The Potsdam Promise

Declaration of Intent

The Potsdam Promise is an academic program designed for first-time freshmen who are seriously committed to graduation in four calendar years from the initial time of college enrollment. SUNY Potsdam declares its intent to provide sufficient class offerings of required courses, or appropriate substitutions as determined by each academic department, in a student’s declared first and only major to permit the student’s graduation in four years. The College promises to pay one additional semester’s tuition and course-related fees in the event a student’s graduation in eight consecutive semesters is delayed owing to lack of available, appropriate courses or substitutions.

A student electing to officially participate in the Potsdam Promise understands that the program agreement restricts him or her to only one declared major and agrees to the following conditions:

- Enroll at SUNY Potsdam with the academic skills and preparatory courses needed to successfully complete a four-year prescribed course of study;
- Formally declare an academic major before the end of the first semester of freshmen year with no change of major at any point after submitting Declaration of Intent;
- Meet each semester during the designated advising time frame with an assigned academic advisor in the major and agree in writing to a recommended class schedule;
- Register for agreed-upon class schedule at assigned advising time. Contact advisor immediately to revise planned schedule if course or courses are unavailable;
- Enroll in and complete with satisfactory grades a full course load (e.g., 15 or more credit hours in the second through eighth semester) in each of the eight sequential semesters;
- Fulfill all academic, grade, and course work requirements in a declared major field of study;
- Meet all requirements in the General Education Program in the sequence prescribed by the academic major department;
- Complete the essential requirements for degree completion (B.A., B.S., B.F.A., B.M.);
- Remain in continuous acceptable academic standing;
- Satisfy any other major department criteria or programmatic requirements (e.g., curricular templates, grade requirements, or gateway criteria) established for the declared major;
- Meet all designated College deadlines related to course registration and graduation requirements (e.g., applications for student teaching or graduation); and,
- Incur no holds on records that may delay registration (e.g., library fines, unpaid bills, disciplinary actions).

I acknowledge that I have read the conditions of the Potsdam Promise and understand that my failure to satisfy all of the conditions indicated above will nullify and void the College’s guarantee of a four-year graduation program for the first and only major.

Name (please print) ____________________________________  P# _______________________
Declared first major ____________________________________________________________________
Assigned Advisor’s signature __________________________________ Date _________________
Student’s signature __________________________________________ Date _________________