



Road to private colleges made clearer for RCCC students

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Students at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College now have an easier path toward enrolling at many of the state's private colleges and universities.

Leaders from the N.C. Community College System and Independent Colleges and Universities recently signed an articulation agreement, which outlines requirements community college students need to transfer to 24 of the state's private colleges.

"We feel that our students leave here well prepared for four-year college work and many of those do choose to attend independent and private universities," said RCCC spokesman Jeff Lowrance. "This will make it easier for them to have transfer course work and continue their education."

And it will help academic advisors, too, said academic advising director Kimberly Boling. She said advisors spend a significant amount of time helping students ensure their general education requirements correlate with those required by other institutions.

While only 24 of the 36 private colleges and universities were mentioned in the agreement, the other 12 institutions have existing bilateral agreements with individual community colleges that will remain in effect.

"Cabarrus College could not endorse the blanket agreement because our programs are specialized in nursing and the health sciences, limiting the types of credit that can transfer," said Admission Director Mark Ellison.

Cabarrus College has sought out community colleges for program-to-program agreements, such as Central Piedmont, Rowan-Cabarrus and Wilkes.

Audrey Kates Bailey, spokesperson for the North Carolina Community College System, said such agreements help colleges meet the growing demands for engineering, nursing and teaching professions.

Private colleges that are included in the agreement are Barton College, Belmont Abbey College, Bennett College for Women, Brevard College, Campbell University, Catawba College, Chowan University, Gardner-Webb University, Johnson C. Smith University, Lees-McRae, Livingstone College, Louisburg College, Mars Hill College, Montreat College, Mount Olive College, North Carolina Wesleyan College, Peace College, Pfeiffer University, Queens University of Charlotte, St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Saint Augustine's College, Shaw University, Warren Wilson College and Wingate University.

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