



# 2019-2020

## Inbound Exchange Fact Sheet



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# general information



## Official Name

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University or Virginia Tech

## Location

Blacksburg, Virginia, 24061 USA

## Mailing Address

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Blacksburg, VA 24061  
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## General Background

Virginia Tech takes a hands-on, engaging approach to education, preparing scholars to be leaders in their fields and communities. As the commonwealth's most comprehensive university and its leading research institution, Virginia Tech offers 240 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to more than 30,000 students and manages a research portfolio of more than \$513 million. The university fulfills its land-grant mission of transforming knowledge to practice through technological leadership and by fueling economic growth and job creation locally, regionally, and across Virginia. Through a combination of its three missions of learning, discovery, and engagement, Virginia Tech continually strives to accomplish the charge of its motto *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve). The Blacksburg campus is located in Montgomery County in the New River Valley.

## Enrollment

Undergraduate: Approx. 24,000  
Graduate and Professional: Approx. 7,200  
Total: Approx. 31,200

## Websites

[www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu)  
[www.globaleducation.vt.edu](http://www.globaleducation.vt.edu)



# university rankings



The following rankings (<https://vt.edu/about/rankings.html>) represent a few of the broader measures of excellence that the university has garnered.



## U.S. News and World Report

### 2019 Best Colleges Ranking

Virginia Tech among the Top Public Schools

### September 2017

No. 9 - College of Engineering

No. 45: Pamplin College of Business

### March 2016

Graduate programs among the best in the nation

## National & International Rankings

### March 2017

Ranked among world's best in 21 subjects, QS World University Rankings

### 2017

No. 46 - Research & Development Expenditures

## The Princeton Review

### August 2018

No. 2 - Town-Gown Relations

No. 3 - Best Campus Food

No. 3 - Students Love Their College

No. 7 - Best Quality of Life

No. 17 - Best Alumni Network

# what is a hokie?



## Origins

Written by Clara B. Cox (class of 1984) with input from Tom Tillar and Colonel Rock Roszak.

If you ask a Virginia Tech student what a Hokie is, you are likely to hear “I am.”

The origin of the word “hokie” has nothing to do with a turkey. It was coined by O.M. Stull (class of 1896), who used it in a spirit yell he wrote for a competition.

Virginia Tech was founded in 1872 as a land-grant institution and was named Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College. In 1896, the Virginia General Assembly officially changed the college’s name to Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute, a name so long that people shortened it in popular usage to VPI.

The original college cheer, which made reference to the original name of the institution, was no longer suitable.

So a contest was held to select a new spirit yell, and Stull won the \$5 top prize for his cheer, now known as Old Hokie.

**Hoki, Hoki, Hoki, Hy.  
Techs, Techs, V.P.I.  
Sola-Rex, Sola-Rah.  
Polytechs-Vir-gin-ia  
Rae, Ri, V.P.I.**

Later, the phrase “Team! Team! Team” was added at the end, and an “e” was added to Hoki.”

The HokieBird can be seen at various events throughout the year particularly at athletic events and other special happenings around campus.

To read more about Virginia Tech history and traditions, visit: <https://www.vt.edu/about/traditions.html>.





# application process



## Academic Standards

### English Proficiency Requirements

All international students whose native language is not English must document proficiency in the English language by submitting either an IELTS, TOEFL, or PTE.

Minimum scores for each test are shown in the chart below.

To have your IELTS/TOEFL score automatically sent to Virginia Tech, please specify Virginia Tech's CEEB code (5859) on the test form.

## Deadlines

For Academic Year or Fall

Nomination Deadline: March 1

Application Deadline: April 1

For Spring

Nomination Deadline: September 1

Application Deadline: October 1

\*Dates are subject to change.

Exchange coordinators will be contacted.

	IELTS	TOEFL			PTE
		iBT	CBT	PBT	
undergraduate	6.5 with no subscore below 6.5	80 with no subscore below 16	233	550	53
graduate	6.5	80	213	550	not acceptable

\*Please note, some departments may request higher; Undergraduate students who do not meet the minimum subscores will not be considered for admission.

All incoming international graduate students are required to take the English Placement Test (EPT), a diagnostic writing test, during the orientation period prior to the beginning of classes unless they meet the scores below:

	IELTS	TOEFL			PTE
		iBT	CBT	PBT	
graduate	7.5	105 with a writing score of 26 (out of 30)	260 with an essay writing score (Test of Written English) of 4.5 (out of 6)	620	not acceptable

Those who do not achieve the required scores on the EPT are required to take and satisfactorily complete a semester-long Academic and Professional Writing or Scientific and Technical Writing course during the first semester of their enrollment at Virginia Tech in addition to (but not counted in) their full load of academic classes (9-18 credit hours). There is an additional instructional fee for this course (fee includes the textbooks), taught by the Virginia Tech Language and Culture Institute (LCI; <http://www.lci.vt.edu/elp/>).



## Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirements

An undergraduate student who enrolls at Virginia Tech under the non-degree/exchange program must meet minimum requirements set by the university. All students must be in good standing at their current school and have at least a recalculated 2.5 GPA to be considered for non-degree student status. Transcripts are required.

For graduate students, the minimum cumulative grade point average for admission is 3.0 or higher, but that requirement may be waived. Department approval may be required.

For more information please refer to the Graduate Catalog found at:  
[https://secure.graduateschool.vt.edu/graduate\\_catalog/programs.htm](https://secure.graduateschool.vt.edu/graduate_catalog/programs.htm).

## Process Questions

At Virginia Tech, the Global Education Office serves as the primary coordinating unit for most logistical issues. All questions about the application process for exchange students should be directed to our office, and we will either answer your questions or consult other individuals or offices as necessary. All prospective applicants will need to contact the Exchange Coordinator(s) at their home universities. The Exchange Coordinator(s) will play a key role in facilitating the application process.

## Required Documents

All applications should be submitted online through the Virginia Tech Global Education website, [www.globaleducation.vt.edu](http://www.globaleducation.vt.edu).

- Complete Bilateral Exchange Program Application. For more information, see <https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu/Students0/Inbound.html>.
- Copy of transcripts, with translation in English, for each college or post-secondary institution attended (uploading of an unofficial transcript is permissible; graduate students must bring an original transcript upon arrival).
- Photocopy of passport information page (including passport number, name, and photo).
- Copy of most recent TOEFL or IELTS score report (for those whose native language is not English).
- List of 5-10 Virginia Tech courses student proposes to enroll in (to indicate academic goals at Virginia Tech). Listing a course does not guarantee enrollment or availability of the course.
  - In most cases, syllabi of pre-requisite courses should be made available as colleges/ departments may need additional information to assess a student's preparedness for placement in requested courses.
- Provide financial supporting documents
  - Copy of original bank statement documenting personal funds and/or
  - Copy of original bank statement or letter from an officer of the financial institution, documenting funds available from parents or other family members, and an affidavit of support from the account holder(s), if applicable and/or

- Official award letter from sponsor (if applicable) and/or
- Official award letter from government agency (if applicable) and/or

**Undergraduate students** must document that they have funds of at least \$8,189 per semester (double if staying for a full academic year) to cover expenses while studying at Virginia Tech.

Expenses per semester may include, but are not limited to:

- On-campus room rates: \$3,000-\$4,700 (rates vary depending on residence hall)  
See <https://www.bursar.vt.edu/tuition-fee-rates/tuition-fees.html>.
- Meal Plan: \$1,800-\$2,100 (rates vary depending on plan)  
See <https://www.bursar.vt.edu/tuition-fee-rates/tuition-fees.html>.
- Medical Insurance (visit <https://risk.controller.vt.edu/studentmedicalinsurance.html>).
- Exchange Student Fee: \$75 (This fee covers orientation, cultural and social programming throughout the semester, and transcript processing. It is mandatory for all exchange students.)
- Course-specific fees: \$500-\$700 (Some Virginia Tech courses may require additional fees, including Engineering and Business, that are not included in the Exchange Benefits Agreement)
- Other (textbooks, software, travel, discretionary spending)

*\* Please note, costs are approximations and are subject to change. Costs including room and board rates are set by the Board of Visitors. Expenses may also vary depending on what is included in the exchange benefits agreement between institutions.*

In cases where incoming exchange students are required to pay Virginia Tech's comprehensive fees, an additional \$1,000 is required.

Students with dependents must show an additional \$5,500 per semester to cover expenses for a dependent spouse and \$2,500 for each dependent child.

**Graduate students** must document that they have funds of at least \$8,200 per semester (double if staying for a full academic year) to cover expenses while studying at Virginia Tech.

Expenses per semester may include but are not limited to:

- On-campus room rates: \$5,100 (6 months)  
See <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/immigration-services/new-student-guide/financial-requirements.html>.
- Meal Plan: \$1,800-\$2,100 (rates vary depending on plan)  
See <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/immigration-services/new-student-guide/financial-requirements.html>.
- Medical Insurance (for more information visit <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/immigration-services/new-student-guide/insurance-health.html>).
- Exchange Student Fee: \$75 (This fee covers orientation, cultural and social programming throughout the semester, and transcript processing. It is mandatory for all exchange students.)

- Course-specific fees: \$500-\$700 (Some Virginia Tech courses may require additional fees, including Engineering and Business, that are not included in the Exchange Benefits Agreement) Graduate students seeking certificate may also incur additional fees.
- Other (textbooks, software, travel, discretionary spending)

*\*\* Please note, costs are approximations and are subject to change. Costs including room and board rates are set by the Board of Visitors. Expenses may also vary depending on what is included in the exchange benefits agreement between institutions.*

In cases where incoming exchange students are required to pay Virginia Tech's comprehensive fees, an additional \$1,000 is required.

An additional \$5,750 will be added for accompanying spouses and \$2,750 for each child. See <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/immigration-services/new-student-guide/financial-requirements.html> for more information.

- U.S. green card or permanent resident card (if applicable)
- Notification from your home school coordinator if you intend to participate in a sport sanctioned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA; <http://www.ncaa.org/>).

## Student Medical Insurance

All international students are required to have health insurance either through the university's Student Health Insurance Plan or a comparable plan that must be approved by the Student Medical Insurance Office.

The annual premium cost for Aetna Student Health, the university-sanctioned health insurance, is approximately \$2,555 per year for single students. It is possible to add spouses and/or dependent children to the plan for additional cost. The cost is not included in tuition.

For more information about the requirements and coverage options, go to: <https://risk.controller.vt.edu/studentmedicalinsurance.html>.

If you have alternative insurance coverage that meets the university's requirements, you may submit a waiver request to the university's Student Medical Insurance Office: <https://risk.controller.vt.edu/studentmedicalinsurance.html>.



# academic calendar



## Semester Schedules

Fall 2019 August 26-December 11  
Examination Period: December 13-December 19

Spring 2020 January 20- May 6  
Examination Period: May 8 - May 13

Please refer to the Registrar's website for the most up-to-date information:  
<http://www.registrar.vt.edu/>

## Orientation Sessions

In order to attend all required orientation sessions, exchange students should plan to arrive in Blacksburg no later than the morning of the Monday prior to the start of classes.

Please refer to the Global Education Office website orientation schedules and information:  
<https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu/Students0/Inbound/beforeyouarrive/orientation-inbound.html>

There is no mandatory orientation for graduate students. Students should visit the Graduate School's new international student webpage for more information:  
<http://graduateschool.vt.edu/igss/prearrival>.



# academic information



## Areas of Study (undergraduate)

Please be advised this list is subject to change.

For the most up-to-date information please view the Undergraduate Catalog: <https://www.undergradcatalog.registrar.vt.edu/1819/index.html>.

### College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

#### Agribusiness

Agribusiness Management; Veterinary Business Management

#### Agricultural Sciences

Agricultural Technology (2-year program; apply separately at [www.agtech.vt.edu](http://www.agtech.vt.edu))

Agriculture Business; Animal Agriculture; Crop Production; Landscape and Turf Management

#### Animal and Poultry Sciences

Production/Business; Pre-Vet; Science

#### Applied Economic Management

Community Economic Development; Environmental Econ, Management, & Policy; International Trade & Development

#### Biochemistry

#### Crop and Soil Sciences

Agronomy; Crop Genetics and breeding; International Agriculture; Turf grass Management

#### Dairy Science

Dairy Enterprise Management; Biotechnology/Pre-Vet; Dual Emphasis

#### Environmental Horticulture

#### Environmental Science

Land Restoration and Management; Land, Water, and Air; Water Science and Quality

#### Food Science and Technology

Food and Beverage Fermentation; Food Business; Food and Health; Science

#### Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise<sup>2</sup>

Dietetics; Science of Food Nutrition and Exercise

#### Landscape Horticulture and Design

### College of Architecture & Urban Studies

#### Architecture<sup>1</sup>

#### Art

#### Art History

#### Building Construction

#### Construction Engineering and Management

#### Environmental Policy and Planning

#### Graphic Design

#### Industrial Design<sup>1</sup>

#### Interior Design<sup>1</sup>

#### Landscape Architecture

#### Public and Urban Affairs

#### Real Estate

#### Studio Arts

#### Visual Communication Design

<sup>1</sup> Restricted major - Placement in courses for this area are limited (in some cases, unavailable) and require program approval.

<sup>2</sup> Pre-requisites are strictly enforced in this area.

### Pamplin College of Business

Minor concentration for any Pamplin major: Global Business

Minor concentrations for any major: Business; Business

Leadership; Real Estate

#### Accounting and Information Systems

Accounting; Information Systems - Assurance; Information Systems - Development

#### Business Information Technology

Computer-Based Decision Support Systems; e-Business Technology; Operations Management

#### Economics (Business)

#### Finance

#### Hospitality and Tourism Management

#### Management

Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology; Human Resource Management; Management Consulting and Analytics

#### Marketing

### College of Engineering<sup>2</sup>

#### Aerospace Engineering<sup>1</sup>

#### Biological Systems Engineering

#### Chemical Engineering

#### Civil Engineering

#### Computer Engineering

#### Computer Science

#### Construction Engineering and Management

#### Electrical Engineering

#### Engineering Science and Mechanics

#### Industrial and Systems Engineering

#### Materials Science and Engineering

#### Mining and Minerals Engineering

#### Ocean Engineering

### College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences

#### Classical Studies

#### Communication Studies

#### Consumer Studies

#### Creative Writing

#### Criminology

#### English

#### Family and Consumer Sciences

#### Fashion Merchandising and Design

#### French

#### German

#### History

#### Human Development

#### International Studies

International Public Policy; International Relations

#### Literature and Language

#### Multimedia Journalism

#### Music (audition required)

General/Liberal Arts; Designed Option; Composition; Education; Performance; Technology

#### National Security and Foreign Affairs

## College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences contd.

### Philosophy

Pre-Medical Professions

### Political Science

Legal Studies, National Security Studies

### Professional and Technical Writing

### Property Management

### Public Relations

### Religion and Culture

### Residential Environments and Design

### Russian

### Sociology

Africana Studies; American Indian Studies; Research Methods; Social Inequality; Women's and Gender Studies

### Spanish

### Theatre and Cinema

Cinema Emphasis; Theatre and Design Technology; Theatre Performance

## College of Natural Resources & Environment

### Environmental Informatics

### Environmental Resource Management

Environmental Resource Management; Watershed Management

### Fish Conservation

Freshwater Fisheries Conservation; Marine Fisheries Conservation Forestry

### Forestry

Forest Resource Management; Urban Forestry; Forest Operations and Business

### Geography

### Meteorology

### Natural Resources Conservation

Conservation and Recreation Management; Environmental Education (grades K-6); Natural Resources Science (grades 6-12)

### Packaging Systems and Design

### Sustainable Biomaterials

### Water: Resources, Policy, and Management

### Wildlife Conservation

## College of Science

### Biochemistry

### Biological Sciences

Biomedical

### Chemistry

### Computational Modeling and Data Analytics

Physics Economics; Traditional

### Economics (Sciences)

### Geosciences

Earth Science Education; Geochemistry; Geology; Geophysics

### Mathematics

Applied Computational Mathematics; Applied Discrete Mathematics; Mathematics Education

### Microbiology

### Nanoscience

### Neuroscience

Clinical Neuroscience; Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience; Computational and Systems Neuroscience; Experimental Neuroscience

### Physics

Physical Education; Pre-Health; Pre-Law

### Psychology

### Statistics

### Systems Biology



## Areas of Study (graduate)

Graduate courses are only available to students who are admitted on the graduate level per the terms of the exchange agreement.

Please be advised this list is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information please view the Graduate Catalog: [http://graduateschool.vt.edu/graduate\\_catalog/](http://graduateschool.vt.edu/graduate_catalog/).

### College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Agricultural and Applied Economics  
Agricultural Leadership and Community Education  
Agricultural and Life Sciences  
Animal and Poultry Sciences Horticulture  
Biochemistry  
Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences  
Dairy Science  
Entomology  
Food Science and Technology  
Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise  
Plant Pathology, and Weed Science

### College of Architecture & Urban Studies

Architecture<sup>1</sup>  
Architecture and Design Research<sup>1</sup>  
Building/Construction Science and Management  
Creative Technologies  
Environmental Design and Planning  
Government and International Affairs  
Landscape Architecture  
Planning, Governance, and Globalization  
Public Administration and Public Affairs  
Urban and Regional Planning

### Pamplin College of Business

After Spring 2015, MBA program courses are no longer offered on the Blacksburg campus, and applicants should not apply.

Accounting and Information Systems Hospitality and Tourism Management

### College of Engineering

Aerospace Engineering  
Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics  
Biological Systems Engineering  
Chemical Engineering  
Civil Engineering  
Computer Engineering  
Computer Science & Applications  
Electrical Engineering  
Engineering Education  
Engineering Mechanics  
Environmental Engineering  
Environmental Sciences and Engineering  
Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Materials Science and Engineering  
Mining Engineering  
Nuclear Engineering  
Ocean Engineering

### College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences

Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought Communication  
Creative Writing  
Education  
Career and Technical Education; Counselor Education; Curriculum and Instruction; Educational Leadership; Educational Research and Evaluation; Elementary Education; Higher Education; Instructional Design and Technology; Integrative STEM Education  
English  
French and Francophone Studies  
History  
Hispanic Studies  
Human Development  
Material Culture & Public Humanities  
Multilingual Studies  
Philosophy  
Political Science  
Rhetoric and Writing  
Science and Technology Studies  
Sociology  
Theatre

### College of Natural Resources & Environment

Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences  
Forestry  
Geography  
Geospatial and Environmental Analysis  
Natural Resources  
Forest Products

### College of Science

Biological Sciences  
Biomedical Technology Development and Management  
Chemistry  
Economics  
Geosciences  
Mathematics  
Physics  
Psychology  
Statistics

### Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine

Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences  
Public Health

### Interdisciplinary Academic Programs

Genetics, Bioinformatics, and Computational Biology  
Information Technology  
Macromolecular Science and Engineering  
Microbiology Graduate Training Program  
Molecular Plant Sciences  
Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health  
Disaster Resilience

<sup>1</sup> Restricted major - Placement in courses for this area are limited (in some cases, unavailable) and require program approval.

## Restricted Departments

International exchange students may enroll for courses in almost any academic discipline at Virginia Tech. Please note, however, course placement, in some areas, including departments in the College of Engineering and the Pamplin College of Business, may be difficult. In those cases, placement is unlikely and cannot be guaranteed. Virginia Tech colleges and departments will be consulted to gauge whether exchange students can be accommodated. Exchange students must possess the pre-requisite knowledge needed for each course (this is also required of VT students).

## Course Information

### Requesting Courses

The university designates a one-week time period during the prior term to allow entry of enrollment requests for a future term. While exchange students are not admitted until after the initial course request period, they will be able to register for courses during orientation. Students can register for courses via Hokie SPA ([www.hokiespa.vt.edu](http://www.hokiespa.vt.edu), an online tool for students, faculty, and staff that allows users to view academic, financial, and other pertinent information).

Not all courses found in the Course Catalog are offered each semester. Students should consult the university timetable in making course selections.

For courses that specify prerequisites, students must be able to demonstrate that they meet the minimum requirements. If possible, students should bring course outlines or syllabi with them to Virginia Tech, showing what material they have already studied at their home university.

Timetable (use most recent academic year):

[https://banweb.banner.vt.edu/ssb/prod/HZSKVTSC.P\\_DispRequest](https://banweb.banner.vt.edu/ssb/prod/HZSKVTSC.P_DispRequest)

Undergraduate: <http://www.undergradcatalog.registrar.vt.edu>

Graduate: <http://graduateschool.vt.edu/> (look under “Academics”)





## Academic Load

All exchange students must be enrolled full time at Virginia Tech. For undergraduate students, a full-time course load is 12 credit hours or more, with students typically taking between 15 and 19 credits. For graduate students, a full-time course load is 9 credit hours or more. Courses range from 1-4 credit hours. However, most courses are 3 credit hours. Only 3 credit hours of online coursework can be counted toward the minimum course load required.

## Grading System

The academic achievement of a student in a specific course is rated as follows:

Letter Grade	Grade Points for each hour	
A (Excellent)	4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A grade of "I" (incomplete) may be given when the requirements of a course other than the final examination have not been completed due to illness or extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control. The "I" grade is the prerogative of the instructor.</li> <li>· To remove an "I" grade, lecture course requirements must be satisfied during the student's first subsequent term of enrollment, and laboratory course requirements must be satisfied prior to the end of the first term during which the course is offered and the student is enrolled. Incomplete and "X" grades are automatically converted to "F" if requirements are not fully satisfied during the period of time allowed.</li> <li>· An "NR" grade is assigned automatically by the system when a student is enrolled for a class and no other grade is assigned by the instructor. The "NG" is intended to be a grade distinguishable from those initially assigned by the instructor and thus to indicate clearly the origin of the grade.</li> <li>· Courses from which a student withdraws under the terms of the policy explained on the following page, will appear on their transcript with a "W" grade, but will not count in the GPA hours nor in any GPA calculations. The "W" signifies that this policy was invoked and does not reach the rationale for its use. The reasons for use remain the student's responsibility.</li> <li>· The Grade Point Average (GPA) is computed by dividing the total number of quality credits earned by the total number of hours attempted at Virginia Tech, except courses passed on a Pass/Fail basis and courses with an "X" (Continuing Course). "NG" grades are computed as "F" grades in determining GPA. The GPA is unaffected by the "I" grade, unless or until the "I" is converted to an "F" for failure to complete the course requirements within the allotted time.</li> <li>· A student may not repeat courses in order to improve his or her grade average where a grade of "C" or higher has been earned. An assigned grade of "A-D" will be changed to "P" whenever a graduation analysis (DARS report) detects a repeated course previously passed with a "C" or better.</li> </ul>
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	
B (Good)	3.0	
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C (Fair)	2.0	
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	
D- (Barely Passing)	0.7	
F (Failure)	0.0	
I (Incomplete)	-	
NG	-	
NR	-	
P (Passing)	-	
RP (Related Course)	-	
S (Satisfactory)	-	
W (Course Withdrawn)	-	
X (Continuing Course)	-	

Grades are based on a 100 point system and are assigned as follows (but are also up to the professors discretion):

A 93-100    A- 90-92    B+ 87-89    B 83-86    B- 80-82    C+ 77-79    C 73-76    C- 70-72  
 D+ 67-69    D 63-66    D- 60-62    F <60







## Housing & Costs Overview

Your request for on-campus housing will be noted based on the receipt date for your bilateral exchange application. Normally, the demand is greater than the spaces available.

If on-campus housing is not available, students can arrange housing at apartment complexes available in Blacksburg. On-campus housing is NOT guaranteed.

If you are offered a space on campus, you will receive a contract from Housing & Residence Life office. Please note, for students on exchange during a full academic year, the terms of the contract will cover two semesters. To be guaranteed a room on campus, the contract must be promptly signed and returned. The housing and dining contract is a legally binding agreement (see below for dining information).

On-campus housing options and costs: See [www.housing.vt.edu](http://www.housing.vt.edu) or [www.bursar.vt.edu](http://www.bursar.vt.edu) for more information.

Off-campus housing options and costs: Renting an apartment in Blacksburg can range from \$300 to \$800 per month for shared accommodations. One resource for rental listings is the Virginia Tech Off-Campus Housing Service: <https://www.techoffcampus.com/>

## Food & Dining

Dining Services program at Virginia Tech is ranked among the best in the country. The state-of-the-art dining centers on campus serve approximately 6.2 million meals each year.

Meal plans vary for on- and off-campus students. Students living on campus are required to purchase a dining plan. Visit [www.dining.vt.edu](http://www.dining.vt.edu).

## Textbooks & Materials

The cost for textbooks and other materials can range from \$300 to \$500 per semester, depending on the course and area of study.



## Student Centers and Activities

Squires Student Center, the main building for student activity, contains two ballrooms, performance spaces, a food court and dining areas, activity rooms, an art gallery, the BreakZone and Venture Out Centers, and more. BreakZone offers billiards, bowling, table tennis and arcade games. For those interested in fun, safe, and educational outdoor options, Venture Out is a useful resource in planning adventures or renting equipment. The Graduate Life Center (GLC) and Johnston Student Center (GBJ) on campus are also available to students. Students are encouraged to become as involved as possible at Virginia Tech. There are over 700 student organizations of varying interests from water polo to rugby. Search organizations here: <http://gobblerconnect.vt.edu/organizations>.

## Service Opportunities

The commitment to service is strong at Virginia Tech and examples of living out the university motto, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), are seen throughout the year. Virginia Tech is home to the largest collegiate Relay for Life (a national fundraising event for cancer research). At The Big Event students volunteer to complete projects for residents in the community. See [www.engage.vt.edu/](http://www.engage.vt.edu/).

## Sports

### Intramural

Virginia Tech has one of the most active intramural programs in the country, serving more than 13,000 participants per year. Both recreational and competitive leagues are offered. Activities include:

- Dodgeball Tournament
- Innertube Water Polo
- Kickball Tournament
- Putt-Putt Tournament
- 9-on-9 Soccer
- Softball
- Volleyball
- Swim Meet
- Table Tennis

### Club

Sport clubs play other colleges and universities, but are not part of the NCAA (<http://www.ncaa.org/>). They are supported by the Recreational Sports department.

Club sports include:

- Gymnastics
- Ice Hockey
- Lacrosse (M)
- Rugby (W)
- Soccer (W)
- Softball (W)
- Tennis (W)
- Volleyball (M, W)
- Water Polo (M, W)
- Baseball
- Basketball (W)
- Bowling
- Clay Target
- Crew
- Cricket
- Cycling
- Fencing
- Field Hockey
- Golf



## Varsity

Virginia Tech is part of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). Most sporting events are free and open to all students. Football and basketball games require tickets. Students may obtain a ticket through a lottery system.

The Hokies have 16 national level athletic teams:

- Baseball
- Basketball (M,W)
- Cross Country
- Football
- Track and Field
- Wrestling
- Lacrosse
- Soccer (M, W)
- Softball
- Swimming and Diving
- Tennis (M, W)
- Volleyball
- Golf

## On-campus Computer Facilities

There are computer labs and wireless networks around campus, such as at Newman Library, the Math Emporium, and Pamplin Lab. Residence halls are equipped with high-speed internet access for students with personal computers.

## Entertainment

Students can attend performances at The Center for the Arts; events presented by the Virginia Tech Union; the BreakZone in Squires Student Center; and more. Just a short walk from campus, Downtown Blacksburg offers restaurants and shops, as well as the historic Lyric Theatre.

## Health & Fitness Facilities

The Schiffert Health Center on campus ([www.healthcenter.vt.edu/](http://www.healthcenter.vt.edu/)) is available to students. The Lewis-Gale Hospital Montgomery (<https://lewisgale.com/location/lewisgale-hospital-montgomery>), a regional hospital providing a full scope of healthcare services, is located just over a mile from campus. Virginia Tech has two gyms, as well as a golf course. Both War Memorial and McComas Gyms have 25-yard pools, weight machines, and aerobic equipment. Exercise classes are offered for a fee.

## Safety

The Virginia Tech Police Department is a full-service, nationally accredited police agency. A nighttime safety escort service known as Safe Ride is available. For an safety escort, call **540-231-SAFE (7233)**. Emergency telephones are located throughout the campus grounds and connect you with the police department directly.

## Work Options

International exchange students can apply to work on campus for up to 20 hours a week, but only after consultation with your Virginia Tech immigration adviser.



# blacksburg + beyond



## Transportation

Most students fly into the regional airport in Roanoke, Virginia, which is 45 minutes from the Virginia Tech main campus. There is a Smart Way bus shuttle to Blacksburg ([www.smartwaybus.com](http://www.smartwaybus.com)). Please note, the Smart Way shuttle does not run on Sundays.

Washington, D.C. is located approximately 270 miles from Blacksburg (4.5 hours driving by car). Flights can arrive in Washington, D.C., but please be aware that you will need to arrange for additional transportation to Blacksburg.

The Megabus, a city-to-city commercial bus company, offers daily departures to Washington, D.C. and Knoxville, Tennessee from Christiansburg, Virginia (approximately 15 minutes driving to Blacksburg).

Most places on campus and around town are within walking distance. The Blacksburg Transit offers local bus service, free to students with their student ID.

## Blacksburg Information

Blacksburg, some 12,000 acres nestled on a plateau between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains, is special. Home to about 41,700 local residents, the town is considered small by most standards—but don't let its size or location fool you. Because of the town's award-winning services, reasonable cost of living, safety, moderate climate, and abundant leisure activities, Blacksburg is consistently ranked among the country's best places to live and has earned a reputation nationwide as a well-managed, stable, and forward-looking community. More information about the town of Blacksburg can be found at: <http://www.blacksburg.gov/>.

## Surrounding Areas

The Town of Christiansburg and its New River Valley Mall is less than 10 miles on Route 460 from campus. The City of Radford, home to Radford University, is about 30 minutes from campus. About 45 minutes away from campus is Roanoke, the largest city in Southwest Virginia.

## Feeling Adventurous?

### To the North:

- Less than 15 minutes to Pandapas Pond, with fishing and hiking trails.
- Mountain Lake Resort, where parts of "Dirty Dancing" were filmed.
- About 45 minutes to Cascades Falls, among the East Coast's most beautiful waterfalls.
- Around two hours to Charlottesville, home to Virginia Tech ACC-rival, the University of Virginia.
- The national capital, Washington, D.C., is 4-5 hours away.

### To the South:

- Around 15 minutes to The Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech.
- Some 30 minutes to Claytor Lake State Park for swimming, camping, hiking, and picnicking.
- An hour or so to Fancy Gap, which offers spectacular scenery and views of the southern Appalachian Mountains.
- Less than two hours to Abingdon, home of the historic Barter Theatre, the State Theatre of Virginia.
- Around two hours to Winston-Salem, N.C., home of ACC-rival Wake Forest University.
- A little more than two hours to Bristol, home to the Birthplace of Country Music and near the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area
- Less than three hours to Charlotte, N.C., North Carolina's largest metropolitan area.

### To the East:

- Less than two hours to Lynchburg, the "City of the Seven Hills" on the James River.
- Some three hours to Richmond, Virginia's capital city.
- Nearly five hours to Virginia Beach's shoreline.

### To the west:

- Two and a half hours to Charleston, the capital of West Virginia.
- Around three hours to Breaks Interstate Park, often called the "Grand Canyon of the South."
- Around three hours to Big Stone Gap, home of the Southwest Virginia Museum.
- Less than four hours to Knoxville, home to the University of Tennessee.





2019-2020

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