Getting Started with NOVA

My Story:
Heather Kirkpatrick: General Studies
SOAR and NSO are worth attending to learn about campus resources... More >

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Advantages of attending NOVA

- Small class sizes
- Around 200 nations represented in our student body
- Chance for a new start in a safe environment
- Largest state supported school in Virginia
- Virginia and eligible Washington, D.C. residents can complete a two-year degree for under $12,000, making NOVA the best educational value in the area.
• *1 out of every 5* Northern Virginia region public high school graduates attend NOVA within 1 year of graduation

• Students who begin their studies at NOVA and transfer to a state four-year college do as well or better than students who enter those schools as freshmen

• NOVA provides training for more than 30,000 workers annually

• NOVA is the leading provider of the region’s highly skilled, front-line workforce
NOVA Offers:
- Credit classes
- Non-credit classes
- Community education classes
- Full- or part-time study
- Weekend and online study
We have six convenient campus locations:

Woodbridge
Alexandria
Manassas
Annandale
Loudoun
Med Ed - Springfield
Degree Differences

**Associate In Applied Science (AAS)**

- Prepares you for a career and requires two years of college. (full time)
- Many of the classes may not be accepted at the four-year college of your choice. See a counselor or head of your academic program for additional information.

**Associate in Arts/Science (AA/AS)**

- Is usually parallel to bachelor’s degree and is often considered first two years of a bachelor’s degree.
- It contains general education requirements related to major and necessary for transfer.
Should I get a degree at NVCC?

- Articulation agreements with many 4-year schools in Virginia. (Example: Lower-level general education requirements at GMU are met if you transfer with an AS or AA degree at NVCC.)
- All Guaranteed Admissions Agreements require attainment of AA or AS
- Degree earners more likely to earn a bachelors degree than those who transfer without
- Colleges are becoming more competitive. It is usually easier to get in with an earned, transferable degree.
- May qualify for Tuition Assistance grant
- Typically do not have to take SAT
Can I transfer without earning a degree?

- Some colleges require at least one college-level ENG and MTH for transfer.

- Colleges often require a higher GPA for those applying with less than associate degree.

- In order to complete some (usually competitive) majors in a reasonable time-frame, it may be necessary to transfer early.
Guaranteed Admissions Agreements

- NOVA has admission agreements with over 30 colleges and universities in Virginia and Washington, D.C.
- Students must earn a transferable degree to be eligible.
- These agreements guarantee admission to a college or university but most do not guarantee admission to a specific program.
- These agreements have minimum GPA and course performance requirements. Requirements vary—Mathematics especially
- Transfer Grants may be available to students who transfer from a VCCS school.
- NOVA provides several workshops and activities to assist students with the transfer process.
How will NOVA help students learn about transfer opportunities?

- Transfer guides and other materials on NVCC website [http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/transfer/index.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/transfer/index.html)
- College recruiters on campus each semester.
- “On the Road” college site visits.
- Workshops on transfer opportunities.
- Orientation class (SDV 100) addresses transfer issues.
- Faculty Advisors
Where NOVA students go...

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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Associate’s Degree</th>
<th>No Associate’s Degree</th>
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<td>Christopher Newport University</td>
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Top 15 Subtotal: 1,064 (36.4%) , 1,861 (63.6%) , 2,925

Other VA Four-Year Institutions: 16 (22.2%) , 56 (77.8%) , 72

Total: 1,080 (36.0%) , 1,917 (64.0%) , 2,997
Overview of Career Resources

• **NOVA Career Website**
• Virginia Wizard: vawizard.org
• Career Assessments
  • Myers Briggs Type Indicator, Strong Interest Inventory
• Job Search Resources
  • Occupational Outlook Handbook, O*NET
• Job Postings
• Career Workshops
  • Resume/Cover Letter Critique
  • Mock Interviews
  • Career Decision Making
How do I get started at NVCC?

- Apply for admission online
- Apply for Financial Aid
- Take English and math placement tests
- Participate in mandatory Student Orientation to register for classes and learn more about NOVA
Getting Started

- Meet with advisors early in your academic career
- Know the difference between transferrable and non-transferrable degree programs
- Begin narrowing down four-year institutions of interest (if transfer is the ultimate goal)
- Do your homework
  - Researching different careers
  - Familiarizing themselves with transfer resources
NVCC is committed to student success!

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