# 2-Semester Plan

# For DUSC Students

NAME: _____PSU ID #_____DATE:_____

PHONE#_____BEST TIME OF DAY (ET) TO REACH YOU:_____

**What is DUSC Status?**

For students whose have a high school degree (or equivalent), but lack the credentials required for admission as a degree-seeking student to Penn State, we offer the opportunity to start in Division of Undergraduate Studies with Conditions (DUSC) status as an alternative to direct admission. This will provide you an opportunity to prepare for admission to a specific academic college or major. While in DUSC status, you are still eligible to apply for financial aid and take courses that will apply to your intended degree program, but you are not currently in your intended major. Before you are considered eligible to enter a degree program, you must complete between 9 credits (associate degree) and 18 credits (bachelor's degree) with a 2.0 or higher GPA.

**Step 1. Planning Your Next Two Semesters –** your academic adviser will assist you in planning your next two semesters of classes. We recommend that you schedule no more than 2 classes per semester.

- What are some things to consider when planning out courses each semester?
  - **Prerequisites** – many courses require that an introductory class be successfully completed before you can enroll in a higher-level course. These prerequisites will be listed in the course description in LionPATH and are strictly enforced.
  - **Entrance-to-Major requirements (ETMs)** – some majors require certain courses be completed before you can be admitted to the major.
  - **ALEKS Math Assessment** – Completion of this assessment of your math readiness will help us schedule an appropriate General Education Math (GQ) or Natural Science (GN) class.
  - **Course Combinations** – a combination of those classes required for your major with those that are considered General Education requirements can provide a good balance during a semester.
- During your appointment with your academic adviser, you will plan your next two semesters of courses. Please have access to both LionPATH and your academic checksheet (the link was sent to your PSU email by your transfer credit specialist) to search classes with your adviser during your appointment.
- First Semester Courses: 1. 2.
- Second Semester Courses: 1. 2.

**STEP 2. Exploring Resources Available to Students**

- **New Student Orientation –** You should have received an invitation to New Student Orientation to your PSU email. This orientation will help you become familiar with all the different processes and resources available to you at Penn State World Campus. Please have this Orientation started before our advising appointment.
- **Student Portal** - Penn State World Campus wants to help provide you with the tools necessary to be a successful student. Please review what resources are available to you as a student on the World Campus Student Portal – Student Services website. List 3 resources that you may find helpful this semester and talk about them with your adviser.

Resources: 1. 2. 3.

- **Learning Assessments** - World Campus offers several online assessments and learning modules to help you be successful in online learning.
  - ✓ **Online Readiness Assessment (SmarterMeasure) –** SmarterMeasure assesses readiness for online learning and is an indicator of the degree to which distance learning and/or learning in a technology-rich environment will be a good fit for our students. Please complete this assessment before your meeting with your adviser. Please follow the link to access SmarterMeasure; the username and password is pennstate.
  - ✓ **iStudy for Success!** -Visit istudy website to access a series of content tutorials addressing basic skills students need in order to have a successful academic career at Penn State.

**STEP 3. Changing from DUSC status to a Degree Program**

As a student in DUSC status, changing your status to your intended degree is completed by doing a change of major through LionPATH. A student in this situation must:

1. Have completed 18 credits at Penn State for a change-of-major to a bachelor's degree program.
2. Have completed 9 credits for admission to an associate degree program. An associate degree can be a good first step to completing a bachelor's degree.
3. Have a minimum GPA of 2.0.

**STEP 4. Review Understanding of DUSC Program:**

I understand that completion of this form and meeting with my academic adviser are necessary steps to continue in my DUSC program.

Please provide your signature:

**STEP 5.** Next steps: I will meet with my academic adviser to review this form.

My appointment is:

**STEP 6.** Adviser Approval: I have met with the student and reviewed the 2-Semester Plan: ☐

Academic Adviser Signature:

**Adviser Notes**

Student's intended degree plan:

Comments: