

FAQ's

Do all students get housing the first year?

Housing is guaranteed for freshmen. With the exception of cadets, upperclassmen may request on-campus housing by submitting a housing contract at the beginning of spring semester to Division of Student Affairs (Housing & Residence Life) prior to the year they desire on-campus occupancy. While not guaranteed, most upperclassmen who request on-campus housing are offered a space on campus.

Can freshmen have cars?

Yes, freshmen are permitted to have a car, although it is not necessary. The Blacksburg Transit (BT) bus system circulates on campus continuously, and travels to local shopping areas as well as apartment complexes. Students ride free by showing their Virginia Tech ID (the cost is included in the comprehensive fees) to any destination in the local area. For more information about bringing a car to campus, visit www.parking.vt.edu.

Are there quotas for different areas of the state?

No, we do not have quotas for different regions in the state or for different states in the country.

What percentage of the class has to be in-state?

There is no quota, but we currently have about 70% in-state students, 30% out-of-state students. Even in light of this difference, because of the composition of our applicant pool, it is no more difficult to gain admission as an out-of-state student.

Is it better to take an AP class and make a B or a regular class with an A?

The most competitive applicant will have a solid mix of A's and B's in a strong curriculum.

How are letters of recommendation used?

Letters of recommendation are not required, but will be read if you choose to submit one with your high school transcript.

Do you have out of state scholarships?

Yes. Many out of state students receive scholarships and financial aid. Be sure to file your FAFSA and also complete the General Scholarship Application.

Is your campus diverse?

Virginia Tech promotes diversity through our Principles of Community, which supports inclusion, as well as works to build and sustain a nurturing community. We were recently named one of the top 10 Diversity Champion Colleges in the country by INSIGHT into Diversity Magazine. We also have students from all over the country as well as the world, which helps add to the diversity of campus. With over 90 majors at Virginia Tech, students are bound to interact and learn from peers with different perspectives. There are over 700 clubs and organizations as well on campus, so students can get involved with a wide array of organizations.

More information on diversity can be found at: <http://www.vt.edu/diversity/>.

Do you waive out of state tuition?

No.

Is it harder to get in if you're an out of state student?

No.

Can you double major?

Yes, students have the choice to double major--or even triple major! You'll need to pick one to enter as a freshman, but can add on more once you're here. If you pick many majors or majors that share very few core classes, you may be adding time to your graduation date.

What's the average scholarship package a student gets?

Scholarship packages have a wide range. Over 70 % of undergraduate students receive some sort of financial aid. More comprehensive information on financial aid is available on www.finaid.vt.edu.

Will I get AP or IB credit?

We give credit for most AP scores of three and above (please refer to the University Registrar's [AP Credit page](#) for more information.) Advanced Standing with credit for the IB diploma may be granted to students who attend Virginia Tech after receiving an IB diploma or certificate. Advanced Standing credit will be based on the scores obtained on the IB examinations.

Do you have pre-med?

Yes. Virginia Tech offers pre-health advising. Advisors will help students in preparing for professional school by advising them on the appropriate pre-requisites, as well as guiding them through the application process. Students who participate in pre-health advising are not limited to any major. More information can be found at their website: <http://www.career.vt.edu/HealthProfessionsAdvising/Index.html>

Tell me about your medical school.

Virginia Tech Carillion School of Medicine and Research Institute is a fully-accredited public/private four-year allopathic (MD) medical school. It is a partnership between VT and Carillion Clinic, and its mission is to develop physician thought leaders through inquiry, research, and discovery. Last year they received over 4,000 applications for 42 available places in the entering class. More information can be found on their website: <http://www.vtc.vt.edu/>

Will my credits from my dual enrollment courses transfer?

Many dual enrollment courses will transfer with a C or better in the course. More information can be found at: <http://www.admiss.vt.edu/news/ap-ib-and-dual-enrollment-credits/>. Also, the transfer guide will help you determine which courses the DE credits will transfer as here at VT. It can be found at: <http://www.tranguide.registrar.vt.edu/>.

I have a 4.1 and a 1280, do you think I will get in?

*A number of factors are important when reviewing freshman applications. First of all, when the review committee looks at a student's transcript, we like to see a challenging curriculum in context of the high school. All applications come with a high school profile, so the review committee will be able to see which courses are offered and from those courses, which ones the student is taking. We don't make decisions based on the GPA because the GPA may be calculated very differently from one school to the next. It also doesn't reveal trends. The most competitive applicant will have a solid mix of A's and B's in some of the more rigorous courses offered. We also look at test scores. We accept the old SAT, the New SAT and the ACT, and do not have a preference among the tests. We will super-score, as well, meaning we will take the most competitive score from any test. There is also a section for personal essays on the application. They are not required, but are strongly recommended. Other factors like leadership, volunteerism, work history, extra-curriculars, diversity, legacy, first generation, major, and disciplinary record may also play a role in the decision. **Because so many factors can influence the decision, it is impossible to predict your chances of being offered admission knowing only a GPA and an SAT score.***

Should I apply early decision?

Early decision is a binding agreement, so only apply early decision if you are 100% sure that Virginia Tech is your number one choice. Also, it is important to realize that the criteria for admission are the same for early decision as for regular decision. If you are applying early decision, keep in mind that you are agreeing to attend regardless of your financial aid package. If finances are something you want to consider in your decision, then we recommend applying regular decision.

Should I take AP Environmental Science or regular Physics?

If you are applying to general Engineering, the most competitive applicant will have upper-level courses in calculus, chemistry, and physics, if offered at the school.

Do you offer any education abroad?

Yes, Virginia Tech offers many education abroad opportunities through our Global Education Office. Students can study abroad at 80 different universities in 32 countries. To learn more visit the website: <http://www.educationabroad.vt.edu/>

What kind of scholarship opportunities do you have?

The most comprehensive information is available at www.finaid.vt.edu. Students should complete the General Scholarship Application by February 15th. A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must also be filled out and mailed to the federal processor by January 15th in order to be considered for most aid and scholarships.

What is your acceptance rate?

Most students who apply to VT are accepted! About 65% of the students who apply for admission are offered admission. Acceptance rates within specific majors vary due to space and competitiveness.

What is your Freshman Retention rate?

94% of freshmen return for sophomore year. Our students love it here!

What percent of campus is made up of GE?

Engineering students make up around 30% of the undergraduate population. There are just about 7,000 undergraduate students enrolled in the College of Engineering. Overall the total undergrad population is about 25,000.

Is it harder to get in early decision?

No, students are reviewed the same regardless of whether they apply early or regular decision.

Do you have any summer programs for high school students?

Yes, we have summer programs that high school students can participate in to learn more about Virginia Tech and the various majors we offer. This includes engineering, science, and liberal arts, as well as others. Information on specifics can be found on the departmental websites. We also have the Summer Academy which is offered to Virginia Tech Freshman. Students who participate move-in during July before their freshman year and complete courses toward their degree. Benefits include accelerated graduation, smaller class sizes, as well as a smooth transition into college life. More information can be found at: <http://summer.vt.edu/vtsa.php>

What's a Hokie?

I am!

To be more specific, the word hokie comes from a spirit yell that O.M Stull (class of 1896) created for a spirit competition. The "gobbler" image has evolved over the years into what we now call our beloved mascot, the Hokie Bird.

What are your qualifications for honors and perks for being an honors student?

Your application for admission is your Honors application. The Honors College will contact you if are selected to join their community. Students who are not invited to join honors upon entering Virginia Tech will have an opportunity to apply to the Honors College after they have established an academic record at the university.

Perks include:

Priority registration after first semester.

Honors housing

Honors advising

Opportunities to design your curriculum