

## **TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH GUARANTEED ADMISSION BETWEEN BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE AND THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

In accordance with Virginia's *State Policy on College Transfer*, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and Bridgewater College (BC) 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 BC 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 BC and the VCCS signed prior to November 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:**

Transfer-oriented associate degrees include 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. BC considers all General Studies degrees as transfer-oriented degrees including those not recognized by SCHEV as transfer degrees.

#### **B. Minimum GPA requirement:**

Students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher on a four-point scale and be in good academic standing. Courses transferred into the two-year college are not included in the GPA computation but must meet course requirements below. BC will recognize the cumulative GPA as recorded on the VCCS transcript and not recalculate based on multiple course attempts. Transfer credits are not calculated into BC's GPA.

#### **C. Limitations due to academic or disciplinary record:**

Students with academic probations on their record will be reviewed by the Assistant Director of Admissions and Director of Admissions to determine their admission into BC. Students with academic suspension cannot be admitted into BC until they have fulfilled the suspension guidelines set by their academic institution. Students with disciplinary suspension will be reviewed by the Director of Admissions to determine their admission into BC. Students with suspension periods that have expired, and who otherwise meet eligibility requirements, are likely to be admitted, but not guaranteed. The decision to allow a student to be admitted under academic or disciplinary limitations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

#### **D. Course requirements:**

Students must earn a grade of 'C' or higher in VCCS courses for credit to be transferred into BC.

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

BC does not require that a minimum number of credits be earned at the VCCS college awarding the associate degree. However, students must meet all requirements to earn a transfer degree as determined by their VCCS institution, including a minimum of 60 credits. Students who have attended BC and returned to the 2-year college cannot use the GAA to re-enter.

#### **F. Maximum credits applicable for transfer:**

A maximum of 68 transfer credits will apply towards the bachelor's degree requirements.

#### **G. Testing requirements:**

BC is test optional. Students using the GAA are not required to submit standardized test scores for admittance.

**H. Admission application and enrollment:**

BC offers rolling admission for transfer students.

**I. Transcript submission:**

Students may submit official transcripts electronically, via United States Postal Services, or by hand (if in a sealed envelope from institution).

**J. Registration of Intent to use the agreement:**

BC recommends but does not require students register their intent to use this agreement after completion of 15 college credits through the Transfer Virginia portal. Students using the GAA must enroll at BC within one academic year following their graduation date from a VCCS institution.

**Section 3: Application of Associate Degree to General Education Requirement**

BC recognizes the need to facilitate the transfer of students from the VCCS. Students completing a transfer-oriented degree will satisfy all Connected Learning (CL) general education requirements except for CL 150 (a transfer orientation class that introduces students to the BC Academic community, 1 credit) and CL 400 (a senior portfolio class, 1-3 credits), both of which must be taken at BC.

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

BC will guarantee admission to high school students earning a transferable associate degree through dual enrollment. No distinction will be made by BC regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degrees that are completed through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. However, note that students coming directly from high school will take CL 100 Connected Learning Seminar (3 credits) instead of CL 150 Connected Learning Transfer Workshop (1 credit).

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

Course credits that were awarded by the VCCS institution will be accepted by BC except for prior learning work that is not comparable to courses and programs at BC. Work transferred may be applied to requirements for the major.

**Section 6: Associate Degree Completion Criteria and Catalog Determination**

BC will honor the catalog in effect at the time of the student's first post high school enrollment into an appropriate program at the two-year institution. For students maintaining continuous enrollment, this entitlement will be in effect for a minimum of four years from the time of the student's first enrollment at BC. Students must enroll at the four-year institution within one year of completing their associate degree.

**Section 7: Transfer Guide – Student Document**

The attached General Transfer Guide represents all requirements for admittance under this GAA and the benefits that result. The General 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 BC official responsible for all BC aspects of the GAA and Register of Intent to Transfer is the Director of Admissions or her/his/their designee. The VCCS official responsible for all VCCS aspects of the GAA is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Workforce Programs or her/his/their 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 BC. 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 BC 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.

**University Responsibilities**

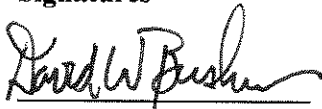
- Use portal and internal data to track students who register their intent to use the GAA. Use this data to maintain ability to honor agreement in respect to enrollment capacities.
- 4-year institutions use portal data to track students who register their intent to use this agreement and engage with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

**Section 9: Review Clause**

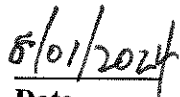
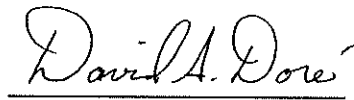
BC and the VCCS will review this agreement and the student tracking data every three years to adjust as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and value and for the improvement of the transfer process. Changes will not be applied retroactively to students already enrolled or registered under the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

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

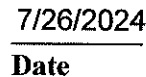
**Signatures**



**David W. Bushman**  
**President**  
**Bridgewater College**

  
**Date**

**David Doré**  
**Chancellor**  
**Virginia Community College System**

  
**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: General Transfer Guide Mapped to Undeclared Major for Bridgewater College:** The General Transfer Guide will be applied once development is complete.