# ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN REGIS COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW ESTABLISHING A 3+3 PROGRAM LEADING TO A BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND A JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE

Regis College ("[Undergraduate Institution]") and the University of Massachusetts School of Law ("UMass Law") 3+3 Program (the "Program") is a rigorous accelerated degree program that allows selected applicants to complete both their undergraduate studies and law degree in six rather than seven years.

## I. PROGRAM SUMMARY AND RATIONALE

The program is open to academically qualified Regis College undergraduate students who are committed to pursuing a law degree at UMass Law. Participants complete the first three years of their undergraduate studies and meet matriculation requirements specified below. In their fourth year, participants matriculate at UMass Law as first-year law students, and they earn credit toward completion of the undergraduate degree by completing their first-year law courses. In effect, students save one year of college tuition by substituting their first year of law school for their senior year of college.

The program is designed for students who enter Regis College with a strong interest in law already formed or who develop such an interest early on and whose career goals and interest in legal education can be well served by UMass Law. Completion of the program will yield a baccalaureate degree from Regis College as well as a juris doctor from UMass Law.

WHEREAS, UMass Law seeks to expand opportunity for high quality legal education to capable, motivated students interested in the study of law.

WHEREAS, Regis College seeks to provide current and future Regis College degree candidates the opportunity to obtain undergraduate and law degrees on an accelerated basis.

WHEREAS, Regis College and UMass Law seek to establish a collaborative relationship.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, obligations, terms and conditions set forth herein, Regis College and UMass Law will offer an accelerated undergraduate and juris doctor program that allows participants to complete their undergraduate degree and a juris doctor degree subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

# II. REGIS COLLEGE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- A. Oversight for the Program at Regis College will rest with the Pre-law Advisor.
- B. Interested students should meet with their faculty advisor and program director as early as possible to ensure they are able to complete all Program requirements.

# III. ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION TO UMASS LAW

Regis College students who meet the following requirements are guaranteed admission to UMass Law under the terms of the program:

- A. In compliance with American Bar Association Standard 502, successful completion of at least 75% of the work acceptable for the bachelor's degree at Regis College (i.e., no fewer than 90 credits) prior to matriculation at UMass Law.
- B. Successful completion of all Regis College general education and major requirements for the bachelor's degree, other than: (1) free electives; and (2) requirements for which a first-year law school course is a substitute acceptable to the student's major and college.
- C. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.3 during the three years of undergraduate study.
- D. A minimum score of 150 on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).
- E. Submission, with the application for admission to the law school, of a written recommendation from the Pre-law Advisor at Regis College.
- F. A personal statement.
- G. Fulfillment of all admissions requirements normally imposed by UMass Law.
- H. Satisfactory character and fitness appropriate for admission to law school.
- I. Students with a cumulative GPA or LSAT score below the minimums listed above are not guaranteed admission but will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

# IV. UNDERGRADUATE SENIOR YEAR/LAW SCHOOL FIRST YEAR

- A. Program students normally will be admitted only as full-time students in the law school and will follow the usual course of study for a full-time, first-year law student. Should they wish to switch to part-time status, they may do so after completion of the first year of law school, upon approval of the Associate Dean of the School of Law
- B. Credit for courses completed at UMass Law will transfer to Regis College as free elective credits or as credits for which a first-year law school course is a substitute acceptable to the student's major.
- C. The student's first-year law grades will not be included with the student's undergraduate grades in calculating the undergraduate grade point average.
- D. Regis College students in their first-year at UMass Law will pay the same tuition and fees to the law school as do other first-year students. Regis College tuition and fees will be waived. Students may apply for financial aid through UMass Law.
- E. Students who fail to complete successfully the first year of law school, or who elect for other reasons to withdraw, may return to Regis College the following semester.

F. Upon completion of the first year of law school with grades meeting the requirements set forth by Regis College, Regis College will grant the bachelor's degree.

#### V. OTHER STIPULATIONS

- A. The Regis College Program advisers will make clear to students that participation in the program is not a guarantee of admission to the law school. However, the intent of the program is to attract qualified students.
- B. The Regis College Program advisers will make every effort to ensure students receive timely and accurate advising at all stages of the program; however, it is the participating student's responsibility to meet the Program's academic and eligibility requirements, to prepare adequately for the Law School Admission Test, and to comply with all admission procedures required by UMass Law.
- C. There is nothing to prevent a Program student from applying for early admission to another law school or from transferring at a later date from UMass Law to another law school. However, it is the intent of the program to appeal to students who make a conscientious choice to attend UMass Law and complete their juris doctor degree there.

#### VI. COMMUNICATIONS AND ADVISING

Communication and advising is central to effective transfer/articulation. Recognizing this:

- A. Both institutions agree to include information about this articulation agreement in relevant publications for the purposes of promotion and advising.
- B. Both institutions agree to jointly develop appropriate transfer guides and make these available to students and advisors as appropriate.
- C. Both institutions agree to notify each other promptly, in writing, of substantive changes in curricula that might affect the Agreement.

## VII. IMPLEMENTATION AND TERMINATION

- A. The program will begin operation on the date this agreement is executed by representatives of Regis College and UMass Law and will remain in effect until terminated or amended, in writing.
- B. Either party to this agreement may terminate this agreement with written notice to the other party, provided that such termination will not be permitted to impact students already in the program.
- C. This Agreement does not preclude either party from entering into similar agreements with other institutions of higher education.

# Signatures

All undersigned parties agree to the covenants contained herein.

Regis College

04-23-2020

Date

Mohammad Karim, Provost

University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth

02-27-2020

Date