

## Virginia Tech Mission, Vision, and Core Values

### Mission

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) is a public land-grant university serving the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world community. The discovery and dissemination of new knowledge are central to its mission. Through its focus on teaching and learning, research and discovery, and outreach and engagement, the university creates, conveys, and applies knowledge to expand personal growth and opportunity, advance social and community development, foster economic competitiveness, and improve the quality of life.

### Vision

Virginia Tech is a high-performing research university with a world-view that advances the land-grant values of discovery, learning, and outreach. We serve and engage the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. We attract motivated, high-achieving students, staff, and faculty who excel in an academically energized, technologically creative, and culturally inclusive learning community. Our bold spirit, climate of innovation and service, open boundaries of study and research, and entrepreneurial approach positively transform lives and communities.

### Core Values

**Freedom of inquiry.** Fundamental to the creation and transmission of knowledge is a commitment to nurture and protect freedom of inquiry. Intellectual freedom is the foundation of academic excellence and is vital to sustaining environments in which sound and rigorous learning, discovery, and engagement occur.

**Mutual respect.** At the center of the educational enterprise is the commitment to the exchange of ideas and information. Respect for varied points of view and the diverse backgrounds upon which they may be based is essential to the continued growth and advancement of all members of the university community.

**Lifelong learning.** A commitment to lifelong learning and inquiry within and outside the university community guarantees continued growth and secures for society the benefits of ever advancing knowledge.

**A commitment to diverse and inclusive communities.** In carrying out its mission, Virginia Tech values the educational benefits of diverse ideas, peoples, and cultures. Articulated in the Virginia Tech Principles of Community, adopted by the board of visitors in 2005, diversity enlivens the exchange of ideas, broadens scholarship, and contributes to just engagement in all the world's communities.

***Ut Prosim*** (That I May Serve) is Virginia Tech's motto. This attribute distinguishes Virginia Tech from all but a few of the nation's institutions. As a community of scholars and reflective of our land-grant mission, Virginia Tech is committed to service to individuals and society in all its forms.

**Personal and institutional integrity.** Integrity demands that all members of the university community and the university itself engage in continual civil discourse and ethical behaviors that advance learning, discovery, and engagement, supported by the administration. Integrity demands maintaining standards of personal and professional behavior of the highest order.

**A culture of continuous improvement.** Through benchmarking, assessment, evaluation of academic and administrative goals, and a commitment to process improvement, streamlining and change, Virginia Tech will achieve greater national and international prominence.