

# **Fitchburg State University and Fitchburg High School Honors Compact**

**Academic Year 2016-2017**

The purpose of this Compact is to establish collaborative opportunities between the Fitchburg High School (FHS) Honors Academy and Fitchburg State University and its Honors Program. This agreement was first originally created and signed in October 2013.

## **Benefits of this Compact will include:**

- Priority admission
- Access to Fitchburg State University resources
- Expanded dual enrollment opportunities

### **Priority Admission:**

Students who successfully complete the FHS Honors Academy will receive the following benefits:

- The opportunity to apply to Fitchburg State University under Early Action
- An On-Site Decision Day specific to the Honors Academy, December 1, 2016, beginning at 10am.
- University credit for each Advanced Placement (AP) exam score of 3 or higher

Students who complete their admission application by the priority deadline of November 15, 2016 will receive the following benefits:

- Guaranteed admission to the university
- Guaranteed admission to their preferred major if they meet minimum admission standards to that program

Students who meet the Fitchburg State University Honors Program admission requirements will receive the following benefits:

- Guaranteed admission to the Honors Program
- \$2,000 annual scholarship (renewable with 3.3 minimum GPA and continued participation in the Honors Program)

### **Access to Fitchburg State University Resources:**

While enrolled in the FHS Honors Academy, students will have access to the following Fitchburg State University resources:

- The Library's collection, study areas and wireless network
- Cultural activities such as CenterStage events and student performances (CenterStage tickets available at a discounted price of \$7.00)
- Special lectures

- Events related to the university's Common Community Read program
- The university's Honors Program, such as service learning opportunities, observation of thesis presentations and attendance at the Undergraduate Research Day
- A Fitchburg State University Falcon Card
- College planning and advising including topics on admission process, admission essay writing and scholarship search process. Also, a college financing series to include financial aid overview, one-on-one FAFSA assistance, and 'after the award' counseling. Fitchburg State admissions and financial aid staff will provide a presentation at FHS in spring.
- A specialized Fitchburg State University campus tour, including meeting with Honors Program faculty advisor
- Communication via direct mail and email regarding cultural, educational and Open House events

*FHS Honors Academy faculty will also have the opportunity to work collaboratively with Fitchburg State University Honors Program faculty.*

**Expanded Dual Enrollment Opportunities:**

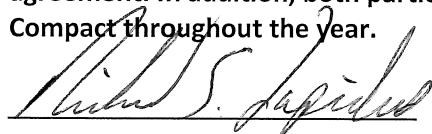
While enrolled in the FHS Honors Academy, junior- and senior-level students will have access to Fitchburg State University dual enrollment courses offered at both FHS and the university. Offerings at the university will include summer courses, in addition to those traditionally offered during the fall and spring semesters. All successfully completed dual enrollment courses will be accepted for university credit at the time of admission. *Note: should a dual enrollment student wish to apply to the Nursing program, they should contact the Fitchburg State University Admissions Office prior to course selection.*

**Additional Benefits:**

Parents of first-generation Compact students who enroll at the university will have access to Fitchburg State's Family First Program.

Graduates of the Fitchburg State University Honors Program will be recognized as a Massachusetts Commonwealth Honors Scholar at graduation and will have this designation on their official university transcript.

**Evaluation of the existing Compact will occur on an annual basis so as to ensure a mutually-effective agreement. In addition, both parties reserve the right to request reconsideration of, or changes to, the Compact throughout the year.**



Richard S. Lapidus, President  
Fitchburg State University



Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent  
Fitchburg Public Schools

Signed June 7, 2016