

**GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT
VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
AND
NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY**

Norfolk State University (NSU) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) recognize the need to facilitate the admission of transfer students from Virginia's community colleges to NSU as they pursue educational goals leading to the baccalaureate degree. In an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, we do hereby enter into the following Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA).

ADMISSION AGREEMENT

Students who graduate from a transfer-oriented associate degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher, who meet the eligibility requirements described below, are guaranteed admission to and may enroll in NSU. These students are referred to as "GAA students." VCCS Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts and Sciences degrees are considered "transfer-oriented associate degrees," as well as VCCS General Studies associate degrees that have been approved by the State Committee on Transfer (see website at <http://www.schev.edu/Students/GeneralStudiesWebText.pdf>).

GAA students may expect the following:

1. Courses that are accepted by NSU will be applied to the attainment of the baccalaureate degree. All credits contained in the transfer-oriented associate degree will be accepted, not to exceed 63 credits. GAA students will not be required to repeat course content that has been evaluated as equivalent to an upper-level course at NSU; however, students may be required to complete additional upper-level credits to meet NSU or program requirements.
2. NSU will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program and will accept the student with junior standing. However, NSU cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation at NSU.
3. Completion of a transfer-oriented associate degree at a Virginia community college will satisfy all NSU lower-level general education requirements. Students must complete other prerequisite program or graduation requirements that apply to all students (e.g., Exit Examination or Writing Competency).
4. A minimum of grade of "C" must be obtained in each course the student wishes to transfer.
5. No distinction will be made by the Norfolk State University regarding college courses applicable to the general education certificate or transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Completion of the associate degree while enrolled in high school will not preclude the student from eligibility under this agreement.

6. Acceptance in some degree programs at NSU is competitive; thus guaranteed admission into NSU does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program. Students participating in the GAA should follow all special college and/or departmental application procedures and deadlines, as well as grade point requirements listed in the NSU catalog.
7. GAA students will be given the same consideration as all other students for admission to competitive programs, as well as for registration, financial aid, student housing, and any other opportunities open to other students with junior standing.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for participation in this GAA, students must:

1. Graduate with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher as calculated by VCCS policy from a transfer-oriented associate degree program at a Virginia community college, and
2. Enroll at NSU within one year of completing the transfer-oriented associate degree.

Students who were previously enrolled at NSU and transferred back to a VCCS college to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree are not eligible for participation in the GAA. VCCS students who do not meet the GAA eligibility requirements listed above are eligible to apply for admission to NSU but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

Benefits of the GAA for VCCS Students:

1. GAA students may select the NSU catalog in effect at the time of enrollment in the GAA or at the time of matriculation at NSU.
2. The NSU admissions application fee is waived.
3. GAA students are eligible to apply for in-state tuition and fees scholarships that NSU will provide annually for GAA students after matriculation as full-time, degree-seeking students at NSU as long as the agreement remains in effect. Students who are awarded a scholarship may hold that scholarship for a maximum of three years. However, a student shall not receive a scholarship that, when added to other financial aid received by that student, will enable the student to receive total assistance in excess of NSU's in-state tuition and fees. Scholarships are contingent upon the student's maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and full-time, degree-seeking status at NSU.

Responsibilities of the VCCS:

1. Notify students of transfer opportunities to NSU under this GAA by posting links to the agreement on the VCCS Transfer Website (<http://www.vccs.edu/Students/TransferList.aspx>) and the Virginia Education Wizard (www.vawizard.org).
2. VCCS colleges will provide academic advising services to assist GAA students in choosing courses that will best prepare them for their intended major at NSU.
3. Notify the Chief Transfer Officer at NSU when situations arise warranting VCCS faculty and NSU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
4. Provide NSU with a summary of research findings and actions related to the VCCS transfer student performance at NSU.

Responsibilities of NSU:

1. Provide course equivalent information regarding VCCS courses and NSU equivalent courses (<http://www.nsu.edu/transferstudents/pdf/NSUTransferGuide.pdf>).
2. Disseminate accurate information to prospective transfer students regarding the general conditions of the GAA. Those provisions include the conditions for guaranteed admission to NSU, and notification that admission to the university does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major field of study.
3. Provide academic advising services to GAA students no later than the term prior to transfer to assist these students in making a smooth transition from the community college to NSU.
4. Notify the Chief Transfer Officer at the Virginia community college (or the VCCS representative) when situations arise that warrant VCCS faculty and NSU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
5. Provide tracking data on performance of GAA students at NSU, including credits presented and accepted in transfer, NSU courses attempted and completed, cumulative GPA, major, graduation date from NSU, and comparisons with native students. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be determined by Institutional Research staffs from the VCCS and NSU and provided by July 1 of each year.

Responsibilities of the Student:

1. Know and understand the requirements for a transfer-oriented associate degree, as well as degree requirements and the specific requirements for the intended major at NSU.
2. Review and understand the GAA and the intended program of study at NSU. Contact the counselor/advisor at the appropriate community college for approval before initiating changes in his or her program of study.
3. Obtain a transfer-oriented associate degree at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a four-point scale. A minimum grade of "C" must be obtained in each course the student wishes to transfer. Eligible transfer students must provide transcripts from any other institutions attended and official documentation for Advanced Placement, CLEP, or other advanced standing credit applied toward completion of the transfer-oriented associate degree.
4. Follow the NSU application and admission processes and timelines and request that all previously attended colleges/universities submit an official transcript to NSU's Office of Admissions by May 31st for entry the following Fall semester, and by November 1st for entry the following Spring semester. GAA student are required to complete the Tuition Rate Determination Form within the application as part of the admissions process. Domicile as determined by a Virginia community college may not transfer to NSU.

Review of the GAA:

1. The VCCS designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. NSU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at NSU.
 - a. Representing NSU will be the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs with responsibility for curriculum management.
 - b. Representing the VCCS will be the VCCS Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research and the Director of Educational Policy, in consultation with the Articulation Subcommittee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.
2. VCCS and NSU are to communicate the conditions of the GAA to their external and internal constituents. NSU and the VCCS will review the GAA at a minimum of every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of each institution as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing GAA.
3. The GAA will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice should be given at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination, and students who entered under the GAA may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

Approval granted by:

Glenn DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College System

Tony Atwater, President
Norfolk State University

Date: 3/20/13

Date: April 4, 2013