

BRIDGE PROGRAM
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Lander University

and

The South Carolina Technical College System

The following agreement between Lander University and the South Carolina Technical College System is designed to facilitate the transfer of students from South Carolina Technical Colleges to Lander University. This collaboration is intended to serve students by providing program support and services which facilitate the transfer process and prepare and acclimate students desiring to matriculate at Lander University.

Overview

This program utilizes existing policies, programs, and services in a defined and targeted way for students beginning at a South Carolina technical college who wish to matriculate at Lander University. Policies governing the admission, enrollment and transfer of students are the sole purview of each institution.

Students served by the program begin their academic studies at a South Carolina technical college. Transfer consideration requires at least 30 semester hours of transferable work. These 30 hours must be earned in degree-level courses, not developmental courses. While it is anticipated that students will spend at least a full year at a South Carolina technical college, students meeting Lander University's freshman admission requirements may transfer after one semester.

Lander University and the South Carolina Technical College System will promote associate degree attainment to interested students. This includes, but is not limited to, completing all necessary coursework and hours to earn an associate's degree at a South Carolina technical college or the 'reverse transfer' of courses back to a South Carolina technical college upon successful completion of coursework and hours at Lander University.

Promotion/Eligibility

The program is intended for, but not limited to, first-time college attendees who are recent high school graduates. Participation in the program is determined by the student's express desire to eventually matriculate at Lander University.

Students will be identified in the following ways:

Students denied admission to Lander University either for academic or space available reasons and who live in the service area as defined by the SC Technical College System will be notified of the program option by Lander University Office of Admissions.

At their option, the South Carolina Technical Colleges can notify prospective and/or newly matriculated students about the availability of the program through whatever means they choose.

Once students are identified by Lander University or a South Carolina technical college as potential program participants, student names, authorization, and contact information will be sent to the partner institutions Office of Admissions for processing.

Admission

All admission policies and procedures, including the admission standards of individual academic units, of Lander University and a South Carolina technical college will be enforced. Lander University will apply catalog requirements that are in effect at the time of the student's admission to the bridge program.

Initial, first year admission is determined by South Carolina Technical Colleges, while subsequent transfer is determined by existing transfer admissions policies at Lander University.

Each institution will provide updates of any admission policy changes as soon as practical. Any official policy change is subject to change without notice.

Program Components

With the exception of Technical Colleges which have established a separate Bridge Program agreement with Lander University, the following program components will be delivered and made available to all participants:

Fall Activities

Program participants will be provided with an introduction to the Bridge Program and will receive correspondence and assistance from the Lander University Offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Support Services, and the Academic Success Center.

Spring Activities

In February or early March a program will be held on the Lander University campus during which Bridge Program participants will meet and interact with personnel from the offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Support Services, and the Academic Success Center. Program Participants will also have an opportunity to meet with representatives from their chosen academic area and be provided a campus tour.

A special program for Technical College advisors will be hosted by the University in late spring, and all Bridge Program contact personnel at the Technical College will be provided a list of contacts from university administrative and academic departments.

Special Opportunities

Students will be offered the opportunity to be matched with a transfer student mentor the semester before entering Lander University to answer questions as the student prepares for his/her transition to the University. Students will continue to benefit from mentoring opportunities throughout their first year at Lander University.

Early in their first semester at Lander University, students will attend a session specifically designed for Bridge Program students that addresses personal and academic success.

Summary Comments

All aspects of the program will be periodically reviewed by representatives of Lander University and the SC Technical College System. Any alterations or new program elements will be implemented when mutually agreed upon by the two institutions.