

## *Ask the Transfer Counselor*

**Q:** *I understand that Germanna has Guaranteed Admission Agreements (GAA's) with many public and private 4-year schools. What do I have to do to qualify?*

**A:** Graduate with an AA&S transfer degree (and in some cases an AAS) and meet GPA requirements specified by the 4-year school. Generally, you will enter with junior status and general education requirements met. However, understand that 4-year schools are all different and may have additional requirements you must meet. You can review these requirements on our website. Go to:

<http://www.germannna.edu/counseling/transfer/transfer.asp>

Click on "Guaranteed Admission Agreements"

**Q:** *What else do I need to know about the GAA's?*

**A:** Acceptance in some majors or departments at a college is competitive (Business Administration and Teacher Education, for example). Further acceptance by the department offering the program is necessary.

**Q:** *What if I don't meet the requirements for the GAA at the college I want to attend?*

**A:** The GAA is just one transfer route! If you are not eligible for the GAA, but you meet most of the school's requirements, then apply as a "regular" transfer student. Admission will not be guaranteed, but chances are you would be a strong candidate for admission.

**Q:** *What if I want to attend a 4-year school that does not have a Guaranteed Admission Agreement with Germanna?*

**A:** Maximize the number of credits that will transfer by completing an AA&S degree at Germanna. Even if your courses do not match up exactly to your 4-year college's requirements, schools will often accept the AA&S degree in its entirety. Access the college website of the college you are planning to attend. The link to Admissions always includes information for prospective transfer students including policies regarding course transferability.

**Q:** *What are Transfer Guides?*

**A:** Transfer Guides are invaluable! They are published by all public 4-year institutions in Virginia and many private schools as well. Each 4-year school determines which courses will be accepted in transfer and the type of credit that will be awarded. Your coursework could meet general education requirements, come in as elective credit, or count as credit toward your major. Many transfer guides will even provide you with a list of courses you should take at GCC for your intended major. Go to:

[http://www.germannna.edu/counseling/transfer/Transfer\\_Guides\\_07.asp](http://www.germannna.edu/counseling/transfer/Transfer_Guides_07.asp)

Click on "Transfer Guides"

*Q: Is it true that if I graduate from GCC, I will receive a state scholarship to pay a portion of my tuition at a 4-year school?*

**A:** The Two Year College Transfer Grant Program will allow students entering GCC in the fall of 2007 to be eligible for the grants if they 1) have financial need and apply for financial aid; 2) receive an Associate's degree; 3) have a 3.0 average; and 4) maintain a 3.0 GPA once they are students at a four-year institution. All eligible students will receive a \$1,000 grant, and those students who pursue a major in engineering, math, nursing, teaching or science will receive an extra \$1,000. For more details, go to: [www.me.vccs.edu/resources/Two%20Year%20College%20Transfer%20Grant%20Program.pdf](http://www.me.vccs.edu/resources/Two%20Year%20College%20Transfer%20Grant%20Program.pdf)

*Q: Can I transfer without an Associate's degree?*

**A:** Many students choose to transfer before completing an Associate's degree. Most 4-year colleges prefer that students complete a minimum of 24 to 30 credits at GCC. Many colleges will require that you submit high school transcripts and/or SAT/ACT scores if you have fewer than 30 transferable credits at the time you apply. You will need to consider whether your performance in these areas will hurt or help you. Furthermore, you run the risk of losing credits in the transfer process because your GCC coursework will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Each college determines its own policies about accepting credits in transfer. Check a 4-year school's website for its Transfer Guide. **Choose GCC courses that will--at the very least--meet the general education requirements of the college to which you plan to transfer.**

*Q: Should I be doing anything else to ensure that I make a smooth transition to a 4-year school?*

**A:** Yes! Take a proactive role! Decide on a major and a 4-year college as soon as possible. Identify colleges which offer your intended program of study. Examine transfer guides and college catalogs. Identify and talk with the transfer counselor (the most knowledgeable source of transfer information is the Admissions Office of a 4-year college). Identify program requirements, especially in math and foreign language. Get a feel for the campus: attend open house events geared toward transfer students. Explore financial aid and housing opportunities. Have a "Plan B" in mind in case you don't make the admissions cut at your first choice.

*Q: What else should I know?*

**A:** Both the Fredericksburg and Locust Grove campuses have designated a counselor as the central source of information on transfer. **You are strongly advised to meet with the Transfer Counselor early in your Germanna program.**