UNIFORM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA BACCALAUREATE ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

AND

NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM ASSOCIATE IN ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on 02/20/2015

Approved by The UNC Board of Governors on 02/27/2015
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I. Background

Engineering Pathways is a joint project of the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina engineering programs focused on developing the pathways for students to begin engineering studies at a community college and then transfer as seamlessly as possible to one of the UNC engineering programs. The Engineering Pathways group, including 31 North Carolina Community College System participants as well as representatives from all University of North Carolina engineering programs worked together to develop an articulation agreement that supports an Associate In Engineering designed specifically to meet prerequisite requirements of the University of North Carolina engineering programs.

II. Purpose and Rationale

This document presents a uniform, statewide academic progression agreement that will promote educational advancement opportunities for Associate in Engineering degree completers moving between North Carolina community colleges and the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina in order to complete Bachelor of Science in Engineering degrees. It describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education and prerequisite courses that are acceptable to all state funded Bachelor of Engineering programs. Students who follow the progression degree plan will meet the entrance requirements at all of the North Carolina public Bachelor of Science Engineering programs. Associate In Engineering graduates may then apply to any of these programs without taking additional and sometimes duplicative courses.

This agreement supports the mission of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges and Goals 1 and 2 of the University of North Carolina’s strategic document Our Time Our Future, University of North Carolina Strategic Direction. It moves these objectives forward by creating a more seamless and rational transfer process for community college Associate In Engineering students. This coordinated approach should increase the number of engineering graduates, thereby serving state workforce needs.

III. Policies

The Associate in Engineering to Bachelor of Science in Engineering Articulation Agreement (AE to BSE AA) is made between the State Board of the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina Board of Governors. It applies to all North Carolina community colleges that operate Associate in Engineering programs and to those constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina that operate Bachelor of Science Engineering Programs. For the list of participating programs, see Appendix A. The AE to BSE AA applies to all community college students who enter the Associate in Engineering degree programs after the effective date of this agreement and who successfully complete the AE degree. The AE to BSE Transfer Committee (AEBSETC) oversees refinements of and changes in the regulations.
A. AE to BSE Transfer Committee (AEBSETC)

Authority to interpret and make changes in the AE to BSE AA rests with the AEBSETC. The AEBSETC is a twelve member co-chaired committee appointed by the Presidents of the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina. Questions concerning the AE to BSE AA should be directed to the appropriate system’s chief academic office (CAO) with an explanation of the institutional policy that may (appear to) be in conflict with AE to BSE AA policy. The CAO will forward unresolved questions to the AEBSETC for resolution. Each system will appoint one ex-officio non-voting member of the AEBSETC. For further details, see Appendices B and C.

B. Transfer Credit Appeal

If an AE to BSE student perceives that the terms of the AEBSETC have not been honored, he or she may follow the AE to BSE Transfer Credit Appeal Process as outlined in Appendix D. Each university and community college engineering program covered by this agreement will provide a link to that Appeal Process on its web site.

IV. Regulations

A. Transfer of Credits

The AE to BSE AA establishes the procedures governing the transfer of credits for students who graduate from North Carolina Community College AE programs and apply to BSE programs at constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The AE to BSE AA does not address admission to a specific institution or BSE program within an institution.

1. Eligibility

To be eligible for the transfer of credits under the AE to BSE AA, an applicant must enter a community college AE program on or after the effective date of this agreement and must earn an AE degree in a North Carolina Community College with a GPA of at least 2.5 and a grade of C or better in all AE courses.

In order to use the AE to BSE AA effectively, students should follow the prescribed AE course list. (Appendix E)

2. Procedures governing transfer of Associate in Engineering into Bachelor of Science Engineering degrees.

a. The AE to BSE enables students who have graduated from North Carolina community college AE programs to complete a common list of courses that meet the entrance requirements at all of the BSE programs at the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. However, because
engineering program admissions are competitive, no student is guaranteed admission to an engineering program.
b. A student who completes an AE with a GPA of at least 2.5 and a grade of C or better in the AE courses listed in Appendix E will have fulfilled the engineering program entry requirements, and all courses in the Universal General Education Transfer Component will transfer with course equivalency to fulfill General Education requirements for the BSE.
c. These students will receive at least 60 semester hours of academic credit upon admission to a UNC institution.

3. Certification of the Associate in Engineering degree completion
Certification of completion of the Associate in Engineering degree is the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed. Transcript identification of the Universal General Education Transfer Component Courses is also the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed.

4. Transfer of Courses not originated at North Carolina community colleges
Transfer courses that do not originate in a North Carolina Community College or UNC institution may be used under the AE to BSE AA with the following stipulations:

a. Courses must be completed at a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
b. Courses must meet general education requirements; and
c. Courses may total no more than 14 hours of general education course credit.
d. If the courses are used to complete the AE degree, the courses will transfer as a part of the degree.

5. Transfer of Advanced Placement (AP) course credit
Advanced Placement (AP) course credits, awarded for a score three or higher, are acceptable as part of a student’s successfully completed AE degree under the AE to BSE AA.

B. Impact of the AE to BSE AA on other articulation agreements
The AE to BSE AA takes precedence over bilateral articulation agreements established between constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System but does not necessarily preclude such agreements. Institution-to-institution articulation agreements that fall within the parameters of the AE to BSE AA and enhance transferability of students from community colleges to senior institutions are acceptable. Institutional agreements conflicting with the AE to BSE AA are not permitted.
C. Compliance Procedures
The AE to BSE Transfer Committee (AEBSETC) is charged with ensuring compliance of institutional policies and practices regarding the AE to BSE AA. To that end, an AE to BSE AA Review Team comprised of two UNC representatives and two community college representatives will survey and review the engineering program’s transfer credit policies and procedures of the five UNC institutions annually. The AEBSETC will report its findings to the chief academic officers of University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System.
Appendices

Appendix A:
Participating Programs
NCCCS Associate in Engineering Programs

Participating North Carolina community colleges must receive State Board approval to offer the Associate in Engineering degree. Approval is based on the following criteria:

I. Program of Study which is in compliance with the AE Curriculum Standard

II. Institutional certification of the following:
   a. Master’s credentialed faculty for each course provided under the AE
   b. Adequate facilities/resources to provide the AE
   c. Evidence of sufficient student demand

The following North Carolina community colleges have received State Board approval to offer the Associate in Engineering degree:

- Alamance Community College
- Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Brunswick Community College
- Cape Fear Community College
- Carteret Community College
- Catawba Valley Community College
- Central Carolina Community College
- Central Piedmont Community College
- Coastal Carolina Community College
- College of The Albemarle
- Craven Community College
- Durham Technical Community College
- Fayetteville Technical Community College
- Forsyth Technical Community College
- Gaston College
- Guilford Technical Community College
- Halifax Community College
- Haywood Community College
- Isothermal Community College
- Johnston Community College
- Lenoir Community College
- McDowell Technical Community College
- Mitchell Community College
- Montgomery Community College
- Nash Community College
- Pitt Community College
- Richmond Community College
- Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
- Sandhills Community College
- Tri-County Community College
- Wake Technical Community College
- Wayne Community College
- Wilkes Community College

UNC System Engineering Programs

- East Carolina University
- North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University
- North Carolina State University
- University of North Carolina Charlotte
- Western Carolina University

Appendix A updated on 01/19/2018 to reflect an additional AE program approved by the State Board of Community Colleges.
Appendix B:  
Associate In Engineering to Bachelor of Science In Engineering Transfer Committee Procedures

Articulation between the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina is a dynamic process. To ensure the currency of the AE to BSE, occasional modifications to that agreement may be necessary. These modifications may include the addition, deletion, and/or revision of courses on the transfer list. The AEBETC will receive requests for modification only upon the recommendation of the chief academic officer of the NCCCS or UNC. Additions, deletions, and modifications may be subject to faculty review under the direction of the AEBETC. Because the modification process involves faculty and administrative review, this process may require up to 12 months for final action. Decisions made by the AEBETC will be consistent with all pertinent accreditation standards.

The Faculty Review Process
Any member of the AEBETC may request that a course under consideration be forwarded to the Faculty Review Committee. The Faculty Review Committee will be asked to review the course and the proposed action.

1. The Faculty Review Committee will consist of the following representatives:
   a. 3 UNC faculty members
   b. 3 NCCCS faculty members
2. Appointments to the committee will be for three years but may be renewed.
3. The Faculty Review Committee will receive a request to review a course(s) from the assigned representative(s) of the AEBETC within one week of the AEBETC meeting where the request was made.
4. Faculty Review Committee members will forward their comments, suggestions, and recommendations to the assigned representative(s) of the AEBETC prior to the next scheduled AEBETC meeting.

The assigned representative(s) of the AEBETC will report the results of the Faculty Review Committee at the next AEBETC scheduled meeting for action.

Approval of the requested action will require a majority of the AEBETC members.
Addition of Courses to the Transfer List

All additions to the AE to BSE AA transfer list must be drawn from the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement in effect at the time that the request for the addition is made. Such additions may be recommended by a participating institution through the following process:

1. The chair of an engineering program at any one of the participating colleges or universities makes a written request for inclusion of a specific course as a universal general education transfer component course, a general education course, a pre-major or elective course to the CAO of their college or university. That CAO submits a written request for inclusion on the transfer list to The University of North Carolina CAO. That individual will consult with the CAO of the North Carolina Community College System.

2. The CAOs or their designees at UNC and at NCCCS will then seek feedback and endorsement about whether to pursue the change from their respective campuses. A two-thirds favorable response is required for the change to be pursued.

3. The CAO of either system may submit the request for action to the AEBSETC a minimum of thirty days prior to the next AEBSETC meeting.

4. The AEBSETC reviews the request. Any member of the AEBSETC may request that a course be referred to the Faculty Review Committee. For all courses that are approved, the Committee records their action and rationale of action.

5. The NCCCS Office or the UNC System Office will distribute notification of action to all the participating colleges or universities.

Deletion of a Course from the Transfer List

The chair of an engineering program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request that a course be removed from the AE to BSE AA transfer list by following similar procedures as outlined in items 1-5 in the Addition of Courses to the Transfer List.

Change in the Designation of a Course

The chair of an engineering program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request a change in the designation of a course in the AE to BSE AA (i.e. Elective to General Education or Pre-Major) by sending the request and rationale to the CAOs of the two systems. Either of the system CAOs may submit the request to the AEBSETC for action. Any member of the AEBSETC may request that a course under consideration be forwarded to the Faculty Review Committee. The Faculty Review Committee will be asked to review the course and the proposed action.
Appendix C
AE to BSE Transfer Committee Membership

AEBSETC members shall serve three-year, staggered terms. An individual may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Some initial appointments may be for 1 or 2 years to allow for staggering of terms.

AEBSETC shall have co-chairs, one from the NCCCS members, and one from the UNC Members. Co-chairs shall be elected by the membership, and shall serve staggered terms.

NCCCS Members:

- Six representatives including:
  - One representative from the NCCCS administration
  - Five representatives from the community college member schools. These five members will be nominated by their peers and reviewed for approval by the CAO of the NCCCS. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.

UNC Members:

- Six representatives including:
  - One representative from the University of North Carolina
  - Five representatives from each of the university engineering schools. These members will be nominated by their peers and reviewed for approval by the CAO of UNC. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.
Appendix D

AE to BSE Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure

Guiding Principle: If a student from a North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) college believes the terms of the AE to BSE AA have not been honored by a University of North Carolina (UNC) institution to which the student has been admitted, the student may invoke the AE to BSE AA Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure.

Steps in Filing an Appeal

Step #1:
- By the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered, the student must submit an AE to BSE Transfer Credit Appeal Form along with any supporting documentation to the Director of Admissions or other campus designee at the UNC campus to which the student has been admitted. Students first enrolling at the senior institution in a summer session must submit their appeal by the end of the subsequent fall semester.
- The student must specify on the appeal form the specific AE to BSE AA language that is in contention. Appeals that lack this information will not be considered.
- The Director of Admission or other campus designee will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days.

Step #2:
- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Director of Admission or other campus designee, he/she may appeal on the same form to the Chief Academic Officer (Provost) of the specific University within 15 days of written notice of the director’s decision.
- The Provost will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student’s appeal.

Step #3:
- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Provost, he/she may appeal to the AEBSETC subcommittee, composed of the Co-chairs, a representative from the UNC General Administration, and a representative from the NCCCS. The student must submit the appeal to the subcommittee within 15 days of the receipt of the Provost’s decision. The appeal to the AEBSETC subcommittee should be sent to:

  UNC-GA AE to BSE Transfer Committee
  AE to BSE AA Appeal
  PO Box 2688, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

If a consensus is reached by the subcommittee, the student will be notified within 15 business days; if a consensus resolution is not reached, the appeal will be forwarded by the subcommittee to the full AEBSETC within 10 business days. The AEBSETC will review the appeal and notify the student of the final decision within 10 business days of receiving the appeal.
AE to BSE Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure

University of North Carolina/North Carolina Community College System

Section 1: Student Information (to be completed by the student submitting the form)

- The completed form and any supporting documentation must be submitted to the UNC institution’s Director of Admission by the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered or by the end of the subsequent fall semester for students enrolling in the summer.
- You must specify the nature of the appeal and cite the specific AE to BSE AA language that is in contention. Appeals that do not include this information cannot be considered.

Last Name: ____________________________ First: ________________________ MI: _____
(Please print or type)

Address: ______________________________________________________
(Number and Street)         (City)         (State)         (Zip)

Telephone: __________________________   Email: ________________________________
(Area code/Number)

Community College from which AE was earned: ________________________________

UNC institution offering admission: _______________________ beginning (semester/yr) ______

Section 2: Basis for your appeal: State your concern(s), citing specific language in the AE to BSE AA that is applicable to your contention. Attach AE to BSE AA supporting documents.

Student Signature: __________________________________________ Date _____________
The Associate in Science degree shall be granted for a planned program of study consisting of a minimum of 60 semester hours of credit (SHC) of college transfer courses. Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and the basic computer use.

The Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) and the Independent Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (ICAA) enables North Carolina community college graduates of two-year associate in science programs who are admitted to constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and to Signatory Institutions of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities to transfer with junior status.

Community college graduates must obtain a grade of "C" or better in each course and an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale in order to transfer with a junior status. Courses may also transfer through bilateral agreements between institutions.

**GENERAL EDUCATION (45 SHC)**
The general education common course pathway includes study in the areas of English composition; humanities and fine arts; social and behavioral sciences; natural sciences and mathematics.

**UNIVERSAL GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER COMPONENT**
(All Universal General Education Transfer Component courses will transfer for equivalency credit.)

**English Composition (6 SHC)**
The following two English composition courses are required.

- ENG 111 Writing & Inquiry (3 SHC)
- ENG 112 Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3 SHC)

**Communications**
Select two courses from the following from at least two different disciplines (6 SHC)

- COM 120 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication (3 SHC)
- COM 231 Public Speaking (3 SHC)

**Humanities/Fine Arts**

- ART 111 Art Appreciation (3 SHC)
- ART 114 Art History Survey I (3 SHC)
- ART 115 Art History Survey II (3 SHC)
- DRA 111 Theatre Appreciation (3 SHC)
- ENG 231 American Literature I (3 SHC)
- ENG 232 American Literature II (3 SHC)
- ENG 241 British Literature I (3 SHC)
- ENG 242 British Literature II (3 SHC)
- MUS 110 Music Appreciation (3 SHC)
- MUS 112 Introduction to Jazz (3 SHC)
- PHI 215 Philosophical Issues (3 SHC)
- PHI 240 Introduction to Ethics (3 SHC)

**Social/Behavioral Sciences (6 SHC)**
Select two courses from the following from at least two different disciplines:
ECO 251  Principles of Microeconomics  (3 SHC)
ECO 252  Principles of Macroeconomics  (3 SHC)
HIS 111  World Civilizations I  (3 SHC)
HIS 112  World Civilizations II  (3 SHC)
HIS 131  American History I  (3 SHC)
HIS 132  American History II  (3 SHC)
POL 120  American Government  (3 SHC)
PSY 150  General Psychology  (3 SHC)
SOC 210  Introduction to Sociology  (3 SHC)

**Math (8 SHC)**
*Select two courses from the following:*
- MAT 171  Precalculus Algebra  (4 SHC)
- MAT 172  Pre-calculus Trigonometry  (4 SHC)
- MAT 263  Brief Calculus  (4 SHC)
- MAT 271  Calculus I  (4 SHC)
- MAT 272  Calculus II  (4 SHC)

**Natural Sciences (8 SHC)**
*Select 8 SHC from the following course(s):*
- AST 151  General Astronomy I  (3 SHC)  and  AST 151A  General Astronomy Lab I  (1 SHC)
- BIO 110  Principles of Biology  (4 SHC)
- BIO 111  General Biology I  (4 SHC)  and  BIO 112  General Biology II  (4 SHC)
- CHM 151  General Chemistry I  (4 SHC)  and  CHM 152  General Chemistry II  (4 SHC)
- GEL 111  Introductory Geology  (4 SHC)
- PHY 110  Conceptual Physics  (3 SHC)  and  PHY 110A  Conceptual Physics Lab  (1 SHC)
- PHY 151  College Physics I  (4 SHC)  and  PHY 152  College Physics II  (4 SHC)
- PHY 251  General Physics I  (4 SHC)  and  PHY 252  General Physics II  (4 SHC)

**ADDITIONAL GENERAL EDUCATION HOURS (11 SHC)**
An additional 11 SHC of courses should be selected from courses classified as general education within the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Students should select these courses based on their intended major and transfer university.

Total General Education Hours Required: 45

**OTHER REQUIRED HOURS (15 SHC)**

**Academic Transition (1 SHC)**
*The following course is required:*
- ACA 122  College Transfer Success  (1 SHC)

An additional 14 SHC of courses should be selected from courses classified as pre-major, elective or general education courses within the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Students should select these courses based on their intended major and transfer university.

*One semester hour of credit may be included in a 61 SHC associate in science program of study. The transfer of this hour is not guaranteed.*
Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC) in Program: 60-61*

*Students must meet the receiving university’s foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the senior institution.

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