

**GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT**  
**VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
**AND**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON**

The University of Mary Washington (UMW) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), recognizing the need to facilitate the transfer of students from the community college to UMW, resolve to adopt a Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA). UMW provides special opportunities to help VCCS students experience a smooth transition to the University.

UMW is highly supportive of the goal of enrolling VCCS transfer students, and provides several means for gaining admission to the University in addition to the GAA. VCCS students who do not meet all the terms of this GAA may nonetheless be highly competitive applicants, and are encouraged to apply through the regular transfer admissions process. In addition, UMW has specific guaranteed admission agreements in effect with a number of individual community colleges for admission into certain degree programs at the University. The terms for these specific agreements with particular community colleges are different from the terms of the GAA.

In an effort to ease the transfer process, the VCCS and UMW provide the following guaranteed admission agreement.

**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 3.25 or higher on a four-point scale and who intends to transfer to UMW.

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

**Academic Admission Agreement**

GAA students are guaranteed admission to UMW and may expect the following:

1. UMW will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program, not to exceed 63 credits. No distinction will be made by UMW regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.

2. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program will guarantee completion of the lower-level UMW general education component of the undergraduate curriculum. For some UMW degree programs, students will be required to complete the following requirements:
  - Foreign language
  - Writing intensive and speaking intensive
  - Experiential learning

Students may satisfy these requirements as part of the transfer-oriented associate degree but will still be considered admissible under this agreement if the requirements have not been completed prior to transfer. If the requirements have not been satisfied at a VCCS college, students will be required to complete them upon transfer to UMW.

3. UMW cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation. UMW 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.
4. Acceptance in some degree programs at UMW is competitive; thus guaranteed admission into UMW does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.

### **Eligibility**

To be guaranteed admission to UMW, 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 3.25 or higher on a four-point scale with intent to transfer to UMW) and submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to UMW 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 UMW and transferred 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 UMW but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement. UMW reserves the right to deny admission to students who have been suspended or dismissed from any institution of higher education, or to those convicted of a felony.

### **Benefits to Virginia Community College Students**

1. UMW waives its application fee.
2. Through the community college GAA Contact, students can obtain the name and contact information for UMW GAA Contact, who can direct them to UMW departmental advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various majors.

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3. While UMW does not have any named scholarships designated especially for GAA students, GAA students are considered for all scholarships and other assistance for which they are eligible. GAA students must complete the FAFSA form by the application deadline established by UMW, Office of Financial Aid, for need-based aid. GAA students are not required to complete UMW Institutional Scholarship Information Form their first year in order to be considered for institutional scholarships.

### **Responsibilities**

GAA students will:

1. Follow all UMW application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements. The application for admission must be filed no later than March 1 for fall transfer admission, and November 1 for spring transfer admission. At the time of filing the application, the student must declare the intent to invoke the GAA as the means for seeking admission to UMW.
2. Have declared the intent to transfer to UMW under the GAA to the community college GAA Contact after a minimum of 15 credits towards the transfer-oriented associate degree is completed and before applying for graduation from the community college.

The community college will:

1. Assist prospective GAA students in declaring intent to transfer to UMW under the GAA.
2. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree.
3. Make available information about UMW and the GAA to prospective GAA students enrolled in transfer-oriented associate degree programs.
4. Make information available to UMW about prospective GAA students who have declared intent to transfer to UMW through the terms of the GAA.

UMW will:

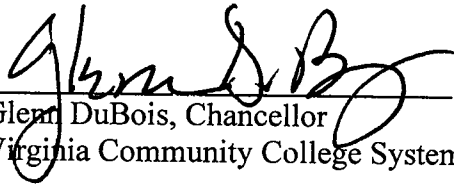
1. Consider GAA students who enroll at UMW on the same basis as native students for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid, scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to native students with junior standing.
2. Provide tracking data annually on the performance of GAA students at UMW, 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 UMW.

**Review of the Agreement**

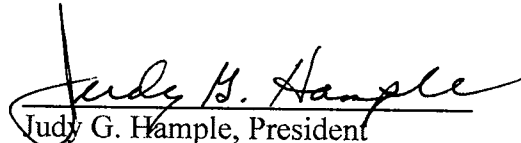
The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. UMW will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at UMW. Representing UMW will be the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, or designee. Representing the VCCS will be the VCCS 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.

UMW 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.

  
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Glenn DuBois, Chancellor  
Virginia Community College System

10-27-08  
Date

  
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Judy G. Hample, President  
University of Mary Washington

10-27-08  
Date