

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

**WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGE EDUCATION**

**Joint Resolution Regarding
Student Credit Transfer and Articulation**

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education believe that all students should have the opportunity to further their education and seamlessly transfer earned higher education credits to any public West Virginia higher education institution, and

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education recognize that increasing efficiencies around the transfer of credits will have a substantial effect on whether a student graduates, and

WHEREAS, West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has prioritized improving the credit transfer process to decrease financial burdens for students and advance degree completion, and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education that public institutions of higher education must make every effort possible to accept credit hours earned at any other public higher education institution in the State while also sustaining academic program integrity, and

WHEREAS, credits and grades completed at any West Virginia public higher education institution shall be transferable to any other public degree-granting institution in the state, assuring that students do not have to repeat courses or take additional coursework as is consistent with sound academic policy, and

WHEREAS, course credit earned through tests, exams, assessments or other methods of awarding college credit for mastery of course content shall be transferable and credited at any public institution of higher education, and

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education maintain a statewide transfer agreement that provides that undergraduate core coursework completed at any public higher education institution is transferable as general studies credit to any other public institution of higher education in West Virginia, and

WHEREAS, students completing two-year associate degrees at public institutions in West Virginia shall generally, upon transfer to a West Virginia public baccalaureate-level degree-granting institution, have junior level status and be able to graduate with the same number of total credit hours as a nontransfer student at the same institution and in the same program when the academic programs are aligned, and

WHEREAS, the four-year degree completion program designed to serve graduates of the Board of Governors Associate in Applied Science degree program is the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree program; the degree completion programs designed to serve graduates of other Associate in Applied Science degree programs are the Bachelor of Applied Science degree program and the Bachelor of Applied Technology degree program;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education will work collaboratively to provide pathways for students to complete college certificates, associate degrees, and baccalaureate degrees.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education will collaborate to develop and implement a statewide agreement for alignment of approved, specifically designed associate of arts and associate of science degree programs that shall be accepted and fully credited to a related baccalaureate degree program by any West Virginia public institution of higher education.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that specific detailed articulation agreements shall be developed and maintained between appropriate public institutions in West Virginia. Information on articulation agreements will be published in official campus materials and widely disseminated to students.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education will develop and implement a reverse transfer policy that facilitates degree completion.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education will create a joint commission to hear and resolve issues related to transfer disagreements between transferring students and the receiving public higher education institution.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education commit to making college completion and accessibility to higher education a priority for the upcoming years.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution be inscribed upon the minutes of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

Adopted this 25th day of April 2014, by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

Paul L. Hill, Chancellor
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Bruce L. Berry, Chair
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Adopted this 24th day of April 2014, by the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

James L. Skidmore, Chancellor
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education

Clarence B. Pennington, Chair
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education