

Honors Program Transfer Admission Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Northern Virginia Community College and Virginia Commonwealth University

Purpose

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) facilitates the transition for students who have completed the Honors Program at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) into the Honors College at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU).

Eligibility

Eligible students are those who meet the following criteria:

- Earn an Associate of Arts (AA) or an Associate of Science (AS) degree;
- Successfully complete the NOVA Honors Core curriculum of 18-21 credits and be in good standing in the Honors Program at NOVA;
- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 (4.0 scale);
- Submit an application for admission to VCU as a transfer student by the published application deadlines for spring or fall admission; and
- Submit a separate application for admission to the VCU Honors College by the deadline of December 1 for spring admission and May 1 for fall admission.

Admission

- VCU guarantees admission to the VCU Honors College to eligible students who complete the Honors Program at Northern Virginia Community College.

Additional Terms

- As part of the application to the VCU Honors College, in lieu of seeking a letter of endorsement from a NOVA faculty member, NOVA transfer applicants on track to complete the NOVA Honors Program will include a letter of endorsement from the NOVA Honors Program coordinator confirming that the applicant is in good standing and on track to graduate with honors.
- Upon acceptance to the VCU Honors College, NOVA transfer applicants will be assigned to a cohort, and the cohort will work together towards the completion of a capstone project, which will include curricular and co-curricular assignments. Additionally, students must complete 14 honors credits, including the capstone course. Students will also be required to earn 25 engagement points per academic year in order to graduate with University Honors.
- If any of the Honors College program requirements are modified subsequent to the signing of this MOU, NOVA transfer students will be held to the revised program requirements. Any NOVA transfer student accepted into the VCU Honors College under this agreement shall be bound by those program requirements in effect at the time of acceptance to VCU.
- This MOU shall commence March 15, 2019, with the intent to admit the first students into the VCU Honors College in the Fall 2019 semester or soon thereafter as administratively possible.

- Students who do not complete the NOVA Honors Core Curriculum can still apply to the VCU Honors College through the general admission process.

Benefits to NOVA students admitted to the VCU Honors College


- NOVA Honors Program students are eligible to participate in events and programs organized by the VCU Honors College, such as Berglund Seminars and Diverse Converse Conversations.
- NOVA Honors Program students will have access to Honors College advisors.
- NOVA transfer students who enter the Honors College are eligible to graduate with University Honors, the highest accolade possible for VCU undergraduates. The distinction will appear on the student's transcript and diploma.
- Eligible for the following:
 - Honors-only scholarships
 - Priority registration
 - Honors housing
 - Study abroad scholarships
 - Undergraduate research opportunities

Notice of Change or Termination

- The terms of this agreement shall be reviewed and revised as needed every three years. Either institution may withdraw from this MOU by notifying the other no less than one academic year before the intended date of determination. No further admissions shall be made under this MOU after such notice is given, but students already admitted to VCU will be allowed to transfer into the VCU Honors College.

ATTEST:


Northern Virginia Community College



 Scott Ralls, Ph.D.
 President

1/23/19
 Date

Virginia Commonwealth University




 Michael Rao, Ph.D.
 President

8/22/18
 Date

Reviewers:

Northern Virginia Community College


Sharon Robertson, Ph.D. 3-10-19
Associate Vice President of Date
Academic Affairs


Paul Fitzgerald, Ph.D. 3/12/19
NOVA College Honors Coordinator Date

Reviewers:

Virginia Commonwealth University

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Barry Falk, Ph.D.
Dean, Honors College

6/13/18 _____

Date

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Tomikia P. LeGrande, Ed.D.
Vice Provost for Strategic
Enrollment Management

6/15/18 _____

Date

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Deborah Noble-Tyler, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Provost for Academic
Affairs

07/27/2018 _____

Date

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Gail Hackett, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for
Academic Affairs

8/7/18 _____

Date