

*GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT  
FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES  
BETWEEN  
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (SWCC)  
AND  
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY (VCU)*

**PURPOSE**

- Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) is pleased to guarantee admission to Southwest Virginia Community College (SWCC) students with an Associate of Arts and Science (AA& S) in Science into the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree programs in Clinical Laboratory Sciences (CLS), School of Allied Health Professions at VCU according to the terms of this agreement, which is intended to support the State Policy on Transfer. A further purpose of this agreement is to improve the coordination between VCU and SWCC of transfer policies, acceptance of equivalent courses, and to enable enhanced advising at both institutions for students planning to pursue Clinical Laboratory Sciences. This agreement establishes a partnership between SWCC and VCU for the benefit of students. SWCC students who do not meet the terms of this agreement may still apply and will be considered for regular transfer admission, although admission will not be guaranteed.

**ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT**

- SWCC will promote and advertise this articulation agreement on the College website and other publicity material. Representatives of SWCC and VCU will call attention to this articulation agreement when advising students.
- VCU accepts applications from students who wish to transfer directly from SWCC to VCU to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) transfer applications are considered for students who earn the AA&S degree and who apply for fall admission.

**Responsibilities of GAA Applicants**

- 1) Upon the completion of 15 credits at SWCC, complete the online form at <http://www.ugrad.vcu.edu/apply/transfer/letter-of-interest.aspx>. VCU representatives will periodically contact students who complete the letter of interest with important information to ensure a successful transfer to VCU.
- 2) Meet with a SWCC faculty advisor prior to the completion of 30 credits towards their degree program to ensure degree progress and completion.
- 3) Apply for SWCC AA&S degree graduation by the published deadline for graduation as specified by SWCC.

- 4) Complete the application steps for the Clinical Laboratory Science program as outlined on the admissions website (<http://www.ugrad.vcu.edu/apply/>) by the application deadline.
- 5) Upon acceptance to VCU, submit the required enrollment deposit within 30 days of receipt of admission letter.

### **Admission Requirements**

SWCC students who graduate with an AA&S degree and meet all of the following criteria will be guaranteed admission to the VCU B.S. in Clinical Laboratory Sciences program:

- 1) Apply by the Clinical Laboratory Sciences application deadline (<http://www.ugrad.vcu.edu/apply/>).
- 2) Earn an Associate of Arts and Sciences in Science at Southwest Virginia Community College.
- 3) Earn a minimum cumulative SWCC GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and no individual grade lower than a “C” at the time of application to be granted junior standing at VCU.
- 4) Complete a minimum of 60 credits of courses approved for transfer to VCU in the Course Equivalency Database (<http://www.transfer.vcu.edu/VCCS/course-equivalency.aspx>).
- 5) Complete the following prerequisites for admission into the Clinical Laboratory Sciences degree program: 6 credits of English Composition (ENG 111-112), 3 credits of Precalculus (MTH 163) or higher mathematics, 12 credits of chemistry (CHM 111-112, CHM 241, and CHM 243), 12 credits of biology (BIO 141-142 and one of the following courses: BIO 101, 102, 205, or 256), 3 credits of humanities or fine arts (a 3 credit history elective or a 3 credit course from the SWCC list of approved humanities transfer courses), and 3 credits of social sciences (a 3 credit course from the SWCC list of approved social science transfer courses).
- 6) Submit two recommendations from SWCC science or math instructors that highly recommend or recommend the applicant without reservation.
- 7) Receive a satisfactory rating on interview.

### **Acceptance and Application of Transfer Credit**

- 1) Students completing an AA&S degree at SWCC who meet all other requirements of this agreement will be considered to have met all of VCU’s lower division university general education requirements and will be granted junior standing.
- 2) Courses listed in this program will be reviewed as needed, by both institutions to ensure continuity of instruction, curriculum, and evaluation. The attached “Clinical Laboratory Sciences Transfer Program Table” lists the respective transfer credits that will be awarded by VCU for courses offered by SWCC students for transfer under the terms of the Agreement. This table will be updated as curricula evolve. VCU will work with students who have a *Letter of Interest* on file to ensure that curriculum changes made after the Letter is received but prior to matriculation to VCU will not negatively impact the admissions decision. There is a limit of 63 credits that may be transferred to VCU from SWCC and course equivalency

and transfer credits should be limited to those courses required for the student's selected major.

- 3) VCU will maintain an online transfer equivalency database allowing students to view course equivalencies (see: <http://www.transfer.vcu.edu/VCCS/course-equivalency.aspx>). Wherever possible, this information will be maintained with the most recent VCCS information compared to the most recent VCU course offerings.
- 4) The benefits of this agreement, including junior standing and the waiver of all lower-division general education requirements are indicated on the transfer credit evaluation and are contingent upon receipt of the final SWCC transcript. It is the student's responsibility to provide a final degree transcript to the VCU Office of Admissions.
- 5) SWCC students who have not completed the AA&S program and the requirements of this agreement will not be guaranteed admission, but may still apply for admission into the VCU B.S. programs. Course credit cannot be given for transfer courses in which the student earned below a "C" grade. Students who transfer prior to the completion of the requirements for guaranteed admission will have their courses evaluated individually per the VCU Course Equivalency Database. Therefore, students are encouraged to complete the requirements of this agreement prior to matriculating to VCU.
- 6) Students can transfer credits back to SWCC from VCU, pursuant to SWCC policies.

#### **Update/Report/Relationship**

- VCU and SWCC agree to meet regularly to review this agreement and relevant transfer course equivalencies. Each institution will designate an individual to serve as liaison for the purpose of monitoring this agreement.

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#### **Amendments and Term of Effect**

- 1) 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 and transfer credit equivalency databases may be amended as needed.
- 2) This master agreement will go into effect for those SWCC students entering VCU Fall Semester 2015, and remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice will be effective only if given 90 days prior to the intended date of termination. In the event that this agreement is terminated, the terms of the agreement contained herein will remain in effect for the maximum of 2 years.

Presidential Signatures

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Southwest Virginia Community College

4.24.15  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Virginia Commonwealth University

05/26/15  
Date

SWCC REVIEWERS:

Cathy L. Smith-Cox

24 APR 15  
Date


Barbara J. Fuller

4/22/15  
Date


VCU REVIEWERS:

  
Teresa Nadder, Chairperson, Department of  
Clinical Laboratory Sciences


5-4-15  
Date

  
Alexander Tartaglia, Senior Associate Dean,  
School of Allied Health Professions

5/5/15  
Date

  
Luke Schultheis, Vice Provost for  
Strategic Enrollment Management

5/19/15  
Date

  
Gail Hackett, Provost and  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

5/21/15  
Date

### Clinical Laboratory Sciences Transfer Program Table

Requirement	SWCC Course	Credits	VCU Course	Credits
<b>Biology</b>	<b>BIO 141-142</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>BIOL 205 + PHIS/Z 206</b>	<b>8</b>
	BIO 101, 102, 205 or BIO 256	4	BIOL/Z 151, BIOL/Z 152, BIOL/Z 209 or BIOL/Z 310	4
		12		12
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>CHM 111</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>CHEM 101+CHEZ 101</b>	<b>4</b>
	CHM 112	4	CHEM 102+CHEZ 102	4
	CHM 241	3	CHEM 301	3
	CHM 243	1	CHEZ 301	1
		12		12
<b>English</b>	<b>ENG 111</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>UNIV 111+UNIV 112</b>	<b>3</b>
	ENG 112	3	UNIV 200	3
		6		6
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>MTH 163 or higher</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>MATH 141 or VCU equivalent</b>	<b>3</b>
	Math 241	3	STAT 210	3
<b>SDV course</b>	<b>SDV100</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Not transferable</b>	
<b>History electives</b>	2 courses of the following: HIS 101, HIS 102, HIS 111, HIS 112, HIS 121, HIS 122 or other approved HIS course	6	VCU Equivalent	6
<b>Social/Behavioral Science</b>	1 course from the SWCC list of approved social science transfer courses	3	VCU Equivalent	3
<b>Literature or humanities elective</b>	2 courses from the SWCC list of approved humanities transfer courses	6	VCU Equivalent	6
<b>Physical Education/Health elective</b>	1 course from the SWCC list of approved PED courses	1	VCU Equivalent	1
<b>ITE or ITP</b>	Information Technology Course	3	VCU Equivalent	3
<b>Communication</b>	<b>CST 100</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>VCU Equivalent</b>	<b>3</b>

Transfer electives	Courses from approved SWCC transfer course list	3	VCU Equivalent	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>62</b>		<b>61</b>