



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Bellarmine University's Direct Admit Program for Jefferson County Public Schools

November 2023

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between Bellarmine University ("Bellarmine") and Jefferson County Public Schools ("JCPS") to establish the terms and conditions of the Direct Admit Program, effective as of January 1, 2024.

Direct Admit Initiative Overview:

Bellarmino University's Direct Admit Proposal aims to offer pre-application admission to JCPS students enrolling as first-time, full-time students at Bellarmine.

This initiative involves collaboration between Bellarmine Leadership and JCPS Leadership.

The initiative will be implemented for the Summer and Fall 2024 entering cohort, commencing on **January 1, 2024**.

Direct Admit Program for JCPS: Bellarmine University will establish a program to provide pre-application admission (direct admission) to JCPS students who enroll as first-time, full-time students at Bellarmine. Admission offers are conditional pending verification and review of official high school transcripts. Bellarmine's test-optional policy will review test scores only if submitted by the students. Bellarmine University offers the following opportunities as part of its strategic plan to provide seamless pathways to higher education:

- **Regular Admission (test optional):** Students with a GPA above 2.75 will be directly admitted with a scholarship of at least \$18,000 annually, renewable for up to four years. Test scores are optional.
- **Bridge to BU:** Students with a GPA between 2.0 and 2.75 are guaranteed conditional admission to the Bridge-to-BU program. Successful completion of the program leads to unconditional admission with a scholarship of at least \$17,000 annually, renewable for up to four years. The Direct Admit Program covers all undergraduate majors at Bellarmine University.

- **Bellarmino University Merit and Grant-Based Aid:** Bellarmine will offer a minimum Scarlet Scholarship of \$18,000 to qualifying JCPS students enrolled full time through the Direct Admit Program. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years and is contingent on meeting scholarship requirements. Higher GPAs may qualify for higher merit scholarships. Students admitted through the Bridge-to-BU program will be offered a minimum of \$17,000. Additional merit and/or grant-based aid may be available and renewable, subject to scholarship requirements.

Bellarmino University agrees to:

- **Waive Undergraduate Application Fee**
- **Guarantee Admission to Qualifying Students**
- **Market the Program:** Bellarmine will promote the Direct Admit Program through digital and traditional advertising channels.

Provide Admission Guidance: Bellarmine will offer individual admission guidance to prospective students and their families.

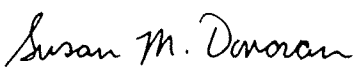
JCPS agrees to:

- **Promote the Direct Admit Program:** JCPS will promote the Direct Admit Program to junior and senior students.
- **Nominate Mission-Fit Students:** JCPS may nominate eligible students for regular admission or the Bridge-to-BU program.

This MOU is effective upon execution by both parties and remains in effect until either party provides written notice of termination. Any changes to the terms of this MOU require written agreement from both parties.

Executed on this 23rd day of January, 2024.

For Bellarmine University:

Signature: 
 Name: Susan Donovan
 Title: President
 Date: 12/12/23

For JCPS: Signature: _____

Name: _Marty Pollio_____

Title: __Superintendent_____

Date: _____