

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)



This **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** is made on this 17th day of December, 2024, by and between the following institutions (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Member Institutions"):

- DePaul School for Hearing and Speech, located at 6202 Alder St. Pgh, PA 15206
- La Roche University, located at 9000 Babcock Blvd., Pgh, PA 15237
- Minot State University, located at 500 University Ave. W. Minot, ND 58707

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the general framework for collaboration between DePaul School for Hearing and Speech (apprenticeship sponsor) and institutes of higher education in support of the development and delivery of an apprenticeship teacher education program that will provide the competencies for teacher candidates/students to qualify for Pennsylvania Special Education: Hearing Impaired PK-12 teaching certification. This collaboration results in the "Grow-Your Own University Integrated Deaf Education ("GUIDE") Program Consortium (the "Consortium") The Member Institutions each make up the Consortium. This MOU defines the roles and responsibilities of the Member Institutions as they relate to their membership in the Consortium, and the delivery of courses and apprenticeship/field hours that meet the needs of the GUIDE Program.

La Roche University will verify completion of the plan of study for the Master degree and Pennsylvania Special Education: Hearing Impaired PK-12 teaching certification and serve as certifying agent. DePaul School will verify the completion of the apprenticeship with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. Specific responsibilities are noted in Appendix I.

II. Membership

Membership in this Consortium is determined as a result of each Member Institution agreeing to offer online and/or distance learning offerings for teacher candidates in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. By executing this MOU, the Member Institutions express their intent to enter the Consortium and to comply with the terms of this MOU.

DePaul School for Hearing and Speech and La Roche University will simultaneously be the central point of entry (see Appendix I) for teacher candidates to apply to the GUIDE Program. The requirements for admission to the program are:

- Applicants must be a U. S. Citizen;
- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Hold a Bachelor degree with a 3.0 GPA (official transcript must be provided);
- Negative TB test less than one year old (PA Public School Code, Section 1418(b)); and
- Have satisfactory clearances of each of the following that are less than one year old
 - PA Access to Criminal History (PATCH)
 - Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Abuse History
 - Federal Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)(FBI).

Teacher candidates will apply directly to each Member Institution. As such, the Member Institutions will accept unofficial copies of transcripts and waive any letter of recommendation requirements for admissions.

La Roche University will monitor student program progress and will coordinate with Member Institutions and teacher candidates for registration of courses.

DePaul School for Hearing and Speech and La Roche University will simultaneously be the central points to document teacher candidates' completion of the GUIDE Program (apprenticeship, degree, and certification requirements). As such, the Member Institutions will send copies of student transcripts to La Roche University at no cost to the teacher candidate, provided the student has authorized a Member Institution to do so.

III. Relationship Between the Parties

The relationship between the Member Institutions is that of independent contractors and not of partners, employers, employees, or any other kind of relationship. The Member Institutions do not have, and shall not represent that they have, any power, right or authority whatsoever to bind the other Member Institutions in any transaction with third parties, or to assume or create any obligation or responsibility, express or implied, on behalf of, or in the name of, the other Member Institutions.

IV. Promotion of the Consortium

In order to promote awareness of learning opportunities available through the Consortium, each Member Institution may include relevant information about the Consortium in official university communications, both online and in print. It is also noted that any publication, conference presentation or electronic transmission representing the GUIDE Program will have approval of DePaul School and La Roche University. Participating Member Institutions must receive written approval for use of individual Member Institution materials (such as logos, copyrighted materials, etc.).

**Terms of Agreement for this Memorandum of Understanding
GUIDE (Grown Your Own University Integrated Deaf Education) Program**

Each collaborating member will sign a Memorandum of Understanding. This MOU will be effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029.

This MOU Agreement will be reviewed by the Member Institutions five years from the effective date to determine if the MOU will be renewed and if so, under what terms. The signature below signifies an agreement by the signing individual Member Institution to participate in the GUIDE Program, provide the courses designated for that Member Institution in Appendix II (unless notification is provided as outlined above), and abide by the terms of this MOU in cooperation with the other participating Member Institutions.

Consortium Member:

DePaul School for Hearing and Speech

Name/Title (Please Print):

Ruth G Auld, EdD Executive Director

Signature:

Ruth G Auld EdD

Date:

December 17, 2024

Consortium Member:

La Roche University

Name/Title (Please Print):

Rosemary D. McCarthy, PhD., RN
Associate Provost and Academic Dean

Signature:

Rosemary D. McCarthy Ph.D.

Date:

December 17, 2024

Consortium Member:

Minot State University

Name/Title (Please Print):

Dr. Steven Shirley, President

Signature:

Dr. Steven Shirley

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ready2sign

Date:

01/21/2025

**Appendix II
Consortium Course Offerings**

	La Roche University	Minot State University	Other Consortium Member Offerings		
ASL/Sign Language		X			
Curriculum & Assessment			X		
Introduction to Deaf Education, IEPs, & Apprenticeship I	X				
Teaching Spoken Language to DHH				X	X
Literacy & Language				X	X
Apprenticeship II & Seminar	X				
Communication/ Language Development			X		
ELL/ Reading in the Content			X		
Transitions			X		
Apprenticeship III & Seminar	X				