

New Student and Family Programs

Black/African-American Resource Guide



WELCOME TO VIRGINIA TECH

Welcome to Virginia Tech! We are so excited to have you joining us here this upcoming year and hope that your time at Virginia Tech is fruitful and full of amazing opportunities. Blacksburg, VA is the home of Virginia Tech and offers an amazing atmosphere for students to learn, grow, and excel as both a student and a person. At Virginia Tech, we want our students to have the opportunity to pursue their greatest desires and our over 800+ student clubs and organizations will aid you in this. We hope that your time here at Virginia Tech allows you to seek opportunities that interest you and to prepare you to be a global and successful citizen. Our strong academic programs will aid you in your preparation for your future careers.

We hope this resource guide is helpful in providing you insight into what your experience at Virginia Tech could look like.

–New Student and Family Programs



Academic Resources



Student Opportunities and Achievement Resources

Student Opportunities and Achievement Resources (SOAR) is a holistic support program dedicated to welcoming and retaining underrepresented minority students at Virginia Tech and promoting their success through campus collaborations.

Programming includes:

- Holistic Coaching
- Advocacy
- Academic Support
- Financial Assistance

<https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/Programs/SOAR.html>



Black Male Excellence Network

Created in Spring 2011, the Black Male Excellence Network is an initiative housed in our Student Success that seeks to empower Virginia Tech's Black men by creating academic and social community through holistic development. Programs put on include:

- Barber Shop Talk Series, a monthly series where students met with community members in a local barbershop to discuss topics pertinent to the Black male experience
- Black Male Summit
- Uplifting Black Men Conference
- Success Coaching

<https://studentsuccess.vt.edu/embraceVT/bmen.html>

Brian Robert's Library

The Brian Robert's Library is a collection of books and resources that covers a wide variety of topics such as history, culture, biographies and many others.

Check out the listings at

https://ccc.vt.edu/index/bcc/brian_roberts_library.html



Support

Student Opportunities and Achievement Resources (SOAR) is a holistic support program dedicated to welcoming and retaining underrepresented minority students at Virginia Tech and promoting their success through campus collaborations.



Hokie Nation

Virginia Tech graduates join a network of 238,000 Hokies worldwide. Students and alumni enjoy access to Handshake, a platform for internship and job postings offered by Career Services.

<https://career.vt.edu/STUDENTS.html>



Being Here

Being a student at Virginia Tech is an amazing experience. You are surrounded by fellow Hokies that are striving for greatness and have grand aspirations.



Community

The BCC is an important component of Virginia Tech's efforts to create a welcoming and inclusive campus. It is utilized by the campus community for educational programs, exhibits, meetings, and receptions.



Reunite

Each spring the Alumni Association puts together a Black Alumni Reunion that allows for Black alums to return to campus to network, connect with current students, and to celebrate with fellow Hokies.



Campus Events

Virginia Tech students have access to a multitude of events including: concerts, socials, volunteering, and trips. One of student's favorite's is BSA's Skate Night.



Getting Involved

Black Student Organizations

Virginia Tech has over 800 student organization including academic, cultural, faith-based, Greek, political, service-based, social and more. For a complete list of campus organizations, visit gobblerconnect.vt.edu.

- African Student Association (ASA)
- Black Business Council
- Black Female Coalition
- Black Organizations Council
- Black Student Alliance (BSA)
- Caribbean Student Association (Caribso)
- Enlightened Gospel Choir (EGC)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)
- National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
- Student African-American Brotherhood at Virginia Tech
- Student African-American Sisterhood at Virginia Tech



Ujima Living Learning Program

Ujima is an inclusive Living-Learning Program located in the Peddrew-Yates Residence Hall dedicated to the understanding, supporting, and learning about African-American culture. This community provides students cultural enrichment and allows students to partake in programming and dialogue surrounding Black/African-American culture.

<https://llp.vt.edu/llc/ujima.html>





Cultural and Community Centers

The Cultural and Community Centers are here to advocate for a safe, inclusive environment and to advise students as they navigate life at VT. Through programming and events, they raise cultural awareness and invite the community to learn about and develop an appreciation for cultural differences.

- Black Cultural Center
- El Centro
- American Indian and Indigenous Community Center
- LGBTQ+ Resource Center
- Asian Cultural Engagement Center
- Intercultural Engagement Center



<https://ccc.vt.edu/>

Black Cultural Center

The Black Cultural Center (BCC), located in Squires Student Center, offers a space for students to study, meet, and network. The BCC focuses on raising awareness of the Black experience and invites the community learn more and grow in its appreciation of the Black community at Virginia Tech.



https://ccc.vt.edu/index/el_centro.html

Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program

Multicultural Academic Opportunities Programs (MAOP) assist both undergraduate and graduate students in their transition to Virginia Tech. They provides academic guidance, emotional, social, and financial support until students graduate. Their programming includes:

- MAOP Undergraduate Scholars Program
- MAOP Undergraduate Summer Research Internship
- Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
- Global Change Scholars Program

<https://www.maop.vt.edu/>

Employment Opportunities

Virginia Tech students have many options for campus jobs and internships. Handshake is the official site for jobs, internships and on-campus interviews. Student positions on campus are also offered through: Student Affairs, academic colleges, Career and Professional Development, and more.

<https://career.vt.edu/STUDENTS.html>





Faculty and Staff Support



Virginia Tech's faculty and staff are an excellent resource for you during your time as a student and into your alumni years. Faculty and staff are here to support, guide, and connect you to resources across campus that will help better your overall experience. If you are curious about what Black faculty and staff are at Virginia Tech, check out the Diverse Staff Directory at <https://vt.edu/admissions/undergraduate/diversity/staff-directory.html>. Here you will find full list of diverse faculty and staff that you can reach out to and connect with in you would like.

Faculty and Staff Caucuses

Virginia Tech has ten faculty/staff caucuses representing a variety of communities at the university. Each caucus has its own mission and goals that involve supporting and retaining identifying faculty and staff and/or supporting identifying students.

- American Indian and Indigenous People's Alliance
- Appalachian Caucus
- Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Caucus
- Black Caucus of Virginia Tech
- Disability Caucus
- Hispanic/Latinx Faculty and Staff Caucus
- International Caucus
- LGBTQ+ Caucus
- Virginia Tech Veterans Caucus
- Women's Alliance and Caucus



<https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/Initiatives/FS-Caucuses.html>

Black Caucus of Virginia Tech

Established in 1981, the Black Caucus of Virginia Tech exists to provide support to black faculty, staff, students, and the university community. Since its founding, the caucus has been an integral part of the Virginia Tech and New River Valley communities, often serving as an instrument for social and educational change. The Black Caucus of Virginia Tech is dedicated to Black students and collaborates with various campus resources to provide support and engagement for student throughout the academic year.

<https://secure.org.vt.edu/www.blackcaucus.org.vt.edu/vtblackcaucus/>





Off-Campus Resources

Local Services and Food

Salons/Barbershops

Lia's Hairstyling - "107 N Main St Blacksburg, VA



Harvey's Barber Shop- 410 N Main St, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Monaca's Salon- 620 N Main St Blacksburg, VA 24060

New Image Barber Shop- 460 Turner St NW #208 Blacksburg, VA 24060

Cut Nice Barbershop- 1137 E. Main St. Radford VA 24141

Hair Attitudes- 221 Electric Rd Salem, Virginia 24153-4431

Local Food



Mamma's Kitchen- 1154 East Main St Radford, VA 24141

Hungry Brotherz- 502 8th St NW Roanoke, VA 24016

Scoony's Seafood- 16 Church Ave SW Roanoke, VA 24011

Doc Soul Food- 604 5th St SW Roanoke, VA 24016

TJ's Backyard BBQ- 1731 Melrose Ave Roanoke, VA 24017

