# GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE AND THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

This Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) is designed to facilitate the transfer of students from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) to Virginia Wesleyan College (VWC) for the purpose of entering a Bachelor's Degree program.

#### **SECTION 1** 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 <a href="http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp">http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp</a>).

"Accredited institutions" are non-profit institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or similar regional accreditation bodies.

"GAA student" refers to a student who graduates from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a curricular grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 or higher on a four-point scale and who intends to transfer to VWC.

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

#### SECTION 2: Guaranteed Admission

- 1. Upon receipt of completed VWC application materials, VWC will guarantee admission to GAA students. No distinction will be made by VWC regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.
- 2. GAA students admitted to VWC will have all transferable academic credits accepted at full value. Credits earned at accredited institutions other than Virginia's Community Colleges to satisfy the transfer-oriented associate degree will be treated on an equal basis as credits earned from Virginia's Community Colleges.
- 3. GAA students may transfer up to 64 semester hours from 2-year institutions toward the minimum of 120 semester hours required for a baccalaureate degree from VWC. In addition, credit for courses completed through International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Armed Services experience will be accepted according to stated policies for acceptance of credit, which can be found in the VWC catalog. VWC 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.

#### SECTION 3: Benefits to Students

- 1. Completion of the VCCS transfer-oriented associate degree program will guarantee completion of the VWC general education component of the undergraduate curriculum, with these particular notes:
  - GAA students will be considered to have completed three of the six required Writing intensive courses and are required to complete the remaining three
  - GAA students will be considered to have completed courses that satisfy three of
    the categories comprising the VWC Frames of Reference (Communication,
    Empirical Knowledge, and Institutional and Cultural Systems); students entering
    without a course in each of the other three categories (Aesthetic Understanding,
    Historical Perspective, and Ethical Values and Faith Perspectives) are required
    to complete one for each of those frames
  - GAA students entering without a four semester hour laboratory science are required to complete one
  - GAA students entering without foreign language proficiency at the intermediate level will need to complete the VWC foreign language proficiency requirement
  - Like native students, GAA students must complete one Senior Integrative Experience course and the required proficiencies in writing, oral communication, and computer literacy.
- 2. VWC will consider GAA students who enroll at VWC 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.
- 3. Through the community college GAA Contact, students can obtain the name and contact information for the VWC GAA Contact, who can direct them to VWC departmental advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various VWC majors.
- 4. The application fee usually charged by VWC will be waived, provided all application materials are submitted by July 1 for fall term enrollment and November 15 for spring term enrollment
- 5. GAA students transferring to VWC will be considered automatically for whichever of the following designated scholarships provides the higher award:
  - Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship, \$4500 to \$9000 per year, renewable for up to eight semesters, depending on number of transferable credits; requires 24 or more semester hours with a 3.25 or higher GPA and good standing membership in PTK
  - Associate's Grant, \$7000-\$10,000 per year, depending on GPA; renewable for up to three semesters (total of four semesters); requires Associate's Degree with a 3.0 or higher GPA

GAA students who are domiciliary residents of the state of Virginia will be eligible to submit application for the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant. It is guaranteed for students beginning the academic term in September if they have applied for the grant prior to the July 31st deadline. This grant (estimated to be a \$3000 award for the 2007-2008 academic year) is in addition to scholarships designated for transfer students.

### SECTION 4: Responsibilities

- 1. GAA students will have declared an intent to transfer to VWC 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.
- 2. VCCS colleges will notify students of transfer opportunities to VWC under this GAA.
- 3. VWC will develop a transfer guide for use by counselors, faculty and students throughout the VCCS. This guide will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis by VWC and made available to VCCS colleges.
- 4. WWC will provide tracking data annually to the VCCS on the performance of GAA students at VWC, 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 VWC.

## SECTION 5: Review of the Agreement

- 1. VWC 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.
- 2. Any changes, additions, or deletions to this agreement shall be made only after consultation with and agreement among officials at both institutions. Changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled under the provisions of the existing GAA.
- 3. This Statement of Agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice shall be effective only if given 180 days prior to the intended date of termination.
- 4. The above provisions are mutually agreed to and shall go into effect when signed by the appropriate institutional representatives. They shall remain in force until superseded by official action by either institution.

Approved

Glenn DuBois, Chancellor

Virginia Community College System

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William T. Greer, Jr., President

Virginia Wesleyan College