

TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH GUARANTEED ADMISSION BETWEEN NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

In accordance with the Virginia State Policy on Transfer, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and Norfolk State University (NSU) recognize the need for and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to the other as they pursue their educational goals. The VCCS and NSU enter into this agreement to provide all students an opportunity for guaranteed admission to the University. VCCS students who do not meet the requirements described herein are encouraged to apply and may be considered for admission under the regular admission procedures of the University.

This agreement supersedes all previous agreements between NSU and the VCCS or its individual institutions signed prior to July 1, 2022. It does not nullify individual program-to-program agreements articulated since this date.

Section 1: Definition of Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA)

An agreement between a two-year institution or the VCCS (system office) on behalf of community colleges and a four-year institution according to which a student is guaranteed admission to the four-year institution by earning a transfer degree or a specified applied degree and satisfying specified academic benchmarks and criteria. Students transferring under a general admission GAA are not necessarily entitled to be admitted to a specific program. GAAs should be state-level agreements.

Section 2: Requirements for Admission

A. Applicable Associate Degrees:

This agreement applies to all SCHEV approved transfer degrees offered through the VCCS including the Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), and Associate of Arts & Sciences (AA&S) degrees identified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as university-parallel transfer degrees. Only those AS or AA&S in General Studies degrees identified by SCHEV as transfer degrees qualify for this NSU GAA (see <https://www.schev.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/298/637807416962200000> for a list of approved General Studies degrees).

B. Minimum GPA requirement:

A cumulative GPA of 2.0 for credits earned at the degree-granting institution is required. The GPA is computed using all grades earned for courses listed on the student's transcript. If a course is taken more than once, each grade is included. Courses transferred into the two-year college are not included in the GPA computation but must meet course requirements below.

C. Limitations due to academic or disciplinary record:

1. NSU reserves the right to deny admission to students who have been academically dismissed or suspended or to those convicted of a felony. Disciplinary records are considered in determining eligibility for admission.
2. Transfer students must be in good standing at the last school attended.
3. All applicants convicted of ANY criminal offense will be required to attach a written explanation to the admission application prior to processing. The affected student may be requested to participate in an interview and may be asked to provide a criminal records check prior to the continued processing of their application. A special admissions committee will review the applicant's application with written statement, explanation of past criminal convictions and criminal record, and make a final decision on the applicant's admission.

D. Course requirements:

Students are required to complete all courses applying to the associate degree with a grade of C or better.

E. Minimum credits to be completed at associate degree institution:

Students are required to earn an associate degree with 60 or more credits; a minimum of 30 credits must be completed at the degree-granting institution. The GAA may be used for students who attended NSU, returned to the community college, and transferred back to NSU.

F. Maximum credits applicable for transfer:

All credits contained in the transfer-oriented associate degree will be accepted, not to exceed 63 credits.

G. Testing requirements:

No test scores are required.

H. Admission application and enrollment:

1. However, the transfer priority application deadline is May 1 for fall and October 1 for spring.
2. Students must enroll at the four-year institution within one year of completing their associate degree.
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 this guaranteed admission agreement should follow all special college and/or departmental application procedures and deadlines, as well as grade point average requirements listed in the NSU catalog for native NSU students. GAA students and native NSU students will be treated identically with regard to admission to competitive programs. The following programs have competitive admissions:
 - a. Nursing (Traditional & RN to BSN Online)
 - b. Exercise Science (Kinesiotherapy)
 - c. Health Services Management
 - d. Social Work (BSW)
 - e. All teacher certification endorsement programs in the Department of Early Childhood/Elementary & Special Education, Health & Physical Education, and Secondary Education & School Leadership.
4. GAA students will be given the same consideration as all other students for admission to competitive programs, as well as for registration, financial aid, student housing, and any other opportunities open to other students.
5. GAA students must follow all NSU application processes and specific special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements. For full consideration for financial aid, GAA students must apply by the priority date of May 1st, annually, and complete a FAFSA.

I. Transcript submission:

Students must submit an official transcript including all final grades and degree conferred with a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA. The terms of the GAA will not be applied until the official transcript showing degree conferred has been received by NSU.

J. Registration of Intent to use the agreement:

Students should register their intent to use this agreement after completion of 15 college credits. All students must register in the Transfer Virginia Portal their intent to participate in the GAA prior to formal acceptance by NSU.

Section 3: Application of Associate Degree to General Education Requirement

1. Completion of the transfer-oriented associate degree program at VCCS will satisfy all lower-level general education requirements at NSU. GAA students will also need to complete upper-level and all other University, college/school, and departmental requirements in order to obtain the baccalaureate degree from NSU.
2. NSU will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program and will accept the student with junior standing.

Section 4: Application of this Agreement to Students Earning Associate Degree Concurrent with High School

No distinction will be made by NSU regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Completion of the transfer-oriented associate degree while enrolled in high school will not preclude the student from eligibility under this agreement.

Section 5: Applications of this Agreement to Students Earning Credit for Prior Learning

All course credits that were awarded by VCCS that are based on national examination scores, military training, or other equivalencies (i.e., IB/AP/CLEP, DSST) will transfer based on the transfer equivalency for the course awarded. NSU is not required to award course credit for performance on an assessment whose subject matter is not offered in its curriculum.

Section 6: Associate Degree Completion Criteria and Catalog Determination

NSU will honor the catalog in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate associate degree at the two-year institution. Students who maintain continuous enrollment at the two-

year institution have a maximum of four years from their first enrollment at the institution for this catalog designation. Students must enroll at the four-year institution within one year of completing their associate degree.

Section 7: Transfer Guide – Student Document

The associated Transfer Guide represents all requirements for admittance under this GAA and the benefits that result. The Transfer Guide will be applied, once development is complete, as the student-facing document for this agreement. Major-specific transfer guides will be developed and featured at the Transfer Virginia portal (<https://www.transfervirginia.org/>). Students should check the Transfer Guidance section of those transfer guides to understand whether admission into the university also guarantees admission into their major or program of choice.

Section 8: Administration of Agreement

The NSU official responsible for all NSU aspects of the GAA and Register of Intent to Transfer is the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designee. The VCCS official responsible for all VCCS aspects of the GAA is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Workforce Programs or his/her designee, in consultation with the Guaranteed Admission Review Committee of the VCCS Academic and Student Affairs Council.

This agreement will remain in effect until modified or terminated. This Agreement may be modified only by mutual agreement by the VCCS Chancellor and President of NSU. Termination may be made by either party upon one (1) year prior written notice. Students who register their intent to use this agreement through the Transfer Virginia portal under the GAA prior to the date of termination are eligible for admission for two years after termination becomes effective.

The effective date of this Agreement is the date last signed by the President of NSU and the VCCS Chancellor. The signed Agreement will be maintained in the Transfer Virginia Portal.

VCCS Responsibilities

- Submit a PDF of the official signed Agreement to the Portal Coordinator.
- Use portal data to track which four-year institutions students are targeting for the GAA and provide support to students.

NSU Responsibilities


- Use portal and internal data to track students who register their intent to use the GAA. Use this data to maintain ability to honor agreement in respect to enrollment capacities.
- 4-year institutions use portal data to track students who register their intent to use this agreement and engage with students to best prepare students for transfer.

Section 9: Review Clause

NSU and the VCCS will review this agreement and the student tracking data every five years to adjust as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and value and for the improvement of the transfer process. Changes will not be applied retroactively to students already enrolled or registered under the provisions of the existing GAA.

If no changes are necessary, the documented review below will extend this agreement for an additional three years.


Signatures



Javaune Adams-Gaston
President
Norfolk State University

4-28-2023

Date



Sharon Morrissey
Interim Chancellor
Virginia Community College System

3/28/2023

Date

Review Documentation

Review Date	Completed By	Agreement Extension

Note: Recorded by the VCCS, shared with senior institution, and updated in the Transfer Virginia Portal

Appendix A: Transfer Guide Mapped to Undeclared Major for NSU: The Transfer Guide will be applied once development is complete.