

GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT (GAA)

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

The following document serves as re-affirmation, with minor revisions, of an original agreement approved by both institutions in December, 2003.

Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) and Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from BRCC to EMU as they pursue their educational goals. EMU provides two special opportunities to help Blue Ridge students experience a smooth transition to EMU.

First, Blue Ridge students may receive individualized assistance in selecting BRCC courses that meet EMU curriculum requirements by calling EMU Admissions at (800) 368-2665. An EMU counselor will help students to know exactly how their community college courses will apply to the program they want to pursue at EMU. It is especially important for students interested in professional programs such as business, education, nursing and social work to contact EMU for course recommendations as early as possible in their BRCC enrollment.

Second, in an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, BRCC and EMU provide the following articulation agreement.

ADMISSION AGREEMENT

A. Guaranteed Admission Agreement Student enrolled in a university parallel program at BRCC who meets EMU's transfer admission requirements and completes all requirements for an Associate of Arts & Sciences degree may enroll in EMU and may expect the following:

- A. EMU will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the associate degree program from BRCC. However, EMU cannot guarantee that the student will be able to complete all degree requirements within the 128-credit minimum required for graduation at EMU. The student will be informed by EMU at the time an official credit evaluation (rating sheet) is prepared if course requirements will require credit hours beyond the 128 minimum needed for graduation.
- B. Acceptance in some programs at EMU is competitive; acceptance into EMU does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the program. Students participating in this admission agreement should follow all special departmental/program application procedures and deadlines, as well as grade point requirements.

- C. Completion of the Associate in Arts & Sciences degree will satisfy all general education requirements at EMU with the exception of two components distinctive to the EMU curriculum: a three-credit Bible/Religion requirement, and a two-credit Senior Seminar. In addition, unless otherwise met, students will need to satisfy EMU's cross-cultural learning requirement.

Eligibility:

Students who have formally applied to graduate in the Associate in Arts and Sciences College Transfer degree program at BRCC are eligible for this agreement.

Benefits of the GAA for BRCC students:

1. In the event that changes occur in the EMU curriculum after the student signs the GAA Letter of Intent but before enrollment at EMU, accommodations will be made so that, as much as possible, Blue Ridge courses will be applied toward the revised EMU curriculum as they would have applied toward the earlier requirements.
2. Waiving of the EMU application fee.
3. Transfer students may qualify for financial aid opportunities at EMU. This includes transfer merit aid based on *the college GPA as well as the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant (VTAG)*. Other financial aid may also be available. Details can be obtained from the EMU financial assistance office.

Responsibilities of BRCC:

1. Disseminate accurate information to BRCC transfer program students regarding the general conditions of this articulation agreement. Those provisions include the conditions for guaranteed acceptance to EMU, and notification that acceptance to the university does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major field of study.
2. Provide academic advising services to assist BRCC students in choosing courses that will best prepare them for their intended major at EMU. The BRCC Student Services Division will train faculty advisors to provide appropriate and accurate advising services related to students' plans to apply to EMU.
3. Annually initiate the review and update of the "Blue Ridge Community College Program Advising Guide for Selected EMU Majors."
4. Notify the appropriate individual at EMU when situations arise that warrant BRCC faculty and EMU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
5. Collaborate with EMU to promote the articulation agreement among prospective and current BRCC students including space for an EMU admissions counselor to meet with prospective students.

Responsibilities of EMU:

1. Provide BRCC with course equivalent information regarding BRCC courses and EMU equivalent courses. An annual review will be conducted to insure that this information is shared with BRCC on a timely basis.
2. Disseminate accurate information to prospective transfer students regarding the general conditions of this articulation agreement. Those provisions include the conditions for guaranteed acceptance to EMU, and notification that acceptance to the university does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major field of study.
3. Provide academic advising services to GAA students during the term prior to transfer to assist these students in making a smooth transition from BRCC to EMU.
4. Notify the appropriate individual at BRCC when situations arise that warrant BRCC faculty and EMU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
5. Collaborate with BRCC to promote the articulation agreement among prospective and current BRCC students.

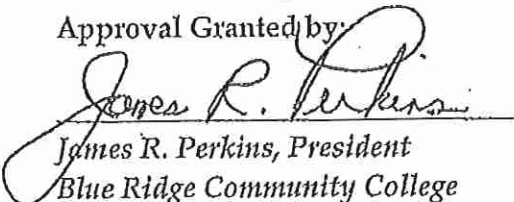
Responsibilities of the Student:

1. Complete and sign a Guaranteed Admission Agreement Letter of Intent form.
 - a. It is primarily the responsibility of students who choose to pursue this articulation agreement to know and understand the requirements for the BRCC A.A. & S. degree, as well as degree requirements and the specific requirements for their intended major at EMU.
 - b. The student will review the Guaranteed Admission Agreement and the developed Program of Study and will sign a *Letter of Intent* to enroll at EMU.
 - c. A student must contact the transfer counselor at BRCC for approval before initiating changes in his or her program of study.
 - d. A student must obtain the Associate Degree with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a four-point scale. A minimum grade of C- must be obtained in each course the student wishes to transfer unless otherwise indicated. Eligible transfer students must provide transcripts from any other institutions attended.
 - e. Commits to uphold the lifestyle expectations at EMU.
2. Meet minimum grade criteria and prerequisites for courses in specific programs at EMU.
3. Notify the community college transfer counselor if participation in the Guaranteed Admission Agreement is to be terminated.
4. Submit the EMU/Guaranteed Admission Agreement Application for Admission and request that all previously attended colleges/universities submit an official transcript to EMU's office of Admissions by March 1 for the following fall semester, and by November 1 for the following spring semester.

BRCC's Curricula Utilized for GAA:

1. When an articulation agreement is made involving a specific program, addenda will define further the specific details affecting students who enroll in that academic program. Eligible programs:
 - a. Adult Degree Completion Program
 - b. Business & Economics
 - c. Education
 - d. Nursing
 - e. Social Work
2. BRCC will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the articulation program at BRCC. EMU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of this articulation agreement at EMU.
3. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of this agreement to their respective clientele (external and internal constituents). EMU and BRCC will review this agreement every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of each institution as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing agreement.
4. The articulation agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice should be given at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination, and students who entered under the agreement may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

Approval Granted by:


James R. Perkins, President
Blue Ridge Community College

6/29/2009
Date


Loren E. Swartzendruber, President
Eastern Mennonite University

7/6/09
Date