

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**  
**Resolution to Waive the General Education Requirements for**  
**Students Seeking a Second Bachelor's Degree**  
**CUSP 2022-23A**

<b>Draft Notice Sent to University Council Cabinet</b>	September 30, 2022
<b>Approval by Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies</b>	October 10, 2022
<b>Approved by Faculty Senate</b>	October 28, 2022
<b>Staff Senate Comment</b>	October 25, 2022
<b>Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate Comment</b>	October 24, 2022
<b>Graduate and Professional Student Senate Comment</b>	October 14, 2022
<b>Undergraduate Student Senate Comment</b>	October 10, 2022
<b>First Reading, University Council</b>	December 5, 2022
<b>Appr, University Council</b>	February 6, 2023
<b>Approved, President</b>	February 6, 2023
<b>Effective Date</b>	Fall 2023

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Code of Virginia, Virginia Community College System students and Richard Bland College students earning an associate degree based upon a baccalaureate-oriented sequence of courses who have been offered admission to Virginia Tech shall be considered to have satisfied general education requirements at Virginia Tech; and

**WHEREAS**, general education requirements are currently managed by Virginia Tech's degree-audit system (DARS/uAchieve), which indicates requirements as satisfied but does not indicate specific course requirements as satisfied; and

**WHEREAS**, while specific course requirements vary from institution to institution, general education program requirements are common among U.S. regionally accredited institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Tech students who have previously earned a bachelor's degree at another U.S. regionally accredited institution are not considered to have satisfied Virginia Tech's general education requirements, thereby creating a discrepancy between Virginia Tech students who have previously earned an associate degree and those who have previously earned a bachelor's degree;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Virginia Tech students who have previously earned a bachelor's degree from a U.S. regionally accredited institution shall be considered to have satisfied general education requirements at Virginia Tech.



## Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

<https://governance.vt.edu/ap-faculty-senate.php>

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**October 24, 2022**

**To:** Vice President of Policy and Governance

**From:** A/P Faculty Senate Polices and Issues Committee

The A/P Faculty Senate Polices and Issues Committee has reviewed and approves/endorsees the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies 2022-23A to Waive the General Education Requirements for Students Seeking a Second Bachelor's Degree.

We have no further comment.



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# Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu/>

**October 25, 2022**

**To: Vice President of Policy and Governance**

The Staff Senate Committee on Policy and Issues has reviewed and approves CUSP Resolution 2022-23A. We would like to provide a brief comment that having background information provided with this resolution would be very helpful. Some are not familiar with what the current requirements are and the details that they encompass so there is some concern about how much of a difference this actually is to the undergraduate curriculum requirements.

Additionally, there was concern that in waiving the requirements, we would fail to meet the direct intention of the Pathways courses as stated on the Pathways webpage (<https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/about.html>). It was felt that we owe it to students to provide them with the best education and preparation possible and that in waiving these requirements the fulfillment of this would be diminished.

We support this resolution and have no further comment.

**Thank you,  
Amber Robinson, Chair Staff Senate Policies and  
Issues Committee**



**Graduate and Professional Student Senate  
(GPSS)**

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gsa.vt.edu



The GPSS is in full support of CUSP Resolution 2022-23A.

Further comment that CUSP could investigate similar measures for transfer students and other non-traditional students.

October 14, 2022

October 10, 2022

To the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies,

The Undergraduate Student Senate has reviewed and approves Resolution 2022-23A, with some comments.

For the first Whereas: the process of getting all pathways fulfilled from an AS degree from a Community College can be very unreliable; so handling this the exact same way might not be the most effective way to go about it, from a student perspective. We ask that this resolution go into further depth about specifics regarding the process that will entail.

For the second Whereas: What is the objective for a student that has a bachelor's degree from a previous institution when they pursue an additional at Virginia Tech? Would their gen eds from the previous count in equivalency? This sounds like it would simplify our current process (gathering syllabi to add to our equivalency system and how that might equate to their studies here) but this bill feels too general to be fully completed. things to consider...

- 1) syllabi process (will there be a committee? What is the evaluation process?)
- 2) different pathways structures (what classes will they need that was not covered at their previous institution)
- 3) where will this be housed (department, sounds like it would be an additional role to those in the registrar office)

There were also comments about the word use of bachelor and associate degrees. Confusion arose in trying to understand if this is for students with an associates degree or a bachelor's degree. Clarification on this would be appreciated!

Overall, we see the good intention with this resolution and support what it is trying to accomplish. And, with the resolution of the questions/comments the Undergraduate Student Senate has made we are ready to help move this forward.

Sincerely,

Caroline Lohr  
USS President