



October 19, 2021

Matt Gotschall, Ph.D.
President
Central Community College
3134 West Highway 34
P.O. Box 4903
Grand Island, NE 68802-4903
mgotschall@cccneb.edu

Dear Dr. Gotschall:

I am pleased to share with you the establishment of a new University of Nebraska Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee, which was adopted and approved by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents on October 8, 2021. A copy of this document is enclosed and applies to all campuses of the University of Nebraska system. In addition, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents adopted an Undergraduate Returning Student Degree Completion Guarantee. The latter is enclosed as well. Both documents build on the University of Nebraska's Four-Year Graduation Guarantee, which was updated and approved by our Board of Regents in June 2021.

These graduation guarantee documents demonstrate the commitment of the University of Nebraska to assisting students as they work toward completion of their bachelor's degrees in a timely fashion. We are committed to supporting as many students as possible to complete their BA/BS degrees after four years of combined post-secondary work. Obviously, there are many factors that affect how quickly students (including transfer students) can complete degree requirements. Dr. Steven Duke, Associate Vice President for P-16 Initiatives, is leading a University-wide effort, together with dozens of faculty and staff at each of our campuses, to expand the number of "guided pathways" that can assist students who begin at a community college to make steady progress toward a four-year degree (if that is their goal) and beyond.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist to help to develop or refine the guided pathways from community colleges to the University of Nebraska programs. Thank you for your partnership and collaboration in this important effort to grow the workforce of Nebraska and assist students in their personal, professional and career development.

With warmest personal regards,

Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

JRG/cr

cc: Candace Walton, Ph.D.
Steve Duke, Ph.D.

Encl: Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee
Undergraduate Returning Student Degree Completion Guarantee

TO: The Board of Regents Addendum XI-A-1
Academic Affairs Committee

MEETING DATE: October 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Establishment of the University of Nebraska Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee and the University of Nebraska Undergraduate Returning Student Degree Completion Guarantee

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to establish the University of Nebraska Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee and the University of Nebraska Undergraduate Returning Student Degree Completion Guarantee

PREVIOUS ACTION: June 25, 2021 – The Board approved amendments to the University of Nebraska Four-Year Graduation Guarantee.


June 1, 2002 – The Board adopted by acclamation a Resolution recognizing the importance for University of Nebraska undergraduate students to be able to earn their bachelor's or first-professional degrees in a timely fashion.

EXPLANATION: The proposed undergraduate graduation guarantees outline student and campus obligations designed to ensure students can graduate in a timely fashion. The university guarantees that undergraduate students will be able to enroll in courses that permit graduation consistent with an agreed upon academic plan of study and timetable developed with their academic advisor. If specific coursework enrollments are not available, NU will work with the student to offer approved alternatives or substitutions that will fit into the agreed upon timetable for graduation. If a student fulfills all the requirements outlined in the applicable guarantee and is not able to graduate according to the agreed upon program of study time frame, the applicable University of Nebraska campus will cover 100% of tuition for any additional course(s) needed to graduate. The guarantees will be applicable to students that first matriculate (or are formally readmitted) for the Fall 2022 semester.

This proposal has been reviewed by the Council of Academic Officers; it also has been reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee.

COST: None

SPONSOR: Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

RECOMMENDED: 
Walter E. Carter, President
University of Nebraska

DATE: September 10, 2021



Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee

The Undergraduate Transfer Student Graduation Guarantee is the University of Nebraska's promise to do our part to support the academic journey of transfer students and facilitate completion of their degrees in a timely fashion. This program is designed for those who want to complete their degree program as quickly as possible and are committed to successfully completing their approved course of study as initially developed with their University of Nebraska (NU) academic advisor.

The length of time enrolled at NU will vary depending on the number of credits transferred, the number of degree requirements fulfilled through transfer credits, and a student's semester course-load. Every transfer student's path is different. Of course, students may ultimately need or just choose a different pace to take a wider range of courses that are not directly related to their field of study, engage in experiential or service-learning opportunities, represent their school on a collegiate team, or attend school part-time. Additionally, those seeking dual degrees, multiple majors, or certain academic concentrations may need more time to complete their work.

For students looking to complete a degree in as little time as possible, it is critical to have appropriate high school preparation, pursue a course of study that is intended for four-year completion, and follow these prudent practices:

- Students should select a major early in college and stay with that major. Courses taken as part of Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees generally transfer better than courses taken as part of Associate of Applied Science degrees.
- Students should contact an academic advisor or admissions representative well before enrollment on one of the University of Nebraska campuses so that they can learn more about coursework requirements and review a plan of study for their anticipated major. Resources such as Transfer.Nebraska.edu and Transferology.com should be used to obtain information about the transfer of credits from previous institution(s), and the applicability of those credits to an intended NU major.

The University of Nebraska's goal is that transfer students who follow prudent practices will be able to graduate in four years of post-secondary work, but not longer than the timeline agreed upon with their academic advisor during the first semester of enrollment at the University of Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska guarantees that transfer students will be able to enroll in courses that permit graduation consistent with the agreed upon academic plan of study. If that is not possible, NU will work with the student to offer approved alternatives or substitutions that will fit into the agreed upon course of study time frame.

To be eligible for the guarantee, transfer students shall:

- Schedule a meeting and meet with their academic advisor, no later than during their second month at NU, to develop and finalize a specific plan of study to complete degree requirements for their declared major. Ideally, transfer students will take 15 credit hours or more each semester with acceptable grades after transferring to the University of Nebraska.
- Sign up for classes during each semester's priority registration period.
- Pass all courses listed on their program of study on the first attempt (no deficient grades as defined by the college and major).
- Meet with their advisor every semester and respond promptly to all communications from academic advisors, faculty advisors, the registrar, and Advising and Career Services staff.
- Notify their academic advisor and their college Dean's Office, during the applicable semester's priority registration period, when program-of-study planned coursework is not available for enrollment.
- Not be subject to any disciplinary action per the Student Code of Conduct that restricts academic progress.
- Apply for University of Nebraska graduation by the campus specific deadline.

If a student fulfills the requirements detailed above and is not able to graduate according to the agreed upon program of study time frame, the University of Nebraska will cover 100% of tuition for any additional course(s) needed to graduate.



Undergraduate Returning Student Degree Completion Guarantee

The Undergraduate Returning/Re-admitted Student Degree Completion Guarantee is the University of Nebraska's promise to do our part to support the academic journey of undergraduate students who have paused their attendance from a University of Nebraska campus and to facilitate completion of their degree. This program is designed for those who want to complete their degree program as quickly as possible and are committed to successfully completing an approved course of study developed with their University of Nebraska (NU) academic advisor.

Students who have paused their attendance from colleges and universities other than the University of Nebraska and wish to complete their degree at the University of Nebraska should refer to our Undergraduate Transfer Student Degree Completion Guarantee policy. Likewise, students who started at one NU campus but wish to complete their degree at another NU campus also should refer to the Transfer Student policy.

The length of time required to earn a NU degree will vary depending on the number of credits successfully completed, the number of degree requirements fulfilled, and a student's semester course-load. Every student's path is different. Of course, students may ultimately need or just choose a different pace to take a wider range of courses that are not directly related to their field of study, engage in experiential or service-learning opportunities, represent their school on a collegiate team, or attend school part-time. Additionally, those seeking dual degrees, multiple majors, or certain academic concentrations may need more time to complete their work.

For students looking to complete a degree in as little time as possible, it is important to pursue a course of study that leverages previously completed coursework that meets degree requirements, and to follow these prudent practices:

- Students should contact an academic advisor or admissions representative well before re-enrollment so that they can learn more about coursework requirements and review a plan of study for their anticipated major. Resources such as [Transfer.Nebraska.edu](https://transfer.nebraska.edu) and [Transferology.com](https://transferology.com) should be used to obtain information about the transfer of credits from any other institution(s), and the applicability of those credits to an intended NU major.
- Prior to re-applying, students should select or reconfirm their major and stay with that major through graduation.

The University of Nebraska's goal is that students returning to higher education who follow prudent practices will be able to graduate in a total of four years of post-secondary work, but not longer than the timeline agreed upon with their academic advisor during the first semester of re-enrollment at the University of Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska guarantees that re-admitted students will be able to enroll in courses that permit graduation consistent with a newly agreed upon academic plan of study. If that is not possible, NU will work with the student to offer approved alternatives or substitutions that will fit into the agreed upon course of study time frame.

To be eligible for the guarantee, re-admitted students shall:

- Schedule a meeting and meet with their academic advisor, no later than during their second month at NU, to develop and finalize a specific plan of study (including an agreed upon timeframe) to complete degree requirements for their declared major.
- Sign up for classes during each semester's priority registration period.
- Pass all courses listed on their program of study on the first attempt (no deficient grades as defined by the college and major).
- Meet with their advisor every semester and respond promptly to all communications from academic advisors, faculty advisors, the registrar, and Advising and Career Services staff.
- Notify their academic advisor and their college Dean's Office, during the applicable semester's priority registration period, when program-of-study planned coursework is not available for enrollment.
- Not be subject to any disciplinary action per the Student Code of Conduct that restricts academic progress.
- Apply for University of Nebraska graduation by the campus specific deadline.

If a student fulfills the requirements detailed above and is not able to graduate according to the agreed upon program of study time frame, the University of Nebraska will cover 100% of tuition for any additional course(s) needed to graduate.