



**ALABAMA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE SYSTEM**

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New agreement eases community college students' transfer to independent colleges and universities

MONTGOMERY – With the stroke of a pen, representatives of the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) and the Alabama Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (AAICU) paved the way for two-year college students to enjoy a seamless transfer to an independent four-year institution.

A signing ceremony conducted this morning during an AAICU meeting kicked off the new *2 to 4 Transfer Program*, which is similar to the Statewide Transfer and Articulation Reporting System (STARS) initiated in 1998 to allow Alabama community college graduates to transfer to any public four-year institution in the state. Now, through the *2 to 4 Transfer Program*, ACCS students can be confident that their credits will also transfer to participating independent colleges.

Effective July 1, ten of AAICU's 14 member colleges and universities set articulation agreements in place. Officials anticipate the additional colleges will sign agreements before the end of the year.

They are:

- Birmingham-Southern College
- Concordia College
- Faulkner University
- Huntingdon College
- Judson College
- Spring Hill College
- Stillman College
- Talladega College
- United States Sports Academy
- University of Mobile

For more information, contact one of the four-year institutions listed above or check out the *2 to 4 Transfer Program* website: <http://www.accs.cc/transfer.aspx>

“We are so pleased to be able to offer our students yet another avenue for success,” said ACCS Chancellor Freida Hill. “More than half of all freshmen and sophomores in Alabama attend one of our colleges. Our students are actively recruited by both public and private four-year institutions because they know that our transfer students are likely to be just as successful as the students who started at the four-year institution.”

More than 16,000 Alabama community college students transfer to four-year institutions each year. “This is a great day for higher education in our state,” Hill added.

General Paul Hankins, president of AAICU, agreed. “Over the years, some of our schools have established articulation agreements with individual two-year colleges in the state. This agreement goes the rest of the way down that road. It will formally open the doors for transfer of credit to independent, fully accredited, non-profit, four-year colleges in Alabama.”

“Our schools provide a great opportunity for students to attend and graduate from college,” Hankins added. “Last year, we gave out over \$90 million in student aid to ensure that college is affordable for students from all economic backgrounds. This is a real breakthrough for the students, the state's higher education capacity, and our schools.”

Incoming community college freshmen enrolling as of this fall semester will be eligible to participate in the new *2 to 4 Transfer Program*. Currently enrolled or recently graduated ACCS students should contact the selected independent college directly to determine transfer eligibility.

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