

# **Link to Lincoln**

## **Memorandum of Agreement**

**Between**

**University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources**

**And**

**University of Nebraska – Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture**

**September 2, 2014**

*A program facilitating baccalaureate completion in the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources after enrolling at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture*

Link to Lincoln is a partnership between the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) and the University of Nebraska – Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) designed to maximize the opportunity for students to have access to higher education services associated with agricultural careers. Link students are admitted as associate degree seeking students at NCTA. They are generally resident in Curtis for their first two years and then students change campuses to Lincoln to complete their final two years. Link students may take courses simultaneously at both institutions with the goal of earning a Bachelor of Science from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at UNL. The program allows NCTA students to take classes at UNL as Intercampus Exchange students.

Students will be co-advised from both participating campuses. On the NCTA campus, students will have access to the full range of services and facilities available to full-time resident students. On the UNL campus, students will have access to those services and facilities available to students in University of Nebraska Intercampus Exchange programs.

The program is designed for a maximum of 30 students each year. Link to Lincoln is available only through NCTA and CASNR.

Link students may take the majority of their general education courses as full-time students at NCTA. Concurrently, they may take courses as non-degree-seeking students at UNL. Students may choose to take courses as resident students on the Lincoln campus during summer sessions.

### **Transferring to UNL**

To maximize the transferability of courses taken at NCTA, students will be co-advised by advisors from UNL and NCTA while enrolled in the Link to Lincoln Program. Students must be admitted to NCTA as associate degree seeking students.

Criteria for a Link student to transfer from NCTA to UNL are:

- Submit a transfer student application for admission at UNL, found here: <http://admissions.unl.edu>.
- Submit a final high school transcript to UNL.
- Submit a final NCTA transcript to UNL.
- Submit any additional transcripts from other institutions attended since high school graduation.
- Earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 and achieve a 2.0 in the term prior to application at UNL.
- Meet UNL admissions requirements. Requirements can be found at: [admissions.unl.edu](http://admissions.unl.edu)

If students meet all of the criteria above, admission into CASNR is guaranteed. Once transferred, a student pays regular UNL tuition rates and receives consideration for financial aid from UNL.

## **UNL Agricultural Degree Programs**

The Link to Lincoln Program is limited to degree programs where students can earn credit at NCTA and move seamlessly into UNL. Some degree programs at UNL require higher levels of math, chemistry, physics, and related sciences. Many of these higher level courses will not be available at NCTA. Therefore, interested students should seek counsel from advisers at NCTA and UNL concerning which degree programs are feasible through the Link to Lincoln Program.

### **Eligibility & Enrolling**

#### **Program Eligibility**

A student must meet these eligibility requirements to begin the Link program:

- Earn a high school diploma or equivalent certificate prior to enrollment with a minimum 2.0 high school academic core GPA (academic core includes English, science, social science, college-preparatory math, and foreign language coursework). Core admissions requirements can be found at: [admissions.unl.edu](http://admissions.unl.edu).
- Submit an SAT or ACT score (Writing is not required for either exam).
- Have fewer than 15 credit hours from another college or university.

#### **Enrolling in Link to Lincoln**

A student enters the program by applying to NCTA as an associate degree seeking student and requesting admissions into the Link to Lincoln Program on the NCTA application. The deadline for admissions into the program is June 1. When NCTA determines the student is “program ready,” the student will apply to UNL as an Intercampus Exchange student. While enrolled at NCTA, the student’s status at UNL is as an “Intercampus Exchange Student” to allow NCTA students access to UNL programs and activities. These “Intercampus Exchange Students” become “degree seeking students” at UNL after they are admitted to UNL and change their campus of residence from NCTA to UNL.

If the student has previously applied to UNL to be degree-seeking, the Link admissions request authorizes UNL’s Office of Admissions to create a new Intercampus application. The student does not need to submit a second UNL application or pay the application fee again.

If the student is not program ready, he or she may spend additional semesters at NCTA to become program ready. During these additional semesters at NCTA, the student will remain eligible for financial aid if they meet federal requirements and the NCTA Satisfactory Academic Progress policy requirements. Federal regulations limit the amount of time that a student remains eligible for financial aid.

Each fall semester, NCTA will submit a report to UNL indicating which students have been accepted into the program and which students are continuing in the program. NCTA will work with CASNR to facilitate the participation of Link students in appropriate CASNR activities.

To fully participate in the programs available on the UNL campus, students need to apply to the Intercampus Exchange program by the June 1 deadline ([application here](#)):

<http://admissions.unl.edu/become/apply/intercampus.aspx>) and be admitted to the Link to Lincoln Program by June 1 for enrollment the following fall semester.

### **Continued Eligibility**

For continued eligibility, the student will:

- Maintain full-time student status;
- Meet jointly with the appropriate NCTA and CASNR academic advisors;
- Participate in community-building and academic-support activities (a list of these activities will be provided);
- Maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average at each institution. (If a student falls below a 2.0 GPA, an academic success plan will be approved by both academic advisors.);

Students may choose to take courses on the Lincoln campus during summer sessions.

### **Cost & Financial Aid**

#### **Fees**

Link students will pay the appropriate tuition and fees for each institution and must meet the appropriate deadlines for each institution.

NCTA's bookstore will coordinate delivery of UNL course texts so that students may purchase their books at NCTA.

To participate in UNL's recreational sports programs, Link students must pay the fee required of Intercampus Exchange students.

#### **Financial Aid**

As degree-seeking NCTA students, Link students apply for financial aid through NCTA's Financial Aid Office. NCTA will consider the enrollment at UNL in determining Link student aid eligibility.

The financial aid officer at UNL will coordinate with the financial aid officer for NCTA to notify NCTA of the enrollment hours at UNL in the event that UNL enrollment impacts financial aid.

#### **Scholarships**

##### **Transfer Scholarships at UNL**

Link students will be reviewed based on their academic record and leadership activities. Students will submit a 350 word personal statement highlighting college leadership and involvement, community service or diverse experiences and/or background (see details here: <http://admissions.unl.edu/cost-and-aid/scholarships/transfer-personal-statement.aspx>). The personal statement can be submitted with the application for admission or through the student's MyRed account. The personal statement will be used to award the Phi Theta Kappa and General

Transfer Scholarships. To be considered for these scholarships, a candidate must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Transfer students applying to UNL will be reviewed for scholarships based on completion of a minimum of 14 graded hours post high school and a 3.0 cumulative GPA. No personal statement is required.

Students wanting to be considered for scholarships must submit all materials by **March 1** for the fall semester and by **October 1** for the spring semester.

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

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Dr. Steven Waller  
Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Dr. Ron Rosati  
Dean of the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

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Dr. Ellen Weissinger,  
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Dr. Ronnie Green  
NU Vice President and IANR Harlan Vice Chancellor

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