



News Release
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Media Contacts:

Leslie W. Taylor, 501-686-8998
Wireless phone: 501-951-7260
leslie@uams.edu

Susan Berley, 828-448-6125
sberley@wpcc.edu

UAMS, Western Piedmont Community College Sign Memorandum of Understanding for Student Transfers

LITTLE ROCK – Western Piedmont Community College (WPCC) and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Health Professions signed an agreement to help qualified graduates of the community college transfer to the Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) program in the university’s Department of Laboratory Sciences.

Leaders of both colleges signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Jan. 9 in a virtual ceremony.

The agreement aims to provide a seamless transfer for students who enroll in the UAMS program following completion of their two-year degree at Western Piedmont to become medical laboratory technicians. The UAMS MLS program offers a 100% online Medical Laboratory Technician to Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLT-to-MLS) program for them to pursue a bachelor’s degree.

“Western Piedmont Community College is excited to partner with the UAMS College of Health Professions to provide opportunities for our graduates to transfer to UAMS and complete their bachelor’s degree,” said WPCC President Joel Welch, Ph.D. “Our partnership will make it easier for students to transfer, continue to further their professional education and take their success here on to UAMS.”

Under the terms of the agreement, any student transferring from Western Piedmont to UAMS who has completed courses in the MLT program there, gone through the required transfer procedures and gained admission to UAMS will receive full transfer credit for previously earned hours in their major field of study.





“Our ability to address health care workforce needs now and in the future is strengthened when UAMS can join with great partners like Western Piedmont Community College,” said College of Health Professions Dean Susan Long, Ed.D. “This collaboration benefits those students we

UAMS, Western Piedmont Community College Sign Memorandum of Understanding
for Student Transfers

Page 2

hope will become much-needed medical laboratory scientists going to work in community hospitals and clinics.”

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 3,275 students, 890 medical residents and fellows, and five dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 12,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on [Facebook](#), [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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