

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
University of Washington
and
Washington State University Tri-Cities
June 18, 2025

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Washington (UW), an institution of higher education and agency of the state of Washington, by and through its Health Evidence Library of Washington (“HEALWA”) and Washington State University (WSU), an institution of higher education and agency of the state of Washington, by and through its Tri-Cities campus, and provides shared understanding and lists the responsibilities and requirements for both parties to raise awareness and promote HEALWA.

A. BACKGROUND

HEALWA, Health Evidence Library of Washington began in 2007 to allow Washington healthcare providers to practice evidence-based healthcare in Washington state to improve patient outcomes. Access to HEALWA is managed by the University of Washington Libraries. Twenty-six healthcare professions rely on HEALWA to support clinical decision making and evidence-based practice in Washington.

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program at Washington State University Tri-Cities is currently under development and plans to seek accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) through its Board of Accreditation. The mission of the BSW program is to prepare generalist social workers for evidence-based, ethical practice that reduces suffering and enhances the well-being of communities. Washington State University Tri-Cities intends to initiate the accreditation process for a Master of Social Work (MSW) program in 2026. Together, the BSW and MSW programs aim to develop generalist and advanced-level social work practitioners who are grounded in evidence-based community practice and prepared to address the behavioral health workforce shortage in Washington State.

The parties involved will enter into the agreement with the understanding that promoting HEALWA to health care professionals around the state of Washington improves access to high-quality health information resources. As health professionals must continue to meet the current licensing and credentialing requirements of the State of Washington Department of Health, HEALWA is an increasingly vital tool in helping health professionals keep up to date. Students are not eligible for HEALWA until they become licensed healthcare professionals.

The parties in this agreement seek to affect a more informed healthcare workforce in Washington by promoting the use of HEALWA in quality improvement, health equity, and patient care. For the duration of the agreement HEALWA agrees to provide assistance with reference requests and obtaining access to journal articles and ebooks. The Bachelor of Social Work Program Director, RoseAnne Droesch, DSW, LICSW, will refer eligible health professionals on appropriate steps to sign up for HEALWA.

B. PRINCIPLES of AGREEMENT: HEALWA

1. HEALWA will be the designated online health library platform for use by eligible health professionals licensed to practice in Washington.
2. HEALWA will provide the designee assistance in signing up new users for HEALWA and orient them to accessing HEALWA resources.
3. HEALWA will facilitate questions regarding licensed health information resources.
4. HEALWA will work with the Department of Health and other parties to make sure that access is available 24/7 to eligible users.
5. HEALWA will assume responsibility for providing access to articles and ebooks.
6. HEALWA will facilitate access to Shared Decision-Making tools and educate users regarding approved Shared Decision-Making Patient Decision Aids (PDAs) in Washington.
7. HEALWA will provide promotional materials and ensure understanding about the program.

C. PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT: Washington State University Tri-Cities

1. Washington State University Tri-Cities will provide a designee to promote HEALWA to eligible healthcare providers.
2. Washington State University Tri-Cities will refer eligible healthcare providers to HEALWA to sign up for the service using their state license number.
3. Washington State University Tri-Cities will contact HEALWA at devine@uw.edu if any issues arise with the HEALWA site or services.
4. Washington State University Tri-Cities will determine appropriate methods for disseminating information about HEALWA.

D. DURATION and RENEWAL

1. This agreement is effective once all authorized signatories have been approved by both parties and will remain in effect until June 30, 2028.

2. If the parties mutually agree, this MOU may be extended for additional years. The terms of such extension will be made by written amendment signed by personnel authorized to sign on behalf of their parties, and attached to this MOU. The parties will endeavor in good faith to begin the discussions regarding any such renewal no later than six (6) months before the termination date.
3. If either party wishes to terminate the agreement prior to the end of the period, termination conditions will be mutually agreed upon in writing. HEALWA will be responsible for contacting Washington State University Tri-Cities prior to May 30, 2028 if they wish to revise this MOU.

E. COMPENSATION

This is a nonmonetary agreement, and no compensation will be due from any party to any other party for the activities contemplated herein.

F. EXCLUSIVITY

The activities described in this MOU are non-exclusive. Nothing in this MOU requires WSU to refrain from utilization or promotion of any other database or other service similar to that provided by HEALWA. Nothing in this MOU requires UW to refrain from entering agreements with other parties for the use and promotion of HEALWA.

G. NOTICES

Unless otherwise provided herein, any notice required under this MOU shall be in writing and deemed delivered if delivered in person, delivered by email with return receipt, sent by overnight delivery, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, and addressed to the party at the following address, and shall be deemed delivered on the date delivered, transmitted, or mailed:

To UW:

Tania Bardyn, MLIS
PI & Senior Director, HEALWA & Community Partnerships
University of Washington
Health Sciences Library, Box 357155
Seattle, WA 98195-7155
bardyn@uw.edu

To WSU:

RoseAnne Droesch
NSW Program Director
2710 Crimson Way
Richland, WA 99354
Roseanne.droesch@wsu.edu

H. NON-BINDING NATURE

This MOU is expressly understood to be non-binding and does not create any legally enforceable obligations between the parties.

I. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This MOU contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties on the subject matter hereof.

J. SIGNATURES

The parties affirm they have designated the persons below to have signature authority for the parties.



6/18/2025

Tania Bardyn, MLIS

Date

PI & Senior Director, HEALWA & Community Partnerships
University of Washington
Health Sciences Library, Box 357155
Seattle, WA 98195-7155
bardyn@uw.edu



6/18/2025

Patricia Devine, MLS

Date

Director, Community Health & HEALWA
University of Washington
Health Sciences Library, Box 357155
Seattle, WA 98195-7155
devine@uw.edu



6/18/2025

Desiree Urban

Date

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Washington State University
Richland, WA 99352
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