Transfer Admissions Agreement
Shepherd University
And
Northern Virginia Community College

I. PURPOSE

This Transfer Admissions agreement is designed to coordinate transfer policies, enhance advising, and promote the acceptance of equivalent courses/credits between Shepherd University (Shepherd) and Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA).

II. ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

A. Admissions Practices

1. Shepherd accepts applications from students who wish to transfer directly from NOVA to Shepherd to pursue a bachelor’s degree. Guaranteed admission is provided for students who earn the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Applied Science degree from NOVA with a cumulative GPA including all college-level work of at least a 2.8. The guarantee of admission does not imply admission to a particular Shepherd degree program or admission to a particular semester.

For the purposes of admission and credit recognition the transfer GPA is determined by a calculation that includes all NOVA courses and all attempts, as well as all courses attempted previously at other institutions of higher education.

Students transferring from NOVA to specific limited admissions Shepherd programs must meet the same prerequisites, grade point average (GPA) and other admission criteria, as other students applying to those Shepherd programs.

2. Students transferring under this agreement will be considered for a tuition discount as available.

B. Responsibilities of Transfer Admission Applicants.

Transfer admission applicants must

1. Submit the Transfer Admission application form. It may be submitted as early as a student’s first semester at NOVA, indicating the student’s intended Shepherd start date.

2. Complete an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or an Associate of Applied Science degree from NOVA.

3. Achieve of at least a 2.80 GPA. GPA is determined by a calculation that includes all NOVA courses and all attempts, as well as all courses attempted previously at other institutions of higher education.
4. Transfer directly from NOVA to Shepherd and enroll at Shepherd in full-time status (12 credits or more). To be eligible for the program, students must be a non-resident of West Virginia.

C. Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. Where course equivalencies exist for required courses, general studies requirements, and/or prerequisites, these courses will apply to Shepherd graduation requirements. Course equivalencies will be determined consistent with standard course-transfer criteria at Shepherd University.

2. Courses/Credits in which grades of D (1.0) were earned may not be transferred depending on the course and the intended major or minor.

3. Shepherd will evaluate courses/credits earned through Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), or other testing programs. Shepherd also will evaluate courses/credits earned at other institutions. Original test scores and/or official college transcripts will be required for transfer credit.

4. Shepherd will maintain course equivalency information and make this information readily available to NOVA. Students will receive academic advising that outlines the articulation of transfer credit from NOVA to Shepherd.

5. Students transferring from NOVA will be required to complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of Shepherd coursework to be eligible for the Shepherd degree. Students may transfer up to 72 credits from regionally accredited community colleges, including NOVA. Students who have completed more than 72 credit hours at a community college may select the courses they wish to have evaluated as part of their credit hours counted toward graduation. All transfer credit hours will be calculated in the student’s overall grade point average.

D. Update/Report/Relationship

Shepherd and NOVA agree to review the agreement and relevant transfer course equivalencies annually. NOVA will designate an individual to serve as liaison for the purposes of monitoring this agreement. Each institution will provide updated catalogs to the other immediately upon their availability. Shepherd agrees to provide NOVA an annual report of number of enrolled NOVA transfer students, the majors in which those students are enrolled, and the aggregate GPA of those students when 10 or more are enrolled in any given year.

E. Amendments and Term of Effect

1. This agreement may be amended, as needed, for specific program articulation without affecting the currency of the master agreement. All course-by-course transfer guides may be amended as needed.

2. Areas for enhancement of present and/or potential collaborative activities and initiatives include, but are not limited to:
   a. Improved curriculum articulation, including 2-plus-2 models
b. Joint faculty professional development, as may be feasible  
c. Tuition waivers for students transferring to Shepherd from NOVA  
d. Joint press releases and mention of the Transfer Admissions agreement in appropriate College and University documents and publications  
e. Possible Shepherd graduate student internships on NOVA campuses

3. This master agreement will be in effect as of the date of its signing. Either institution may terminate this agreement at any time by written notice at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination. Should this agreement be terminated, it is understood that all NOVA students who have been accepted to Shepherd as part of this agreement will be provided all of the benefits as stated.

Northern Virginia Community College:

Dr. Robert G. Templin, Jr.  
President

8/23/11
Date

Shepherd University:

Dr. Suzanne Shipley  
President

9/21/11
Date

Dr. John T. Dever  
Executive Vice President, Academic and Student Services

8/23/11
Date

Mr. Gat Caperton  
Board of Governors, Chair

9/22/11
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM
GENERAL COUNSEL

6/3/11 KMP