# GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE AND THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

This Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) is designed to facilitate the transfer of students from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) to Virginia Wesleyan College (VWC) for the purpose of entering a Bachelor's Degree program. VCCS students who do not meet the terms described herein may still apply and will be considered for admission, although admission is not guaranteed.

# **SECTION 1: Definitions**

"Transfer-oriented associate degrees" refer to VCCS Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts and Sciences degrees. These degrees include 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/GeneralStudiesWebText.pdf">http://www.schev.edu/Students/GeneralStudiesWebText.pdf</a>).

"Accredited institutions" are institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or similar regional accreditation bodies.

"GAA student" refers to a student who graduates from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a VCCS cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 or higher on a four-point scale and who intends to transfer to VWC.

"Junior standing" refers to students who have completed at least 53 credits.

### **SECTION 2: Guaranteed Admission**

- 1. Upon receipt of completed VWC application materials, VWC will guarantee admission to GAA students. No distinction will be made by VWC regarding college courses applicable to the transferoriented associate degree that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.
- 2. GAA students admitted to VWC will have all transferable academic credits, earned with a grade of C or better, accepted at full value. Credits earned at accredited institutions other than Virginia's community colleges to satisfy the transfer-oriented associate degree will be accepted at full value with credits earned from Virginia's community colleges.
- 3. GAA students may transfer up to 64 semester hours from any accredited 2-year institutions toward the minimum of 120 semester hours required for a baccalaureate degree from VWC. In addition, credit for courses completed through International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Armed Services experience will be accepted according to stated policies for acceptance of credit, which can be found in the VWC catalog for the year the GAA student enters VWC. In line with a new curriculum implemented for all students in the Fall of 2011, GAA students matriculating at VWC in the Fall of 2013 or after will need to earn a minimum of 128 semester hours for a baccalaureate degree from VWC. A student transferring in 64 credit hours would achieve that 128 requirement by taking four semesters (2 years) at the typical VWC course load of 16 credit hours per semester.

# **SECTION 3: Benefits to Students**

1. Completion of the VCCS transfer-oriented associate degree program will guarantee completion of the VWC general studies component of the undergraduate curriculum, with these particular notes:

- GAA students will be considered to have completed two of the four required writing intensive courses, receiving credit for English 105 (College Writing) and the sophomore Literary Textual Analysis ("T") course. Students will be required to complete the remaining two upper-level writing intensive courses (courses labeled in the schedule with the marker "W"), which may or may not double as courses also satisfying major or other general studies requirements.
- GAA students will be considered to have completed courses that satisfy at least two of four of VWC Frames of Reference courses labeled with the markers "H," "A," "V," and "S" (for Historical Perspective, Aesthetic Understanding, Ethical Values and Faith Perspectives, and Institutional and Cultural Systems, respectively), using transfer courses that match appropriately flagged VWC courses or, when precise matches do not exist, courses whose descriptions most closely align with the objectives described in the catalog for each frame category. Students entering without a course in each of the other two categories will be required to complete one for each of those remaining two frames.
- GAA students entering without a science course with laboratory will be required to complete one.
- GAA students entering without appropriate foreign language proficiency must successfully complete only two semesters of a foreign language.
- Like all other VWC students, GAA students must complete one Senior Integrative Experience course.
- 2. VWC will consider (IAA students who enroll at VWC on the same basis as students who entered VWC as freshman for admission to competitive programs, registration, financial aid, scholarships, student housing, parking, and any other opportunities open to students with junior standing.
- 3. GAA students can access current information on transferring to VWC, including advice on meeting requirements for various majors, by visiting the VWC Admissions Office at www.vwc.edu/admissions/.
- 4. The application fee usually charged by VWC will be waived, provided all application materials are submitted by July 1 for fall term enrollment, November 15 for spring term enrollment, and May 10 for summer term enrollment.
- 5. GAA students transferring to VWC will be considered automatically for whichever of the following designated scholarships provides the highest award:
  - Transfer Scholarships are renewable for up to eight semesters, depending on number of transferable credits; these require 24 or more transferable credit hours with a 2.5 or higher cumulative GPA.
  - Phi Theta Kappa Scholarships are renewable for up to eight semesters, depending on number of transferable credits; these require 24 or more semester hours with a 3.5 or higher GPA and good standing membership in PTK.
  - Associate's Grants, depending on GPA, are renewable for a total of four semesters (including the first semester); these require an Associate's Degree with a 3.5 or higher GPA.
- 6. GAA students who are domiciliary residents of the state of Virginia will be eligible to submit an application for the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant. It is guaranteed for students beginning the academic term in September if they have applied for the grant prior to the July 31st deadline. This grant is in addition to scholarships designated for transfer students.

### **SECTION 4: Responsibilities**

- 1. VCCS colleges will notify students of transfer opportunities to VWC under this GAA by posting the agreement on the VCCS Transfer Website (http://www.vccs.edu/Students/TransferList.aspx) and the Virginia Education Wizard (www.vawizard.org).
- 2. VWC will provide an online transfer guide (http://www.vwc.edu/admissions/transfer-students/) for use by counselors, faculty and students throughout the VCCS. This guide will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis by VWC.
- 3. VWC will advise VCCS students who intend to apply for transfer to VWC.
- 4. VWC will provide tracking data annually to the VCCS on the performance of GAA students at VWC, to include comparisons with students who did not enter VWC under the terms of this agreement. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be determined by the institutional research staffs at VCCS and VWC.

# **SECTION 5: Review of the Agreement**

- 1. VWC 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.
- 2. 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 under the provisions of the existing GAA.
- 3. This Statement of Agreement 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.
- 4. 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.

Approved

Genn DuBois, Chancellor Virginia Community College System

8/13/12

William T. Greer, Jr., Presiden Virginia Wesleyan College

8-13-12

Date