



PARALEGAL STUDIES BACHELOR'S DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN

ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PEIRCE COLLEGE AND RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

I. Preface

Raritan Valley Community College (Raritan) and Peirce College (Peirce) enter into this Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement to facilitate the transfer of Raritan's graduates to Peirce College.

Under the Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement, Raritan's paralegal graduates will be guaranteed admissions into the Bachelor of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies program with third year (junior) status at Peirce on the condition that they: graduate from Raritan with an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5; and satisfy all other Peirce transfer requirements. A full-time student admitted with third year (junior) status to Peirce should be able to complete a bachelor's degree at Peirce within four regular semesters provided that the student completes the appropriate Associate Degree program at Raritan and completes and appropriately sequences his/her remaining coursework at Peirce.

Students, in ABA approved Paralegal Studies programs, who meet the requirements set forth below will be eligible for automatic acceptance to Peirce following their graduation from Raritan. This Acceptance Agreement specifies the requirements and conditions for students at Raritan to be automatically accepted into Peirce.

In addition, Peirce agrees to accept the general education embedded in Raritan's Associate of Applied Science Degree as meeting all the requirements of its undergraduate (first two years) general education requirements. This acceptance agreement applies to all of Raritan's paralegal A.A.S. graduates.

This Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement between Raritan and Peirce becomes effective on the date of its signing.

To facilitate the transfer of Raritan's graduates to Peirce in accordance with the foregoing guarantee, the parties agree to the following:

II. Requirements for Automatic Acceptance

- A. Students must have a grade point average of 2.5 or above during their final year at Raritan and maintain this average through graduation from Peirce.
- B. Students must have an associate degree from an ABA approved Paralegal Studies program.
- C. Students must submit a completed application for admission. The Peirce application fee will be waived.
- D. Students must submit an official transcript. Unofficial transcripts issued to the student are not acceptable.
- E. All courses for which a grade of C or higher was earned will be transferred to Peirce.

III. Scholarships

Peirce will offer each Raritan graduate applying for admission to Peirce a Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Scholarship for each year enrolled up to a maximum of four years. This scholarship will be renewed each year during which a Raritan graduate is enrolled at Peirce, completes Peirce courses, and maintains a grade point average of **3.0** or higher, while at Peirce.

Actual awards are based on the following guidelines:

- The scholarship award is determined by full-time or part-time status.
- The scholarship will be applied as a credit to each student's tuition.
- The award amount is based upon the student's final Raritan GPA.
- Students who enroll full-time at Peirce (12 or more credits a semester), and whose final Raritan GPA is 2.5– 3.19, will receive a minimum \$1,500 scholarship.
- Students who enroll full-time, and whose final Raritan GPA is 3.2-3.49, will receive a minimum \$2,000 scholarship.
- Students who enroll full-time, and whose final Raritan GPA is 3.5-4.0, will receive a minimum \$3,000 scholarship.
- Students who enroll part-time at Peirce (6 to 11 credits per semester), will receive one-half of the full-time awards, using the same GPA levels.
- All Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Scholarships may be renewed each year, up to a maximum of four years, contingent upon the **student maintaining a 3.0 GPA** at Peirce.
- Students may also be eligible for need-based financial aid and other types of financial aid.

Raritan graduates will receive full consideration for Peirce financial aid, in addition to the scholarships listed above, upon matriculation at Peirce.

Obligations of Raritan Valley Community College:

Publicize this Agreement to prospective and current Raritan students and make arrangements for Peirce recruiters and advisors to gain access and proactively solicit Raritan AAS Degree graduates.

Joint Obligations:

1. Consult with each other through appropriate channels prior to implementing major changes in policy or curricula that directly affect students transferring under the terms of this Agreement, and keep each other informed of any other changes of policy or curricula that affect those students. Both Peirce and Raritan will review this Agreement annually and make any changes upon mutual agreement, as needed. Such changes will become effective when both the Raritan and Peirce sign the revised document.
2. Collaborate in providing students with information and academic advising about this agreement, Peirce academic requirements, and the process of transferring to Peirce. Raritan and Peirce jointly agree to develop and implement advertising and promotional efforts to communicate the benefits of the Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement.
3. Each institution will designate a representative or representatives who will coordinate the Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement between the two institutions.
4. Facilitate and support consultation and collaboration between their faculties related to this agreement, general education, degree requirements, and other academic matters.
5. To provide direct links between Peirce and Raritan websites.

Revision, Renewal and Termination of this Agreement

The Peirce Admissions Office and the appropriate offices at Raritan are responsible for identifying, and communicating to each other, changes in the policies or requirements of their respective institutions that affect this Agreement.

This Paralegal Studies Bachelor's Degree Completion Plan Acceptance Agreement becomes effective on the date of its signing. It will be reviewed annually by the appropriate parties at each institution, and will be renewed automatically until superseded by a new Agreement or formally terminated. Either institution may terminate this Agreement at any time by written notice at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination. Should this Agreement be terminated, it is understood that the

termination will not apply to students already accepted to Peirce under the terms of this Agreement.

The willingness of both institutions to enter this Agreement in order to facilitate the transfer of graduates from Raritan to Peirce, and to expand their opportunities for academic success there, is indicated by the following signatures.

The undersigned representatives of the parties, Raritan and Peirce, have executed this Agreement on the dates indicated:


Raritan Valley Community College:

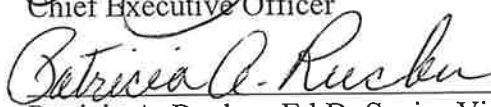
Casey Crabill, President Date

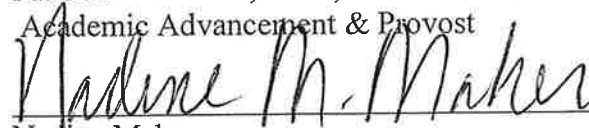
Jeffrey Bobbitt Date
Acting Senior VP of Academic Affairs

Paul Michaud Date
Director of Transfer & Career Services

Peirce College:

 _____ 9/3/09
James J. Mergiotti, President & Date
Chief Executive Officer

 _____ 9/3/09
Patricia A. Rucker, Ed.D, Senior Vice President Date
Academic Advancement & Provost

 _____ 9/3/09
Nadine Maher Date
Dean, Enrollment Management