

**TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH GUARANTEED ADMISSION  
BETWEEN THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY AND THE VIRGINIA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

In accordance with Virginia's *State Policy on Transfer*, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and The George Washington University (GW), on behalf of its School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) 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 GW enter into this agreement to provide all students an opportunity for guaranteed admission to the university. 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 applies to the list of programs in Appendix A.

This agreement supersedes all previous agreements between the GW SMHS and VCCS or its individual institutions signed prior to December 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 agreement 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 students who have received an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), or Associate of Arts and Science (AA&S) degree identified by the State Council on Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as a university-parallel transfer degree from a two-year institution. This also includes General Studies associate degrees that have been recognized by SCHEV as transfer degrees.

(<https://www.schev.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/298/637807416962200000>)

**B. Minimum GPA requirement:**

1. Minimum GPA requirement to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences at the GW SMHS:
  - Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or greater (as shown on the two-year institution's transcript) and a science GPA of 2.5 or greater.
2. Minimum GPA requirements to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Health Science and Master of Science in Health Sciences through an established dual degree program at the GW SMHS:
  - Students must have a cumulative GPA from all coursework of 3.0 or greater (as shown on the two-year institution's transcript), and a science GPA of 2.5 or greater.

In addition to the GPA from the 2-year institution, if students attended multiple institutions, all work at each institution will be considered and factored into the GPA calculation. Students must submit transcripts from all institutions they have attended.

If the course is repeated, only the higher grade will count, and if a science prerequisite is repeated, all grades will be factored into the GPA. The science prerequisites are program-specific and can be found on the GW SMHS' GAA website:

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

Individual programs may have other GPA requirements in addition to the above. Please refer to the Transfer Guide or individual GW SMHS' program pages for additional requirements.

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

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

- a. The GW SMHS reserves the right to deny admission or the benefits of this agreement to students who have been suspended, dismissed, or expelled for academic or non-academic reasons from any college, or to those convicted of a felony. Disciplinary records are considered in determining eligibility for admission.
- b. Transfer students must be in good standing at the last school attended.
- c. For clinical programs, students are required to complete and pass a drug screen and criminal background check in the first semester of enrollment.
- d. All applicants convicted of ANY criminal offense will be required to attach a written explanation to the admission application before processing. The affected student may be requested to participate in an interview and may be asked to provide a criminal records check before the continued processing of their application. An admissions committee will review the applicant's application and the written explanation of past criminal convictions and criminal record, and make a final decision on the applicant's admission.

**D. Course requirements:**

All eligible students are required to complete each transferable course with a grade of "C" or higher. If the grade is lower than a C, the course will not be accepted. If the course is repeated, only the higher grade will count, and if a science prerequisite is repeated, all grades will be factored into the GPA. See the Transfer Guide for detailed information, and the science prerequisites and program-specific requirements can be found on GW's GAA website:

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

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

Students must complete a minimum of 45 credits at the degree-granting two-year institution. The GAA may be used for students who have attended GW, returned to the community college, and re-enrolled at GW.

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

A BSHS degree at GW requires the successful completion of 120 credit hours at least 60 credit hours of which must be taken at GW. Therefore, students can transfer in a maximum of 60 credits.

**G. Testing requirements:**

Applicants may be required to submit official test scores for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or Pearson's Test of English (PTE) Academics or the academic International English Language Test System (IELTS) or the Duolingo English Test (DET). The required scores vary by program and are subject to change by university policy so please check GW SMHS' bulletin website for details: <https://bulletin.gwu.edu/medicine-health-sciences/>

**H. Admission application and enrollment:**

To apply using the GAA, please complete the GW SMHS application via the GW application portal. Application deadline, GAA benefits, and admission requirements may vary by program and are subject to change by university policy so please view our website for details:

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

Students are expected to submit their application and all supporting documents, including transcripts, by the application deadlines. For financial aid, GAA students must apply and work with GW's office of financial aid: <https://financialaid.gwu.edu/>

Students are encouraged to enroll at GW as soon as possible after receiving their associate degree and encouraged to apply no more than two years after the completion of the associate degree to be eligible to choose the catalog corresponding to the start of VCCS enrollment.

**I. Transcript submission:**

Students must submit a copy of transcripts from all previous colleges attended to GW before or upon the application deadline. Official transcripts for all previous colleges attended, noting the associate degree conferred, must be submitted before the start of the term, typically 1 week before classes start.

Students with international transcripts have additional requirements outlined below:

**International Student Requirements:**

- International students should check with individual programs regarding eligibility for visa sponsorship (e.g. F1 visa). Generally, online and hybrid GW SMHS programs are not eligible for student visa sponsorship. This would include transfer students from any other institution with an existing visa.
- Official transcripts from institutions outside the U.S. must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grades, U.S. degree equivalency, grade-point averages (GPA), and date of degree conferral. For a list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services, please visit NACES.

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

The GWU SMHS does not require students to complete the Registration of Intent to be eligible for guaranteed admission.

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

Completion of the associate degree program will satisfy all lower-level general education requirements listed on the GW GAA website and the VCCS' transfer guides. The completion of an associate degree may not satisfy all prerequisites required for entry into all BSHS degree programs. For a detailed listing of program-specific prerequisite requirements, visit GW's GAA website:

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

Students must take a minimum of 60 credit hours at GW to earn the BSHS.

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

Students who have completed an associate degree while enrolled in high school will be eligible for transfer under this agreement; however, they must be 18 years of age or older when the associate degree was conferred. All program eligibility requirements outlined in this agreement apply.

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

Non-traditional credits are based on program-specific admission guidelines. GW can accept up to 12 credits of credit-by-exam, specifically the CLEP or DSST exams. GW does not accept credit earned through

"testing out" by another institution for bachelor's degree students and does not accept English Composition exams, or the "College Mathematics" exam. AP/IB/A-Levels credits may be considered and will follow the university guidelines, please visit our website for details:

<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/bringing-credits-gw>

### **Section 6: Completion Criteria and Catalog Determination**

GW will honor the catalog in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an associate degree (e.g. AA, AS, or AAS) at the two-year institution.

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

The attached Transfer Guide represents all requirements for admittance under this GAA and the benefits that result. The Transfer Guide will be applied as the student-facing document for this agreement. Major-specific transfer guides will be developed and featured on 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 GW official responsible for all GW aspects of the GAA is the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, or his/her designee. The VCCS official responsible for all VCCS aspects of the GAA is the Senior Vice Chancellor or his/her designee, in consultation with the Guaranteed Admission Review Committee of the VCCS Academic and Student Affairs Council.

#### **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.
- Work with community colleges to ensure they direct students to the Transfer Virginia Portal.

#### **GW Responsibilities**

- Use portal and internal data to track students.
  - Use this data to maintain the ability to honor agreements with respect to enrollment capacities.
  - Use portal data to track students and engage with students to best prepare students for transfer.
- a. Termination: This agreement will remain in effect until modified or terminated. This Agreement may be modified only by mutual agreement by the VCCS Chancellor and representatives of GW. Termination may be made by either party upon one (1) year prior written notice.

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

- b. Severability. If any provision of the Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable under present or future laws effective during the term of this Agreement, to the extent that the substance of this Agreement remains intact, the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby.

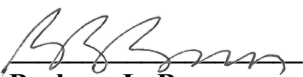
- c. Waiver. Any waiver of any provision hereof shall not be effective unless expressly made in writing and executed by the party to be charged. The failure of any party to insist on the performance of any term or condition of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any rights granted hereunder or of the further performance of any such term, covenant, or condition, and the obligations of the parties with respect thereto shall continue in full force and effect.
- d. Compliance with Applicable Laws. The parties agree to comply with applicable laws, regulations, rulings, and standards and amendments thereto, of all entities that regulate, license, govern, and/or accredit the parties, including, but not limited to, federal, state, and local governmental entities.
- e. Other Affiliations. Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit any party from affiliating or contacting with any other entity for any purpose whatsoever.
- f. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties regarding the subject matter of the Agreement and supersedes any prior agreements, releases, or stipulations, oral or written, and all other communications between the parties relating to such subject matter. This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement executed by the parties.
- g. Indemnity. Each Party shall be responsible for any and all costs, damages, claims, liabilities or judgments which arise as a result of the negligence of its employees.
- h. Insurance. Each Party shall carry general and professional liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$3,000,000 aggregate along with workers' compensation coverage for the duration of this Agreement.


#### **Section 9: Review Clause**

GW and 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.

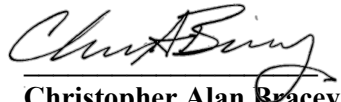
If no changes are necessary, the documented review below will extend this agreement for an additional three years.

#### **Signatures**

  
**Barbara L. Bass**                      12/20/2024  
 Vice President for Health Affairs; Dean  
 School of Medicine and Health Science;  
 Chief Executive Officer, The GW Medical

  
**David Doré**                      11/19/2024  
 Chancellor  
 Virginia Community College System

Faculty Associates  
George Washington University



Jan 6, 2025

**Christopher Alan Bracey**      **Date**  
Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs  
George Washington University

## **Appendix A: List of Programs**

GW offers programs in Health Sciences which are identified below.

This program list is subject to change so please refer to the GW SMHS GAA website for the most accurate list and information.

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/guaranteed-admission-agreements>

1. BSHS in Medical Laboratory Sciences
2. BSHS in Medical Genetics and Molecular Biology
3. BSHS in Clinical Embryology and Assisted Reproductive Technology (clinical practicum will be required for students who select a Microbiology or Molecular Biology concentration)
4. BSHS in Medical Laboratory Sciences and MSHS in Molecular Diagnostic Sciences
5. BSHS in Medical Genetics and Molecular Biology and MSHS in Clinical Microbiology

**Review Documentation**

<b>Review Date</b>	<b>Completed By</b>	<b>Agreement Extension</b>

Note: Recorded by the VCCS, shared with the George Washington University, and updated in the Transfer Virginia Portal