

**Guaranteed Admission Agreement
Between
The Virginia Community College System
And
ECPI University**

I. OVERVIEW

This articulation agreement will establish transfer policies, assist in student advising, and promote cooperation between ECPI University (ECPI) and The Virginia Community College System (VCCS).

II. AGREEMENT

A. 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 associate 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 ECPI.

“GAA Contact” refers to staff members designated by each Virginia community college and by ECPI who work with prospective GAA students.

B. Admissions Policies

1. GAA students will be admitted into a specific ECPI program of study that aligns with the VCCS’s associate’s degree program. Students may contact an ECPI admission representative to discuss the appropriate program of study at ECPI (www.ecpi.edu/vccs). If students change their program of study at ECPI, credits earned at the community college will be reviewed for applicability to a new program. All student will have at least 60 credits transfer and their lower level general education requirements met. However students that change their program of study at ECPI may be required to complete additional upper-level or pre-requisite requirements to complete the baccalaureate
2. GAA students must graduate with an associate’s degree, apply to a related degree program at ECPI, and have a VCCS cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 to be guaranteed admission to ECPI. The lower grade(s) of repeated courses are not calculated into the cumulative GPA. Grades earned from non-VCCS institutions will not be calculated in the cumulative GPA. Once admitted, students are subject to all other policies and procedures, including residency requirements, as outlined in the ECPI catalog.
3. GAA students admitted under the terms of this agreement will be exempted from paying the ECPI application fee. To begin the application process, students should contact an admissions representative at www.ecpi.edu/vccs.

4. ECPI offers military scholarships for GAA students who are active duty military personnel.
5. When GAA students matriculate to ECPI, they will be afforded all privileges and benefits available to other students currently enrolled, to include financial aid, scholarships, and student services.

C. Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. Under this agreement, all courses applied to the associate's degree program will be articulated into the bachelor's program, not to exceed 75 semester credit hours.
2. Excluding those with grades below a C, all courses within the VCCS degree program will be transferred in, allowing students to complete their related degree program at ECPI in about 18 months of full-time study.
3. GAA students will be considered to have met all lower division general education requirements at ECPI.
4. No distinction will be made by ECPI regarding college courses applicable to the transfer associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Completion of the associate degree through dual enrollment will not preclude the student from eligibility under this agreement.
5. If GAA students do not have the prerequisites for a 300 or 400 level course at ECPI, they may be required to take the prerequisite course before taking the upper division course.
6. ECPI will evaluate courses/credits earned through Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), and other testing programs. ECPI also will evaluate courses/credits earned at other institutions outside of the VCCS. Students seeking credit for these courses must provide the University with official transcripts for evaluation.
7. ECPI will inform the student at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 120 minimum semester hours needed for graduation. Such courses will be specified in writing.
8. The curriculum in effect at the time a student first enrolls at a Virginia community college will be honored by ECPI if the student completes an associate's degree and successfully transfers to ECPI within 5 years of that first enrollment at VCCS.
9. Applicants who apply to ECPI University under this agreement within 6 months of completing at a VCCS institution are eligible to apply for the VCCS transfer scholarship to be awarded in the amount of \$500 per semester, for up to \$2000 total. See the ECPI University admissions office for further details.

D. Implementation of the Agreement

1. ECPI and VCCS agree to review this agreement every three years. VCCS and ECPI will designate an individual to serve as liaison for the purposes of monitoring this agreement. ECPI and Virginia community college catalogues will be made available on the respective institutions websites.

2. **ECPI and VCCS agree to assist each other in promoting this agreement appropriately in their respective promotional materials, events, web sites, reports and through the sharing of mailing lists.**
3. **All notices to be given shall be delivered in writing as follows:**
 - If to ECPI:**
ECPI University
President
5555 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
 - If to VCCS:**
Vice Chancellor of Academic Services & Research
Virginia Community College System
101 N. 14th Street, 15th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
4. **ECPI will provide tracking data on performance of GAA students at ECPI, including credits presented and accepted in transfer, ECPI courses attempted and completed, cumulative GPA, major, graduation date from ECPI, 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 ECPI and provided by July 1 of each year.**
5. **This agreement may be amended, as necessary, for specific program articulation without affecting the master agreement.**
6. **This agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party on ninety (90) days prior written notice. In the event that this agreement is terminated, the terms of the agreement contained herein will remain in effect for the maximum transitional period of two (2) years to accommodate students already enrolled under the agreement.**

Glen DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College
May 25, 2013

Mark Dreyfus, President
ECPI University
May 24.2013