Welcome to

VIRGINIA TECH ORIENTATION

2016-17

FIRST-YEAR TRANSFER PARENT/FAMILY HOKIE CAMP
ON YOUR ACCEPTANCE TO

VIRGINIA TECH!

We are excited that you have chosen Virginia Tech as the place where you plan to live, learn, and grow over the next several years. Entering a new community can be both exciting and daunting, but we are here to help you with this transition! New Student and Family Programs offers events and services designed to welcome all incoming Hokies and their families to the Virginia Tech community.

This brochure gives an overview of First-Year, Transfer, and Parent/Family Orientation, and Hokie Camp. Take the time to read through it and visit our website at www.nsfp.vt.edu for information on these very important first steps in your life as a Hokie. If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help!

Welcome to Virginia Tech! We look forward to seeing you this summer!

New Student and Family Programs Staff
ABOUT ORIENTATION

Orientation is the first step in your transition to Virginia Tech. During this program, you will meet current and incoming Tech students, register for fall semester courses, secure your Hokie Passport ID card, and much more.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

New Virginia Tech Students — New students become part of the Hokie community by interacting with the student Orientation team and other new students as well as faculty and staff. You will also learn about the resources available to Virginia Tech students. New Student Orientation will give you information that will help you feel comfortable and confident about starting your college experience at Virginia Tech in the fall.

Parents and Families — Sending a student off to college is a transition for the entire family. Although it is essential for new students to make their own decisions, we also understand that new students need the support of their families during this transition. Parent/Family Orientation includes sessions just for you to help answer questions and address any concerns you may have.

GENERAL ORIENTATION INFORMATION

The deadline to sign up for Transfer Orientation is June 17. The deadline to sign up for First-Year Orientation is June 30.

How to Sign Up

1. Log in to Hokie SPA at www.hokiespa.vt.edu using your PID (personal identifier) and password. Create a PID at pidgen.vt.edu.
2. After entering your PID and password, follow the prompts to enroll in 2-factor authentication. Register at least one device that you plan to bring with you to Orientation.
   • Learn the benefits and how to use this high security login process by visiting www.it.vt.edu/2factor.
   • If you have questions about or need assistance enrolling in 2-factor authentication, please call 540-231-HELP (4357). Help is available 24/7! New Student and Family Programs staff members are unable to assist you with enrolling in 2-factor authentication.
3. Select the “Hokie SPA” tab at the top, then scroll down and select “Information for New Students.”
4. From the “Information for New Students” section, select “New Student Orientation,” then select “Sign-up for New Student Orientation.”

On the registration page, you will choose your desired Orientation session from the list provided. Enter the number of family members/guests who will attend Orientation with you, and provide information for dietary/accommodation needs. You will be required to pay $35 for each family member or guest. You can log back in and make modifications until your deadline to sign up for Orientation. New Student and Family Programs staff members are not able to change your session.
GENERAL ORIENTATION

INFORMATION

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MAJOR
Remember that the sessions available to you depend on when advisors from your academic department/major are available to assist you with course registration. If you change your major, you must log back in to Hokie SPA and sign up for a new session to ensure you will attend the correct Orientation.

ORIENTATION CONFIRMATION
Your Orientation confirmation will appear after you sign up for Orientation on Hokie SPA. We will also send a confirmation email to your Virginia Tech email account. Please print a copy of the confirmation for your records.

CHANGING AN ORIENTATION SESSION
Did you already choose a date and your plans have changed? Don’t worry. Prior to the sign-up deadline, you can log back in to Hokie SPA using your PID and password, and change your date to a more convenient session, if available.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
Virginia Tech requires the annual collection and confirmation of information for each student. You will be prohibited from course registration until this information is provided. Please complete the “Registration Requirements” section of the “Registration and Schedule” link in Hokie SPA before you come to Orientation.

UNIVERSITY COMPUTER REQUIREMENT
Every undergraduate student is required to own a personal computer with certain specifications. Some colleges require a specific configuration as well. For more information, visit www.compreq.vt.edu.

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENT
All undergraduate students are required to purchase a Microsoft Enrollment for Education Solutions Software Bundle from Virginia Tech. Therefore, do not purchase Microsoft Office until you come to campus for Orientation. For more information, visit www2.ita.vt.edu/software/student.

SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSE SELECTION
Students who plan to enroll in a Spanish course should consult the online placement guide for help in deciding which course to begin with. No placement test is required. View the online placement guide at www.fll.vt.edu.

Before Orientation

- Create your PID and password. Go to www.pidgen.vt.edu and follow the instructions.
- Visit www.hokiespa.vt.edu. Log in and follow the prompts to enroll in 2-factor authentication. See page 5 for more information on this login process.
- Complete registration requirements. See page 6 for more information.
- Check your Virginia Tech email at www.start.google.vt.edu.
- Visit your academic college website.
- Submit your Immunization History form, which includes the Tuberculosis Risk Assessment form, by July 31. For more information, visit www.healthcenter.vt.edu/new_student.
- Complete the StrengthsFinder assessment at www.dsa.vt.edu/aspirations/strengths.
- If applicable, have AP/CLEP test scores and IB/Cambridge transcripts sent to the Office of the University Registrar. The school code is 5859. For more information, see Transfer Credit on page 8, or visit www.registrar.vt.edu/registration/transfer.

What to Bring to Orientation

- A government issued photo ID (driver’s license, international passport, etc.)
- Your Student ID number (begins with 90)
- Your PID and password
- The mobile device you registered to be enrolled in 2-Factor Authentication
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Comfortable, light clothing
- Sweater for air-conditioned rooms
- Umbrella
- Official/Unofficial copies of your transcripts and/or AP/IB Scores (if you have them)

After Orientation

- Check your Virginia Tech email throughout the summer at www.start.google.vt.edu.
- Complete AlcoholEdu and Haven by Thursday, August 18 at www.dsa.vt.edu/onlineprograms.
- Confirm on Hokie SPA that final official transcripts have arrived.
- Explore the Division of Student Affairs’ Aspirations for Student Learning and discover your strengths at www.dsa.vt.edu/aspirations/strengths.
- Find out how to connect to the wireless network when you return to campus in August by visiting www.wireless.cns.vt.edu.

CHECKLISTS

QUESTIONS? www.nsfp.vt.edu
GENERAL ORIENTATION

INFORMATION

TRANSFER CREDIT
Transfer credit will only be considered if a transcript is submitted from each college, university, or testing agency that granted the original credit. You must have official AP/CLEP scores and official IB/Cambridge transcripts sent from the appropriate testing agency directly to the University Registrar at Student Services Building, Suite 250, Virginia Tech, 800 Washington St. SW, Blacksburg, VA 24061. The school code is 5859.

To view awarded credit, log in to Hokie SPA, select “Grades Menu,” then “Transfer and Other Additional Credit.” Go to www.registrar.vt.edu/registration/transfer for more information.

DIRECTIONS AND PARKING
Road construction is planned for the summer of 2016. Check the New Student and Family Programs website before your visit for the most updated information regarding getting to campus.

You will park in the Lane Stadium parking lot, and Orientation Leaders will be there to greet you. Shuttle service is provided by Blacksburg Transit from the parking lot to Orientation.

Academic Questions
Have an academic question? Our New Student and Family Programs staff will do everything we can to help you with the Orientation process. However, it is best to contact your college if you have specific academic questions. Every college has specific requirements, so their representatives are better prepared to handle your individual situation.

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
www.cals.vt.edu
First-Year Advisor
Jennifer Carr
1060 Litton-Reaves Hall
540-231-8127
jcc@vt.edu
Transfer Advisor
Sherry Hazelwood
1060 Litton-Reaves Hall
540-231-8432
shazelwo@vt.edu

College of Architecture and Urban Studies
www.caus.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisor
Carolyn Harris
202 Cowgill Hall
540-231-6415
cjharris@vt.edu

College of Engineering
www.eng.vt.edu
First-Year Advisor
Marlena Lester
331 Goodwin Hall
540-231-2962
marlenal@vt.edu
Transfer Advisor
Christi Boone
212 Hancock Hall
540-231-9763
chboone2@vt.edu

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
www.clahs.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisor
Karen Watson
238 Wallace Hall
540-231-6770
watsonk@vt.edu

Pamplin College of Business
www.undergrad.pamplin.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisor
Jennifer Clevenger
1046 Pamplin Hall
540-231-6602
businfo@vt.edu

College of Science
www.science.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisors
Susan Haymore
Charlotte Parks
4300 North End Center
540-231-5145
cosadvising@vt.edu

University Studies (University Academic Advising Center)
www.universitystudies.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisor
Elaine Matuszek
117 Femoyer Hall
540-231-8440
university.studies@vt.edu

College of Natural Resources and Environment
www.cnre.vt.edu
First-Year & Transfer Advisors
Stephanie Lang
138 Cheatham Hall
540-231-3484
slang@vt.edu
Ashley Clark
138 Cheatham Hall
540-231-5297
aclark06@vt.edu

REMEMBER:
Your specific Orientation session is based on when advisors from your academic department/ major are present to assist you with registration.
CHOOSING AN ORIENTATION SESSION
There are 12 two-day First-Year Orientation sessions over a three-week period in July—the weeks of July 11, 18, and 25. Sessions available to you are dependent on when advisors from your academic department/major are present to assist you with course registration. As a result, you may have fewer sessions from which to choose. Please choose the available session that fits your July schedule.

STUDENT LODGING AND MEALS
You will stay in an air-conditioned residence hall the night of your Orientation session and experience what it is like to live on the Virginia Tech campus. Due to limited capacity, you will be assigned a roommate for the night. The cost of your room and meals is included in your matriculation fee. On Day One, lunch and dinner are provided. On Day Two, breakfast is provided. Linens, pillow, towel, and washcloth will be provided, but remember to set an alarm for Day Two—wake-up service is not provided!

What to Expect
A detailed schedule will be distributed at Orientation check-in with specific times and locations for these events.

DAY ONE
Check-in at Squires Student Center: 8:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Park at Lane Stadium, shuttle to Squires.

Opening Session: 10:30 A.M.
Students will be welcomed to the Virginia Tech community and introduced to the Orientation Leaders.

Small Group Meeting with Orientation Leaders and Lunch

Academic Success at Virginia Tech
Campus Safety and Security
Interest Sessions
Mandatory College Sessions
Students in these colleges must attend: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Engineering, Science, and University Studies. Families are welcome to attend.

Dinner/Move-In
Students will check into West Ambler Johnston and receive their room key and dining card for the evening.

Small Group with Orientation Leader
Rec Night

DAY TWO
Breakfast

College Academic Advising Sessions
Adjournment can vary by college/department. Your travel plans should reflect this possibility.

Unfinished Business
Students have time to take care of last minute items before leaving Blacksburg.

Cadet Paperwork and Uniform Fittings
Recreational Sports Facility Tours
Health Professions Advising
Highty-Tighty Regimental Band Auditions
University Honors
University Office Visits
Hokie Passport ID Photo and Pick-up
Sign Software License Agreement and Register for Software Access

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS
If you or your guests are in need of special accommodations due to a disability, please indicate your requests on the Orientation sign-up page. Sign language interpreters are available only if requested before your arrival. Please contact New Student and Family Programs at 540-231-3284 with questions concerning accommodations.

“Orientation helped me meet new people because everybody is here with a clean slate and anxious to meet others. It was a weight off of my out-of-state shoulders.”
– Jack Crockett ’17
CHOOSING AN ORIENTATION SESSION
There are four one-day Transfer Orientation sessions during the week of June 27. Sessions available to you are dependent on when advisors from your academic department-major are present to assist you with course registration. As a result, you may have a limited number of sessions from which to choose. Please choose the available session that fits your schedule.

REFER TO THE GENERAL INFORMATION SECTION ON PAGE 5 FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SIGN UP

JUNE 17
Deadline to sign up for Transfer Orientation
Deadline to change your Orientation session

MAKE NOTE:
There is no lodging provided for Transfer Orientation.

What to Expect
A detailed schedule will be distributed at Orientation check-in with specific times and locations for these events.

Arrival: 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Park at Lane Stadium.

Hokie Passport ID Photo and Pick-Up
Please complete before you arrive to check-in at Squires Student Center.

Check-In at Squires Student Center: 8:00 – 9:15 a.m.
The shuttle from the Lane Stadium lot will bring you to Squires.

PID/2-Factor Authentication Verification (Mandatory)

Hokie Resource Fair

University Welcome: 9:30 a.m.

Information Sessions
Money Matters
Academic Success at Virginia Tech

Small Group Meeting with Transfer Orientation Leaders and Lunch

Academic Advising and Registration
Walking Campus Tour

Unfinished Business
Sign Software License Agreement and Register for Software Access
Office Visits
Recreational Sports Tour

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS
If you or your guests are in need of special accommodations due to a disability, please indicate your requests on the Orientation sign-up page. Sign language interpreters are available only if requested before your arrival. Please contact New Student and Family Programs at 540-231-3284 with questions concerning accommodations.
ORIENTATION

PARENT/FAMILY ORIENTATION SIGN-UP

When your student signs up for Orientation through Hokie SPA, they will be asked to provide information on all family members and guests who will be attending with them. There is a $35 non-refundable fee assessed for each family member/guest attending Orientation. This fee provides a boxed lunch on Day One, Orientation materials, and all related programming. Your student will be required to pay the family member/guest fee in order to complete their sign-up and reserve their Orientation date. (Please see page 5 for student sign-up information).

PARENT/FAMILY LODGING

You have several housing options for your visit to Blacksburg during Orientation:

1. New Hall West (On Campus)
   Visit www.housing.vt.edu/conference and select “Orientation Families and Guests” regarding on-campus accommodations provided by Conference and Guest Services. For more information, call 540-231-5721. Please note: This option is only available the weeks of July 11, July 18, and July 25.

2. The Inn at Virginia Tech
   The university’s hotel and conference center is located on campus and has a full-service restaurant. For more information, call 877-200-3360 or visit www.innatvirginiatech.com.

3. Area Hotels

DON’T FORGET:
Print and keep your lodging confirmation page for your records.

MAKE PLANS TO VISIT!
Join the university and your student as we celebrate you, the families.

SEPT. 30 – OCT. 2
Fall Family Weekend 2016
APRIL
Spring Family Weekend 2017

What to Expect

A detailed schedule will be distributed at Orientation check-in with specific times and locations for parent and family events.

Check-in at Squires Student Center
Parking is available at Lane Stadium with shuttle service to Squires beginning at 7:30 A.M. Please make sure to arrive with ample time to participate with your student in the morning activities, including the Hokie Resource Fair.

Opening Session
Parents and families will be welcomed to the Virginia Tech community.

Parent and Family Information Sessions
University representatives will discuss campus resources available to you and your student.

Interest Sessions
Families and students will be able to select from several events that highlight the Virginia Tech experience.

College Academic Advising Sessions
While your student meets with their college and academic advisor, families will be greeted by college representatives.

Unfinished Business
Families and students have time to take care of last minute items before leaving Blacksburg.

“We’d been to campus so many times for sporting events, but because I didn’t attend Virginia Tech, I was a little overwhelmed with sending my daughter off to college. Everything that was new to me—meal plans, housing, academics, and more—I learned at Orientation.”

— Jeannie Adams and daughter Courtney ‘19
After attending Orientation, you may be ready to get your Virginia Tech experience started right away. Or, you may be a little anxious about what's to come after move-in. Either way, that's what Hokie Camp is for!

Hokie Camp is a three-day, two-night experience that welcomes new Hokies to Virginia Tech. The purpose of Hokie Camp is to give you the opportunity to make friends and have fun, all while learning about Virginia Tech’s spirit, traditions, and values.

You will be assigned to large and small groups led by current students, so you have ample time to get to know fellow Hokies well. You will explore who you are, talk about the college experience, and become part of a Virginia Tech tradition.

Camp is a sure way to help ease the transition to college life. You’ll make good friends even before you arrive on campus and leave Hokie Camp with a re-energized sense of what it means to be part of the Hokie family!

Who?
All incoming new students are invited!

Why?
Hokie Camp is a Virginia Tech tradition that gives you the opportunity to start forging meaningful relationships and building strong connections with both new and current Hokies before you get to campus.

Where?
Hokie Camp takes place at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. Hokie Camp Leaders will greet you on campus in Blacksburg, where you’ll have lunch and get to know them before you take one of our busses to Smith Mountain Lake. There, you’ll stay in air-conditioned housing in one of six lodges.

Cost?
$240 per student for an all-inclusive experience. This covers transportation, lodging, meals, a Hokie Camp t-shirt, and a water bottle. After registering, the fee will be charged to your Virginia Tech account. For information about scholarships for Hokie Camp, please email hokiecamp@vt.edu.

When?
Session 1: July 8 – 10 (FULL)
Session 2: July 22 – 24
Session 3: August 8 – 10
Session 4: August 16 – 18

Bring?
No need to pack much! A list will be provided once you sign-up.

What’s a Hokie? I AM!

Hokie Camp gave me the confidence to jump right into those awkward first conversations when meeting people in my hall and in my classes! I’m able to apply the skills I learned from both attending and being a leader at Hokie Camp to all of the other aspects of my life.
– Jen Loh ’17

WANT TO GO?
Get more info and sign up today at www.nsfp.vt.edu/hokiecamp
Sign up early before sessions fill up!
Your Life Outside the Classroom

The Division of Student Affairs offers many programs, facilities, and services to help you gain leadership experience, develop healthy habits, discover a promising career, and make an impact on the communities to which you belong. You will receive more information about our programs and services, but in the mean time, visit our website (www.dsa.vt.edu) to explore the many opportunities waiting for you at Virginia Tech.

OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR STUDENT LEARNING

Commit to unwavering CURIOSITY
Virginia Tech students will be inspired to lead lives of curiosity, embracing a life-long commitment to intellectual development.

Pursue SELF-UNDERSTANDING and INTEGRITY
Virginia Tech students will form a set of affirmative values and develop the self-understanding to integrate these values into their decision-making.

Practice CIVILITY
Virginia Tech students will understand and commit to civility as a way of life in their interactions with others.

Prepare for a life of COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP
Virginia Tech students will be courageous leaders who serve as change agents and make the world more humane and just.

Embrace UT PROSIM as a way of life
Virginia Tech students will enrich their lives through service to others.

For more information about these Aspirations and ways you can explore them during your time at Virginia Tech, visit www.dsa.vt.edu/aspirations.

Your Keystone Experience provides a framework to record and reflect on your experiences during your time at Virginia Tech. Composed of internships, student organizations, intramural sports, Gobblerfest, and everything in between, the Keystone Experience gives students a clear way to make meaning of what they do in and outside the classroom. Our Aspirations for Student Learning outline what we expect of and aspire for our students, and the Keystone Experience is the avenue in which those Aspirations can come to life.

STRENGTHS
At Virginia Tech, students are encouraged to focus on their gifts and talents. This is a departure from the status quo, which insists upon focusing on weaknesses, but research shows that people are much more engaged when they work within their strengths. The Division of Student Affairs offers an assessment tool that will provide students with the knowledge and vocabulary to describe their talents and the areas in which they excel. Through exploring their strengths, students can be intentional in investing in their talents, expanding their curiosities, and putting their strengths to use. Complete the StrengthsFinder assessment and find your top five strengths at www.dsa.vt.edu/aspirations/strengths.
New Student and Family Programs
Squires Student Center, 319, Virginia Tech
290 College Avenue
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility should contact the Office for Equity and Access.

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