# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

## 3+3 Bachelor's/JD Affiliation Agreement between University of Memphis School of Law and Arkansas State University

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the University of Memphis (UM) and Arkansas State University (ASU) to cooperatively promote successful educational experiences resulting in graduation for students who attend both institutions. The following understandings will guide this effort, until modified or amended.

#### **Purpose and Goals**

Through the 3+3 Bachelor's/JD Affiliation Agreement, UM Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law (UM School of Law) and the ASU Department of Government, Law & Policy will cooperate to promote recruitment and successful educational experiences resulting in graduation for students who wish to pursue a career in the legal field.

The goals of this partnership are to:

- a. Recruit and retain students at ASU who are interested in attaining a Juris Doctorate degree.
- b. Structure academic coursework to enable students to complete the general education requirements and core courses for a Bachelor's degree in Political Science through the ASU Department of Government, Law & Policy within a three-year period prior to matriculation to UM School of Law. Academic plan to be determined at the discretion of ASU.
- c. Develop well-prepared, academically competitive students for entrance to the UM School of Law after 3 years of outlined undergraduate work at ASU.
- d. Provide students the opportunity to transfer up to thirty (30) semester hours of courses successfully completed during the first year at UM School of Law back to ASU for completion of a Bachelor's in Political Science.

#### **Stipulations and Requirements of the Partnership**

- a. Students will complete three years of undergraduate coursework at ASU, with the number of hours to be determined by ASU.
- b. During their junior year of attendance at ASU, students will apply to the UM School of Law in accordance with the UM School of Law application deadlines and procedures in effect at the time.
- c. Students interested in the Bachelor's/JD program must apply and be accepted to the Bachelor's and JD programs separately. Acceptance into one program does not guarantee admission to the other degree program as each admission process is conducted on an independent basis.
- d. Successful applicants will enroll in the JD program at UM School of Law.
- e. ASU will allow students to transfer up to thirty (30) semester hours of courses successfully completed during the first year at UM School of Law to complete and earn the Bachelor's degree before the student can matriculate to the second year of legal study at UM School of Law.

- f. Accepted candidates at UM School of Law will complete the requisite requirements for fulfillment of the juris doctorate degree.
- g. As ASU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), ASU will be responsible for making sure all faculty engaged in instruction are properly credentialed. The UM School of Law will assist ASU in providing information for HLC accreditation. In addition, both institutions will ensure that the quality of coursework and credit hours awarded are consistent with institutional policies, HLC, and American Bar Association standards and requirements.

#### **Recruitment and Admissions**

- a. Recruitment of students will be the responsibility of both institutions.
- b. Promotional plans and materials will be subject to approval by each institution.
- c. Acceptance and participation in the 3+3 Bachelor's/JD Program does not ensure admission to the UM School of Law.
- In the beginning of the third year of undergraduate coursework or after fulfilling requirements to be classified as a junior, the student should make application to the UM School of Law in accordance with the admission process in place for participants in the 3 +3 Bachelor's/JD Program.
- e. Successful applicants will be expected to possess, at a minimum, an undergraduate GPA at or above the UM School of Law's median GPA for the current first-year class and an LSAT score at or above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. The participant's application to the UM School of Law will further be subject to the same additional standards and criteria as are imposed on all applicants. It is understood that the requirements set forth herein are minimum requirements and are not, even if met, a guarantee of admission.

## **Tuition and Fees**

- a. Under this agreement, both institutions will collect tuition and fees separately from the student for courses in which he/she is enrolled.
- b. Students will pay ASU tuition and fees for their first three years of undergraduate coursework.
- c. Students admitted to UM School of Law will pay the tuition and fees required by UM School of Law in the first and subsequent years until completion of the juris doctorate.
- d. Neither institution will incur any liability to the other institution for any tuition and fees.

## **Program Articulation and Advising**

- a. The management of the 3+3 Bachelor's/JD Affiliation Agreement will be coordinated through the UM School of Law and the ASU Department of Government, Law & Policy.
- b. Students are required to notify their ASU academic advisor of their intent to apply to the UM School of Law through this Affiliation Agreement. Academic advising will be the sole responsibility of ASU until the student begins studies at UM School of Law.
- c. Issues relating to affiliation, class content, or other curricular matters will be resolved by the designated representative at each institution.

#### 5. Terms and Termination

- a. Amendments to this agreement must be in writing and approved by the designated representative of each institution.
- b. This agreement shall be effective upon the last date of signing and shall extend until August 1, 2029. Either party may terminate this agreement for cause by giving written notice to the designated representative at least ninety (90) days prior to the commencement of a new academic term. However, any student currently enrolled pursuant to this Agreement at expiration or termination shall be awarded the appropriate degrees upon completion of all requirements.
- c. Neither party will knowingly utilize the services of illegal immigrants in the employment performance of this MOU and will not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor, if permitted under this MOU, who will utilize the services of illegal immigrants in the performance of this MOU.
- d. The parties shall not discriminate against any person on any basis prohibited by applicable law, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status or disability in the performance of this Agreement, including but not limited to, protections granted by Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- e. The parties shall not assign, subcontract, transfer (whether by assignment or novation) the work, services or any interest in this MOU without the prior written consent of the other party thereto.
- f. By signing this Agreement, both parties acknowledge that they have received the appropriate approvals from their governing agency.

Signed and executed as signified below.

Accepted on behalf of ASU:

8/13/2024

Date

**Accepted on behalf of UM:** David J. Russomanno David Russomanno (07 October, 2024 19:56:30 UTC)

October 7, 2024

Date

g.



CONTRACT NAME	3+3 BA/JD MOU between UofM School of Law and ASU	
CONTRACT ID	5866490b-ae51-4f51-8857-d8aa7afd1415	
STATUS	Executed	
DATE TIME FORMAT	DD MMMM, YYYY HH:mm:ss Timezone	
TIMEZONE	UTC	

#### CONTRACT HISTORY

SENT.	Contract sent to <b>Jodi Wilson</b> (jodi.wilson@memphis.edu) for approval by <b>Darren</b> Wibberding (darren.wibberding@memphis.edu).	01 October, 2024 18:06:29 UTC IP: 141.225.204.204
	Approved by <b>Jodi Wilson</b> (jodi.wilson@memphis.edu).	01 October, 2024 18:20:41 UTC IP: 141.225.169.201
SENT	Sent for Signature to <b>David Russomanno</b> (drussmnn@memphis.edu) by <b>Darren</b> Wibberding (darren.wibberding@memphis.edu).	01 October, 2024 18:20:41 UTC IP: 141.225.204.204
G~ SIGNED	Signed by <b>David Russomanno</b> (drussmnn@memphis.edu).	07 October, 2024 19:56:30 UTC IP: 141.225.205.175
EXECUTED	This document has been signed and executed by all parties.	Location unavailable