

Virginia Tech awarded Virginia Values Veterans award

At the recent 2021 Virginia Veterans and Military Affairs Conference, Virginia Tech was awarded the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs Award.

As a public entity, Virginia Tech received the award for demonstrating innovative support for Virginia veterans and promoting veteran employment.

Virginia Tech's Talent Acquisition team has dedicated resources and outreach efforts to V3 and other veteran organizations in order to attract, hire, and retain more active and former servicemen and servicewomen to the university.

"It is a source of great pride for Virginia Tech to be recognized for our efforts to support veterans," said Bryan Garey, vice president for human resources. "It is important to honor our veterans for their service to our nation and to support them and their families in any way we can, including enhancing opportunities for them to have a dynamic career with a great public institution."

Virginia Tech has been previously recognized by the V3 Program, including becoming the first public university in the commonwealth to be certified by V3 for its commitment to hire veterans in 2015.

Fourteen other employers in the commonwealth were recognized for their exceptional commitment to the V3 Program and their hiring of Virginia military veterans, transitioning service members, and their spouses.

The V3 Program (<https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/employment-v3>) is a Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Veterans Services Program. V3 helps employers understand, design and implement nationally recognized best practices in recruiting, hiring, and retaining veterans. For more information on this year's awards, visit <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/news-room/virginia-employers-recognized-for-hiring-veterans-and-military-spouses-virginia-department-of-veterans-services-presents-virginia-values-veterans-v3-awards-during-2021-virtual-virginia-veterans-and>.

Virginia Tech employees honored for their military service

Each year around Veterans Day, Virginia Tech recognizes employees who served their country as members of the military. This year, approximately 250 employees who self-identify as military veterans received a gift of appreciation.

The gift, a Virginia Tech branded hard-cover journal with pen, was mailed to each veteran's work location through campus mail.

"Thank you, veterans, for your service to our country," said Bryan Garey, vice president for human resources. "Your dedication exemplifies our motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), and we sincerely appreciate your loyalty to our community and Virginia Tech."

"The Corps of Cadets is honored to host the university's Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony on the morning of Nov. 11," said Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart. "We recognize the importance of this day for all our veterans, including those employed by Virginia Tech, and invite the campus community to join us in recognizing the service and sacrifice they have made in the name of country and community."

The Veterans Day remembrance ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11, in the War Memorial Chapel at 601 Drillfield Drive. Beginning at 11 a.m., the memorial wreath will be placed in front of the cenotaph on War Memorial Court.

View a listing of Veterans Day events planned for the Virginia Tech community at <https://vtx.vt.edu/articles/2021/11/veteran-s-day-events.html>.

Employees who have served in the military are encouraged to update their employee information if they did not self-identify as a veteran when they were hired. Veteran classification can be updated by logging into Hokie SPA, clicking on Hokie Team then Veterans Classification. For questions or more information about self-identifying as a military veteran, contact the HR Service Center at 540-231-9331 or hrrservicecenter@vt.edu.

DMV returns to Virginia Tech

The DMV returns to Virginia Tech for two days from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 17, and Thursday, Nov. 18, at the North End Center, room 2410.

Services that will be offered include the REAL ID, driver's license, vehicle registration, address changes, vehicle titles and more. Appointments are 15 minutes, required, and each transaction requires an appointment. For example, if you want to obtain your REAL ID and complete a vehicle registration, you would need to register for two appointments. To register for an appointment(s), visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EAEAE22A7FF2-dmvatvirginia>.

Visit the **DMVNow.com** website to see what you need to complete your transaction(s).

Additional questions may be directed to Hokie Wellness at hokiewellness@vt.edu.

Reminder to employees: Plan now to use your annual leave

As a reminder, the last day to use your accrued 2021 leave is Jan. 9, 2022. While you may not have taken leave you normally would have taken this year, it's important to take time away from work for your mental health and wellness.

Remember that you'll need to cover Dec. 27–30, 2021, with appropriate leave types during the university's Winter Closing. For example, a full-time employee working eight hours Monday through Friday will need 32 hours of leave for these four days. The most common types of leave used for this period are annual, family personal, and compensatory (holiday comp, overtime comp). Sick leave is not appropriate to use for these days unless you have a documented illness or doctor's appointment during that time. (See below more information on upcoming Virginia Tech holiday breaks.)

We encourage you to work with your managers/supervisors to plan ahead and ensure you can use your leave and reduce your annual leave balance by Jan. 9, 2022.

More information about leave carryover limits for different positions is available on the HR Leave website at <https://www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave.html>. For more information on Virginia Tech holidays please refer to University Policy No. 4315: Guidelines on Holidays.

Questions about leave and leave usage? Please contact your college or department's HR representative or contact the HR Leave Team at hrleave@vt.edu.

Upcoming holiday closings:

- Thanksgiving break: University is closed from noon on Wednesday, Nov. 24, through Friday, Nov. 26, and reopens on Monday, Nov. 29.
- Winter break: University is closed from Thursday, Dec. 23, through Friday, Dec. 31, 2021, and reopens on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022.

A full list of university holidays is available at <https://www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave/holiday-closing-schedule.html>.

Designated holidays: The following days are designated holidays for eligible faculty and staff. You do not need to use annual leave on these days.

- Thanksgiving break: Wednesday, Nov. 24, starting at noon, through Friday, Nov. 26.
- Winter break: Thursday, Dec. 23; Friday, Dec. 24; and Friday, Dec. 31.

Give thanks by donating to those in need through the CVC

As we look forward to the upcoming holidays and make plans to visit family and friends and enjoy good meals in warm and safe surroundings, please take a moment to support those less fortunate through the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign.

Even a small gift can make a big difference in the lives of others.

Last year, the top charities Virginia Tech employees chose to donate to through the CVC included Feeding Southwest Virginia, Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley, and the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley.

- Each dollar you donate to Feeding Southwest Virginia (CVC Code 200877) provides the equivalent of five healthy meals.
- Your gift of \$10 to Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley (CVC Code 200863) buys paint supplies; a gift of \$100 purchases a window.
- Your gift of \$50 to the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley (CVC Code 200859) supplies the Shelter Pantry with staples such as milk, fruit, meat, and cheese. This pantry is an important resource for families as they settle into new surroundings.

Donate today by visiting <https://www.cvc.hr.vt.edu/donate.html> through a payroll deduction or by cash, check, or online donation. Select which of the more than 900 charities you'd like to help, or you can donate to the general fund.