Partnership Agreement for the Portland Community College-Pacific Bridge Program

This partnership agreement outlines a path for Portland Community College (PCC) students to pursue guaranteed conditional admission at Pacific University School of Pharmacy through the PCC-Pacific Bridge Program. For eligible PCC students, this PCC-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 PCC 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 PCC General Advisors and/or Health Professions Advisors to facilitate information sessions at PCC, at which Pacific University staff educate students about pharmacy careers, explain criteria for admissions to PharmD, and discuss opportunities provided through the Bridge Program.
   - PCC General and/or Health Profession Advisors let their advisees know about the program through targeted outreach, advising sessions, workshops, and newsletters, as appropriate.

II. Applying to the Bridge Program (summer/fall following the 1st year at PCC)
    PCC students may apply to the PCC-Pacific Bridge program at any time after completing their 1st 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, preferably including the following core courses at PCC:

       | Course                  | Credit |
-------|-------------------------|--------|
       | General Biology I       | 4      |
       | General Chemistry I     | 4      |
       | Composition             | 3      |
       | Intro to Psychology     | 3      |
       | General Biology II      | 4      |
       | General Chemistry II    | 4      |
       | English Composition     | 3      |
       | Calculus I              | 5      |
2. Meet with a PCC Advisor and create an academic plan at PCC that includes 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) Also see https://www.pcc.edu/programs/university-transfer/transfer-schools/pacific.html

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 PCC’s Office of the Registrar.

III. **Completing Bridge Program Requirements (2nd 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 with Pacific University in the 2nd year** 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) **Working with guidance and staff from Pacific University**, Bridge participants **complete one self-assessment** by the conclusion of the fall semester in the 2nd 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 2nd year, to review their self-assessment, evaluate status in meeting expectations for entering PharmD, and receive guidance on enhancing their portfolios.

5) **Information about PCC students possessed by the PCC 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 (2nd year)

- Pacific representatives facilitate workshops at PCC 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 application process by the conclusion of fall semester of the 2nd 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). **PharmCAS Common Application:** which requires (2) reference forms, official transcripts, and a personal statement.

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 conditional admission when applying the program.