

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Academic Credentials (Minimum First-Year Entrance)

Academic preparation for admission to Virginia Tech is best achieved by sustaining an academically rigorous course selection throughout high school. Specifically, students must complete:

2018 units of high school coursework, including:

- 4 units of English
- 3 units of math (includes algebra I, and algebra II)
- 2 units of laboratory science (chosen from biology, chemistry or physics)
- 2 units of social science (one must be history)
- 3 additional academic units (foreign language is highly recommended)
- 2 units of a single foreign or classical language (or 3 units of different foreign or classical language)
- 4 elective units

~~By the time they graduate from the university, students must meet a language study requirement. The minimum requirement may be met in middle/high school by completing 2 years of a single foreign or classical language. Some majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and the College of Science may require 3 years. The requirement also may be met after admission by earning 6 semester hours of college-level foreign or classical language credit. American Sign Language will satisfy this requirement.~~

Complete applications will be reviewed holistically by the Admissions Committee. Factors that are considered in the application review process include:

Academic Review:

- Rigor of academic program within context of school
- Grades in courses, including trends over time
- Standardized test scores (if applicable; test-optional for students entering through Fall 2028)
- Major requested on the application (we review by major at Virginia Tech)

Personal Review (in alphabetical order, not reflective of order of importance):

- Activities outside of the classroom like jobs, clubs, sports, family responsibilities, service, research, etc.
- Disciplinary record (Virginia Tech reserves the right to deny admission to students who have been dismissed or suspended for academic or disciplinary reasons or to those convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor.)

dean of the student's major college may require a preliminary meeting to discuss the appeal. The associate dean also may establish an independent submission deadline prior to each University Appeals committee meeting.

If the University Appeals Committee denies an appeal, the student may request further consideration of the academic appeal by the provost's representative. The decision of the provost's representative is final and there is no further recourse.

Applying for Your Degree

All students must apply for a degree by the first semester of their junior year. The application for degree can be found on Hokie SPA under the Degree Menu. Once students have completed the application, they should generate a Degree Audit Report (DARS). The DARS report will help students to be fully aware of all degree requirements, which remain to be completed. This report can also be generated through Hokie SPA.

Double Major(s): Undergraduate students who fulfill the requirements for two majors concurrently will receive recognition of the second major (double major) by including the additional major on their application for degree on Hokie Spa. Only the primary major will appear on the diploma. Students will receive double major certificates in recognition of the second major. The additional major will be included on students' official transcripts.

Second Undergraduate Degree: Students may earn a second bachelor's degree (and diploma) by earning a minimum of 30 additional credit hours ~~in-residence~~ with a minimum 2.00 GPA on all work attempted. All specific requirements must be met for each degree program, including attainment of the 2.00 GPA for all courses in the major. Note: The threshold for the total number of pass/fail hours allowed may not exceed the maximum for the first degree. Students cannot earn multiple degrees under the same degree program

In addition to the traditional Commencement, other "Degree Conferral Dates" have been established for each May to May year. The degree conferral dates for fall, winter, and summer appear on the diplomas of qualified graduates. The degree conferral dates fall on the last day of final examinations (last day of term) for summer, fall semester, and winter term. Names of Graduates of Summer and Fall terms will appear in the Fall Commencement Ceremony Program only.

No commencement ceremonies are conducted at the end of the summer term, but graduates may attend the fall ceremony after completion of degree requirements. They may also request permission from the department to "walk through" the spring commencement ceremony based on established departmental or college guidelines. Diplomas are not distributed.

Completion of degree requirements is determined after the final grade reports are available. Degrees are regarded as having been conferred on the appropriate conferral date upon determination by the University Registrar that degree requirements have been met. All course enrollments and attendance obligations must have been

completed on or before the degree conferral date. University actions, such as Honor System or Conduct System sanctions, may delay the awarding of a degree, the effective term of the degree and release of the diploma. Students with university actions will have their final degree conferral date moved in accordance with the completion of sanctions. Students who are unable to complete degree requirements based on their original application for degree term are responsible for moving their date of completion.

With the exception of spring and fall semesters, students may resolve degree completion problems up to thirty (30) days after the degree term to retain the conferral date on the diploma. Spring and fall degree candidates must resolve any graduation issues by the end of the next month following the degree conferral dates for these terms. Any resolutions of degree completion problems, subsequent to these resolution windows will be conferred on the next degree conferral date. Unresolved degree problems include failure to submit appropriate paperwork to the university.

Assessment of Student Learning Experiences

A critical element in the continuous improvement of programs and services at Virginia Tech is the evaluation of student learning experiences, perceptions, and academic achievement. Each student may be asked to participate in assessment activities, including but not limited to course assignments, surveys, focus groups, end of course evaluations, tests, and personal interviews. Student involvement in these assessment activities will assist Virginia Tech in providing current and future students with high-quality learning experiences in keeping with the mission of the University.

Class Level

A student must have received credit for at least 30 hours to be classified as a sophomore, at least 60 hours to be classified as a junior, and at least 90 hours to be classified as a senior.

Combination Degrees

The bachelor's degree will be awarded to a student who has satisfactorily completed three years of undergraduate work in an appropriate curriculum and the first year of work in an accredited medical, dental, veterinary, or law school, or medical technology program (biology majors only), or physical therapy program (biology majors only), provided the student fulfills the requirements for the three-year program as follows:

- At least two of the three years of pre-professional work, **including the third year in residence**, must be at the university.
- A minimum of 90 semester hours undergraduate work, i.e. pre-professional school credit, must be earned.

In order to take advantage of curricular innovation, a student may elect to meet the requirements in any subsequent catalog published between their first enrollment and graduation. Before changing catalogs, the student must consult their academic advisor and be approved by the degree program's associate dean. Students are strongly encouraged to maintain continuous enrollment. Any break in enrollment for more than 12 months will result in a change of the student's academic catalog to the catalog in effect at the time of the student's re-enrollment.

Students who declare an additional major and/or minor will follow the requirements in their academic catalog. An exception will be given if the additional major and/or minor was not offered until after the student's current academic catalog, and the student does not elect to change to the subsequent catalog in which that major/minor is available. In these cases, the earliest available catalog will be used for the graduation requirements specific to that additional major and/or minor.

A student must complete all courses with at least a minimum 2.00 GPA for all hours attempted. In addition, a student must present an equally satisfactory record in courses attempted in the major and/or any minor. The number of credit hours required varies from one major to another. Virginia Tech reserves the right to modify requirements in the student's program if necessary. The approved graduation requirements appear at the University Registrar's website: <https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/index1.html>.

All students must earn 25% of credits required for their respective degree from Virginia Tech. No more than 50% of credit hours earned from a two-year institution may be used to satisfy graduation requirements. Students who must enroll in foreign language courses to complete admission requirements may not use the credits toward completion of the degree.

~~Undergraduate students are permitted to complete a maximum of 18 of their last 45 hours in absentia and to transfer to complete their graduation requirements, so long as the request to transfer these credits meets all the current requirements in effect (transfer transcript is required and approval of the student's Academic Dean). Also, the credits to be transferred may consist of required as well as elective credits, as long as, prior approval has been obtained from the student's Academic Dean to transfer any required credits. Undergraduate students studying away from campus during their last 45 hours may apply for an individual waiver of the requirement that a maximum of 18 of their last 45 hours may be earned in absentia. Approval of the request will be at the discretion of their academic dean. This does not preclude the requirement that at least 25% of all credits be earned in residence at Virginia Tech.~~

Graduation with Distinction

Graduating with distinction is an honor bestowed on those who earn a 3.4 or higher and who complete no less than 60 hours at Virginia Tech. Distinction is denoted on the diploma and on the transcript. Levels of distinction are:

- Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or greater are graduated Summa Cum Laude.
- Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.6–3.7999 are graduated Magna Cum Laude.
- Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.4–3.5999 are graduated Cum Laude.

Grade Point Averages are not rounded in qualifying a student for distinction. In computing eligibility for graduation with distinction, only undergraduate level work attempted at Virginia Tech will be used. Students may not use hours earned at Virginia Tech as an associate, professional, or graduate level as part of the 60 semester hours required to earn distinction. The notation of distinction on the diploma and on the transcript is independent of the notation of a degree in honors, if applicable.

Language Study Requirement

~~Students must meet a language study requirement either through middle and high school enrollment or prior to receipt of the undergraduate degree. The minimum requirement may be met in middle or high school by completing two units of a single foreign or classical language or American Sign Language. Some majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences may require three (3) units of a single foreign or classical language or American Sign Language. Students completing the requirement at Virginia Tech may not count the hours toward degree completion. The requirement also may be met after admission by the following:~~

- ~~• Earning six (6) semester hours of college-level foreign or classical language credit or American Sign Language. Such credits are in addition to that number normally required for graduation in a student's program of study.~~

Limits on Acceptable Credits for Degrees

Not more than 6 credit hours earned from extension courses, radio courses, television courses, and intensive courses (e.g. taken while in active military service, etc.) will be accepted for undergraduate degree credit. Thirty-eight hours of advanced placement credit and/or international baccalaureate and/or Cambridge International Examination credit may be accepted towards the undergraduate degree.

Honor Code and Honor System

The Virginia Tech Honor Code is the university policy that defines the expected standards of conduct in academic affairs. The Virginia Tech honor pledge is as follows: "As a Hokie, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie,

		a course where the course is “C-” or below, both instances of the graded course will be computed in the grade point average. An assigned grade of “A–D-” for the second occurrence will be changed to a grade of “RP” whenever a repeated course with a “C” or better grade is identified.
S (Satisfactory/credits only)		
W (Course Withdrawn)		“W” Grade: Courses from which a student withdraws under the terms of the policy 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 reflect the rationale for its use. The reasons for use remain the student’s purview.
X (Continuing Course)		

Grades (Midterm)

Midterm grades are produced in the fall semester for freshmen and transfer students whose first term of enrollment is fall or summer semester. ~~Beginning Fall 1996, students whose first term of enrollment is summer will also receive a midterm grade report during fall semester. “Satisfactory” is given for work earning a grade of C or better and “unsatisfactory” is given for work earning a grade of C– or below.~~ The midterm grade is not part of the student’s permanent academic record and is only intended to be an early indication of the student’s progress.

Graduation Requirements (Grade Hours Passed or Completed)

The “total credits” figure on the displayed grade report is not necessarily the same as the total hours (often referenced as hours passed) required for completion of the degree (not all credit hours are effective toward graduation requirements). Students are responsible for verifying required hours for completion by reviewing their degree analysis (DARS) with their advisor.