

GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT
VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
AND
BLUEFIELD COLLEGE

Bluefield College (BC) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), recognizing the need to facilitate the transfer of students from the community college to BC, resolve to adopt a Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA).

Definitions

“Transfer-oriented associate degrees” refers to VCCS Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts and Sciences degrees. This includes VCCS General Studies associate degrees that have been approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as transfer degrees according to the State Committee on Transfer (see website at: <http://www/schev.edu/Students/GeneralStudiesWebtext.pdf>).

“GAA student” refers to a student who graduates from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale (as shown on the VCCS transcript) and who intends to transfer to BC and satisfies the additional eligibility requirements specified later in this agreement.

Academic Admission Agreement

Upon receipt of completed BC application materials, GAA students are guaranteed admission to BC and may expect the following:

1. BC will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program, not to exceed 68 credits. No distinction will be made by BC regarding college courses applicable to the 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.
2. GAA Students may transfer up to 68 hours from all 2-year institutions toward the minimum of 126 hours semester hours required for a B.A. or a B.S. degree. In addition, credit for courses completed through International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, or other advanced standing programs will be accepted according to BC policies in place at the time of enrollment as found in the BC catalog. These policies will also guide the awarding of credit by examination and credit for professional schools and training.
3. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program will guarantee completion of the Bluefield College general education requirements except for one Christian Studies course. Students will be required to complete Degree Specific Requirements upon transfer. These requirements may be fulfilled by the equivalent VCCS courses.

4. BC will consider GAA students who enroll at BC on the same basis as native students for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid, scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to native students at the junior level.
5. BC cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 126-credit minimum required for graduation. BC will inform the student at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 126 minimum semester hours needed for graduation. Such courses will be specified in writing. The BC Catalog also states the requirements for graduation.
6. Acceptance in some degree programs at BC is competitive; thus guaranteed admission to BC does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.

Eligibility

To be guaranteed admission to BC, students must complete the requirements to become GAA students – graduation from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale (as shown on VCCS transcript) and submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the BC Admissions Office, along with a completed BC application for admission. Only courses with grades of “C” or higher will be eligible for transfer. If a course is repeated, only the most recent grade is considered.

Students who were previously enrolled at BC 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 BC but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

Benefits to Virginia Community College Students

1. BC waives its application fee.
2. Students may be directed to BC departmental advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various BC majors by contacting Office of Admissions
3. GAA students enrolling in BC are eligible to apply for scholarships designated by BC especially for GAA students. GAA students having a 3.0 or higher cumulative grade point average automatically qualify. The BC application for admission also serves as the BC scholarship application.

Responsibilities

GAA students will:

1. Follow all BC application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements.

The community college will:

1. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree.
2. Notify students of transfer opportunities to BC under this GAA by posting links to the agreement on the VCCS Transfer Website (<http://www.vccs.edu/Students/Transfers.edu>) and the Virginia Education Wizard (www.vawizard.org).

BC will:

1. Consider GAA students who enroll at BC on the same basis as native students for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid, scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to native students with junior standing.
2. Provide tracking data on performance of GAA students at BC, including credits presented and accepted in transfer, BC courses attempted and completed, cumulative GPA, major, graduation date from BC, 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 BC and provided by July 1 of each year.

Review of the Agreement

The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. BC will designate responsible for all aspects of the GAA at BC. Representing BC will be the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Enrollment Management. 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.

VC and the VCCS will review the GAA every three years to make adjustments as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and for the improvement of the transfer process. Changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled under the provisions of the existing GAA.

The GAA will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. Such notice should be given one year in advance of the date of termination; students who entered under the GAA may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.