



**WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY**

August 23, 2010

Chris Cantwell, Associate Dean  
Academic and Student Support Services  
Illinois Eastern Community Colleges  
233 E. Chestnut Street  
Olney, IL 62450

Dear Chris:

Enclosed is a fully executed Building on Partnerships Agreement between Illinois Eastern Community Colleges and Western Illinois University's Bachelor of Arts in General Studies (BGS) degree program.

Please add us to your mailing list to receive information regarding any upcoming educational fairs in order that a representative of the BGS degree program may participate. BGS degree program staff looks forward to assisting you, your staff, and Illinois Eastern Community Colleges graduates.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard W. Carter  
Director, Bachelor of Arts in  
General Studies Degree

Enclosure

RECEIVED

AUG 25 2010

Associate Dean, Academic &  
Student Support Services

**Academic Transfer Partnership between  
Illinois Eastern Community Colleges  
and  
Western Illinois University's  
Bachelor of Arts in General Studies  
Degree Program**

*Building on Partnerships*

A SHARED COMMITMENT

*July 2010*

RECEIVED

AUG 25 2010

Associate Dean, Academic &  
Student Support Services

## ADMISSION AGREEMENT

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (Frontier Community College, Lincoln Trail College, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College) and Western Illinois University agree to facilitate the transfer of students who have enrolled in the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges' Associate in Arts, Associate in Science and Arts, and Associate in Science degree programs and wish to enroll in the Western Illinois University's Bachelor of Arts in General Studies (BGS) degree program. Students of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Associate's degree programs may take one or more courses, and at the same time work toward completing WIU's Board of Trustees Bachelor of Arts Degree without campus attendance at Western Illinois University.

A key benefit of this partnership agreement is that place-bound students within the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges area can now earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Illinois University without being required to relocate. Therefore through association, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges can market a bachelor completion program to students and Western Illinois University can provide additional educational opportunities to students who were unable to attend one of the WIU campuses.

Students who have completed the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science and Arts, or Associate in Science Degree through Illinois Eastern Community Colleges and wish to transfer to Western Illinois University into the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies (BGS) degree program may be admitted to the degree program as long as the minimum required admission standards have been achieved. These requirements include Western Illinois University or IAI General Education requirements, Western Illinois University's math competency requirement, and Western Illinois University's First Year Experience (FYE) requirement. A maximum of 80 semester credit hours may be transferred from Illinois Eastern Community Colleges and applied toward the 120 semester hours required for a BGS degree.

A student who completes an Associate in Applied Science degree, an Associate of General Studies (AGS), or a student who transfers to the BGS degree program before earning an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science and Arts or an Associate in Science degree, will have his/her transcript evaluated on a course by course basis. The most current course by course articulation information is available to transfer students through the WIU Admissions Office.

1. Students who wish to participate in this partnership program shall complete the Western Illinois University Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program application (online or paper), pay the one-time, non-refundable application fee, and supply the degree program office at Western Illinois University with official transcripts from all previously attended institutions. This application may be completed through the Western Illinois University web site (<https://www.student.services.wiu.edu/admissions/BOT/application/>). If necessary, Western Illinois University will mail the student the Western Illinois University BGS degree program application.

2. Applicants must meet all admission criteria at the time they officially matriculate to Western Illinois University. Admission to Illinois Eastern Community Colleges does not constitute admission to Western Illinois University's Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program. Applicants are subject to all policies and procedures of each institution.

Western Illinois University Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree admission requirements:

- A. Be at least 5 years beyond high school graduation, or have completed an Associate's Degree, or have earned at least 60 hours of college credit.
  - 1. If a student has served one year active duty and not attended another regionally accredited institution in the last two years, this requirement will be waived. (Copy of current orders or DD-214 required for documentation.)
- B. A minimum 2.0 GPA from the last institution attended on a 4.0 scale.
- C. A minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA from all schools attended on a 4.0 scale.
- D. If you do not meet the admissions requirements identified in B and C above, you may be considered for admission if:
  - 1. You have been separated from higher education institutions for five or more years.
  - 2. You submit a letter of explanation to the office of Non-Traditional Programs explaining past academic performance and why you should be admitted in to the Board of Trustees Degree Program.

Any former WIU student admitted to the degree program under option D above will continue under the last transcribed academic standing status (e.g. academic probation, academic warning).

Students who do not meet the criteria identified in A - D above may appeal to the BGS Advisory Committee for admission.

Note: Students who have been academically suspended or dismissed from Western Illinois University must be readmitted to the University before seeking admission to the BGS degree program.

3. Applicants must request an original transcript from all other institutions previously attended be forwarded directly to the degree program office at Western Illinois University before they will receive transcript evaluations from Western Illinois University.
4. If a student takes courses “on-site” at a Western Illinois University campus, State of Illinois law requires students to furnish proof of proper immunization against certain communicable diseases. Full information concerning this requirement may be obtained from Beu Health Center on the Macomb campus of Western Illinois University by calling (309) 298-1888. A health form will be sent from Western Illinois University and must be on file before the student may begin classes “on-site” at Western Illinois University.
5. Western Illinois University BGS students may appeal the implementation of any University regulation that relates to admission, academic standards, or graduation by submitting a formal written appeal to the BGS Advisory Committee.
6. Upon receipt of a completed Western Illinois University Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program application (online or paper), application fee, and all necessary official transcripts that verify transfer eligibility, and minimum admission criteria met, an acceptance will be granted into the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program. The student will receive written notification of this acceptance.
7. Western Illinois University will provide regular updates of course evaluations that will assist the student in tracking his or her progress toward meeting baccalaureate degree requirements. To earn the Western Illinois University Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree, the following graduation requirements must be met:
  - A. Complete 120 semester hours
    1. Western Illinois University or IAI General Education requirements, which can be met by completing the required curriculum as outlined in the University *Undergraduate Catalog*; or through the completion of an Associate of Arts, completion of an Associate of Science, or completion of an Associate of Arts and Science at any regionally accredited educational institution.
    2. 40 semester hours from a four-year institution.
    3. 40 semester hours of upper-division credit.
    4. 30 semester hours from Western Illinois University.

5. 16 semester hours of upper-division courses from Western Illinois University.
  6. Maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA from all coursework at Western Illinois University.
- B. Complete one Writing Instruction in the Discipline (WID) course OR a BGS Writing course by completing one of the following options:
1. Receive a passing grade in one of the Western Illinois University courses specifically designated as a WID course in the University *Undergraduate Catalog*.
  2. Receiving a passing grade in an approved BGS Writing courses are BC 323, 325, 328, CS 320, ENG 380, 381; HIST 422; LEJA 484, 485; PHIL 330; SOC 300, 360; UNIV 490, and WS 360
- C. Complete one math competency course. Students must fulfill the competency requirement which illustrates their ability to use general baccalaureate-level skills in mathematics by one of the following means:
1. Receive University credit for Math 100, Core Competency in Math (3 s.h.).
  2. Receive a satisfactory score on an assessment instrument designated by the Department of Mathematics.
  3. Receive University credit for a mathematics course which lists Math 100 as a prerequisite.
- D. Complete the University First Year Experience (FYE) requirement. The FYE is a comprehensive approach to ensure first year students make a successful transition to college. This requirement will apply only to students with less than 24 hours of completed coursework who are enrolled full time in 12 or more hours.
8. Students transferring to Western Illinois University will start with a new grade point average provided they have never attended WIU. Students on federal financial aid must complete their degree program within 150% of the current program length. Credit hours, as determined by the Financial Aid office, would be counted toward the number of semesters a student could receive financial assistance if they wish to maintain financial aid.

9. Students in this partnership program will follow the *Western Illinois University Undergraduate Catalog* in effect the date they begin their participation in this partnership program, unless otherwise requested.

### **Tuition**

1. Students who reside within the State of Illinois qualify for in-state rates at Western Illinois University. Students who take courses online, Independent Study, at any extension site, or at the campus in the Quad Cities regardless of residence will qualify for in-state rates at Western Illinois University.
2. Western Illinois University has implemented a cost guarantee for tuition and fees for all undergraduate students. Upon enrolling at Western Illinois University all new undergraduate students entering the University are automatically included in the plan which will lock in the per-hour rate of their entire four-year college education, freezing the annual rate for tuition, fees, and Macomb campus room and board. Students will pay the same rate for four straight years, as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment. Western Illinois University was the first public university in Illinois to offer this guarantee and is still the only public university in the state to include fees and room and board as part of the guarantee. This offer extends to students enrolled at the Quad Cities campus as well, minus the room and board and health insurance costs.

In addition, WIU has implemented a cost guarantee for tuition and fees for all transfer undergraduate students who will earn or have earned an Associate's degree and matriculate the semester following the completion of an Associate's degree, which reduces and freezes the per-hour tuition and fee rate at last year's rates. The tuition and fee rate will be fixed for a four-year period and remain in effect as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment in the University as an undergraduate. Detailed information regarding tuition is located at [www.wiu.edu/tuition/](http://www.wiu.edu/tuition/).

### **Fees**

1. When applying for admission to the Western Illinois University Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program, students are assessed a one-time, non-refundable application fee of \$25 for online applications and \$30 for paper applications.
2. All Western Illinois University students are assessed a one-time fee of \$15.00 for official transcripts from Western Illinois University. This fee will be charged to the student upon being accepted into the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree program at Western Illinois University. The fee entitles the student to unlimited transcripts.
3. Students will be assessed a \$30 per semester hour instructional enhancement charge for all courses designated Internet (I, IC, and BOT-IC) and Extension site (E). This

distance learning instructional enhancement charge is applicable only to new students, students who re-enroll at the University under new Cost Guarantee programs (i.e. future new student cohorts and students who do not maintain continuous enrollment), and non-degree graduate students.

4. WIU students must pay student fees.

#### **Financial Aid**

1. All students seeking financial aid must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
2. Students receiving financial aid should indicate Western Illinois University's financial aid number on their financial aid renewal form prior to transferring.
3. Students awarded financial aid at WIU must meet Western Illinois University standards for satisfactory progress. Copies of the standards are available from the Financial Aid office (<http://fa.wiu.edu/>) at WIU.

#### **Scholarships**

1. Western Illinois University has several scholarships reserved for transfer students. For specific information, contact the Scholarship Office online (<http://www.wiu.edu/Scholarships/>) or at 309/298-2001.

#### **Student Services**

1. Western Illinois University will provide enrolled students financial aid counseling, academic advising services, personal and career counseling, an upper-division academic assistance program, access to library services and career placement services for Western Illinois University graduates. Each BGS student is assigned a specific designated Western Illinois University academic adviser who will be the primary contact person for this student. The adviser can be reached at 309/298-1929 or through e-mail at [BGS@wiu.edu](mailto:BGS@wiu.edu).
2. Each semester, Western Illinois University will provide a copy of the student's evaluation of coursework to track his or her requirements toward degree completion.

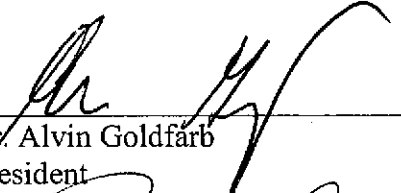
This Agreement shall commence upon the Effective Date and shall automatically renew each year, consecutive terms, until terminated by either party by providing at least one hundred twenty (120) days written notice to the other party prior to the commencement of any subsequent renewal term. The individual program directors will review and update the Agreement annually

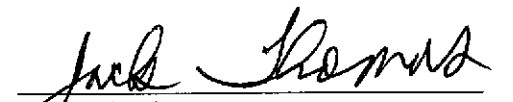


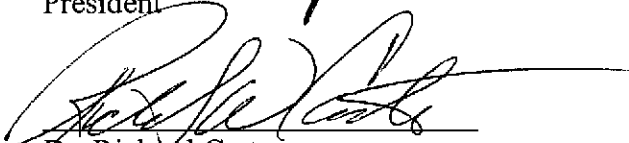
as needed. In the event that the Agreement is terminated, Western Illinois University will allow all accepted students to complete the program.

### SIGNATURE PAGE

#### WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

  
Dr. Alvin Goldfarb  
President

  
Dr. Jack Thomas  
Provost and Academic Vice President

  
Dr. Richard Carter  
Director, Bachelor of Arts in General Studies

#### ILLINOIS EASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGES

  
Terry Bruce  
Chief Executive Officer 7/20/10

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Point of Contact for Marketing and Promotion initiatives:

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