Three Year Elementary Education Program
Articulation Agreement
Between
Lake Region State College and Valley City State University

Introduction: This articulation agreement formally recognizes that Valley City State University (hereinafter VCSU) and Lake Region State College (hereinafter LRSC) are educational institutions which agree to work together to provide educational opportunities for the students of their institutions.

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to provide a seamless transfer from LRSC to VCSU. Students will earn an Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) from LRSC following the liberal arts transfer option for education majors and a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from VCSU. This agreement will be set up so that students will be able to complete both an AA/AS degree from LRSC and a B.S. degree in elementary education from VCSU in three years, utilizing a 1.5+1.5 system. Students will be able to complete the VCSU elementary education program online except for one summer residency within three years, provided they adhere to the specified rotation.

This plan includes the Elementary Education major with a reading credential and ELL Endorsement. Other combinations are possible, including kindergarten, middle school, special ed., early childhood, and STEM. Some of these combinations may not be possible, however, within the three-year timeframe.

Motivating Principles and Values:

1. Students will be well served by the partnership and the high quality teacher education program set forth in this agreement.

2. This partnership will benefit the educational needs of the region by providing high quality teacher education graduates.

3. Both campuses will maintain compliance with state and national accreditation guidelines that ensure teacher quality.

4. This partnership will provide high quality collaborative program to students in a convenient, timely, flexible and cost-effective manner.

Accreditation: VCSU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission; The Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAPE); and approved by the State of North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB). LRSC is accredited by the Higher Learning.
Longevity of Agreement: This agreement will be in effect for five years, beginning January 1, 2017. If the program is terminated, students who have begun the program and are in the process of completion will be allowed to finish within a one- or two-year timeline.

Termination or Revisions: LRSC and VCSU agree to provide at least 90 days advance written notification of their intent to terminate the agreement. All revisions of this agreement require written approval by those who sign this agreement or their successors. Mutually agreed upon amendments to this agreement may be approved by those who sign this agreement or their successors.

Governance and Management: This agreement shall be governed by the academic policies and procedures of LRSC and VCSU. According to the requirements and conditions of the program and accreditation guidelines, the Elementary Education Program will be governed by the School of Education and Graduate Studies at VCSU. The Joint Elementary Education Program Committee will resolve any instructional and logistical issues.

Campus Responsibilities: Coursework in the VCSU Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education will be delivered to LRSC students online. At a minimum, students are required to attend the VCSU campus during one summer semester.

Advising: LRSC will provide an on-site advisor. The advisor will be the source of information for advisees concerning any special considerations relating to this cooperative program. Students transitioning into the VCSU program will be appointed a VCSU advisor who will provide expertise regarding VCSU policies and procedures, e.g., transfer, graduation requirements, pre-requisites.

Admission: Students taking LRSC course(s) must apply and be accepted for admission at LRSC. Students taking VCSU course(s) must apply and be accepted for admission at VCSU. All admission policies at the respective institutions will apply, including requirements for entry into the education programs.

Registration: VCSU elementary education majors at LRSC will complete registration activities with the LRSC elementary education advisor. Each institution will follow its own policies and procedures for registering students for their programs(s). Collaborative enrollment processes identified in NDUS Collaborative Student Procedure 404.0 will be used as needed. Should a student drop credits during the semester at the “host” campus, the “host” campus is responsible for immediately notifying the “home” campus Financial Aid Office.

Graduation Requirements: A minimum of 120 total credits are required for a Bachelor’s degree and must be taken from the appropriate categories. Students must complete a minimum of 30 hours of upper level (300-400 level) credit from VCSU to complete graduation requirements from VCSU. Credit hours earned at LRSC that do not meet general education requirements, technical specialty requirements or teaching option requirements will be used for electives courses.

As part of VCSU graduation requirements, students must develop a digital portfolio that illustrates the best evidence of meeting the abilities and skills requirements for their degree.

Students must adhere to the specified schedule in order to guarantee graduation within three years. Deviation from the specified schedule may compromise graduating in three years.

Tuition and Fees: NDUS procedure 805.3.1, Distance Learning Courses: Revenue Distribution, will apply to this agreement. Students taking courses offered by VCSU will be charged and pay all VCSU tuition and fees, including technology fees. Students taking courses offered by LRSC will be charged and pay all LRSC tuition and fees, including technology fees.

Marketing: VCSU will come to the LRSC campus once a year to recruit new students for this program. VCSU will be responsible for providing LRSC with marketing materials to distribute to prospective students. LRSC will display
Information about this agreement on their transfer website. LRSC will work collaboratively with VCSU to identify prospective students for this program.

**Financial Aid:** Students enrolled in an LRSC two-year degree program will have all aspects of their Federal Title IV Financial Assistance administered by LRSC’s Financial Aid Office. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Processing of FAFSA and other applications, determination of eligibility, awarding, and disbursement of funds;
- Assessment and enforcement of satisfactory academic progress standards;
- Calculation and distribution of refunds;
- Administration of all aspects of the Federal Direct Loan Program

During the student’s enrollment at LRSC, LRSC policies and procedures will apply. Student budgets (cost of attendance) used in establishing aid amounts will be the same as those used for awarding federal aid to other LRSC students. A contact person from the LRSC Financial Aid Office will be identified to work with a contact person from the VCSU Financial Aid Office.

Valley City State University will be responsible for awarding aid to students who have been admitted to the VCSU elementary education program once they have graduated from LRSC. Students will have all aspects of their Federal Title IV Financial Assistance administered by VCSU Student Financial Aid Office. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Processing of applications, evaluation of eligibility, awarding, and disbursement of funds;
- Assessment and enforcement of satisfactory academic progress standards;
- Calculation and distribution of refunds;
- Notifying changes in enrollment status to lenders under the Federal Direct Loan Program.

During enrollment in the VCSU elementary education program, VCSU policies and procedures will apply. Student budgets (cost of attendance) used in establishing aid amounts will be the same as those used for awarding federal aid to other VCSU students. A contact person from the LRSC Financial Aid Office will be identified to work with the contact person from the VCSU Financial Aid Office.

Students not physically attending VCSU are not eligible for VCSU sponsored scholarships, waivers, or student work-study while pursuing a degree from VCSU.

After students are admitted to VCSU, satisfactory progress will be monitored based on VCSU policy to assure that satisfactory progress requirements are met.

Entrance and exit loan counseling requirements will be met with the use of electronic counseling available through the website [http://www.mappingyourfuture.org/OSLC](http://www.mappingyourfuture.org/OSLC) (for Perkins Loans) and [https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action](https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action) for all Federal Direct Loans.

**Student Life:** Rules, regulations, and policies that govern student life that are listed in the LRSC Student Handbook will be applicable to students enrolled in courses while at LRSC. For example, housing, parking, and conduct policies will be governed by LRSC.

During the summer session at VCSU, students may be housed on VCSU. Students will be governed by VCSU’s rules, regulations, and policies during the summer session they are enrolled and housed at VCSU.

**Student Services:** VCSU students at LRSC who are enrolled in at least one LRSC course will have the same access to student services as full-time LRSC students.

**Academic Support Services:** LRSC will provide tutoring and disability support services for LRSC courses. VCSU will provide tutoring and disability support services for VCSU courses. If students have documented disabilities that may
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affect their academic experience and are seeking accommodations, it is their responsibility to supply documentation and make a request for services through the office of Student Academic Services at VCSU and through the Power Skills Center at LRSC as soon as possible.

**Technology and Support Services:** VCSU will provide students in this program adequate technical support in a timely manner for the courses taken from VCSU. LRSC will provide students in this program adequate technical support in a timely manner for the courses taken from LRSC.

Students enrolled in at least one VCSU course will have full access to VCSU technology services, including VCSU wired and wireless computer network, Blackboard account, VCSU email/messaging account, printer access, and computer peripheral equipment checkout. Students may elect to pay the VCSU technology “buy up” fee if they would like full-time access to a VCSU laptop according to the established procedures at the following URL:

http://technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=2921

All online students in VCSU courses are expected to abide by the technical requirements, as outlined at http://distancelearning.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=1288

The following URL provides additional information regarding the notebook computer initiative at VCSU:

http://technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=2958

**Academic Procedures:** VCSU academic guidelines, policies, and procedures for the students enrolled in courses through this arrangement on the LRSC campus apply in regard to the following:

- Academic probation/suspension
- Graduation honors
- Academic honors
- Official withdrawal
- Course load limitations

LRSC’s and VCSU’s respective academic guidelines, policies, and procedures for students enrolled in courses through this arrangement on the LRSC campus apply on a course-by-course basis in regard to the following:

- Course repetition
- Incomplete work
- Course challenges
- Attendance
- Add/Drop dates for individual classes

Per NDUS guidelines, VCSU’s Agreement Manager for this articulation is the Director of Distance Learning and Faculty Development and can be reached through the Academic Affairs office (701-845-7202). The LRSC Articulation Agreement Coordinator is the Director of Instructional Services and can be reached at (701) 662-1509.

VCSU’s Education Program Coordinator is Dr. Gary Thompson, Dean, School of Education and Graduate Studies (701-845-7197).

Amendments to the Agreement: Mutually agreed upon amendments to this agreement may be approved by those who sign this agreement or their successors. The agreement may be terminated at any time through joint action of the two presidents with adequate provision for currently enrolled students.

**Course Plan and Rotation**
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This plan includes the Elementary Education major with a reading credential and ELL Endorsement. Other combinations are possible, including Kindergarten, middle school, special ed., early childhood, and STEM. Some of these combinations may not be possible, however, within the three-year timeframe. To ensure completion of all general education requirements at VCSU, students must complete and be awarded the AA or AS degree at LRSC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2016—LRSC</th>
<th>Spring 2017—LRSC</th>
<th>Summer 2017—LRSC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSCI 101</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYC 111</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 110</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 120/125</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 103 or 104</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EDUC 250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Sci: Biology</td>
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<td>EDUC 298</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPER 205</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MATH 103</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPER 100</td>
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<td>Lab Sci: Geology (DCB)</td>
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<td>Student’s Choice</td>
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<tr>
<th>Fall 2017—BOTH</th>
<th>Spring 2018—BOTH; graduate from LRSC</th>
<th>Summer 2018—in RESIDENCE @ VCSU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V-EDUC 210 (online)</td>
<td>2 PSYC 250</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 110</td>
<td>3 V-EDUC 300 online</td>
<td>2 EDUC 315 -</td>
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<td>MATH 277</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EDUC 323 (workshop @ VCSU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V-EDUC 321 (online)</td>
<td>3 SOC 235 or V-EDUC 283</td>
<td>3 EDUC 322 (workshop @ VCSU)</td>
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<td>ENGL 238 (for ED 330)</td>
<td>3 V-EDUC 320 (online)</td>
<td>3 ENGL 309 (ELL)</td>
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<td>V-EDUC 249 (online)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V-EDUC 240 (online)</td>
<td>2 V-EDUC 390 (ELL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V-EDUC 363 (ELL) (online)</td>
<td>2 V-EDUC 352 – (online) Culturally Diverse Practicum</td>
<td>1 LRSC Total 61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2018—VCSU</td>
<td>Spring 2019—VCSU</td>
<td>Summer 2019—VCSU</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 355 (online)</td>
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<td>ENGL 409 (ELL)</td>
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<td>Total from VCSU</td>
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<td>Total LRSC + VCSU</td>
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Elementary Education Articulation Agreement Between LRSC and VCSU January 1, 2017-December 31, 2021

Signatures:

For Lake Region State College:

[Signature]

Dr. Doug Darling, President

Date

[Signature]

Lloyd Halvorson, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

For Valley City State University

[Signature]

Dr. Tisa Mason, President

Date

[Signature]

Dr. Margaret Dahlberg, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

[Signature]

Dr. Gary Thompson, Dean, School of Education and Graduate Studies

Date