



Automatic Transfer Initiative: Montclair State University & County College of Morris

In the spirit of deepening our partnership in service of the students we share, Montclair State University proposes a new admissions initiative that aims to:

1. Streamline the student's path to the four-year degree
2. Create a pipeline of students for both County College of Morris and Montclair State University
3. Provide an alternate path to Montclair State University for students who may not have been prepared to enroll upon high school graduation

Initially, Montclair State and County College of Morris will achieve these goals by formalizing a two-plus-two relationship for students in a specific population of high school graduates who will earn an Associate's degree from County College of Morris and who will, ultimately, pursue a Bachelor's degree in pre-identified majors at Montclair State.

Identifying the cohort: To participate in the pilot cohort(s) of the Automatic Transfer Initiative, applicants must fall into one of two groups:

Group A: Students who enrolled at County College of Morris in the fall 2015 semester or after and who are pursuing and will earn an AA, AS. Students earning the AFA degree will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Group B: Students from Morris County who applied for admission to Montclair as first-time full-time freshmen for the fall 2016 semester but who were not offered admission and are enrolled as first time freshmen at CCM and who are pursuing an AA, AS. Students earning the AFA degree will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Students in either of these categories will be eligible to pursue automatic transfer to Montclair State University upon completion of the Associate's degree (AA, AS, or AFA). We are limiting the field of eligible participants or, perhaps more accurately, identifying a clearly defined starting point for this initiative at this stage in order to ensure that students are able to appropriately map out their completion of the Associate's degree.

Admissions criteria and terms of the agreement: Students considered to be part of the Automatic Transfer Initiative will be subject to the following admissions criteria and application process:

Criteria:

- 1) Students must complete the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science. The Associate of Fine Arts degree will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 2) Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 from County College of Morris
- 3) Students must select a major from the following list of approved programs:

College of the Arts

- Visual Arts (Bachelor of Arts)
- Fashion Studies
- Theatre Studies

College of Education and Human Services

- Health Education: Public Health
- Nutrition and Food Sciences: General

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

- Anthropology
- History
- Justice Studies
- Linguistics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Spanish: Concentration in Translation

College of Science and Mathematics

- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Geography
- Geoscience
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Physics: Astronomy Concentration
- Science Informatics

School of Business

- Economics (Bachelor of Arts)

Note: Students are restricted to applying to these specific programs because they represent those which have approved two-year completion plans in place. This list may be subject to additions or deletions as new plans are created or as curricula are changed. Additionally, "restricted majors"—those with higher admissions requirements—have been removed from this list.

The application process:

Students from Cohort Group A:

Students from Cohort Group A will indicate their interest in participating in the Automatic Transfer Initiative by replying to the offer made by Montclair State University. Montclair State University will collect this information and share it with County College of Morris. After the student has matriculated at County College of Morris, s/he will follow the same procedure as outlined below for Cohort Group B.

Students from Cohort Group B:

Prior to completing the Associate's degree, students transferring through the Automatic Transfer Initiative must identify themselves with the Office of Transfer Services at County College of Morris. After this point, County College of Morris and Montclair State University will work collaboratively to streamline and automate the transfer process for the student. Accordingly:

- 1) The Coordinator of Transfer Services at County College of Morris will provide the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Montclair State University a list of students applying through the Automatic Transfer Initiative with relevant biographical and demographical information, to be determined, so that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions may generate a student application record on the students' behalf.
- 2) County College of Morris will also provide the Office of Undergraduate Admissions with transcripts upon request for each student transferring under the Automatic Transfer Initiative.
- 3) The application fee will be waived by Montclair State University for students applying through the Automatic Transfer Initiative
- 4) Montclair State University will reach out to students proactively in the event that additional information is needed to complete their transfer record (i.e. official transcripts from an institution other than County College of Morris).

All posted Montclair State University application deadlines will be upheld.

Benefits to the student: Why choose the Automatic Transfer Initiative? Beyond a streamlined transfer process, the Automatic Transfer Initiative is meant to engender a closer relationship between County College of Morris and Montclair State University for the joint purpose of increasing student success. Toward this end, Montclair State University is committed to providing regular and sustained resources to, and intervention for, students who have been identified as part of the Automatic Transfer Initiative cohort(s) throughout the full four years of their undergraduate study. Montclair State University will actively seek out opportunities to partner with County College of Morris on initiatives related to academic advising, career services, student life and engagement, and other areas of the academic enterprise that complete the student experience.

These resources and experiences will be available on both institutions' campuses. Montclair State University representatives will regularly visit County College of Morris campus to conduct advising and provide workshops, and County College of Morris students will be invited to the Montclair State campus to participate in events and activities. Through this comprehensive and collaborative approach, which seeks to nurture and educate the whole student, County College of Morris and Montclair State University enter into an agreement to create a student success model that focuses on four-year degree attainment and recognizes and values the Associate's degree as an important component of this process.

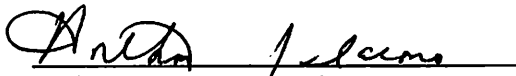
Opportunities for closer partnership: While the Automatic Transfer Initiative lays important groundwork for a seamless transfer process between the two institutions, County College of Morris and Montclair State University are committed to exploring other mechanisms and agreements that would deepen the partnership between the two institutions and further ease the transfer experience for their shared students. To this end, the institutions will also work to develop:

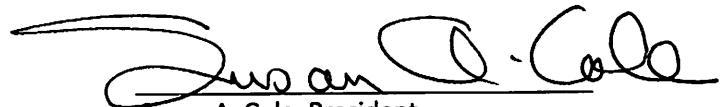
- 1) Reverse transfer opportunities: Where appropriate and driven by a need to simplify students' transition from the community college to a major at Montclair State University, the institutions will develop a model of reverse transfer whereby students may take a pre-identified course or

courses offered by Montclair State that will subsequently be accepted by County College of Morris in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Associate's degree. Such courses are a way for students to complete critical prerequisite coursework prior to transferring to Montclair State in order to remain on track for four-year completion of the Bachelor's degree.

- 2) Program-to-program articulation agreements for other majors at Montclair State: For majors not covered by the Automatic Transfer Initiative, particularly those with restrictive entrance requirements, additional and more complex articulation agreements may be necessary. The institutions are committed to working collaboratively toward the creation of program-to-program agreements in these areas.

Signed into effect on September 29, 2016 by:


Anthony J. Locono, President
County College of Morris


Susan A. Cole, President
Montclair State University