# GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM AND VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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

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

#### **Definitions**

"Transfer-oriented 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 according to the State Committee on Transfer (see website at <a href="http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp">http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp</a>).

"GAA student" refers to a student who graduates from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher on a four-point scale and who intends to transfer to VSU.

"GAA Contact" refers to staff members designated by each Virginia community college and by VSU who work with prospective GAA students.

#### **Academic Admission Agreement**

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

- 1. VSU will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program. No distinction will be made by VSU regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.
- 2. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program will guarantee completion of the VSU general education component of the undergraduate curriculum.
- 3. VSU cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation. VSU 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.
- 4. Acceptance in some degree programs at VSU is competitive; thus guaranteed admission into VSU does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.

## **Eligibility**

To be guaranteed admission to VSU, students must complete the requirements to become GAA students (graduation from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher on a four-point scale with intent to transfer to VSU) and submit

an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the VSU Admissions Office. In addition, GAA students must have earned a grade of "C" or higher in each community college course applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree program.

Students who were previously enrolled at VSU and transferred back to a VCCS college to complete the transfer-oriented 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 admission to VSU but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

# **Benefits to Virginia Community College Students**

VSU will consider waiving the admissions application fee on a student by student basis. It will be the responsibility of the student to apply for a fee waiver. For more information, contact the VSU Transfer Coordinator.

Through the community college GAA Contact, students can obtain the name and contact information for the VSU GAA Contact, who can direct them to VSU departmental advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various VSU majors.

GAA students enrolling in VSU are eligible to apply for scholarships designated by VSU especially for GAA students. VSU offers two financial award opportunities to transfer students who have an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science Degree. The Chancellor Scholarship Award provides \$1,000 toward the cost of tuition, with an additional award for recipients who live on-campus. The University Transfer Award is \$2,000 applicable to the cost of tuition for first year admission only.

#### Responsibilities

#### GAA students will:

- 1. Follow all VSU application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements.
- 2. Have declared an intent to transfer to VSU under the GAA to the community college GAA Contact after a minimum of 15 credits towards the transfer-oriented associate degree is completed and before applying for graduation from the community college.

#### The community college will:

- 1. Assist prospective GAA students in declaring intent to transfer to VSU under the GAA.
- 2. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree.
- 3. Make available information about VSU and the GAA to prospective GAA students enrolled in transfer-oriented associate degree programs.

## VSU will:

- 1. Consider GAA students who enroll at VSU on the same basis as native students for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid, scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to native students with junior standing.
- 2. Provide tracking data annually on the performance of GAA students at VSU, to include comparisons with native students. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be

determined by the institutional research staffs at VCCS and VSU.

# **Review of the Agreement**

The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. VSU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at VSU. Representing VSU will be the Provost. Representing the VCCS will be the VCCS Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research and the VCCS Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Programs and Instructional Technology, in consultation with the Articulation Subcommittee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.

VSU and the VCCS will review the GAA every three years to make adjustments as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and for the improvement of the transfer process. Changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled under the provisions of the existing GAA.

The GAA will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. Such notice should be given one year in advance of the date of termination; students who entered under the GAA may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

Giena DuBois, Chancellor

Virginia Community College System

Date 12/6/06

Eddie N. Moore, Jr., President Virginia State University

Date