

**GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT  
VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM  
AND  
SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY**

Shenandoah University (SU) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), recognizing the need to facilitate the transfer of students from the community college to SU, agree to adopt the following 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/SCThome.asp>).

"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 and who intends to transfer to Shenandoah.

"GAA Contact" refers to staff members designated by each Virginia community college and by SU who work with prospective GAA students.

**Eligibility**

1. To be guaranteed admission to SU, students must graduate from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale and submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the SU Admissions Office. In addition, GAA students must have earned a grade of C or higher in each community college course applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree program. Students who were previously enrolled at SU and transferred back to a VCCS college to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree are not eligible for participation in the GAA.
2. Acceptance in some degree programs at SU is competitive; thus guaranteed admission into SU does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.
3. VCCS students who do not meet the GAA eligibility requirements listed above are eligible to apply for admission to SU but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

## **Academic Admission Agreement**

1. GAA students are guaranteed admission to SU and may expect the following:
  - a. SU will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program granting the student junior standing. No distinction will be made by SU regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment.
  - b. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program will guarantee completion of the SU general education component of the undergraduate curriculum with these particular notes:
    - i. GAA students will be considered to have completed all Domains of Knowledge requirements
    - ii. GAA students will be required to complete those general education intensity requirements not identified in the transfer evaluation.
    - iii. GAA students entering the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) without foreign language proficiency at the intermediate level (second year of college) will need to complete the SU CAS foreign language proficiency requirement.
    - iv. GAA students entering the Conservatory will be required to complete all General Education Domains and Intensities which are embedded as specific requirements in major requirements.
  - c. SU cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation. SU will inform the student in writing at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 120 minimum semester hours needed for graduation.
  - d. SU will consider GAA students who enroll at SU 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.
  - e. The application fee usually charged by SU will be waived, provided all application materials are submitted by July 1 for fall term enrollment and November 15 for spring term enrollment.

**2. GAA students will:**

**a. Follow all SU application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements.**

**i. All GAA students entering into the Conservatory will be required to pass an entrance audition and/or interview before the application process is complete. GAA students entering into the Conservatory with transfer credits in the following areas will need to complete a placement examination in: applied study, ensemble, music theory or music history.**

**ii. The Division of Nursing accepts RNs with an associate degree in Nursing (or diploma + pre-requisites) with a GPA of 2.5. Students can complete the BSN in 2 (full-time) or 4 (part-time) semesters. If students are not licensed or if they have merely taken pre-requisite credits or have an associate degree in something other than Nursing, they are considered for entry into SU's 5-semester transfer track but will need an entry GPA of 2.7.**

**3. The community college will:**

**a. Assist prospective GAA students in declaring intent to transfer to SU under the GAA.**

**b. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the associate degree.**

**c. Make available information about SU and the GAA to prospective GAA students enrolled in transfer-oriented associate degree programs.**

**4. SU will provide tracking data annually on the performance of GAA students at SU, to include comparisons with native students. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be determined by the institutional research staffs at VCCS and SU.**

**D. Review of the Agreement**

**1. The SU official responsible for the review of all SU aspects of the GAA is the Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designee. VCCS officials responsible for all VCCS aspects of the GAA are the VCCS Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research and the VCCS Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Programs and Instructional Technology, in consultation with the Articulation Subcommittee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.**

**2. SU 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.**

3. 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.

Glenn Du Bois, Chancellor

Tracey Fitzsimmons, President

Virginia Community College System

Shenandoah University

January 30, 2009

February 3, 2009