



Memorandum of Understanding
between
Goucher College
and
Montgomery College

The Goucher Transfer Guarantee

The **Goucher Transfer Guarantee** (the "Agreement") is made March 23, 2026, by and between Goucher College ("GC"), in Baltimore, Maryland, and Montgomery College ("MC") with campuses in Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, Maryland, to offer a seamless transfer which may include articulated transfer pathways.

I. Purpose of Agreement

Whereas both entities recognize the need for and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from MC to GC as these students pursue their educational goals, and to enhance this transition, this Agreement between GC and MC shall be established in the spirit of cooperation, mutually recognizing each other as quality institutions of higher education.

This Agreement is designed to provide a seamless transition from MC to GC, offering MC students incentives and structured transfer pathways for attaining a four-year baccalaureate degree from GC. The overarching goal is to increase access and opportunity for MC students, especially those completing the associate degree requirements.

Any academic departments that desire to establish a specific transfer pathway shall include a separate addendum under this Agreement, specifying the department, major, or track of MC sending students to GC, the department, major, or track of GC awarding transfer credit, and other relevant information as agreed upon in the "Program Articulation Agreement."

In addition, this Agreement contributes to Maryland Higher Education Commission's completion initiative by increasing associate degree attainment and providing momentum for baccalaureate completion. This agreement sets expectations for administrators, faculty, and staff at both institutions and fosters a working relationship between the parties.

II. Agreement Review and Term

The initial term of the Agreement shall be for a period of five (5) years, commencing on the Effective Date and ending on 02/12/2030, the end of which the Agreement may be renewed in writing by the parties every successive one (1) year period unless terminated by either party as set forth below.

Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing ninety (90) days' written notice to the other party. During the notice period, the parties may discuss continuation of a formal relationship. If the Agreement is terminated, current transfer students from MC will be able to continue their degree programs under the expiring agreement terms.

III. Guaranteed Admission

GC offers guaranteed admission to MC students under two different pathways (AA/AS/AAT Degree Completers & Non-degree completers). The two options are set forth under Section IV. Both pathways offer the following conditions:

- GC shall guarantee admission to students provided they graduate from MC with an associate's degree and a minimum 2.0 GPA.
- There is no application fee to apply for admission, whether students complete and submit the Common Application for Transfer or the Goucher Transfer Application.
- Under the **Goucher Transfer Guarantee**, students will be eligible for all terms and conditions specified in this agreement, providing the opportunity for a seamless transfer to GC into any bachelor's degree program.

IV. Acceptance of Transfer Credits

Under the **Goucher Transfer Guarantee** terms, GC will honor the following conditions for all transfer students to include:

1. AA/AS/AAT Degree Completers

- GC shall honor a Block Transfer for all MC students who have completed the associate degree (A.A., A.S., and A.A.T.) before matriculating at GC. Since most Goucher Commons Requirements (GCRs) will be fulfilled in the Block Transfer, students will be required to fulfill these remaining requirements:
 - One semester of foreign language (can be taken at the community college before matriculating at Goucher College)
 - All coursework in the major and/or minor academic programs of study that the student has chosen
 - Study Abroad experience that includes a choice of either a semester abroad experience or an Intensive Course Abroad (ICA) that ordinarily is a 3-week experience during the winter or summer term.
- Degree earners will be **guaranteed junior classification** based on the number of credits specified in the GC academic policies set forth in the academic catalog

2. In addition to the Block Transfer for students (described above), the following transfer policies apply to those who have not completed an AA/AS/AAT degree:

- Accept up to **sixty-four (64) semester credit hours** per the GC transfer credit policies.

- Fulfillment of distribution requirements at GC in the areas of **Social & Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Humanities & Interdisciplinary Studies, Biological & Physical Sciences, and Mathematics (Data Analytics-Foundation: DA-F)** for courses completed at MC that fulfill these requirements.
- **Exemption from Complex Problem Exploration (CPE) courses** based on the following credits transferred: both (2) waived – for 55 credits or an earned associate degree, 1 waived – for students earning at least 30 credits but less than 55, thus fulfilling this Goucher Commons Requirement based on credits transferred
- MC students can take courses that have been pre-approved by GC that will fulfill the **Race, Power, and Perspective (RPP) and the Environmental Sustainability (ES) requirement** in the Goucher Commons, therefore providing a pathway to complete the requirements prior to attending GC.
- **MC Foreign Language courses** will be accepted toward fulfillment of the Foreign Language and Culture Requirement (FLCR) at GC, therefore creating a pathway to complete this GCR prior to matriculation.

3. Advanced Standing Credit Evaluation

The receiving institution will evaluate Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and other standardized examination credits in accordance with its own academic catalog, institutional policies, and credit evaluation standards. Acceptance and application of such credits toward degree requirements will be determined solely by the receiving institution.

V. Academic Planning, Advising & Student Support

To facilitate a seamless transition, MC students should work closely with their academic advisor to develop a comprehensive academic plan as early in their academic career as possible and prior to transfer. This includes a recommendation to (1) take pre-approved courses that will fulfill Goucher Commons Requirements (GCRs) and (2) begin study in a foreign language. Students should consult with the GC Assistant Director for Transfer in the Office of Admissions if there are questions about the transferability of courses.

- Students will have access to numerous advising and support resources from the point of inquiry and A Preliminary Credit Evaluation and degree audit detailing prior coursework transferability and applicability to all degree requirements will be included in the offer of admission to confirm the transfer of general education credits, predetermined course equivalencies, as well as the total number of credits accepted in transfer.
- An Official Transfer Credit Evaluation and degree audit detailing prior coursework transferability and applicability to all degree requirements will be provided prior to course registration from the Office of the Registrar.
- During the initial advising appointment with the transfer success advisor, the Official Transcript Credit Evaluation and degree audit will be reviewed to ensure the intentional mapping of courses needed to complete the bachelor's degree.

- For transfer students with an associate degree or more than 56 credits, the initial advising appointment will be conducted by the pre-transfer advisor (in consultation with a major department chair, as needed), followed by a hand-off early in the semester to an assigned faculty advisor.
- Pre-transfer advising throughout the admission process.
- Transfer Goucher Guides (peer mentors) are assigned to each student to provide peer support during the transition to Goucher.
- A specific orientation for transfer students is offered each term to ensure a seamless transition to campus.
- A Student Success Team model that promotes success for every student, including a team of professional and faculty advisors that helps to develop their individualized success plan while at Goucher.
- Faculty Advisor(s) will be assigned in all academic programs of study (major and minor).
- After matriculation, an assigned faculty or success advisor will confirm the academic plan, showing the clear path to completion of the bachelor's degree, and reflecting any-unfulfilled Goucher Common's Requirements, graduation, and major requirements, as outlined in the GC Undergraduate Catalog.

VI. Financial Aid and Transfer Scholarships:

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required to be eligible for need-based aid. Students must indicate GC's school code (002073) when submitting the FAFSA. All students are encouraged to submit their completed FAFSA early so that a financial aid package can be provided as soon as possible after a student is admitted to GC.

Goucher College offers robust academic merit scholarships in addition to awards for participation in a Community College Honors program, Phi Theta Kappa membership, and completion of an associate's degree prior to matriculation at Goucher College.

VII. Reverse Transfer

- GC will encourage students to complete their associate's degree at MC.
- To enhance the partnership, GC will support reverse transfer to former MC students who have transferred to GC without completing an associate's degree.
- At the student's and/or community college's request, the GC Registrar's Office will send an official transcript to support the process.

VIII. Catalog Rights

- If GC modifies the degree requirements or prerequisites, the student will be permitted to complete the baccalaureate degree under the requirements of the course catalog that was in place during the first term of the student's admission or first term of re-admission for that cohort of students who stop-out and must later be re-admitted.

IX. Discounted Graduate Program Tuition for MC Employees

- MC-affiliates (employees and board members) are eligible to take advantage of a 20% discounted rate on tuition only for GC graduate programs. This opportunity is available for MC affiliates not currently enrolled in a GC graduate program (i.e., effective Fall 2025).

X. Annual Reporting and Assessment

- GC and MC agree to exchange annual reports (Attachment A) and documents in a mutually agreeable manner that will contribute to the maintenance and enhancement of the transfer pathways and promote effective cooperation between the two institutions. The institutions will exchange student enrollment and success data after obtaining appropriate permission from the students involved and in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.
- An annual evaluation process will be administered by GC and MC. An advisory group, consisting of college representatives, will evaluate the performance of this partnership.

XI. Program Administrators

The parties designate the following individuals to serve as administrators under this Agreement:

MC Program Administrator

Angela Rhoe, Director of the Center for Transfer Success
Montgomery College
Office of Academic Affairs
9221 Corporate Blvd.
Rockville, MD 20850

GC Program Administrators

Pari Kratz, Assistant Director of Transfer Admissions and Partnerships
Emily Perl, Associate Vice President for Student Success
Goucher College
1021 Dulaney Valley Road
Baltimore, MD 21204

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereby evidence their agreement to the above terms and conditions by having caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered on the day and year indicated below:


Jermaine F. Williams, Ed.D.
President
Montgomery College
DATE 5.26.26


Kent Devereaux
President
Goucher College
DATE 6/10/26