East Tennessee State University and Pellissippi State Technical Community College have entered into a partnership that promotes student transfer and program articulation. Specifically, the ETSU – PSTCC alliance contributes to a seamless transfer of Associate of Applied Science degree course credit in High Performance Computing to the Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree.

The B.A.S. is a generalist degree that recognizes prior learning in A.A.S. technical specialties through direct transfer of courses designed for transfer and through credit upon assessment for prior learning. The B.A.S. permits students to develop an individualized curriculum through careful advisement that will meet their professional development or personal enrichment needs. The B.A.S. is not intended for community college students in health-related areas, those seeking degrees in a specific discipline, or those seeking preparation in business or teacher certification, or community college students already enrolled in another articulated program.

Specific features of the ETSU – PSTCC alliance that contribute to a “seamless” transfer of Associate of Applied Science degree course credit in High Performance Computing to the ETSU Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree are as follows:

1) The Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree requirement is 120 semester hours. At least 60 semester hours must be completed at a senior institution, a minimum of 30 hours at ETSU (plus hours awarded through assessment), and a 27-hour Professional Development Concentration. This consists of either an existing ETSU minor plus approved electives to total 27 hours or a self designed program. If a self designed program is selected, the student must complete 30 hours of upper division course work in the total degree program.

2) The Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) is designed to address the baccalaureate degree needs of associate degree completers in all technical areas except:
   - those where articulation agreements with ETSU already exists;
   - Teacher Education;
   - Allied Health; and,
   - Business (Business course work is limited to a maximum of 30 semester hours from all sources; i.e. 30 semester hour total from the community college and ETSU.)

3) Courses in the A.A.S. that are designed for transfer and have an ETSU lower division equivalent course transfer directly to ETSU. A.A.S. courses that do
not have a one-to-one ETSU equivalency do not transfer. The number of hours transferring varies by A.A.S. curricula. See Item 6 for more information.

4) Students seek admission as transfer students and ETSU accepts credit for transferable courses. To be eligible for B.A.S. program admission, students must complete a prescribed set of ETSU “gateway” courses (15 hours). Not all A.A.S. credit, therefore, will transfer or apply to the B.A.S. The B.A.S. limits the A.A.S. equivalent (transferred hours plus ETSU lower division credit awarded through assessment) to 60 hours. Thus, the student will actually transfer fewer than 60 hours for the A.A.S. The student will receive up to 30 hours of ETSU lower division credit on the basis of assessment through successful completion of the gateway courses.

5) The 15-hour “gateway” requirement consists of ETSU courses selected by the B.A.S. advisor. “Gateway” courses should include, but are not limited to, ENGL 1020 (Critical Thinking and Argumentation), MATH 1530 (Probability and Statistics), HIST 2010 (The United States to 1877), and two upper-division (3000/4000) level courses.

6) In order to receive credit for the technical specialty courses not accepted as direct transfer to ETSU, students must meet two conditions: (1) they must have completed all gateway courses (15 hours) with a minimum grade of C (2.0) in each course, and (2) they must have a minimum overall 2.0 GPA for all work completed at ETSU. Completion of the upper division courses in the ETSU gateway requirement constitutes assessment by appropriately credentialed faculty in the discipline. Only then will ETSU award a maximum of 30 hours lower division credit through assessment to matriculated students. The credit will be assigned to transcript-only courses (maximum of 30 hours distributed as appropriate to 1000 or 2000 level):

- **BSGT** (1000, 1500, 2000, 2500) General Applied Technologies
- **BSCT** (1000, 1500, 2000, 2500) General Computer Technologies
- **BSAT** (1000, 1500, 2000, 2500) General Applied Human Sciences

7) Credit for assessment applies only to the B.A.S.

8) For participating students, program articulation agreements are effective for six years from the date of original entry into collegiate level work. If more than six years elapsed from the student’s initial date of participation under the agreement, the articulation in place at the time of transfer to ETSU will determine the student’s progress toward baccalaureate degree completion.

9) A student must apply for participation in the articulated program while enrolled at the community college. The community college will signify on the
student’s transcript that the associate degree was completed according to the articulated curricula. East Tennessee State University will, when evaluating the student’s transcript, honor the terms of the agreement for admission to ETSU.

10) When entering ETSU, students must meet the standards and follow the procedures outlined in the ETSU undergraduate catalog for the year they enrolled in the articulated program at the community college, or they may elect to follow the current ETSU catalog. If more than six years elapsed after initial community college enrollment in the articulated program, the transferring student must meet the terms of the current ETSU catalog.

11) **GoldLink, Online, and Telephone Registration**: Students are provided touch-tone access to register at ETSU directly, maintain their schedule, pay fees, access grades, and access other student information.

**ETSU and PSTCC Web Pages**: ETSU- PSTCC articulation agreements are posted on web pages for the two institutions.

ETSU – [http://www.etsu.edu](http://www.etsu.edu)
PSTCC – [http://www.pstcc.edu](http://www.pstcc.edu)