

## Guaranteed Transfer Partnership Agreement Between University of Mary Washington and Northern Virginia Community College

### Purpose

This agreement lays the foundation for a partnership designed to facilitate the seamless transfer of Northern Virginia Community College (**NOVA**) graduates to the University of Mary Washington (**UMW**). The agreement stipulates the criteria under which NOVA graduates are guaranteed admission to **UMW** and describes curricular benefits that exceed those outlined in the existing Guaranteed Admissions Agreement, dated August 28, 2012, (attached) between **NOVA** and **UMW**. The agreement further articulates terms that ensure all courses transcribed by **NOVA** and described in a **NOVA-UMW** Curriculum Pathway transfer fully to meet degree requirements in a baccalaureate program at **UMW**.

### Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. **NOVA** and **UMW** will agree upon specific Curricular Pathways that include courses that apply fully to meeting lower division general education requirements (but may not meet Intermediate Language, Speaking Intensive, Writing Intensive and Experiential Learning requirements) in all **UMW** baccalaureate programs as well as to any specific **UMW** baccalaureate degree requirements defined in the Curriculum Pathway. Depending upon specific course selection, students may be able to meet the Intermediate Language, Speaking Intensive and Writing Intensive course requirements at **NOVA**.
2. Graduates of AA and AS programs whose agreed-upon Curricular Pathways (based on **NOVA** Informed Pathway templates) are appended to this agreement are considered to have met all **UMW** lower-division general education requirements (but may not meet Intermediate Language, Speaking Intensive, Writing Intensive and Experiential Learning requirements). Such students are admitted to both academic and social junior status at **UMW**.
3. Graduates of other **NOVA** degree programs (e.g., AFA and AAS programs) in an agreed-upon Curriculum Pathway may be required to take additional general education courses or additional courses within their major at **UMW**. Thus, graduates of such programs may need to complete more than 120 credits to complete the bachelor's degree at **UMW**. Notwithstanding, assigned courses taken in these programs transfer fully to meet degree requirements (i.e., not simply as elective credit) at **UMW**. Appended Curriculum Pathways (based on **NOVA** Informed Pathway templates) for such programs are considered part of this agreement.
4. Only coursework in which grades of C or higher have been earned at **NOVA** may be applied toward the requirements of the partner program at **UMW**.
5. **UMW** will accept credit for prior learning such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge and CLEP as listed on the **UMW** website for the year in which a student seeks admission. **UMW** also will evaluate courses/credits earned at other institutions.
6. No distinction will be made by **UMW** regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degrees that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Students who complete a **NOVA** associate degree while still in high school will be considered as first-year students for purposes of application and housing and must complete the **UMW** General Education program's First-Year Seminar requirement.
7. **UMW** will maintain course equivalency information in its online Transfer Guide which shall be reviewed and updated annually following the completion of the curriculum change process. It will alert **NOVA** to proposed changes in course equivalency at least one year before such changes are implemented.



8. No fewer than 30 semester hours must be earned at **UMW** to be eligible for graduation. Fifteen of the last 21 hours of credit required for the degree must be earned at **UMW**. In addition, students must take at least one-half of the major program at **UMW** (as defined by the department), earning a grade-point average of 2.00 in the courses.

### **Admission Practices**

1. **UMW** will accept applications from students who wish to transfer from **NOVA** into any baccalaureate degree program, offered on ground or online. The application fee will be waived.
2. Students transferring from **NOVA** to specific **UMW** programs at the junior level must meet the same prerequisites, grade-point average (GPA) and other admission criteria as other native or transfer students applying for entry to **UMW** programs.
3. **NOVA** students who graduate with an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS) or Associate of Fine Arts (AFA) degree and have a **NOVA** cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 are guaranteed admission to **UMW** (see GAA attached for conditions).
4. For students meeting **NOVA's** residency requirement to be awarded an associate degree, **UMW** will review the **NOVA** transcript with the provided **NOVA** cumulative GPA for admission and scholarship purposes. **UMW** will not consider grades of D or F that have been replaced in the admission process. Course attempts must be considered for aid purposes. Official transcripts from all colleges are required to complete the application for admission.
5. **NOVA** graduates who complete the **NOVA** Honors Core Curriculum with a curriculum GPA of 3.5 or higher will be offered admission to the **UMW** Honors program and will have credits applied toward the **UMW** Honors curriculum. Specific details of the articulation of the two Honors programs are provided in the separate Honors pathway.
6. **UMW** will establish priority filing dates and **NOVA** graduates admitted under this agreement will be considered juniors for purposes of scholarship eligibility, housing and preregistration (which requires completion of admission and preregistration advising prior to the time juniors are eligible to register for classes, as set forth on the calendar established by the Office of the Registrar).
7. To be eligible for admission to **UMW**, students must meet all application requirements outlined in the **UMW** catalog and international students must meet the additional requirements set forth in the **UMW** catalog.
8. **UMW** will award academic merit scholarships to at least two **NOVA** students each fall. Recipients are required to have an associate degree from **NOVA** and a 3.25 cumulative GPA. Each award will be for \$2,000 (academic year) and is renewable for one additional year with a 3.25 GPA at **UMW**. A scholarship application is not required. **NOVA** transfer students will be considered based on their application for admission. Additional scholarships will be awarded as long as funds are available. Students who complete a **NOVA** associate degree while still in high school will be considered as freshmen for scholarship purposes and are not eligible for this particular **NOVA** transfer award.
9. **UMW** agrees to render an admissions decision within two weeks of the student completing an application for admission with the accompanying signed Guaranteed Admission Agreement.

### **Maintenance of the Partnership**

1. The agreement, articulated curriculum pathways and relevant transfer course equivalencies will be reviewed biennially by **UMW** and **NOVA**. Each institution will designate an individual to monitor this agreement and to coordinate meetings designed to maintain inter-institutional articulation. In addition, each institution will identify one person to serve as the main contact for each pathway program. Curriculum Pathways may be amended by mutual agreement between **NOVA** and **UMW** without need to restate this entire Guaranteed Partnership Agreement. Curriculum Pathways amendments become effective not sooner than one year after mutual agreement to revise the Curriculum Pathway is reached.

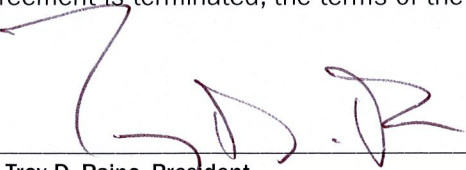
2. An inter-institutional leadership team will be appointed to plan joint initiatives and to review transfer success.
3. **UMW** agrees to provide **NOVA** reports of enrolled **NOVA** transfer students, their majors and academic performance when 10 or more are enrolled in any given year. **NOVA** agrees to use the transfer data to improve student preparation for transfer and to report to **UMW** its intended improvements.
4. **NOVA** agrees to promote **UMW** as a Guaranteed Transfer Partner in the same manner as other four-year partners on the web, on campus and in advising centers.
5. **NOVA** agrees to provide space (e.g., in a campus advising center at Annandale and/or Woodbridge) for a **UMW** representative. In addition, **UMW** will be invited to attend **NOVA** transfer fairs.
6. **NOVA** and **UMW** agree to collaborate on a reverse transfer protocol enabling **NOVA** transfers to **UMW** who do not complete an associate degree to be awarded an associate degree from **NOVA** if they satisfactorily complete the appropriate coursework.
7. **UMW** will supply a representative to a **NOVA** program advisory committee for each program in which a pathway is developed. **NOVA** will host program advisory committee meetings annually. Both institutions agree to encourage faculty to collaborate frequently.
8. **NOVA** will contract with a **NOVA-UMW** senior to host **NOVA** Night at **UMW** to help welcome new **NOVA** transfers to **UMW** and promote the support of a cohort.
9. **NOVA** will sponsor a fall bus trip to **UMW** for **NOVA** students with greater than 30 college credits and potentially qualifying GPAs who indicate an interest in transferring to **UMW**.
10. **NOVA** agrees to permit **UMW** to schedule visits two times per month per campus to connect with prospective students and counselors/advisors.

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


The Curriculum Pathway in effect at the time a student first enrolls at **NOVA** will be honored by **UMW** if the student completes an AA or AS degree and successfully transfers to **UMW** within four years of that first enrollment at **NOVA**.

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.

This master agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice will be effective only if given 180 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 two years.

  
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Dr. Troy D. Paino, President  
University of Mary Washington

6/25/2018  
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Date

  
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Dr. Scott Ralls, President  
Northern Virginia Community College

6/25/18  
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Date