

**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, and who declare an interest in enrolling at NSU through the GAA prior to graduation 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 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 students may expect the following:

1. Courses that are accepted by NSU will be applied to the attainment of the baccalaureate degree. Only credits applied toward the receipt of 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 from the Virginia community college 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. NSU will begin an advising process with the GAA student shortly after the *Letter of Intent* is submitted by the student and signed by the designated NSU official.
3. 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 for native NSU students.
4. VCCS GAA students will be given the same consideration as native students for admission to competitive programs, as well as for registration, financial aid, student housing, and any other opportunities open to native students with junior standing.

5. Completion of a transfer-oriented associate degree at a Virginia community college will satisfy all NSU lower-level general education requirements except other prerequisite program or graduation requirements that apply to all students (e.g., Exit Examination of Writing Competency).

Eligibility:

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

1. Graduate with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher from a transfer-oriented associate degree program at a Virginia community college,
2. Submit a *Letter of Intent* to transfer to NSU, and
3. 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. VCCS 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. VCCS students are eligible to apply for in-state tuition and fees scholarships that NSU will provide annually for VCCS GAA students after matriculation as full-time, degree-seeking students at NSU as long as the agreement remains in effect. Students who successfully compete for 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. For the 2006-2007 academic year, students entering NSU under the VCCS GAA agreement will receive priority consideration for up to \$100,000 in in-state tuition and fee scholarships that will be earmarked for transfer students.

Responsibilities of the VCCS:

1. Disseminate accurate information to VCCS transfer program students regarding the general conditions of this agreement. Those provisions include the conditions for guaranteed admission to NSU, and notification that admission to NSU does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major field of study.
2. Provide academic advising services to assist VCCS GAA students in choosing courses that will best prepare them for their intended major at NSU. The VCCS will prepare faculty advisors and counselors to provide appropriate and accurate advising services related to students' plans to apply to 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. Collaborate with NSU designees to promote the GAA among prospective and current VCCS students.

5. Provide NSU with a summary of research findings and actions related to the VCCS transfer student performance at NSU.

Responsibilities of NSU:

1. Provide the VCCS with course equivalent information regarding VCCS courses and NSU equivalent courses. An annual review will be conducted to ensure that this information is shared with the VCCS on a timely basis.
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. Collaborate with the VCCS to promote the GAA among VCCS students.
6. Provide annual 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.

Responsibilities of the Student:

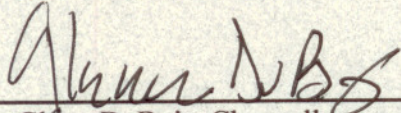
1. Complete and sign a *Guaranteed Admission Agreement Letter of Intent* form.
2. Know and understand the requirements for a transfer-oriented associate degree, as well as degree requirements and the specific requirements for the intended major at NSU.
3. Review the GAA and the intended program of study at NSU and sign a *Letter of Intent* to enroll at NSU. The *Letter of Intent* should be signed after the student has completed at least 15 credit hours at the Virginia community college, and before the student completes the transfer-oriented associate degree. It is incumbent upon the student to revise the *Letter of Intent* with any change of name, contact information, or community college program of study prior to transferring to NSU. It is also required that the student inform NSU upon any decision to discontinue participation in the GAA.
4. Contact the counselor/advisor at the appropriate community college for approval before initiating changes in his or her program of study.
5. 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 documentation for Advanced Placement, CLEP, or other advanced standing credit applied toward completion of the transfer-oriented associate degree.
6. Meet minimum grade criteria and prerequisites for courses in specific programs at NSU.
7. Follow the NSU application and admission processes and timelines.
8. Notify the counselor/advisor at the appropriate community college if participation in the GAA is to be terminated.

9. 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 the following Fall semester, and by November 1st for the following Spring semester.

Review of the GAA:

1. The VCCS will 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 VCCS Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Programs and Instructional Technology, in consultation with the Articulation Subcommittee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.
2. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of the GAA to their respective clientele (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.

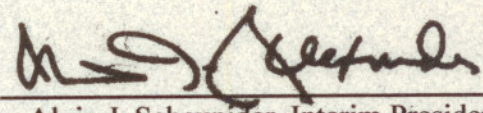
Approval granted by:



Glenn DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College System

June 20, 2006

Date



Alvin J. Schexnider, Interim President
Norfolk State University

June 19, 2006

Date