

TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH GUARANTEED ADMISSION BETWEEN GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY AND RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

Following the Virginia State Policy on Transfer, Richard Bland College of William and Mary (RBC) and George Mason University (Mason) recognize the need for and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to the other as they pursue their educational goals. Richard Bland and George Mason shall enter into this agreement to provide all students an opportunity for guaranteed admission to the university. RBC students who do not meet the requirements described herein should apply for admission under the regular admission procedures of the University.

This agreement supersedes all previous agreements between RBC and Mason signed before December 1, 2023. The agreement has an effective term of fall 2024. It does not nullify individual program-to-program agreements articulated from this date.

Section 1: Definition of Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA)

An agreement between the community college and a four-year institution according to which a student is guaranteed admission to the four-year institution by earning a transfer degree and satisfying specified academic benchmarks and criteria. Students transferring under a general admission GAA are not entitled to admission to a specific program. The Guaranteed Admission Agreement is a state-wide agreement.

Section 2: Requirements for Admission

A. Applicable associate degrees: (AA and AS)

Approved associate degrees are those RBC Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) degrees identified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as transfer degrees based on a baccalaureate-oriented sequence of courses.

B. Minimum GPA requirement:

Students must present a minimum of a 2.85 RBC grade point average upon application to Mason. If a student has enrolled at multiple institutions, a 2.85 GPA on college coursework attempted in the five years before the application to Mason is required. Official transcripts from all previous colleges and universities must be sent to the Office of Admissions.

C. Limitations due to academic or disciplinary record:

George Mason University reserves the right to deny admission or the benefits of this agreement to students who have been suspended, dismissed, or expelled for academic or non-academic reasons from any college or university.

D. Course requirements:

Students must earn no grade lower than a "C" in any course at RBC. Courses completed with D or F grades must be repeated and the grade replaced before the application to Mason. Students must complete ENGL 101 and 102 and one of the following math courses: MATH 110, 200, 217, or 251 before applying. Older RBC math courses that equate to a Mason Core quantitative reasoning course may be substituted. These course equivalencies are reflected in the Mason Transfer Credit Matrix. Consult section 5 of this agreement for an explanation of how AP, Cambridge International, CLEP, and IB examinations may fulfill course requirements through credit by exam.

E. Minimum credits to be completed at Richard Bland College:

Students must earn a minimum of 30 RBC credits with grades of A-C and meet all requirements for graduation as determined by RBC.

F. Maximum credits applicable for transfer:

Mason will consider a maximum of 90 transfer credits, with no more than 75 credits from a community college or through credit for prior learning exams.

G. Testing requirements:

Mason does not require standardized test scores for admission under the Guaranteed Admission Agreement. Non-native speakers of English must meet the University English language proficiency requirement. This is satisfied with RBC ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 with grades of C or better in each course.

H. Admission application and enrollment:

GAA applicants may apply for fall or spring semester enrollment. March 1 is the application deadline for fall and October 1 for spring. Admitted transfer students must submit the transfer enrollment deposit by June 15 for fall enrollment or December 1 for spring enrollment. Additional transfer details are available on the George Mason University Office of Admissions website.

I. Transcript submission:

Official transcripts from all previous college or university enrollments must be submitted to the Office of Admissions after submission of the transfer application. Students with international transcripts have additional requirements outlined on the Office of Admissions website.

J. Registration of Intent to use the agreement:

George Mason University does not require students to register their intent to use the agreement. Students must select a regular or GAA admission review when completing the transfer application. Students who are ineligible for GAA admission are automatically reviewed for regular admission consideration.

Section 3: Application of the RBC associate degree to General Education Requirement

Completion of a SCHEV-recognized transfer associate degree satisfies lower-level Mason Core requirements. RBC AA and AS graduates admitted via GAA enter Mason with lower-level Mason Core satisfied.

Section 4: Application of this Agreement to Students Earning an RBC associate degree Concurrent with High School

Students who earn associate degrees concurrently with high school diplomas are not eligible for regular decision or GAA admission. These students may apply for first-year admission. GAA applicants must present 30 RBC credits with grades of A-C after high school graduation. Mason will not distinguish college courses applicable to the associate degree completed through high school dual enrollment.

Section 5: Applications of this Agreement to Students Earning Credit by Exam

Credit awarded at a previous institution for AP, Cambridge International, CLEP, or IB exams will be reevaluated by George Mason University. Transfer credit is granted for scores that meet the established Mason criteria. Minimum scores for credit by exam are available on the Office of Admissions website. GAA applicants using credit by exam to satisfy the English and Math admission requirements should consult the Mason website early in their community college career.

Section 6: Completion Criteria and Catalog Determination

Enrolled GAA students receive the Mason undergraduate catalog year in effect for their first semester at Mason. Upon request of the Office of the University Registrar, GAA students may utilize the Mason catalog degree requirements in effect for the two years before the student's most recent admission to Mason following the award of the applicable RBC associate degree. All degree components, including the major and minor, must be included in the Mason University Catalog for a single catalog year.

Section 7: Administration of Agreement

The George Mason University official responsible for all aspects of the GAA is the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs or his/her designate. The RBC official responsible for all aspects of the GAA is the Chief Academic Officer or his/her designate.

This agreement will remain in effect until modified or terminated. This Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement by the Presidents of George Mason University and Richard Bland College. Termination may be initiated by either party upon one (1) year prior written notice. Students who begin GAA-applicable associate degree programs are eligible for GAA admission for two years after the termination becomes effective.

The effective date of this Agreement is the date last signed by the President of Richard Bland College and the President of George Mason University. The signed Agreement will be available in the Transfer Virginia Portal.

RBC Responsibilities

- Submit a PDF of the official signed Agreement to the Portal Coordinator.
- Use portal data to track which four-year institutions students are targeting for the GAA and provide support to students.

Mason Responsibilities

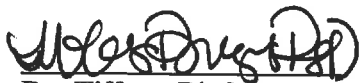
- Use portal and internal data to track students who apply and enroll via the GAA. Use this data to maintain the ability to honor the agreement concerning enrollment capacities.

Section 8: Review Clause

Mason and the RBC will review this agreement and the student tracking data every three years to adjust as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and value and for the improvement of the transfer process. Retroactive changes do not apply to students already enrolled or registered under the provisions of the existing GAA.

If no changes are necessary, the documented review below will extend this agreement for an additional three years.

Signatures



Dr. Tiffany Birdsong
Chief Academic Officer

Richard Bland College of William and Mary

7/22/2024
Date



Dr. Janette K. Muir
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
George Mason University

Nov 20, 2024
Date