

The Bridge Year Program™

2016/2017

2016

Student Application Packet
Region 3 - Northern Penobscot Technical and
Schenck High School
"Where Rigor and Relevance Meet"



A program where students may earn 25 + college credits or more while attending high school in a carefully designed and unique learning package utilizing the combined strengths of four learning institutions.

A program where academic rigor and real world application meet!

~The University of Maine~

*~The University of Maine
Augusta~*

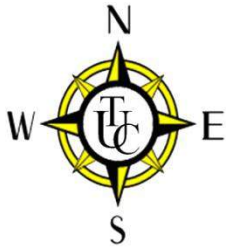
*~The University of Maine
Fort Kent~*

*~Eastern Maine Community
College~*

*~Participating Partner High
Schools~*

*~Participating Partner CTE
Schools~*

1/1/2016



Hermon High School
THE HAWKS

Founding Schools

Eastern Maine Community College
Hermon High School,
University of Maine
United Technologies Center

~Table of Contents~

The Bridge Year:

Retain (White)

- p. 3-4 **Program Overview**
- p. 5 **Admissions Process and Entry Requirements**
- p. 6-8 **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers (FAQ's)**
- p. 9 **Flow Chart**
- p. 10 **Summer 1 Academy Overview**
- p. 11 **Summer Academy Checklist**
- p. 12 **Admissions Checklist**
- p. 13-15 **Student/Parental/Guardian Agreement Form (Cut & Return Signature Box)**
- Insert **DRAFT Program Schedule**

Return(Grey)

- p. 16-17 **Student Application Form**
- p. 18 **Program Essay Question and Form**
- p. 19-27 **Overview and Applicant Recommendation Forms (3 Copies)**

The Bridge Year Program Overview

~About the Program ~

The Bridge Year Program presents an opportunity to assist high school students in:

- Obtaining additional career assessment, exploration, and advisement while in high school.
- Participating in and obtaining college credit in high school.
- Opportunity to obtain an integrated technical skill-based education that ties academics to real world careers through integrated CTE based labs. Depending on your specific high school's capabilities, obtaining approximately 25+ college credits by high school graduation from The University of Maine (UMaine) and/or The University of Maine Augusta (UMA), and/or Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC), and/or University of Maine Fort Kent (UMFK) through a dual or concurrent enrollment agreement. Dual/concurrent enrollment allows a student to earn college credit prior to high school graduation by taking college level courses that are taught at the high school by high school instructors approved by the college.
- Ability to complete an Associate's Degree in Applied Science within 12 months following high school graduation, while saving time and money.
- Opportunity to transfer credits to many other schools as well as into programs of their choosing.
- Providing options for students to earn a Bachelor's Degree at UMaine, UMA or elsewhere.

~Who we are~

Bridge Year Educational Services, Inc. began as a collaborative of four Bangor area institutions: Hermon High School, Eastern Maine Community College, The University of Maine, United Technologies Center (CTE School) and is supported by many other individuals and associations. 2016-17 will be the fifth year for the Bridge Year. We are continuing to expand around the State.

~ Our students are ~

Individuals who are committed to fully utilizing their educational opportunities, who learn best through relevant, real life experiences, and who are willing to put forth extra effort for their future. The Bridge Year Program is an extraordinary opportunity to be taken only after thoughtful consideration and with an understanding of the magnitude of the commitment and work required to achieve success.

~This document will hopefully address many questions about the program, and help you decide if this program is right for you.

Bridge Year Application Packet

~A few more details~

- The Bridge Year Program offers a cohort based high school/college experience. All of the student's high school courses will be taken with The Bridge Year Program cohort group.
- The Bridge Year Program offers increased levels of career assessment, career exploration, and job shadowing opportunities to help the student learn more about well-matched career opportunities as well as the education needed to achieve each student's individual career goals.
- Most of The Bridge Year Program's courses will offer dual credit (college and high school) from UMaine, UMA, EMCC, and/or UMFK while you attend your participating high school and a CTE school.
- Bridge Year Program students will have the opportunity to receive up to approximately 25+ college credits by the end of the summer following the student's senior year in high school. This means it is possible for a student, while in high school, to earn approximately half or more of a 60 credits required for an Associate's Degree
- The cost of **concurrent** enrollment will be \$40 per credit, offering a significant savings for each student.
- The Bridge Year Program includes attendance at two Bridge Year Summer Career Academies, to be held at UMaine, UMA, EMCC, United Technologies Center, and supportive area businesses.
- The Bridge Year Program's credits are useful for many possible future Bachelor's Degree enrollment options at University of Maine system universities and Maine Community College System colleges as well as at many other public and private schools. For a student who wishes to complete an Associate's Degree in Applied Science at EMCC that degree, which would normally be awarded two years beyond high school, may be completed in one year. **All college courses attended post high school graduation will be at the full tuition rate of the chosen institution.**

~Upon completion of an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree some of the opportunities awaiting the student include:

- Better chances of solid employment due to acquiring fresh, marketable skills.
- Specialized training opportunities for ongoing life-long learning.
- An increase in confidence and competence due to rigorous, unusual high school experiences.

~Some well-grounded assumptions we offer~

- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have greater success in their course work and a higher **graduation rate from their college.**
- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have a better developed sense of what career pathways to pursue.
- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will derive greater enjoyment from their educational experience.

The Bridge Year Program Admissions Process and Entry Requirements

The admission process for The Bridge Year Program is designed to be user friendly. We are quite simply seeking to understand if this program and a student's goals, talents and desires are a great match. The admissions process is as follows:

- Presentations concerning the program will be delivered at your school to students in multiple ways by guidance and others.
- Information materials for students and parents are available in hard copy and will be in an on-line format at our web site.
- Application packets will be provided to interested students by their high school Bridge Year Advisor in the guidance office by the date set by your school. (Please check)

The Bridge Year Program Entry Requirements are:

- A completed Admissions Packet submitted by the deadline.
- A thoughtful response to the application essay question.
- Three recommendations, two from teachers and one from either guidance or a school administrator.
- Admissions Committee members' confidence that the applicant will be well-matched to the demands of the course work.
- Admissions Committee members' confidence that the applicant will be well-matched to the program's workload requirements, including: great attendance, dedication, scheduling availability and access to transportation.

The Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee may be comprised of:

- High School Guidance, Faculty and Administration
- The Bridge Year Educational Services personnel
- Other individuals selected by the CTE/High School

***Students accepted into The Bridge Year Program will receive many privileges of an UMS students which include: UM, UMA, EMCC, and/or UMFK identification card(s), e-mail address, use of library resources, and the use of some recreational resources. Additionally, students who successfully complete The Bridge Year Program will likely be stronger candidates when applying to The University of Maine System schools, Maine Community College System schools and/or other schools.

Frequently Asked Questions

Terminology

The following are some terms referred to in this program:

- **Associate's Degree** –
 - *A college degree that usually requires approximately 60 credit hours to complete or two years of full time study*
- **AAS** –
 - *An Associate's Degree in Applied Science*
- **Bachelor's Degree-**
 - *A college degree that usually requires approximately 120 credit hours to complete or four years of full time study*
- **Cohort** –
 - *A group of people, in this case going through an educational experience together*
- **CTE** –
 - *A Career and Technical high school such as UTC in Bangor*
- **EMCC/ MCCS, UMaine and UMA-**
 - *Eastern Maine Community College/ Maine Community College System, The University of Maine and The University of Maine Augusta*
- **Dual or Concurrent Enrollment** –
 - *Dual/concurrent enrollment allows a student to earn college credit prior to high school graduation by taking college level courses that are taught at the high school by high school instructors approved by the college. The student, if he/she meets all the requirements (attendance, grades, and codes of conduct), earns both secondary and higher education credit, which saves time and money.*

How much does this program cost?

The cost for a Bridge Year student for the 2016/17 school year will still be at a significant discount off the traditional UMaine and UMA rates. For the 2015-16 school year the cost is \$40 per credit hour

Bridge Year Educational Services, Inc is seeking additional funds to subsidize the University costs for Bridge Year students. Upon the student's June high school graduation, traditional University and College rates will apply from that point forward.

How many college credits can I earn?

The students will have the opportunity to complete up to 25+ college credits (depending on your high school's capability). The student must receive a grade of a C or better in some courses to obtain UMaine, UMA, EMCC, and/or UMFK credit.

Where are these credits useful?

The concurrent credits are awarded by UMaine, UMA, EMCC, and UMFK. University of Maine System schools and Maine Community College schools are both fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and as such, these University courses are accepted by most post-secondary colleges and universities. Each situation will be different for specific schools and, of course, specific programs. Check with schools you are thinking about and ask.

What degree will I earn?

*This is up to you and where you choose to continue your education. **You are expected to research different colleges and programs and determine how many Bridge Year courses would transfer** You may for instance choose to pursue an Associate's Degree at UMA or at a Community College, a Bachelor's Degree at UMaine, UMA, UMFK or elsewhere with your earned college credits. Please request a transcript analysis from colleges to learn which Bridge Year courses will be accepted into various programs.*

How long does the program take?

Concurrent college enrollments will occur only for the high school students during their Junior and Senior years and may occur, on occasion, during The Bridge Year Summer Career Academies.

Where will I go to school?

Most academic courses will be offered at your high school, technical classes at your CTE and some classes and summer activities will held on the UMaine (or other) campus. For additional courses you may attend another campus or take a college course online.

What academic and other qualifications will I need to apply successfully?

A student wishing to join The Bridge Year Program will need to complete the admissions packet and be in good standing with their high school. The Bridge Year Admission Committee will carefully review each applicant in regard to his/her chances of success and if they are a great match for the program.

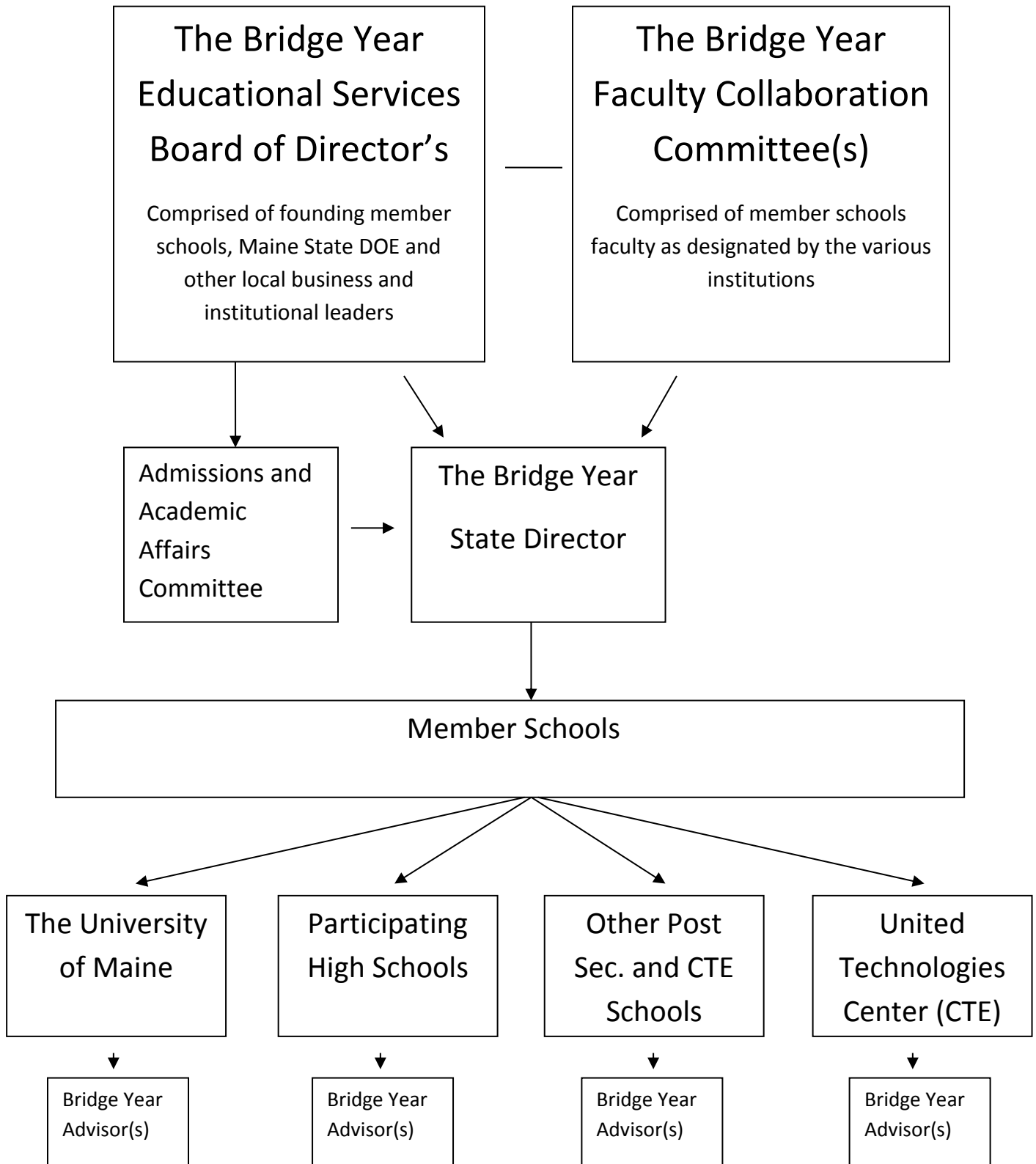
What will my college student status be?

*Students accepted into The Bridge Year Program will receive some of the privileges of an UMaine, UMA, EMCC, and/or UMFK student which include: An identification card(s), e-mail address(es), use of library resources, tutoring services, and writing center and some recreational resources. Additionally, students who successfully complete The Bridge Year Program **may** also be offered a simplified admissions process at UMaine, UMA, UMFK, other University of Maine System universities, EMCC and other Maine Community College Ssystem colleges..*

Who is responsible for purchasing text books, e books and other materials?

Each school handles this question differently; however, in many cases the student is responsible for this cost. We continue to work with the University and College faculty to minimize, as much as possible, the costs for Bridge Year high schools and students. However, some courses may require a latest edition new text or on line access code costing upwards of \$125.00 for each text/code and those costs may be the responsibility of each student.

The Bridge Year Plus Flow Chart



The Bridge Year Program 2016 Summer Academy 1 Overview Date: TBA Schenck High School

Sophomore Summer Academy

A three-day intensive career academy designed as an orientation and cohort-building experience for the students entering the Bridge Program. Specific goals and activities for this year's sophomore Summer Career Academy include:

- Intensive career exploration experiences
 - Assessment and discussion of your professional goals
 - Targeted business visitations and participatory activities.
 - Business leaders and student round table.

- Cohort building
 - Team building exercises and assessments.
 - UM low ropes course.
 - Evening group activities.

- Introduction to Bangor area campuses including the University of Maine.
 - Students will reside for two nights at either UMaine or EMCC.
 - Students will spend one day at The University in tailored, highly participatory activities at the Innovation Engineering Center, The Advance Composites Center and The Advanced Manufacturing Center.
 - Students will have a tour of Eastern Maine Community College.

Evening Activities Include:

- Attendance at recreational events, such as public concert, dances or outdoor movies.
- Light exercise, such as walking, to locations when and where possible.

Special attention will be paid to a wellness diet and the mind/body connection as it relates to learning and overall well-being.

The Bridge Year Program 2016 Summer Academy Checklist

What is the cost of the program to participants?

The total cost for the Summer Academy is paid for by the participating organizations as part of The Bridge Year Project.

What is provided to participants?

- An orientation to The Bridge Year Program.
- Positive attitudes.
- A double occupancy room.
- Two meals on day one, three on day two and two on day three.
- Full day and evening activities.

What will participants need to bring?

- A great positive attitude.
- Towels, pillow, sheets, blanket, toiletries, small backpack.
- Two pairs of comfortable sneakers.
- Appropriate clothes:
 - At least two sets of active outdoor clothes, sneakers, shorts, tee shirts, light rain jacket (at times we will be doing a number of outdoor activities).
 - One set of “business casual”, such as khakis and polo type shirts for men and skirts/slacks and blouses for women.
 - Extra shorts and/or pants and tee shirts for evening activities.
- Completed permission forms for various activities. (See Advisor)

What may participants want to bring?

- Minor purchase spending money
- Music player
- Laptop or tablet
- Cell phone

The Bridge Year Program Admissions Checklist

Each student who is interested in applying for The Bridge Year Program needs to submit a completed packet. The process should not take too much time but it must be done for The Bridge Year Admissions Committee review!

To ensure that your application is ready for review by The Bridge Year Admissions Committee, each student should complete each of the following items by the date set by your school.



Completed Bridge Year Application Form



Completed The Bridge Year Parental/Guardian Agreement Form, (cut and return signature box)



Completed 1 Page Essay

- How do you think the Bridge Program will help you define and then attain your career goals?



3 Completed Reference Forms

- One from your principal or your guidance department
- Two from teachers at your school

REMEMBER - IMPORTANT !!

Completed packets should be submitted to your school's Bridge Year Advisor in the Guidance office by the date set by your high school. Only complete packets will be considered.

Bridge Year Admission and Academic Affairs Committee will inform students of Admission decision within two weeks after the closing date for applications set by your school.

The Bridge Year Student/Parental/Guardian Agreement Form

The Bridge Year Program presents exciting options and opportunities for students, but with these opportunities also comes increased responsibility and obligations on the part of the student and Parents/Guardians. Below are listed some of the responsibilities and obligations:

- With college level work follows college level effort and dedication.
- Attendance requirements for The Bridge Program Courses are strict.
- **Strict adherence to the various schools' Codes of Conduct Policies must be followed at all times while concurrently enrolled in The Bridge Year course work.** If, for example, a student is concurrently enrolled at UMaine and UMA, A participating high school and CTE, all four Codes of Conduct will apply. Academic policies concerning plagiarism and academic integrity are taken very seriously at the college level, so understanding the rules is important. Please see the university/college Student Code of Conduct (online), your high school Code of Conduct and your CTE's Code of Conduct. **Please understand that student actions requiring disciplinary action at any one school may lead to dismissal from The Bridge Year program.**

Student Fees and other Costs

Traditionally students at UMaine (as of this packet printing date) are required to pay \$1,060.00 for tuition and fees for a 3 credit course. ***The anticipated cost for a Bridge Year student taking concurrent courses associated with any of the participating Universities and College for the 2016/17 school year will be \$40/credit (\$120 per 3 credit course), providing a significant savings per course.*** This fee schedule will apply only to courses taken while the student is still in high school. Bridge Year students will have the opportunity to earn up to approximately 30 college credits by high school graduation. Continued course work after high school graduation in order to complete a student's Associate's Degree or Bachelor's Degree will be at the respective institution's regular tuition rate.

Transportation

Courses will be offered either at a participating high school or at your CTE school; however, the summer camps, and some additional class opportunities may be held at post-secondary institution campuses. In this situation the student will be responsible for their own transportation to and from classes.

Attendance

Due to the increased academic rigor and commitment involved with this program, students need to dedicate themselves to exemplary attendance, which we define as missing no more than 5% of the available class hours from a Bridge Year course.

Academic Policies

The opportunity of earning credit simultaneously from two institutions brings some additional complexity. While in The Bridge Year Program all traditional high school rules are in effect since the student is seeking to earn secondary level credit; however, while also concurrently enrolled in a post-secondary institution course to earn college credit, the post-secondary schools' rules will also apply. For example: colleges have strict rules concerning plagiarism (the taking of any other person's work or words as your own). A breach of the college plagiarism policy by a Bridge Year student under certain circumstances may lead to dismissal from the college course but may have different consequences for the student concerning the secondary level credit.

- **Grading**
 - Grades may be reported two ways, the first in the traditional manner of the participating high school and the second in the traditional manner of the post-secondary institution. To receive college credit students must earn a minimum grade of a C-.
- **Dismissal from a Course**
 - Dismissal from a course can occur upon the recommendation of the high school or CTE instructor and the review and approval of The Bridge Year Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee in consideration of the rules of the concurrent enrolled college and high school. If dismissal occurs after the add/drop period no refunds will be issued.
- **Failure of a Bridge Course**
 - Receiving a failing grade in a Bridge Year Course will result in no post-secondary credit being granted to the student, secondary credit will be decided by the participating high school. Upon failing one Bridge course, the Bridge student's enrollment in The Bridge Year Program will be reviewed by The Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee and the student will be automatically placed on academic probation for the purposes of The Bridge Program. Students may (if logistically possible) take The Bridge course again if he or she wishes to replace the failing grade. The student will be required to pay the course fee again.
***Failure or dropping of a Bridge course after the add/drop period will remain on the student's University transcript and may affect future college admissions and ultimate GPA.**

- **Academic Probation**
 - A student on academic probation for The Bridge Program will receive additional advising and will remain on probation until the failed course has been retaken and successfully completed.
- **Dismissal from the Program**
 - Dismissal for academic or disciplinary reasons from The Bridge Year Program may occur upon the review and approval of The Bridge Year Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee in consideration of the rules of the concurrent enrolled college and high school. Failure of a second Bridge Year course after being placed on Academic Probation may also lead to dismissal from the program.
- **Dropping a Bridge Course**
 - Students may choose to drop a Bridge Year Course at any time. If the drop occurs after the drop deadline the resulting grade will appear on the student's official respective University transcript. Refunds of the course fee may occur within the rules of University or College. Textbook and any other fees will not be refunded.
- **Dropping from The Bridge Program**
 - To remain a Bridge Year Student (a student in good standing) a student must be on track to complete no less than 21 post-secondary credits by the end of the senior year in high school.
 - Students may drop from The Bridge Program at any time and continue with a traditional secondary curriculum with no secondary penalty but should fully understand the financial and higher education ramifications.
- **Appeal Process**
 - Appeals of the decisions by the Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee would be made through University of Maine's Provost's office.

My signature below attests that I have read, understand and agreed to The Bridge Year Student/Parent/Guardian Agreement. I further understand the commitment required for success in this program and agree to fulfill my responsibilities and adhere to the applicable rules of the four partner schools.

Student Name (Printed) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian name(s) (Printed) _____

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature(s) _____

The Bridge Year Program Student Application Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Grade Level _____ Expected year of Bridge Year completion _____

Current Age _____

Gender: Male ___ Female ___ Birth Date ___/___/___

- Your Contact Information:

- Email address _____
- Home Phone _____
- Cell Phone _____
- Home Address _____ Zip _____
- Social Security Number ____-____-_____

- Parent or Guardian Names :

- Email address _____
- Work Phone _____
- Cell Phone _____

- Emergency Contact

Names: _____

- Email address _____
- Best Phone _____
- Cell Phone _____

Are you available to attend a three day Career Academy during summer 2016 Y__ N__

Are you willing to attend classes after traditional school hours? Y __ N__

Do you have access to transportation? Y__ N__

Desired Program at Region 3 – Northern Penobscot Technical:

- _____ Automotive Technology
- _____ Building Trades
- _____ Commercial Driving
- _____ Culinary Arts
- _____ Health Science Careers
- _____ Information Technology
- _____ Jobs for Maine’s Graduates
- _____ Media
- _____ Public Safety
- _____ Welding

Area(s) of Potential Career Interest: _____, _____, _____

I certify that all information in this packet is accurate and complete.

Applicant’s Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: _____

Please Print Name: _____

The Bridge Year Program Student Essay

~One page double spaced and in your own words~

Question: How do you think The Bridge Year Program will help you better define and attain your career goals?

Student Signature

Date

Bridge Year Overview and Recommendation Guidance/Faculty and Admin. Please have completed (1 recommendation from your guidance or administration office, 2 recommendations from your teachers)

~A Summary About the Program for Recommenders ~

The Bridge Year Program presents an opportunity to assist high school students in:

- Obtaining additional career assessment, exploration, and advisement while in high school.
- Participating in and obtaining college credit in high school.
- Obtaining an integrated technical skill-based education that ties academics to real world careers through integrated CTE based labs. Depending on your specific high school's capabilities, obtaining approximately 25 - 30 college credits by high school graduation from University of Maine System schools and Maine Community College schools through a dual or concurrent enrollment agreement. Dual/concurrent enrollment allows a student to earn college credit prior to high school graduation by taking college level courses that are taught at the high school by high school instructors approved by the college.
- Completing an Associate's Degree in Applied Science within 12 months following high school graduation, while saving time and money.
- Transferring credits to many other schools as well as into programs of their choosing.
- Earning a Bachelor's Degree at UMSys schools, MCCSys schools or elsewhere.

~Who we are~

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- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have greater success in their course work and a higher **graduation rate from their college.**
- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have a better developed sense of what career pathways to pursue.
- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will derive greater enjoyment from their educational experience.

Bridge Year Recommendation Form (Guidance/Faculty/Administrator)

Please complete and return to The Bridge Year School Advisor

Applicant's Name: _____

Date: _____

Recommender's Name: _____

With the overview in mind, please briefly answer the following questions to help us in the selection process:

1. What attributes does the applicant have that will assist him/her in The Bridge Year Program? _____

2. In your opinion, does the student have significant interest in this program (please explain your thoughts)?

3. Please give your opinion and rationale on the applicant's compatibility with this program and academic ability to succeed at University level work?

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Please have completed (1 recommendation from your guidance or administration office, 2 recommendations from your teachers)

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-

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Please complete and return to The Bridge Year School Advisor

Applicant's Name: _____

Date: _____

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4. What attributes does the applicant have that will assist him/her in The Bridge Year Program? _____

5. In your opinion, does the student have significant interest in this program (please explain your thoughts)?

6. Please give your opinion and rationale on the applicant's compatibility with this program and academic ability to succeed at University level work?

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Individuals who are committed to fully utilizing their educational opportunities, who learn best through relevant, real life experiences, and who are willing to put forth extra effort for their future. The Bridge Year Program is an extraordinary opportunity to be taken only after thoughtful consideration and with an understanding of the magnitude of the commitment and work required to achieve success.

~A few more details~

- The Bridge Year Program offers a cohort based high school/college experience. All of the student's high school courses will be taken with The Bridge Year Program cohort group.
- The Bridge Year Program offers increased levels of career assessment, career exploration, and job shadowing opportunities to help the student learn more about well-matched career opportunities as well as the education needed to achieve each student's individual career goals.
- Most of The Bridge Year Program's courses will offer dual credit (college and high school) from Maine Universities and/or Colleges while you attend your participating high school and a CTE school.
- Bridge Year Program students will have the opportunity to receive up to approximately 25 - 30 college credits by the end of the summer following the student's senior year in high school. This means it is possible for a student, while in high school, to earn about half of the 60 credits required for an Associate's Degree
- The cost of **concurrent** enrollment will be \$40 per credit, providing a significant savings for each student.
- The Bridge Year Program includes attendance at two Bridge Year Summer Career Academies, to be held at the UMaine, UMA, United Technologies Center, and supportive area businesses.
- **All college courses attended post high school graduation will be at the full tuition rate of the student's chosen institution.**

~Upon completion of an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree some of the opportunities awaiting the student include:

- Better chances of solid employment due to fresh, marketable skills.
- Specialized training opportunities for ongoing life-long learning.
- An increase in confidence and competence due to rigorous, unusual high school experiences.

~Some well-grounded assumptions we offer~

- Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have greater success in their course work and a higher **graduation rate from their college.**
 - Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will have a better developed sense of what career pathways to pursue.
 - Students who participate in The Bridge Year Program will derive greater enjoyment from their educational experience.
-

Bridge Year Recommendation Form (Guidance/Faculty/Administrator)

Please complete and return to The Bridge Year School Advisor

Applicant's Name: _____

Date: _____

Recommender's Name: _____

With the overview in mind, please briefly answer the following questions to help us in the selection process:

7. What attributes does the applicant have that will assist him/her in The Bridge Year Program? _____

8. In your opinion, does the student have significant interest in this program (please explain your thoughts)?

9. Please give your opinion and rationale on the applicant's compatibility with this program and academic ability to succeed at University level work?

