Seattle University Puget Sound Partnership to Diversify and Expand the Mental Health Services Pipeline Student Agreement

Student Name:

Seattle University Program: School Psychology/School Counseling

SU ID #:

This Student Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") is between Seattle University and Student (hereinafter "Student" or "I").

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE MUTUAL COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS CONTAINED HEREIN, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY AND STUDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

To participate in the *Puget Sound Partnership to Diversify and Expand the Mental Health Services Pipeline* Program ("Program") and receive financial assistance, the Student must be willing and able to sign this Agreement and agree to abide by all of its terms. The Student's signature shall serve as confirmation that they:

- 1) are entering into this Agreement freely and voluntarily;
- 2) have consulted with an attorney or obtained legal advice prior to signing this Agreement, if desired; and
- 3) understand their obligations under this Agreement.

By entering into this Agreement, the Student agrees to participate in the Program through Seattle University, beginning on July 1, 2023 and ending on or about June 30, 2024.

Based on my current unmet financial need for the total cost of attendance which includes tuition, fees, room and board, and other living expenses, the Student will receive \$XXX from the Program for Year 1 and an adjusted amount for Years 2 and 3 (if applicable) based on my updated FAFSA®/WASFA unmet need (a maximum of \$15,150 in Year 1, \$15,000 in Year 2, and \$5,000 in Year 3, for a maximum total of \$35,150). In addition to the cost of attendance support, the Student can submit requests for up to \$1,500 for reimbursement of costs associated with program fees and field education training (practicum/internship). Reimbursement form with directions is attached. In order to accept this conditional grant, the Student agrees to the following:

I. REVIEW AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Student will read and review the following statements to which Student agrees to be bound:

Section A: Prescreening and Program Provisions

1. Student will disclose any criminal convictions entered after admission to the Program. I understand that the Program's discovery of my failure to disclose a criminal conviction may lead to dismissal from the Program. I also understand that my Program participation may be terminated if a criminal conviction results in disqualification from my graduate Program.

- 2. I agree to submit to required criminal background checks during the application process at any time it is requested by Seattle University.
- 3. I will maintain my status as a citizen or as a permanent resident of the U.S. during participation in the Program, including my employment service period and to fulfill my employment commitment.
- 4. I agree to meet the high standards of professional and ethical behavior required by Seattle University and the Program.
- 5. I will conduct my field education training (practicum and internship) at a Program-approved site and in accordance with the Program guidelines.
- 6. I understand that, prior to dropping a class, I must meet with a Program administrator to discuss any implications of dropping such class. Certain classes may not be available when I want to register for them, and this may impact my ability to complete the academic portion of the Program as scheduled.
- 7. I agree to comply with and complete all courses, training, seminars, and field training (practicum/internship) placements that are designated by Seattle University to satisfy the requirements of my academic Program.
- 8. I will seek approval from a Program administrator prior to registering for a class that is outside of the approved Program of study.
- 9. I agree to maintain a grade point average consistent with requirements of the school psychology or school counseling program and remain a "student in good standing" at all times as outlined by Seattle University's student handbook.
- 10. I agree to notify a Program administrator if my expected graduation date changes due to completing required coursework early or late. I understand altering the graduation date may impact the financial assistance I receive.
- 11. I understand the Program funding may vary, resulting in changes to the amount of financial assistance I receive during the periods covered by this Agreement. This funding amount will be determined by the Program administrators after determining the amount of unmet need, and which will be determined prior to my signature.
- 12. I agree to participate in data collection activities and focus groups as a Program participant. The information obtained will be used only for the purposes of Program evaluation, Program improvement, and systems level understanding. All data will be kept confidential following Seattle University policies and best practices.
- 13. I will discuss field education training (practicum/internship) implications with a Program administrator prior to accepting any employment opportunities during the Program.
- 14. I understand that I need to fulfill all degree requirements for graduation from my Program of study to continue eligibility in the Program. This includes both passing grades for my degree Program and carrying out my field education training (practicum/internship) at a Program-approved site. If neither is completed successfully, I may be immediately dismissed from the Program and be required to repay all financial assistance received.

15. I understand that when I am employed by a Program-approved site post-graduation, if, at any time during the required employment service period, the Local Educational Agency releases me from or terminates my employment for cause, I may be immediately dismissed from the Program and be required to repay all financial assistance received.

Section B: Employment Search Requirements

- 1. I have successfully completed the Program application process and understand that a condition of this financial aid requires that I work full-time in a Program-approved site for continuous service for one school year for each year of financial aid beginning within four (4) months of graduation.
- 2. I agree to actively, seriously, and in good faith seek employment (within the specified timeframe in Section B #1) in a Program-approved site.
- 3. I understand that any offer of employment will depend on my qualifications, application, interview, references, background checks, and availability of positions at Program-approved sites.
- 4. If I am not employed in a qualifying position within four (4) months of graduation, I may submit an exemption request to be released from the employment service period obligation. The request must be submitted in writing to the a Program administrator within 15 business days following the end of the search period and must include documentation of my complete and comprehensive employment search during the four-month post-graduation period including position title, position location, date of application, date(s) of interview(s), and the outcome for each position sought during the employment search period. Seattle University may release me from the employment service period obligation only if it is determined that the exemption is a product of an extenuating circumstance beyond my control.
- 5. If I fail to obtain qualifying employment during the four (4) months after graduation, I will be required to repay financial assistance previously received per the terms of this contract in Section D.

Section C: Participant Employment Obligations

- 1. I understand and agree that the employment service period begins immediately upon the date of employment with a Program-approved site.
- 2. I understand and agree the length of my employment service period is one school year (as defined by the LEA) for every year of financial aid received. The employment service period is not based on the monetary amount of financial assistance I receive.
- 3. Post-graduation part-time employment, if applicable, applies towards the employment service period on a prorated basis. For example, if I received assistance for one (1) academic year, I would be required to be employed full-time for one academic year, or, if employed part-time, at 20 hours per week, I would be required to work for two years after the completion of my graduate program.
- 4. Beginning immediately upon graduation, I will inform a Program administrator of any change in my name or address until such time as my employment service period obligation has been fulfilled or any amount owed under this agreement has been paid in full or otherwise discharged. I understand and agree to promptly provide this information in order to assist Seattle University in fulfilling its obligation to track the employment record of students, for the

purposes of determining the percentage of students who secure employment in Program-approved sites and remain in high-need LEAS or schools, as defined by the Program.

5. During my employment service period, if I leave or I am released/terminated from my employment and do not find subsequent employment in a Program-approved site, I understand and agree that I will be required to repay a prorated amount of financial assistance. The prorated amount will be calculated proportionally based on the number of months worked, the number of months remaining in the employment service period, and the total amount of financial assistance I received. For example, if I was employed full-time, each month of employment is credited as one (1) month of repayment towards the employment service period. Leaving a Program-approved site and returning to a Program-approved site at an undetermined later date will not reduce or eliminate the repayment obligation if greater than <code>[X]</code>
NUMBER OF DAYS/WEEKS/MONTHS] elapses between my employment at the initial Program-approved site and the Program-approved site I return to (including if I return to the same Program-approved site I was initially employed with).

Section D: Monetary Repayment Obligations

- 1. If I do not graduate or if I leave the Program for any reason, I understand and agree that, within 30 days, I must make arrangements with Seattle University to determine a repayment schedule for all financial assistance received through the Program.
- 2. If I decline any appropriate employment, fail to qualify for an appropriate field education training (practicum/internship) placement or employment position, or I am terminated for any reason prior to completion of the employment service requirement, I agree to repay all financial assistance previously provided unless I obtain another education training placement or employment position at a Program-approved site within [X NUMBER OF DAYS/WEEKS/MONTHS] after being terminated or leaving my initial field education training placement or employment position.
- 3. I understand that I may be referred for collections in the event that I default either by disenrolling in the academic Program or do not fulfill the post-graduation employment requirements.
- 4. I understand that Seattle University may allow an exemption from all or part of the obligation to repay all financial assistance received through the Program when extenuating circumstances come to the university's attention. To be considered for an extenuating circumstances exemption, I must submit a request in writing, either by email or formal correspondence, to a Program administrator no more than 15 business days after the date the extenuating circumstance arises and must include detailed information and supporting documentation. The requested exemption will be reviewed by the Program administrators who will recommend a final decision to Seattle University for consideration and determination of the exemption.

Section E: Student Information

- 1. I agree that my field education training (practicum/internship) site can share with a Program administrator all information regarding my educational training during my degree completion.
- 2. I agree to immediately notify a Program administrator of any personal or professional circumstance that could affect my ability to meet the requirements of this agreement while I am enrolled in the Program.
- 3. I agree to provide notice (written or email) to a Program administrator within 15 business days of any change of address, telephone number, cell phone number, or email address while I am in the Program.

- 4. I understand that failing to complete the degree or maintain good standing may result in termination of my financial assistance, and I would be required to repay all financial assistance received through the Program.
- 5. I understand that failure to comply with any part of this Agreement may lead to dismissal from the Program, and I would be required to repay all financial assistance received through the Program.

Section F: Evaluation Activities

- 1. Program evaluators may contact me periodically in discharging their duty to conduct evaluation activities regarding my experiences through the Program. I am required to participate willingly and in good faith in these evaluation activities.
- 2. By signing this agreement, I hereby give consent to be contacted by evaluators for the purpose of conducting reasonable evaluation efforts and consent to participate in such efforts.
- 3. I agree to provide a Program administrator with permanent and updated contact information and permit contact for the purpose of evaluations during my degree enrollment.
- 4. I agree to provide a Program administrator with permanent and updated contact information and permit contact for the purpose of Program evaluations of my post-graduation experience during and after completion of my employment service period.
- 5. Upon graduation, I agree to act as a mentor to future program students, if requested by a Program administrator.

Section G: Obligations of Seattle University

Seattle University will:

- 1. Provide financial assistance to the Student through the Program as outlined in this Agreement.
- 2. Assist the Student in seeking employment by making information available about local and state job openings and the application process.
- 3. Conduct criminal background and any other checks required for field education training (practicum/internship) placement and/or employment.
- 4. Unsatisfactory performance will be determined solely by Seattle University and/or by the field education training (practicum/internship) site and will be communicated to the Student by a Program administrator during their Program of study. Prior to termination of future financial assistance, Seattle University will give the Student 15 days' notice of the intent to suspend and/or terminate financial assistance.

II. TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall remain in effect from the time the Student enters the Program through completion of the Student's employment service period. Both the education and post-graduation period must be completed in a Program- approved site.

III. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the Student and Seattle University. Such amendments shall not be binding unless they are in writing and signed by the Student and Seattle University.

IV. ASSURANCES

The Student and Seattle University agree that all activity pursuant to this Agreement shall be in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations as they currently exist or as amended.

V. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

Records and other documents in any medium, furnished among the Student and Seattle University with respect to this Agreement, will remain the property of the furnishing party unless otherwise agreed. The receiving party will not disclose or make available any confidential information to any third parties without first giving notice to the furnishing party and giving it a reasonable opportunity to respond. The Student and Seattle University will utilize reasonable security procedures and protections to assure that records and documents provided among them are not erroneously disclosed to third parties. However, the Student and Seattle University acknowledge that State Agencies are subject to chapter 42.56 RCW, the Public Records Act, and therefore Student's name, identity, and Program participation may be disclosed in connection with a Public Records Act request. Student understands and agrees to such disclosures.

VI. DISPUTES

The Student and Seattle University agree to work in good faith to resolve all conflicts at the lowest level possible. However, if the Student and Seattle University are not able to promptly and efficiently resolve, through direct informal contact, any dispute concerning the interpretation, application, or implementation of any section of this Agreement, the Student and Seattle University may reduce its description of the dispute in writing and deliver it to the other party(ies) for consideration. Once received, the Student and the assigned designees of Seattle University will work to informally and amicably resolve the issue within fourteen (14) business days. If the Student and the assigned designees of Seattle University are unable to come to a mutually acceptable decision within five (5) business days, they may agree to issue an extension to allow for more time.

VII. GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Washington, and the venue of any action brought under this Agreement shall be in Superior Court for King County unless otherwise indicated by the complaint.

VIII. SEVERABILITY

If any term of this agreement is found to be illegal or unenforceable, the remaining terms shall not be affected or altered.

IX. ALL WRITINGS CONTAINED HEREIN

This Agreement contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the Student and Seattle University as to the Student's participation in the Program. No other understanding, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this Agreement shall be deemed to exist or to bind the Student and Seattle University hereto.

XI. EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

This agreement is effective immediately upon full execution by the Student and Seattle University.

I have read and understand all the provisions of this agreement as stated above.

