Guaranteed Admission Agreement

Northern Virginia Community College
and
Marymount University

Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and Marymount University (MU) recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from NOVA to MU as they pursue their educational goals. In addition to offering guaranteed admission to high-achieving NOVA students, MU seeks strong coordination with NOVA to provide students with clear listings of equivalent courses, program-specific advising information, and opportunities for enhanced advising. NOVA students who do not meet the terms of this agreement may still apply and will be considered for transfer admission, although admission is not guaranteed.

Requirements for Guaranteed Admission

Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) transfer applications are considered for students who earn the Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree. The GAA applies to the AS in General Studies as well as for individual majors; all students are encouraged to consider graduation requirements at Marymount University when choosing their NOVA courses. The GAA additionally applies to the AAS degrees in Interior Design and in Health Information Management.

GAA applicants must meet the following requirements:

- complete the appropriate degree listed above prior to transfer
- earn the most recent 30 academic credits at NOVA
- present a minimum NOVA cumulative 2.75 GPA

Guaranteed Admission is not available to students with felony convictions or inappropriate personal or academic background. The GAA is for admission to the University, and does not imply admission to a particular MU program. MU will maintain a list of programs with additional admission policies that can be accessed through the MU Transfer Web page www.marymount.edu/admissions/transfer.

Benefits and Limitations of Guaranteed Admission

The benefits of the GAA program to NOVA students in addition to the guaranteed admission benefit include:

- Documents with clear information about course equivalences, core requirements, and degree-specific advising will be kept up-to-date on the MU Transfer Student Web page.
- Marymount University is pleased to offer program-specific individual advising to GAA applicants. To receive this benefit, GAA students are encouraged to apply up to 12 months prior to their intended start date. During the period following application, MU will provide the GAA applicant with advising opportunities.
- MU offers a number of scholarship opportunities that are targeted to transfer applicants. Please see the Transfer Student Web page for a complete listing of all scholarship opportunities.

GAA students must adhere to the MU admission and deposit deadlines in order to meet the conditions of this agreement. In addition, GAA students should be aware of the following policies regarding transfer credits and class standing upon transfer:

- NOVA courses designated 100-299 with grades of A, B, or C will be considered for transfer credit.
- MU counts a maximum of 64 credit hours from a two-year institution (including NOVA) towards graduation. If the applicant also has coursework from a four-year institution, then no more than a total of 84 credit hours will be accepted at MU.
In evaluating a student’s AP, IB, or CLEP credits, MU will follow the policy available on the MU Registrar’s Web page (www.marymount.edu/academics/registrar).

No distinction will be made regarding college courses taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.

For the bachelor’s degree, MU has a residency requirement of a minimum of 36 hours completed at MU.

Enrolling GAA students with at least 60 transferring credits will have junior status and may choose the MU catalog for the year entered or the catalog for the junior class.

The MU Transfer Student Web page contains details about course-by-course equivalencies, program-specific advising sheets, and suggestions for meeting MU’s Liberal Arts Core requirements while completing NOVA degree work. Specifically, to satisfy MU Core requirements:

1. NOVA students must complete ENG 112 College Composition II, not ENG 125 Introduction to Literature, to meet the MU Written Communication requirement.
2. NOVA students must meet the 9-hour social science requirement through coursework in two disciplines including a course that has a prerequisite within its discipline. NOVA courses which satisfy the MU social science requirement are listed on the MU Transfer Student Web page.
3. NOVA students must satisfy the 6-hour humanities requirement with one English Literature course and one History course. NOVA courses which satisfy the MU Introductory Literature and History requirements are listed on the MU Transfer Student Web page.

Upon fulfilling the NOVA AA or AS core with the stipulations above, the student will have completed all lower-level MU Liberal Arts Core requirements with the exception of two required lower-level courses in Philosophy and Theology. NOVA students may elect to satisfy additional MU Liberal Arts Core requirements before transferring to MU, and should choose relevant courses by referring to the MU Transfer Student Web page. Additionally, GAA students should be aware that some MU programs have specific requirements for class choices within the Liberal Arts Core and should refer to program-specific advising sheets. In particular, Interior Design and Health Information Management AAS students should refer to the MU program-specific advising sheet for information about meeting MU core requirements while at NOVA.

**Review and Maintenance of the GAA**

NOVA and MU agree to designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the NOVA-MU GAA. NOVA and MU will review relevant course equivalencies and transfer information annually. Additionally, NOVA and MU agree to share student data for the purposes of assessment, recruitment, and reporting. 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 documents may be amended as needed. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing GAA.

This master Guaranteed Admission Agreement supersedes any program-specific admission agreement between NOVA and MU. This agreement will go into effect upon its signing, and will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. In the event that this agreement is terminated, the terms of the agreement will remain in effect for two years.