

**GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT**  
**VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
**AND**  
**FERRUM COLLEGE**

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

In an effort to ease the transfer process, VCCS and Ferrum College 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 <http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp>).

“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 Ferrum College.

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

**Academic Admission Agreement**

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

1. Ferrum College will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented associate degree program. No distinction will be made by Ferrum College 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 Ferrum College general education component (Liberal Arts Core Requirements, 37 hours) of the undergraduate curriculum. Students will be required to complete Degree Specific Requirements, Writing Intensive Requirements, and the Experiential Component at Ferrum College. VCCS students may meet the Speaking Intensive Requirement by taking Public Speaking prior to enrolling at Ferrum College. If the student has not had a 3-credit Bible-based course as part of the Associate degree curriculum, then Ferrum College will require that the student successfully complete REL 111, 112, 113, or PHI 131 upon transfer.

3. Ferrum College cannot guarantee that students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 121 credit minimum required for graduation. Students will complete a Degree Plan with their academic advisor during the first semester of enrollment. Additional course requirements beyond the 121 minimum semester hours needed for graduation will be listed. Such courses will be: specified in writing, signed by the Academic Advisor and the student, and verified by the Ferrum College Registrar's Office.
4. Ferrum College requires that students complete a minimum of 50% of the Major and Minor at Ferrum College. The student must be enrolled for at least one academic year at Ferrum and complete the last semester of academic work at Ferrum College. The student must complete 30 hours at the 300-400 level, maintaining a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0 for hours earned at Ferrum. Students must also maintain a 2.0 grade point average within their academic major.
5. Acceptance in some degree programs at Ferrum College is competitive; thus guaranteed admission into Ferrum College does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program or department offering the program.

### **Eligibility**

To be guaranteed admission to Ferrum College, students must complete the requirements to become GAA students (graduation from a transfer-oriented associate's 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 Ferrum College and submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the Ferrum College 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.

VCCS students who do not meet the GAA eligibility requirements listed above are eligible to apply for admission to Ferrum College but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

### **Benefits to Virginia Community College Students**

1. Ferrum College waives its application fee.
2. Through the community college GAA Contact, students can obtain the name and contact information for the Ferrum College GAA Contact, who can direct them to Ferrum College departmental advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various Ferrum College majors.
3. GAA students enrolling in Ferrum College are eligible to apply for scholarships designated by Ferrum College. In addition to need based aid, entering transfer students may be eligible for Ferrum Merit Grants. To be eligible students must be accepted for admission and have a transfer cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). Awards are renewable assuming students maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress.

## **Responsibilities**

GAA students will:

1. Follow all Ferrum College application processes and all special departmental/program application procedures, deadlines, and grade point average requirements.

The community college will:

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

Ferrum College will:

1. Consider GAA students who enroll at Ferrum College on the same basis as native students for admission to competitive majors, registration, financial aid, 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 Ferrum College 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 Ferrum College.

## **Review of the Agreement**

The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. Ferrum College will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at Ferrum College. Representing Ferrum College will be the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of the College. 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.

Ferrum College 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.

Glen DuBois, Chancellor  
Virginia Community College  
March 15, 2008

Jennifer Bratten, President  
Ferrum College  
April 3, 2008