



From Vice President for Human Resources Bryan Garey: Vaccination registration deadline for employees is Aug. 15

Members of the Virginia Tech community,

The start of the Fall 2021 semester is just around the corner. As Virginia Tech prepares to welcome students back to our campuses, we continue to keep a close watch on the effects of the COVID-19 Delta variant, and we continue to encourage our employees to get vaccinated.

The vaccine continues to be the most effective way to avoid serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19, including variants. If an employee needs to be vaccinated, we urge you to take advantage of two upcoming Hokie Wellness clinics on Aug. 11 and 26. More information can be viewed at <https://vtx.vt.edu/notices/2021/07/hokie-wellness-august-vaccine-clinics.html>.

We are also requiring all employees – including full- and part-time faculty and staff and non-student wage – to record their vaccination information with Virginia Tech once they are fully vaccinated, which means you have received the one required dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine or both required doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

We appreciate the 70 percent of employees that have already reported their vaccination information! This information can be viewed at <https://ready.vt.edu/vaccinations/vaccination-dashboard.html>. Providing this information, in addition to requiring that students be vaccinated to return to campus, helps us understand how many among our university population are vaccinated.

If you have not already recorded your vaccine information, please do so by Sunday, Aug. 15. Virginia Tech has developed a secure form where employees can report their information from a computer or mobile device. All you need is a picture of your vaccination card.

To record your vaccination information, access the form at <https://apps.es.vt.edu/vaccinereporting/>. You will need your Virginia Tech username and password to log in from either a computer or mobile device. Instructions for recording your vaccination information and employee frequently asked questions are available on the Virginia Tech Ready site at <https://ready.vt.edu/vaccinations/employee-vaccine-faqs.html>.

- If you have questions or concerns about the form, please contact our HR Service Center at hrservicecenter@vt.edu. They will be happy to help you and answer your questions!
- If you have technical issues with the form, please contact our IT helpdesk at 4help@vt.edu.

All students and faculty, staff and wage employees at campus sites in Blacksburg, Roanoke, and the greater Washington, D.C. metro area who are not fully vaccinated will be required to participate in mandatory testing (<https://vtx.vt.edu/notices/2021/08/president-unirel-policy-memo-testing.html>) with an initial frequency of at least once a week. The program is outlined in a presidential policy memorandum at <https://policies.vt.edu/assets/ppm%20316.pdf>.

Again, thank you to our employees who have reported their vaccination information to us. We look forward to a growing percentage in the coming days as we near the Aug. 15 reporting deadline.

Stay safe and well,

Bryan Garey,
Vice President for Human Resources

COVID-19 vaccination clinics on Aug. 11 and 26

Hokie Wellness and Virginia Tech Emergency Management are partnering with the New River Health District to offer two vaccination clinics at the Blacksburg campus in August.

The clinics will be held on:

- Wednesday, Aug. 11, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Steger Hall Auditorium foyer.
- Thursday, Aug. 26, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in New Hall West downstairs training room.

Clinics are open to all employees, family and/or friends, and students who may need the vaccine. Parking is available at Steger Hall, and parking for New Hall West is available at McComas Hall. A valid parking pass is required for both locations.

Registration is required prior to the clinic at <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/VirginiaTech6@VirginiaTech.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>. Click the information circle to the right of the clinic name to learn more.

Those receiving the vaccine may receive their second vaccine at these clinics. All three vaccines

are available; registrants may select which one they prefer at the time of registration.

All employees are encouraged to receive a vaccine. Employees, including full-time and part-time faculty, staff, and wage, are required to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination after receiving their final dose. Employees should use this site to register their vaccine information by Aug. 15: COVID-19 Vaccination Status Self-Reporting form: <https://apps.es.vt.edu/vaccinereporting>.

Employees who register their vaccine information will be exempt from required COVID-19 surveillance testing during the 2021-22 academic year. The need and frequency of testing for unvaccinated employees will be determined based on the risk an individual's position presents to the community. Information about the testing program is forthcoming. Vaccination registration information: <https://ready.vt.edu/vaccinations.html>.

All employees encouraged to receive a vaccine; register your vaccine information by Aug. 15

All employees are encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccine (<https://ready.vt.edu/vaccinations.html#getvaccine>). All employees, including full-time and part-time faculty, staff, and wage, are required to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination once they are fully vaccinated. This includes employees who are also registered for classes at Virginia Tech. Employees are required to register vaccination information in the COVID-19 Vaccination Status Self-Reporting form (<https://apps.es.vt.edu/vaccinereporting>) after receiving their final dose.

Employees who register their vaccine information will be exempt from required COVID-19 surveillance testing during the 2021-22 academic year. The need and frequency of testing for unvaccinated employees will be determined based on the risk an individual's position presents to the community. Information about the testing program is forthcoming.

For more information or detailed instructions on how to upload your vaccination record into this secure system, visit <https://vtx.vt.edu/notices/2021/06/employee-vaccine-register.html>.

Hokie Health: Prioritize simple healthy habits to support a thriving immune system

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, many are curious about strategies that can be utilized to support the immune system. In addition to receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, it is important to put daily healthy habits into place to equip the body to function at its very best. Consuming plenty of nutrient-dense foods, managing stress well, prioritizing adequate sleep, and engaging in regular activity can make a significant positive impact.

Hokie Wellness will hold a virtual Immune Support 101 program on Thursday, August 19, from 12 – 1 p.m. Attendees will learn how to cultivate healthy habits that are foundational for a thriving immune system.

Space is limited and registration is required at <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sfuigrz4rGdNPq7E48uU7VmtU5GapS31e>. For more information, please contact Hokie Wellness at hokiewellness@vt.edu.

If you are an individual with a disability and desire accommodation, please contact Lauren Shelor at 540-231-5142 or email lauren44@vt.edu during regular business hours at least seven business days prior to the event.

Hokie Wellness serves Virginia Tech to foster a healthier community by providing prevention services, education, outreach, and resources to employees and students. If you have questions, need assistance, or want to join the Hokie Wellness Google group to stay up to date with monthly updates, contact the team at hokiewellness@vt.edu.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline now reachable by dialing 988 on Virginia Tech phones

Virginia Tech is committed to the well-being of our students and employees. In addition to on-campus resources, found at https://ucc.vt.edu/clinical_services_students/emergency_services.html, for those in need of immediate mental or emotional health support, callers can now reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by dialing '988' from Virginia Tech campus phones.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of more than 180 local crisis centers across the United States that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Individuals who need or desire assistance can call the Lifeline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and be connected with a trained crisis worker in their area. All calls to 988 from campus phones will be transferred to 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK), which is the full number for the Lifeline.

Network Infrastructure and Services (NI&S) has configured the Virginia Tech phone system to direct calls to 988 to the Lifeline in anticipation of new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules, which will require all phone service providers to make this change by July 2022.

To reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline from a mobile phone or other non-campus phone, you may need to dial the full number (1-800-273-8255); please check with your phone service provider to see if they have enabled calls to 988 to be directed to the Lifeline.

Learn more: <https://vtx.vt.edu/notices/it-nis-suicide-prevention-lifeline-configuration.html>

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