



**The Black Bear Advantage**

**A Collaborative Co-Enrollment Agreement**

**Between the Maine Community College System acting by and through**

**Central Maine Community College**

**Eastern Maine Community College**

**Kennebec Community College**

**Southern Maine Community College**

**Washington County Community College**

**York Community College**

**And**

**The University of Maine System acting by and through**

**The University of Maine and**

**The University of Maine's Regional Campus at Machias**

The Black Bear Advantage is an exciting collaborative co-enrollment program between the Maine Community College System (MCCS) and the University of Maine (UMaine). This program aims to provide exceptional opportunities for students admitted to both UMaine and a MCCS campus for the fall semester and subsequently choose to enroll at the MCCS campus.

The purpose of the Black Bear Advantage program is to create a seamless pathway, with minimal loss of community college credit, for students transferring to UMaine or UMaine's regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias (UMM), following the successful completion of an associate degree from a participating MCCS campus. Participating MCCS campuses have an Articulation Agreement Memorandum of Understanding and Individual Program Transfer Articulation Agreements with the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias.

**Program Requirements:**

- Students will complete a Black Bear Advantage agreement of participation agreeing to be co-enrolled at both UMaine and a participating MCCS campus.



### **Program Requirements (continued):**

- Students will co-enroll at both UMaine and a participating MCCS campus by taking 3 hours at UMaine and 12 hours at from the participating community college.
- Students will co-enroll in degree programs that offer 2+2 articulation agreements between the listed above participating MCCS campuses and UMaine.

After the completion of an associate degree from a participating MCCS campus, students can then transfer to UMaine without reapplying to complete their bachelor's degree.

### **Student Benefits:**

**Co-Enrollment** – While attending a participating MCCS campus full-time, Black Bear Advantage students will take one course at UMaine to fulfill lower-level degree requirements for the specific degree program. Students are Black Bears from day one! These courses will be counted towards both the participating MCCS campus and UMaine degree plans.

**A guaranteed next step to UMaine** - After successfully completing an associate degree, students can transfer to UMaine to complete the bachelor's degree with minimal to no credit loss, thus reducing the time required to earn their bachelor's degree.

**UMaine on Your Campus** - At least twice each year representatives from UMaine will be on the participating MCCS campus(s) to build a sense of belonging among Black Bear Advantage students and reaffirming their place at UMaine. These in-person interactions will allow UMaine representatives to personally engage with Black Bear Advantage students, establishing a supportive relationship and providing them with the necessary information and resources for a smooth transition to UMaine.

**Academic advising and transfer support from UMaine** - While enrolled at a participating MCCS campus, the students will have access to collaborative academic advising and regular contact with both their MCCS and their UMaine academic advisors to assist with setting and meeting academic goals and transferring to UMaine with minimal transfer credit loss.

**Black Bear Advantage Co-Enrollment Scholarship** - \$2000 scholarship when students transfer from a participating MCCS campus following the successful completion of the associate degree and begins full-time studies at UMaine. This scholarship is in addition to any other UMaine academic and/or institutional aid the student may be eligible for.

**An Accelerated transfer process and waiver of UMS application fees** - UMaine will facilitate the transfer of all participating student's MCCS campus transcripts and coursework. Upon completing an associate degree from a participating MCCS campus, students can start taking courses full-time at UMaine without the need to reapply or pay for the UMS application fees.



**Priority registration at UMaine for student's first semester as full-time UMaine student** - Black Bear Advantage students will be provided priority registration during their first semester as a full-time UMaine student to ensure a successful transition to UMaine.

**UMaine's ID Card** - The MaineCard will provide access to UMaine's student services.

- Fogler Library
- UMaine's eSports Lounge
- New Balance Recreation Center
- Athletic events
- Counseling Center
- Academic Support Services

**Individual Transfer Articulation Agreements**

For the most up-to-date list of the Individual Program Articulations supported by the Black Bear Advantage program for each of the participating MCCS colleges, please visit the UMaine and UMM Transfer Agreement webpages. The list is being continually updated. For a list of agreements in place as of February 2024, please see Appendix 1.

**Signatures to this Agreement**

This agreement becomes effective on March 1, 2024.

**Maine Community College System:**

Janet Sortor  
Vice President and Chief Academic Officer

DocuSigned by:  
*Janet M Sortor* 2/20/2024  
3E54E3867529440...  
Signature date

**University of Maine:**

John C. Volin  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

DocuSigned by:  
*John Volin* 2/20/2024  
34B85D4F799C41B...  
Signature date



## Appendix 1

### **Individual Program Agreements, listed by participating MCCS campus, as of February 2024.**

Please check the Transfer Agreement Webpages for UMaine (<https://go.umaine.edu/umaine-transfer-agreements/>) and UMM for an up-to-date list of agreements. New agreements are continually being added.

#### **1. *The University of Maine and Central Maine Community College (CMCC) currently support the following academic programs as part of the Black Bear Advantage:***

[AAS in Accounting to BS Business Administration in Accounting](#) - UMaine's Accounting program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial reporting, taxation, internal and external auditing and business consulting.

[AS in Business Transfer to BS Business Administration Finance](#) – UMaine's Finance program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial management in business, management and nonprofit organizations; commercial and investment banking; and brokerage.

[AS in Business Transfer to BS in Business Administration Management](#) - UMaine's Management program, available on-campus or fully online, is accredited by AACSB-International and prepares students for management careers in business, government, nonprofit, or industries.

[AS Business Transfer to BS in Business Administration Marketing](#) - UMaine's Marketing program, accredited by AACSB-International, prepares students for careers in retail management, services marketing, sales, advertising, marketing research and international marketing.

[AA in Liberal Studies to BA in Economics](#) - The Bachelor of Arts in Economics, available on-campus and online, trains students in economic analysis and the functioning of economic institutions. The program emphasizes public economic policy, both domestic and international. The program strives to develop in students the analytic skills that will prepare them to succeed in a variety of career or advanced educational settings.

[AA in Liberal Studies to BA in History](#) - UMaine's History program enhances individuals' understanding of themselves and the contemporary world by expanding their experience to include the experiences of other peoples, both past and present. History graduates find employment in education, publishing, journalism, broadcasting, and with private/nonprofit/public organizations/agencies such as museums, archives, libraries, legislative bodies, planning agencies and research/service institutions. History is an ideal pre-law major.



[AA in Liberal Studies to BA in Political Science](#) - The Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, available on-campus or fully online, examines the nature of politics from diverse perspectives. Students are taught to think critically about the fundamental theories, principles, institutions, and practices of politics in their social and historical contexts. Course work allows students to explore the four main sub-fields of the discipline of political science — American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Political Theory — so that students will acquire knowledge and skills for further study in law school or graduate school, or will be prepared for careers in public service or related fields.

**2. *The University of Maine and Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC) currently support the following academic programs as part of the Black Bear Advantage:***

[AAS Building Construction Technology to BS Construction Engineering Technology](#) - UMaine's Construction Engineering Technology program, accredited by ABET, is a blend of civil engineering technology and construction business management which combines construction, engineering and management in a practice-oriented education leading to a rewarding career in which graduates exercise their skills, experience and knowledge to construct buildings and infrastructure nationwide.

[AAS Business Management/Transfer Option to BS Business Administration in Accounting](#) - UMaine's Accounting program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial reporting, taxation, internal and external auditing and business consulting.

[AAS Business Management/Transfer Option to BS in Business Administration Finance](#) - UMaine's Finance program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial management in business, management and nonprofit organizations; commercial and investment banking; and brokerage.

[AAS Business Management/Transfer Option to BS in Business Administration Management](#) - UMaine's Management program, available on-campus or fully online, is accredited by AACSB-International and prepares students for management careers in business, government, nonprofit, or industries.

[AAS Business Management/Transfer Option to BS in Business Administration Marketing](#) – UMaine's Marketing program, accredited by AACSB-International, prepares students for careers in retail management, services marketing, sales, advertising, marketing research and international marketing.

[AAS Civil Engineering Technology to BS in Construction Engineering Technology](#) - UMaine' nationally ABET accredited program that blends construction, engineering and management.

[AAS in Early Childhood Education to BS in Child Development/Family Relations, Early Childhood Education](#) - UMaine's nationally NCATE accredited program that prepares students for K-3 teacher certification and the Maine State birth-age 5 endorsement.



[AAS in Education to BS in Elementary Education](#) - UMaine's nationally NCATE accredited program that prepares students for K – 8 teacher certification.

[AAS Electrical and Automation Technology to BS in Electrical Engineering Technology](#) – UMaine's nationally ABET accredited program prepares students for electrical engineering careers in industry.

[AAS Emergency Medical Services to Bachelor of University Studies, Leadership Track](#) - A flexible, asynchronous online or on-campus program that focuses on developing strong leadership skills in preparation for career or personal success.

[AA Liberal Studies to Bachelor of University Studies, Leadership Track](#) - A flexible asynchronous online or on-campus program that focuses on developing strong leadership skills in preparation for career or personal success.

**3. The University of Maine and Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) currently support the following academic programs as part of the Black Bear Advantage:**

[AAS Business Administration to BS in Business Administration Management](#) - UMaine's Management program, available on-campus or asynchronously online, is accredited by AACSB-International and prepares students for management careers in business, government, nonprofit, or industries.

[AS in Mental Health to BS in Social Work](#) - UMaine's BSW is nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and prepares students for careers in social work

[AS in Psychology to BA in Psychology](#) - The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology is designed to foster a scientific understanding of behavior by exploring the wide range of factors that shape it — from molecules to the brain as a whole, from sensory input to reasoning, and from genetics to social and cultural influences. Students develop rigorous scientific reasoning skills while exploring how behavior develops from infancy to old age, how individuals perceive the world around them, how we think and remember, and how we interact with other people and what it means for a behavior to be considered pathological.

**4. The University of Maine and Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) currently support the following academic programs as part of the Black Bear Advantage:**

[AS Business Administration to BS in Business Administration Accounting](#) - UMaine's Accounting program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial reporting, taxation, internal and external auditing and business consulting.

[AS Business Administration to BS in Business Administration Finance](#) - UMaine's Finance program, accredited by AACSB- International, prepares students for careers in financial management in business, management and nonprofit organizations; commercial and investment banking; and brokerage.



[AS Business Administration to BS in Business Administration Management](#) - UMaine's Management program, available on-campus or asynchronously online, is accredited by AACSB-International and prepares students for management careers in business, government, nonprofit, or industries.

[AS Business Administration to BS in Business Administration Marketing](#) - UMaine's Marketing program, accredited by AACSB-International, prepares students for careers in retail management, services marketing, sales, advertising, marketing research and international marketing.

[AAS Electrical Engineering Technologies to BS in Electrical Engineering Technology](#) - UMaine's nationally ABET accredited program prepares students for electrical engineering careers in industry.

[AS in Nutrition and Dietetics to BS in Food Science and Nutrition / Human Nutrition and Dietetics Concentration](#) - UMaine's BS in Food Science and Nutrition with the concentration in Human Nutrition and Dietetics is an accredited Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (DPD) by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). The program focuses on the study of the effect of food, food behavior and nutrients on people's health and the role of diet in prevention or treatment of chronic disease. Students in this program are eligible for continuing education and internship to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. Or, they can pursue careers in wellness nutrition, health or research.

[AAS Pre-Engineering to BS in Electrical Engineering Technology](#) - UMaine's nationally ABET accredited program prepares students for electrical engineering careers in industry.

**5. *The University of Maine at Machias and Washington County Community College (WCCC) currently support the following academic programs as part of the Black Bear Advantage:***

[AAS in Human Services to BA in Psychology & Community Studies](#) – UMM's Psychology and Community Studies, available on-campus or online, is an interdisciplinary program that draws on anthropology, psychology, sociology, natural sciences, economics, arts, and humanities, through which you can explore human community and learn how to understand, manage, and promote change – change in your life, change in your community, and global change.

**6. *The University of Maine and York County Community College (YCCC) are working on developing academic programs to be part of the Black Bear Advantage:***

Please check the UMaine Transfer Agreement web page for new agreements planned for the academic year 2024-2025