

## The Bridge to ECPI University at VPCC

### Virginia Peninsula Community College

And

### ECPI University

ECPI University (ECPI) and Virginia Peninsula Community College (VPCC) agree to adopt a VPCC Bridge to ECPI University Program. ECPI University agrees to provide special opportunities and benefits for VPCC Bridge to ECPI University Program students in order to facilitate a smooth transition from VPCC to ECPI University.

Students who do not meet the terms described in the agreement may apply to ECPI University under the regular transfer admission process and will be considered although admission via the normal transfer admission path is not guaranteed.

Dual enrollment students who are enrolled in a transfer Associate Degree program while enrolled in high school are eligible for admission to ECPI University under the terms of this guaranteed admission agreement. If such students continue enrollment at VPCC beyond high school graduation, these students will be eligible for admission under this Guaranteed Admission Agreement after the completion of at least 15 credits.

Credit for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, College Level Examination Program, Military Training/Experience, or other forms of credit for prior learning will be determined based on ECPI University equivalent courses and standards. Specific information is available at the following website: [www.ecpi.edu/admissions/transfer-credits](http://www.ecpi.edu/admissions/transfer-credits).

### VPCC Bridge to ECPI University Program

The VPCC Bridge to ECPI University Program is established exclusively for students from Virginia Peninsula Community College to develop and grow pathways to ECPI University by granting early access to advising, support services, and experiences while reducing the time-to-degree for students interested in studying one of the programs listed in the below table.

The VPCC Bridge to ECPI University Program is available to VPCC students who:

1. Intend to transfer to ECPI University immediately after graduating from VPCC with an associate degree in one of the following programs:

Virginia Peninsula Community College		ECPI University Degree Program(s)
Computer and Information Science		
AS	Computer Science (246)	Information and Cybersecurity Operations, Bachelors of Science
AAS	Information Systems Technology (299)	Information Technology, Software Development and Coding, Bachelors of Science

AS	Information Technology (340)	Information and Cybersecurity Operations, Bachelors of Science
<b>Nursing</b>		
AAS	Professional Nursing-Registered Nurse (156)	BS Nursing (RN to BSN)
<b>Business Administration and Organizational Leadership</b>		
AAS	Accounting (203)	BS Business Administration, Accounting
		BS Business Administration, Business Management
AS	Business Administration (213)	BS Business Administration, Business Management
		BS Organizational Leadership, Management
AA	Liberal Arts (648)	BS Organizational Leadership, Management
AAS	Management (212)	BS Business Administration, Business Management
		BS Organizational Leadership, Management
<b>Criminal Justice</b>		
AAS	Administration of Justice (400)	BS Criminal Justice, Criminal Justice

2. Have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale demonstrated on the official VPCC transcript, and admission site.

### **Benefits of the VPCC Bridge to ECPI University for Students**

VPCC Bridge to ECPI University students who are admitted under this agreement will gain access to the following benefits from ECPI University:

1. ECPI University will provide Bridge to ECPI University students with a reduced rate of \$392 per credit hour. Students must have an approved Letter of Intent on file to qualify.
2. The ECPI University Application and Registration Fees will be waived.
3. While still enrolled at VPCC, ECPI University will provide Bridge to ECPI University students with early access ECPI University resources, activities, and facilities including the University library, sporting events identified by the Athletic Department and major scholarly events.
4. Students will receive administrative assistance with registering for their semester of courses at ECPI University.
5. ECPI University will provide Bridge students with information and programming on career exploration, financial literacy, study skills, improved textbook reading, test/exam preparations, and notetaking.

### **Agreement Conditions**

1. To be eligible for this agreement, students must be accepted into the Bridge to ECPI University Program and must be enrolled in program pathways (listed in the table provided above) with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale. Students must submit an official VPCC transcript to the ECPI University Office of Undergraduate Admission.
2. VPCC students will have earned a minimum of 15 credits at VPCC prior to transfer to ECPI University. In addition, students must have earned a grade of “C” or higher in each community college course applicable to their chosen associate degree program.
3. Students must submit their Letter of Intent prior to application to ECPI University.
4. ECPI University will guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the associate degree programs per the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) and this agreement.
5. Completion of the appropriate degree program, or Uniform Certificate of General Studies (UCGS)<sup>1</sup>, will guarantee completion of the ECPI University general education component of the undergraduate curriculum but may not fulfill specific departmental requirements or prerequisites needed for the major. Therefore, Bridge students may need to take additional lower-level courses after transferring to ECPI.
6. VPCC transfer students are strongly encouraged to complete any additional requirements prior to transferring to ECPI University. The requirements can be met by taking the additional courses at VPCC or ECPI.
  - a. Although ECPI University strives to graduate students with no more than 120 earned credits, because of course prerequisites, curricular requirements and/or student changes to major(s), ECPI University cannot guarantee that all students will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within 120-credit minimum requirement.
  - b. ECPI University staff members will inform students at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 120 minimum semester hours needed for graduation. Such courses will be specified in writing at that time.
  - c. After completing the RN program at VPCC, students can continue to take additional Arts & Science courses at VPCC to meet ECPI requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> VPCC students completing the Uniform Certificate of General Studies must confer with the appropriate ECPI University program director to ensure they enroll in the proper General Studies courses at VPCC to meet ECPI requirements.

### **Reverse Transfer Agreement**

An associate degree is an important milestone in a student's education and can also be a significant credential for the student's resume. VPCC Bridge to ECPI University students who transfer to ECPI University from VPCC without completing all requirements for an associate degree may utilize ECPI University courses as part of the Reverse Transfer Agreement.

1. The Reverse Transfer Agreement applies to Bridge to ECPI University students who are enrolled in an Associate Degree Program included in the agreement who transfer to ECPI University prior to completion of the transfer associate degree.
2. For guaranteed admission to ECPI University under the Reverse Transfer Agreement, VPCC students must be enrolled in a transfer-oriented degree program with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale as demonstrated on the VPCC transcript.
3. When students transfer to ECPI University prior to completing all degree requirements at VPCC, ECPI University staff will coordinate with VPCC staff to identify ECPI University courses that will also satisfy those outstanding degree requirements at VPCC so that those courses will transfer back to VPCC for conferral of the associate degree.
4. Prior to enrollment at ECPI University each semester, ECPI University staff will coordinate with VPCC to evaluate potential ECPI University courses which will fulfill requirements for the VPCC associate degree.
5. Bridge to ECPI University students who do not meet the eligibility requirements listed above are eligible to apply for admission to ECPI University but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

### **Responsibilities of ECPI University**

ECPI University will:

1. Guarantee the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the transfer-oriented Associate Degree program at VPCC and inform students in writing at the time of enrollment if there are additional course requirements beyond the 120 minimum semester hours needed for graduation. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program or UCGS will guarantee completion of the ECPI University general education component of the undergraduate curriculum. Bridge to ECPI University students will not need to take FOR110 if they have already completed an AAS or AS degree through VPCC.
2. Disseminate accurate information to VPCC prospective transfer students regarding the conditions of this agreement and the Bridge to ECPI University program.
3. Provide Bridge to ECPI University students with information and programming on career exploration, financial literacy, study skills, improved textbook reading, test/exam preparation, and notetaking provided through joint advising, admission, and other programs.
4. Assist students with the admission process, enrollment at ECPI University and advising. ECPI University will provide students with administrative assistance when registering for courses at VPCC.

5. Provide VPCC with specific program planning degree maps to aid with advising and to assist students in their selection of VPCC courses prior to transfer.
6. Share feedback and success data with VPCC regarding the performance of Bridge to ECPI University.
7. Collaborate with VPCC to promote this agreement among prospective and current VPCC students who qualify.
8. Students will be redirected to the Bridge To program when not admitted to university.

### **Responsibilities of Virginia Peninsula Community College**

VPCC will:

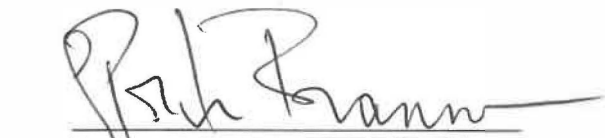
1. Identify students who are eligible candidates for the Bridge to ECPI University program and connect those students with admission staff at ECPI University. Disseminate accurate information to VPCC transfer students regarding the conditions of this agreement and the Bridge to ECPI University program.
2. Allow ECPI University staff to reserve space for Bridge to ECPI University programs offered on-site at VPCC's campuses. ECPI University will be responsible for program content and delivery.
3. Collaborate with ECPI University to identify potential course equivalents so the student may choose courses which will serve as degree progress at both schools.
4. Assist ECPI University in advising students in the Bridge to ECPI University program and providing updated degree evaluations based on the student's enrollment in the transfer-oriented Associate Degree program at VPCC each semester for students in the Reverse Transfer Agreement.
5. Provide advising for students as they prepare for transfer to ECPI University to ensure a smooth transition, ensure students under this agreement complete the Letter of Intent, and contact ECPI University staff as needed for assistance or if any concerns arise.
6. Collaborate with ECPI University to promote this agreement among prospective and current VPCC students who qualify.

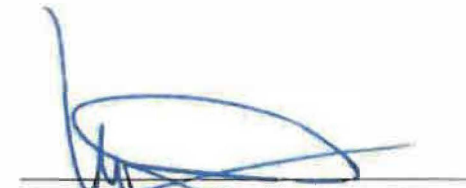
**Review of the Agreement**

The Newport News Campus President will be responsible for this agreement at ECPI University. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will be responsible for this agreement at Virginia Peninsula Community College.

ECPI University and Virginia Peninsula Community College will review this agreement every three years adjusting as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and for the improvement of the process. Changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled under the provisions of the existing agreement.

This agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. Such notice should be given one year in advance of the data of definition; students who entered under the existing agreement may take advantage of these terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

  
Towuanna Porter Brannon, President  
Virginia Peninsula Community College

  
Mark Dreyfus, President and CEO  
ECPI University

10 | 21 | 2024  
Date

10 | 21 | 24  
Date

**Virginia Peninsula Community College Bridge to ECPI University Letter of Intent**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

VPCC Bridge to ECPI University AY  
2024-25

(First, middle, last)

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Earned Credit Hours\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA\*: \_\_\_\_\_

(\*at time of signing the intent form)

Associate Degree Pursuing at VPCC: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated First Term of Enrollment at ECPI University: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Major at ECPI: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this letter of intent, I understand that I must:

- ◆ have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a four-point scale;
- ◆ be enrolled in a Guaranteed Admission Agreement covered by the VPCC to ECPI Bridge Program;
- ◆ submit an official VPCC transcript to the ECPI University Student Records Coordinator;
- ◆ have earned at least 15 credits with a C or higher at VPCC before transferring to ECPI;
- ◆ transfer to ECPI within 3 terms (one semester) designated on this Letter of Intent;
- ◆ submit this Letter of Intent as soon as possible;
- ◆ formally apply for admission to ECPI and follow all admission processes, requirements and established deadlines;
- ◆ participate in events associated with this program (advising, orientation, workshops, and other events).

I have read and understand the requirements, procedures, and deadlines for admission into ECPI University and understand that I must follow the terms of the agreement to receive guaranteed admission to ECPI University. I also understand that signing this agreement will not obligate me to attend ECPI University.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

