Transfer Planning

It’s never too early to begin planning for a smooth transfer to another institution. The longer you wait to make a decision, the more you risk delaying degree completion by taking coursework that may not serve your long-term goals. All students are advised to speak with a counselor before they enroll in classes.

Our counselors will help you to select a program of study, identify schools and understand the transfer requirements for the degree program at your school of choice. In addition, they'll share resources with you to help you understand which NOVA courses may transfer and help you to create a schedule based on the posted transfer requirements.

For most students interested in transferring to a four-year institution, an Associate of Arts (A.A.) or an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree will best prepare you to complete a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. To help you plan for a smooth transfer to another institution, NOVA has two types of transfer agreements with many institutions - Guaranteed Admission Agreements and Articulation Agreements. To explore each type, click the buttons below.

Guaranteed Admission Agreements (GAA) secure your entrance into more than 40 area colleges and universities when you meet the agreement requirements. Be sure to check out the GAA website.

Articulation Agreements are partnerships between institutions that can help ensure the classes you take at NOVA will transfer to a college or university. Contact your campus transfer counselor for assistance with transfer planning. Or plan to attend an information workshop to prepare for transferring.

Transferring Made Easy, March 4, 3:00pm-5:00pm, AA158

Come to this workshop to learn how to navigate the transfer process. We will discuss the following: Guaranteed Admissions Agreements (GAA), deadlines, choosing between schools and much more!

Celebrating Women’s History Month 2015

“The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of women whose commitment to nature and the planet have proved invaluable to society….. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as ‘Women’s History Month.’”

For more information about Women’s History Month and to access resources, click here.
My association with the Army began at an early age. My dad had joined the Army National Guard when he was still in high school, and I played in the Armory growing up. My parent's friends all stemmed from my dad's Guard buddies, and Family Support Groups and trips to Fort Pickett made up a good part of my young life. I was such an adorable Army child that a photographer from the Mountaineer Defender- the magazine of the West Virginia National Guard- took a photo of me sitting on an old wooden ammo box, which ended up being the cover shot one month. (Although after the magazine was published, it unfortunately transpired that I had, in fact, wet myself.)

I always knew that I would grow up and join the Army. I took the first steps toward that with Air Force JROTC in high school. I quickly gained the supply officer's position and command of two drill teams. I loved the comradery I found there. In 2004, while troop levels were still building in both Iraq and Afghanistan, I finally joined the US Army. I didn't serve a full term of enlistment- I was badly injured and discharged before my enlistment was up. I never deployed, but I can say that I made friends in the Army that I have to this day, and who will likely remain that way.

I went through a rough several years after my discharge. I was adrift in life- I had always known that I wanted to serve. Now that that had been taken from me, I didn't know what direction my life would or should take. I fought to find a purpose or a direction. Between service-connected health problems and a deep depression, I felt like there was no way forward that called to me. I finally hit rock bottom in the spring of 2012. What little meaning I had managed to gather in my life dried up and blew away. More and more problems fell on top of me. Just when it seemed I could go no lower, my closest friends- and a few virtual strangers- helped me pull myself back from the abyss. It was then I learned that what the meaning of life is- and that meaning is whatever you attribute to it.

Now, I'm happily married to the love of my life and attending school with my benefits. And once again the military has come back into my life. I know that regardless of branch or time served, there is always a community of my fellow veterans there to help me if I stumble.

My association with the military taught me things I use to this day. It taught me that I need to pull my own weight, and to never make excuses. It taught me to make connections with people, and to keep those people close. Just as importantly, the time after my service taught me its own set of lessons. Don't let life drag you down. Just because you had a purpose that you can no longer attain- regardless of what that purpose was- there are always more ways to attain meaning for yourself just around the corner.
### Academic Calendar Reminders

#### UPCOMING ACADEMIC CALENDAR REMINDERS

**Overall**
- **1 March**: Last day to apply for Spring Graduation.

**16-Week Session**
- **23 March**: Last day to withdraw without grade penalty.

**First 8-Week Session**
- **8 March**: Classes and examinations end.

**Second 8-Week Session**
- **9 March**: Last day to add name to Wait List for second 8-week session.
- **16 March**: Classes begin.

**Summer Semester Sessions**
- **31 March**: NOVAConnect Registrations begins.

### BAH Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Total # of Credits</th>
<th>BAH %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-Week Session</td>
<td>12 Cr</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16–Week Session</td>
<td>7 Cr or more</td>
<td>Pro-rated</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-Week Session</td>
<td>6 Cr or less</td>
<td>NO BAH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Week Session</td>
<td>6 Cr</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Understanding & Avoiding Plagiarism

Educate yourself about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. We will talk about the reasons why we must give people credit for their work, what does and does not constitute plagiarism, what does and does not need to be cited, and how to use resources with proper citations.

**Date**: Friday, March 27, 2015

**Place**: Bisdorf Bldg, AA196

**Time**: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

**Presenter**: Writing Assistance Center

### Summer Registration

Do you plan to attend classes during the summer? Summer registration begins on **Tuesday, March 31st**. The summer session is a good time to focus on limited subjects, take classes which may help accelerate your timeline for degree completion, and/or lighten your load during your last few semesters.

Summer 2015 tuition payment deadline for students who register is **April 26, 2015**. After this date, you may still register, but must pay by the next business day by 5:00PM. Visit the [Academic Calendar](#) for all important dates.

### Alexandria Veterans & Military Student Resource Office

The [AL Veterans & Military Student Resource Office](#) assists student veterans and their dependents by: providing information on their educational benefits; certifying paperwork for all applicable educational benefits; offering programs and workshops support of their student experience; and advising the Student Veterans Network.

The [VetSuccess on Campus Counselor](#) is an experienced Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor on the NOVA - Annandale and Alexandria campuses. This counselor serves as a “VA One-Stop Liaison” for Veterans, active duty military and their eligible family members who attend or plan to attend NOVA.

The [AL Off-Campus Military Advisor](#) at JBMHH assists active duty military students and their family members with the same student services that other students access on campus, such as the admissions process, registration, credit evaluation, and educational advising. The advisor can also assist students with payment issues and connecting them with college resources.

The [AL Student Veterans Network](#) (SVN) provides camaraderie and networking for both academic & social life. Any student enrolled in at least one credit with NOVA who is a veteran, reservist, National Guard member, or active duty service member is invited to be a member of the SVN. Contact the officers, [studentvetsalexandria@gmail.com](mailto:studentvetsalexandria@gmail.com).

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**Back for your Service**
What Employers Seek

In addition to a résumé and good grades, what do employers look for when hiring?

“In today’s world of non-stop change, companies are looking for people with college degrees who can prove that they:

- Can work well in teams
- Are self-motivated to keep learning new skills
- Have good computer skills
- Can work without a detailed job description
- Do not need constant supervision
- Provide excellent customer service
- Use common sense to solve problems”

(Siebert, A & Karr, M; 2008, pg. 4)

Virtual Advising

Academic advising is important at NOVA. Academic advising helps you to plan a program that will meet your educational objectives.

If you cannot come to campus to meet with your advisor, Online Virtual Advising is available to you.

Virtual Advisors are available by chat Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and Monday through Thursday, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Click on the "Live Chat" button on the right of the page to chat with a virtual advisor.

You may also contact a Virtual Advisor through e-mail. E-mail your questions to AcademicAdvising@nvcc.edu. Your questions will be answered within 24 hours.

REMINDER:

Please have your NOVA Student ID number available whenever seeking academic advising.