

**The College of General Studies and The Butler County Community College**  
**Degree Completion Program**

**Background**

The College of General Studies (CGS) and the Butler County Community College (BCCC) have a shared goal in providing higher education to adults and working students in our region. For many of these students who wish to pursue bachelors degrees, BCCC serves as the provider of choice for general education requirements. While CGS is one of several regional institutions that can offer degree completion options for these students, the College has a number of unique attributes: first and foremost, it is a part of a major research university offering a breadth and scope of subject matter unequaled by other schools in the region; second, CGS has dedicated a wide range of resources to adult student services and support activities; and third, the College offers a blend of distributed learning opportunities attractive to working people. With these characteristics in mind, CGS is seeking to forge a sustainable, far-reaching articulation agreement with BCCC. In furtherance of this objective:

**The College of General Studies will provide**

1. **Ease of credit transfer.** BCCC students who declare their intent to pursue the CGS major in Administration of Justice will be guaranteed admission to CGS contingent upon the successful completion of 60 credits of general education requirements and meeting the CGS admission requirements.
2. **On site advising.** Students who participate in this initiative will have the opportunity to meet with CGS advisors on a regular and scheduled basis to monitor their progress.
3. **On site courses.** CGS will provide four courses per term at the BCCC main campus for students in the program. There will be a regular rotation of courses as identified in Attachment 1. This rotation will allow students to plan their degree progress in a systematic manner.
4. **Scholarship.** All students who are a part of this initiative and apply to the College of General Studies for the Fall Term by May 1<sup>st</sup> and who have a minimum QPA of a 3.0 will be considered for \$1,000 scholarships. All awards will be based solely on academic merit. All awards will be one-year scholarships and require that students register in CGS for a minimum of 6 credits.
5. **Service.** In addition to providing appropriate academic support on site at the BCCC campus, CGS will establish a student advisory group of recently transferred and soon-to-be-transferred students to provide input on how its services can be enhanced to improve the program.

The Butler County Community College will provide:

1. **Office space.** BCCC will provide CGS advisors with appropriate, non-permanent office space so that they can meet with and advise students during regularly scheduled meetings. This space will have telephone and Internet access.
2. **Classroom space.** BCCC will provide classroom space free of charge to CGS for regular course offerings of degree completion classes.
3. **Records access.** CGS will have access to BCCC student records and be able to make direct requests for transcripts from BCCC contingent upon student permission.

CGS and BCCC will jointly engage in

1. **Recruitment.** Where appropriate, CGS and BCCC will participate in recruitment efforts to solicit student enrollment through this program articulation. The substance and language of recruitment materials for this program will be agreed upon jointly.
2. **Oversight.** Senior representatives from CGS as well as BCCC will meet at least once per semester to discuss issues of common interest related to this venture. Such meetings may include discussions of new programs and services of mutual benefit or issues related to the expansion or contraction of programs and program sites.

For:  
The Butler County Community College

For:  
The University of Pittsburgh

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