

GUARANTEED TRANSFER AGREEMENT

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY AND BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The purpose of this Guaranteed Transfer Agreement (GTA) is to assist students at various levels of higher education to achieve their educational goals at their college of choice in an efficient, timely and affordable manner. This purpose may be achieved through the mutual partnership between Shenandoah University and Blue Ridge Community and Technical College centered on coordinating transfer policies, enhancing advising, and establishing the acceptance of equivalent courses. Shenandoah University agrees that Blue Ridge Community and Technical College graduates who are accepted under the provision of this GTA Policy will be designated as junior-level students.

- 1. Upon application, Shenandoah University will guarantee acceptance of all Blue Ridge Community and Technical College graduates with an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), or articulated Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree who have earned a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5. Eligible transfer students must provide transcripts from any other institutions attended. This guarantee assumes that there are no other factors in a student's academic or personal record that might prevent acceptance.
- 2. Students who have completed all requirements of the GTA by the end of the spring term will be given priority for the upcoming fall semester. Students who complete the requirements for the GTA during the summer and intend to start at Shenandoah University in the fall will be considered on a space-available basis, and/or offered deferred admission for the following spring, summer, or fall term as appropriate for the course of study. Students with grade point averages below 2.5 will also be considered for admission but without guaranteed transfer privileges.
- 3. Students admitted under this GTA will be considered to have met Shenandoah University's General Education requirements as per university policy defined in "Requirements for Degrees" in the current *Undergraduate Catalog*. Since this is a general waiver, its terms are not affected by transfer decisions on individual courses.
- 4. Credits earned through Advanced Placement, CLEP, DANTES, International Baccalaureate, German Abitur, and United Kingdom "A" Level examination and awarded credit at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College will be assessed for transferability by Shenandoah University according to current policy and procedure as defined in the *Undergraduate Catalog*. Applicant test scores must be provided directly from the administering agency. Shenandoah University will consider transfers credit on a course-by-course basis according to current policy and procedure as defined in the *Undergraduate Catalog*. Credits taken at an institution other than Blue Ridge Community

and Technical College will be evaluated upon receipt of official transcripts from the original credit awarding institution. If the credit applied to the associate degree includes credit not recognized by Shenandoah University, the student will still receive junior status.

- 5. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College graduates transferring to Shenandoah University can generally expect to graduate in two years, assuming they take normal course loads, have met specific prerequisites for their majors, and make satisfactory progress. However, Shenandoah University cannot guarantee that the transfer student from Blue Ridge Community and Technical College will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit hour minimum that is required for graduation. The student will be informed at the time his or her major program of study is approved if there are any course requirements that would require credit hours beyond the 120 minimum needed for graduation at Shenandoah University. In all cases, students are required to meet the conditions under "Requirements for Degrees" in their *Undergraduate Catalog* of record.
- 6. Acceptance in some programs at Shenandoah University is competitive; therefore, acceptance into Shenandoah University does not imply admission to these programs without further action by the college or department offering the program. Students participating in this admission agreement should follow all special college and/or departmental application procedures and deadlines and be aware of grade point requirements listed in the specific course catalog for the native students on each individual campus. Transfer students and native students will be treated identically with regard to admission to programs.
- 7. To ensure inclusion in the financial aid process, it is recommended that applicants from Blue Ridge Community and Technical College complete the necessary paperwork by March 1.
- 8. Students transferring from Blue Ridge Community and Technical College will be required to complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of upper division coursework at Shenandoah University to be eligible for graduation. No Blue Ridge Community and Technical College courses may be applied toward the requirement for the 30 upper-level course credits. Transfer credit will not be granted for Blue Ridge Community and Technical College courses numbered below 100. Two courses with essentially same content (as determined by Shenandoah University) cannot be counted toward the same degree requirements.
- 9. The faculty and staff of the two institutions will work to maintain a course-by-course evaluation of all courses listed in the Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Catalog. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College faculty and advising staff will encourage prospective Shenandoah University transfer students to meet the spirit and content of their educational pathway to the greatest extent possible in preparing for transfer. The admissions advisors at Shenandoah University will offer counsel to Blue

Ridge Community and Technical College students who plan to transfer concerning degree requirements and programs of study.

- 10. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College students will be admitted under the auspices of the undergraduate catalog in effect at the time of their application with Shenandoah University and may continue with the degree requirements as specified in this catalog for up to two academic years, as long as the student's chosen major has not been discontinued. In the event that should happen, Shenandoah University will work with the student to devise an alternative plan.
- 11. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College agrees to support this articulation agreement by indicating the relationship in appropriate literature and through its web site.
- 12. This agreement may be amended, as needed, for specific program articulation without affecting the currency of the master agreement. All course-by-course transfer guides may be amended as needed. Both Blue Ridge Community and Technical College and Shenandoah University agree to notify each other of any significant curricular changes to facilitate the timely and accurate academic advising of students.
- 13. This transfer 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. Upon termination, the agreement will remain in effect for two additional years to accommodate students currently pursuing the articulated program at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.

Date

Dr. Peter Checkovich

President

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College

Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Shenandoah University