

GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT

VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM AND UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

The University of Mary Washington (UMW) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), recognizing the need to facilitate the transfer of students from the community college to UMW, resolve to adopt a Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA). UMW provides special opportunities to help VCCS students experience a smooth transition to UMW.

UMW is highly supportive of the goal of enrolling VCCS transfer students, and provides several means for gaining admission in addition to the GAA. VCCS students who do not meet all the terms of this GAA may nonetheless be highly competitive applicants, and are encouraged to apply through the regular transfer admissions process. In addition, UMW has specific guaranteed admission agreements in effect with a number of individual community colleges for admission into certain degree programs. The terms for these specific agreements with particular community colleges are different from the terms of the GAA.

In an effort to ease the transfer process, the VCCS and UMW provide the following guaranteed admission agreement.

Definitions

“Transfer associate degrees” refers to VCCS Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts and Sciences degrees. This includes VCCS General Studies associate degrees that have been approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as transfer degrees. It also includes agreements not specifically recognized by SCHEV, but which UMW has agreed to accept such as General Studies degrees from individual VCCS institutions.

“GAA student” refers to a student who graduates from a transfer degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative VCCS grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a four-point scale and who intends to transfer to UMW.

“GAA Contact” refers to staff members designated by each Virginia community college and by UMW who work with prospective GAA students.

Academic Admission Agreement

GAA students are guaranteed admission to UMW and may expect the following:

1. UMW will guarantee the acceptance of all credits earned from the transfer associate degree program, and any additional approved transfer credits, not to exceed 90 credits. No distinction will be made by UMW regarding college courses applicable to the transfer associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Completion of the associate degree through dual enrollment will not preclude the student from eligibility under this agreement. In addition, credit for courses completed through International Baccalaureate,

Advanced Placement, Cambridge, CLEP, and Armed Services experience will be accepted according to stated policies for acceptance of credit, which can be found in the UMW catalog for the year the GAA student enters UMW.

2. Courses will be accepted regardless of delivery method (i.e.: online).
3. Completion of the transfer degree program will guarantee completion of the lower-level UMW general education component of the undergraduate curriculum.

For UMW degree programs with a language requirement, the GAA student must complete the language requirement unless language courses equivalent to any UMW 201 language course were taken as a part of the transfer associate degree or the student completed Level IV in high school.

GAA students must also complete the following additional General Education requirements:

- Digital Intensive requirement (1 across-the-curriculum course)
- Diverse and Global Perspectives (1 across-the-curriculum course)
- After Mary Washington requirement (1 course or experience focused on career and professional development)
- Beyond the Classroom (1 course or applied learning experience outside the classroom)

Students may satisfy these requirements as part of the transfer associate degree. Satisfaction of these requirements will be determined at time of admission and students should consult with their admission's counselor if they have questions. To learn more about these requirements and the General Education course lists, refer to the General Education requirements in the UMW Catalog. Students will still be considered admissible under this agreement if the stipulated requirements (listed above) have not been completed prior to transfer. If the requirements have not been satisfied at a VCCS college, the student will be required to complete them through work following transfer to UMW.

4. UMW cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation. UMW will inform the student at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 120 minimum semester hours needed for graduation. Such courses will be specified in writing.
5. Acceptance in some degree programs at UMW is competitive (business, education); thus guaranteed admission into UMW does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.

Eligibility

To be guaranteed admission to UMW, students must complete the following requirements:

- Graduation from a transfer degree program at a Virginia community college,
- Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a four-point scale with intent to transfer to UMW,
- Submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the UMW Admissions Office, and

- Earned a grade of “C” or higher in each community college course applicable to the transfer associate degree program.

Students who were previously enrolled at UMW and transferred back to a VCCS college to complete the transfer associate degree are not eligible for participation in the GAA. VCCS students who do not meet the GAA eligibility requirements listed above are eligible to apply for general admission to UMW. UMW reserves the right to deny admission to students who have been suspended or dismissed from any institution of higher education, or to those convicted of a felony.

Benefits to Virginia Community College Students

1. UMW waives its application fee.
2. Students may contact the academic department of interest at UMW to get advice and information on meeting requirements for their intended major. Students can obtain information on UMW majors in the UMW Undergraduate Catalog and departmental contacts at the website of the Office of the Provost.
3. While UMW does not have any named scholarships designated especially for GAA students, GAA students are considered for all scholarships and other assistance for which they are eligible including the Virginia Two-Year College Transfer Grant. GAA students interested in receiving scholarships or financial aid at UMW must complete the FAFSA form by the application deadline established by UMW, Office of Financial Aid, for need-based aid. GAA students are not required to complete UMW Institutional Scholarship Information Form their first year in order to be considered for institutional scholarships.

Responsibilities

GAA students will:

1. Follow all UMW application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements. Priority filing deadlines are March 1 for fall transfer admission, and October 15 for spring transfer admission.
2. Have declared the intent to transfer to UMW by completing the “GAA Student Letter of Intent form” available at the Office of Admissions website after a minimum of 15 credits towards the transfer associate degree is completed at the community college and before applying for graduation from the community college.

The community college will:

1. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the transfer associate degree.
2. Make available information about UMW and the GAA to prospective GAA students enrolled in transfer associate degree programs.

UMW will:

1. Consider GAA students who enroll at UMW on the same basis as students who entered UMW as first-year students for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid,

scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to students with junior standing.

2. Provide tracking data on performance of transfer students at UMW, including credits presented and accepted in transfer, UMW courses attempted and completed, cumulative GPA, major, graduation date from UMW, and comparisons with students who did not enter UMW under the terms of this agreement. The specific data elements of the report will be determined by Institutional Research staffs from the VCCS and UMW and provided by July 1 of each year.

Review of the Agreement

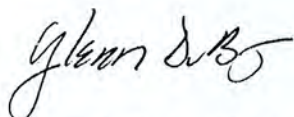
The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. UMW will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at UMW. Representing UMW will be the, or designee. Representing the VCCS will be the VCCS Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Workforce Programs, in consultation with the Guaranteed Admission Review Committee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.

UMW and the VCCS will review the GAA as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and for the improvement of the transfer process.

Any changes, additions, or deletions to this agreement shall be made only after consultation with an agreement among officials at both institutions. Changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing GAA.

This GAA will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice shall be effective only if given 180 days prior to the intended date of termination. Students who entered under the GAA may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

The above provisions are mutually agreed to and shall go into effect when signed by the appropriate institutional representatives. They shall remain in force until superseded by official action by either institution.



Glenn DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College System



Troy D. Paino, President
University of Mary Washington

03/30/2021
Date

4/01/2021
Date