College's Office of the Registrar.

### III. Completing Bridge Program Requirements (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

To continue as Bridge participants, students must remain in good standing and meet the following conditions:

- 1) Maintain minimum grades in coursework, including:
  - Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
  - Science GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 2) Meet twice in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year with a Cochise College Health Professions Advisor to discuss academic progress and evidence of engagement that support Pacific's PharmD co-curricular goals:
  - Strong commitment to service/empathy
  - Exposure and commitment to diversity
  - Leadership development
  - Academic enrichment
  - Professionalism and Communication
- 3) With guidance of their Health Professions Advisor, Bridge participants complete one self-assessment by the conclusion of the fall semester in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that summarizes their pre-professional activities and academic achievements, demonstrating their preparation or readiness for entering Pacific's PharmD program.

- 4) Bridge participants meet with a Pacific faculty member, typically by the conclusion of fall of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, to review their self-assessment, evaluate status in meeting expectations for entering PharmD, and receive guidance on enhancing their portfolios.
- 5) Information about Cochise College students possessed by the Cochise College may be shared with Pacific University to the extent such information sharing is allowed by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

#### IV. Transitioning to PharmD (2<sup>nd</sup> year)


- Pacific representatives facilitate workshops at Cochise College in AZ to help candidates prepare for the formal application process, including drafting personal statements and preparing for interviews.
- To formally apply to the PharmD program, Bridge students must complete Pacific's two-part application process by the conclusion of fall semester of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and complete all prerequisite courses by mid-July of the year they plan to start the Pacific University PharmD program (the PharmD program begins in August of each academic year). Students are also encouraged to apply to Pacific University through the Early Decision process, detailed on Pacific's website. A complete application occurs when both the PharmCAS application and the Pacific University Supplemental application are submitted.
  - **PharmCAS Common Application:** which requires (2) reference forms, official transcripts, and a personal statement.
  - **Pacific University Supplemental Application:** which requires completion of supplemental essays
- Outside of the AS degree in Biology requirements, students will need to complete a 3-credit Social/Behavioral Science course prior to the PharmD admission, separately at Pacific University (or any other institution) to complete the prerequisite courses.
- Bridge Program students who meet the criteria listed under **Completing Bridge Program Requirements** and submit a complete application as required by the PharmD program are guaranteed an interview when applying the program.

 6/18/18

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 6/14/18

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