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ABSTRACT

This guidebook is designed to help Virginia high school students plan for college. It suggests ways for students to prepare for college, classes they should take in high school to make sure they will be accepted into college, and ways to get scholarships and other kinds of financial aid. The booklet outlines the courses required for graduation from Virginia high schools and explains the courses and course sequences that will meet most college admissions requirements. A suggested college preparatory curriculum is presented for grades 8 through 12, and the minimum admissions requirements of some Virginia public and private colleges are listed in terms of credits in each discipline. The booklet also describes some advanced studies programs, including dual-credit programs, "Tech Prep" programs, and the International Baccalaureate program. College transfer is discussed with a chart showing the degrees offered by Virginia's community colleges. Another section of the booklet discusses selecting a college and presents a timetable for college bound students. Paying for college and various types of financial aid are discussed, and costs are estimated for a number of Virginia colleges and universities. (SLD)

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Smart MOVES

FOR A

better FUTURE

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YOUR
HIGH SCHOOL
GUIDEBOOK
TO COLLEGE

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From High School to College

Your high school years are many things – full of challenges and choices, busy schedules, jam-packed activities, and tremendous opportunities for success.

High school also is a very important time for you to prepare for college.

Going to college may seem a long way off. It isn't. If you're going to be able to thrive at college, then the time to prepare – academically and financially – is now.

Use this booklet as your high school guidebook from high school to college. It recommends many "smart moves" that you and your family can make during high school to turn dreams of higher education into a reality.

For example, it's always a smart move to take rigorous classes in high school. The type and content of high school classes significantly boosts your chances of being admitted to college. Don't short-change yourself by picking classes based on how easy they may be. Instead, study hard. Take classes that stretch your knowledge and abilities so you can do well and excel in the long run. This booklet provides lots of information about academic preparation for college, including opportunities for you to take college-level courses while you're still in high school. Research shows that strong academic preparation in high school is one of the best predictors of success in college and beyond.

It's also a smart move to recognize that student financial aid is available from many sources to help you and your family pay for college if you need it. State and federal financial aid programs, and grants and scholarships from colleges and universities, are available for Virginia students attending public or private colleges and universities in Virginia. This booklet provides timely information and sound guidance on financial planning for college – why it's important, what's involved, and how to do it.

For your benefit, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) has worked to assemble and make these resources available and easily understood. To help us better serve your needs, please give us the benefit of your feedback about this publication, using the form on the last page. Also, check out SCHEV's website – www.schev.edu – for more about going to college and obtaining financial aid.

Be smart. Plan now for your bright future!

Your High School Guidebook to College

This Better Information Project guidebook will help you answer your questions about college:

- How do I prepare for college?
- Which classes should I take in high school to make sure I will be accepted into college?
- How do I get scholarships and other kinds of financial aid?

The important thing to remember is that there are many people who will answer questions this guidebook does not answer.

Your parents, teachers, and high school counselors will be happy to help you. There are books on colleges and careers in the guidance office at your school and at the public library. The admissions and financial aid offices at the colleges and universities also will be happy to provide assistance if it is needed.

The College Experience

College provides an opportunity to learn . . .

...about your future profession.

Classes in college provide knowledge and skills that you may need in your chosen profession. College provides an environment that allows you to think, explore, experiment, and express yourself.

...to be independent.

College provides an opportunity of learning how to survive in life. You will learn how to manage your time, schedule your classes, and decide where you will live.

If you have personal problems or problems with your classes, there are people employed by the college to help you. For example, the Summer Transition Program is implemented at many colleges to help students who may need assistance in their academic program. The transition program provides special summer classes for credit, tutoring, remediation activities, counseling, and study skills development.

...to manage your expenses.

You will need to manage your money, allowing funds for social, cultural, athletic events, travel, and daily living expenses. Many students get campus jobs to help pay their expenses. Work-study programs and campus jobs can provide part-time employment and rewarding work experiences.

...about interpersonal relationships.

When you go to college, whether you live on or off the campus, you will meet students and teachers from this nation and other countries. Many of these people will expose you to different and interesting cultures that you may find valuable and exciting. Some of the people you will meet will become lifetime friends and business associates. College will expand your network of personal and professional acquaintances.

...for your cultural enrichment.

You will have opportunities to participate in clubs, athletic events, organizations, work, and community activities. Colleges also bring in world and national personalities and performers for your entertainment and enrichment.

Academic Preparation for College

The following is taken from *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* - adopted by the Board of Education, July 2000.

Beginning with the ninth-grade class of 1998-99, students shall earn the standard units of credit outlined below. Beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2000-01, students shall earn the standard credits outlined below, and of the total credits earned, students shall earn the following number of verified units of credits: English-two; Mathematics-two; Science-two; History/Social Sciences-two; and one additional verified unit of credit of the student's own choosing.

³Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and two World History/Geography courses.

Acceptable courses to satisfy the World History/Geography requirements include: (a) World History and World Geography; (b) World History and Geography Part I, and World History and Geography Part II; or (c) a semester course of World Geography, a semester course of World History Part I, and a year-long course of World History Part II. The Board of Education may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

⁴Three years of one language or two years each of two languages.

⁵A student may utilize additional assessments for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, or other area as prescribed by The Board of Education in 8 VAC 20-131-110.B.

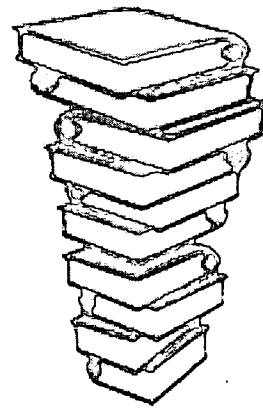
Advanced Studies Program

Credits Required for Graduation

Discipline Area	Units of Credits	# of these Required to be Verified
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	4	2
Laboratory Science ²	4	2
History & Social Sciences ³	4	2
Foreign Language ⁴	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine or Practical Arts	1	
Electives	2	
Student Selected Test ⁵		1
Total	24	9

¹Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall be at or above the level of Algebra and shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

²Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: Earth Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board of Education may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.



What Classes Prepare You for College... and Why?

English gives you the skills you need to speak, write, listen, and read well. These tools are essential in understanding other subjects. Whether you decide to become a school teacher or a lawyer, a mechanic or an architect, English will provide the skills needed to convey your ideas effectively.

At least four courses in mathematics should provide you with the skills, techniques, and knowledge needed to calculate numbers, to think abstractly, and to solve problems. College-prep mathematics will also help you to develop the logic needed to make complicated decisions.

At least four courses in social studies will help you develop the knowledge and skills needed to make a better world for yourself and others.

The world changes constantly, but we share common problems with many people on this planet. Much of what you will face today on a personal, social, and political level has been encountered in the past.

At least four units in lab science will help you understand changes in our world and the technical sciences that are quickly becoming part of our daily lives.

Science can help find answers to such social problems as drug abuse and world hunger. It can search for cures for AIDS, cancer, heart disease, and other diseases. Science can help us travel to the ends of the universe, to the bottom of the ocean, and to the highest mountaintop, and it can help us to understand what we find when we get there.

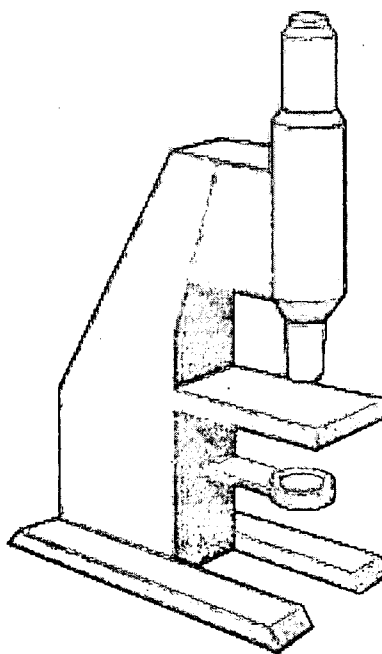
Classes in foreign languages, fine arts, and physical education will make your mind and body stronger, more flexible, and better prepared for a successful future.

Two units of electives will provide opportunities to prepare for college entrance examinations, to develop employment skills, and to pursue subjects that you enjoy.

If you take the classes that will prepare you to go to college, you will be qualified to apply to many different colleges and universities. But if you do not take college-prep courses and later decide you want to go to college, the number of colleges that will accept you will be much more limited.

If you take college-prep classes, you will have the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the world. You will have the skills needed to think better and faster, because you have taken classes designed to challenge and strengthen your mind.

You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by taking college-prep classes.



How Can You Get It All Done: Suggested Curriculum for Grades 8-12

8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English	English	English	English	English
Algebra I or courses to prepare for Algebra I.	Algebra I or Geometry	Geometry or Algebra II	Algebra II or Advanced Mathematics***	Advanced Mathematics***
Earth Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics ****	
World History and Geography Part I	World History and Geography Part II	World Geography	U.S. History	U.S. and Virginia Government
Foreign Language	Foreign Language*	Foreign Language*	Foreign Language*	
Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education		
Fine Arts and Practical Arts	Fine Arts and Practical Arts	Fine Arts and Practical Arts		
Elective	Elective	Elective PSAT** Preparation	Elective SAT** Preparation	

* Three years of one foreign language or two years of two languages

** Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) and Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) preparation classes are suggested electives, where offered.

*** Advanced Mathematics: Trigonometry, Mathematical Analysis, Calculus, and Computer Mathematics

**** Or sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma

NOTE: Local school boards may prescribe a program of studies different from this sample. See your counselor for current information.

What Do You Need to Get Into College?

	Minimum Admissions Requirements					Profile of 2000 First-Time Freshmen			
	English Units	Math Units	Science Units	History Units	Foreign Language Units	Median SAT	Median GPA H.S.	SAT 75th/25th	GPA H.S. 75th/25th
Christopher Newport University	4	3	3-4	3	2 of 2 or 3 of 1	1050	3.15	1130/1000	3.46/2.88
College of William and Mary	4	3	3	3	2-3	1330	3.93	1400/1240	4.17/3.73
George Mason University	4	3	2	3	2	1070	3.18	1170/980	3.44/2.94
James Madison University	4	4	3	3	2 or 2 or 3 of 1	1170	3.54	1230/1100	3.76/3.50
Longwood College	4	3	3	3	2	1070	3.10	1140/1000	3.40/2.80
Mary Washington College	4	3	3	3	3-4	1220	3.68	1290/1150	3.88/3.42
Norfolk State University	4	2	2	3	Elective	860	2.83	970/760	3.19/2.37
Old Dominion University	4	4	4	4	2	1010	3.10	1110/920	3.41/2.82
Radford University	4	2	3	3	0	980	2.97	1070/890	3.26/2.72
Richard Bland College	4	3	2	2	2	910	2.40	1013/800	3.00/2.10
University of Virginia	4	4	2	1	2	1320	3.97	1400/1220	4.17/3.77
University of Virginia's College at Wise	4	3	2	2	2	960	3.32	1060/860	3.73/2.80
Virginia Commonwealth University	4	3	2	3	2-3 R	1020	3.00	1130/930	3.41/2.65
Virginia Military Institute	4	4	3	3	3-4	1130	3.07	1200/1050	3.52/2.90
Virginia State University ¹	4	3 R	3 R	2	2 R	790	2.50	880/710	2.85/2.24
Virginia Tech	4	3	2	2	2-3	1170	3.54	1260/1090	3.78/3.34

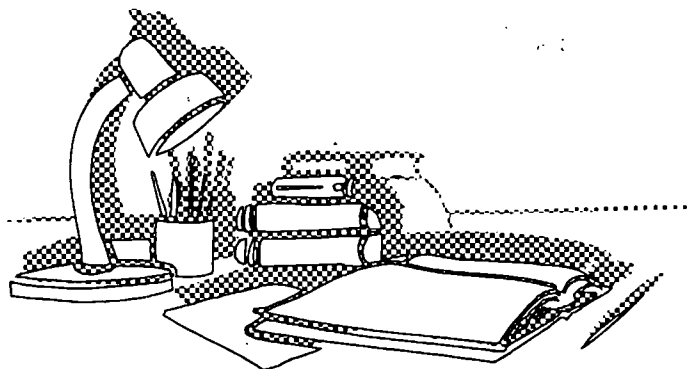
Virginia Community College System²

SCHEV Institutional Effectiveness
13-Nov-00
Data Source, SCHEV B10

R=Recommended
SAT = Scholastic Assessment Test
GPA = Grade Point Average
H.S. = High School

¹ Data for Fall 2000 are unavailable; data quoted are for Fall 1999.

² In general, students may enroll at a community college if they have a high school diploma or the equivalent and can benefit from a program of study



Minimum Admissions Requirements					Profile of 2000 First-Time Freshmen				
English Units	Math Units	Science Units	History Units	Foreign Language Units	Median SAT	Median GPA H.S.	SAT 75th/25th	GPA H.S. 75th/25th	

English Units	Math Units	Science Units	History Units	Foreign Language Units	Median SAT	Median GPA H.S.	SAT 75th/25th	GPA H.S. 75th/25th	
Averett College	4	*	*	3	0	940	2.84	1060/793	3.38/2.42
Bluefield College	4	3	2	2	2	1029	3.35	1245/856	3.97/2.65
Bridgewater College	4	3	2	2	2	1010	3.40	1128/910	3.80/2.90
Bryant & Stratton College	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	**	**	**	**
Christendom College	4	2	2	2	2	1190	3.70	1290/1080	3.90/3.30
College of Health Sciences	4	2	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dominion College	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	**	**	**	**
Eastern Mennonite University	0	0	0	0	0	1210	3.59	1300/860	3.92/3.07
ECPI ¹	2	1	1	1	No Min	**	**	**	**
Emory & Henry College	4	3	2	2	2	1029	3.35	1245/856	3.97/2.70
Ferrum College	4	3	1	3	2	840	2.40	930/770	2.80/2.20
Hamden-Sydney College	4	3	2	1	2	1120	3.00	1220/1000	3.40/2.80
Hampton University	4	3	2	2	0	1010	3.00	1090/920	3.50/2.60
Hollins University	4	3	3	3	3	1140	3.38	1220/1030	3.70/2.95
Liberty University	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	No Min	990	3.12	1237/743	3.90/2.34
Lynchburg College	4	3	3	4	2	1010	3.00	1100/910	3.30/2.60
Mary Baldwin College	4	3	1	3	2	985	3.10	1120/882	3.50/2.80
Marymount University	4	3	2	3	3	1000	2.79	1110/900	3.18/2.44
National College of Business and Technology	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Randolph-Macon College	4	3-4	2-3	2	2-3	1090	3.23	1190/1040	3.56/2.87
Randolph-Macon Woman's College	4	3	2	2	3	1170	3.40	1280/1080	3.70/3.10
Roanoke College	4	3	2	2	4	1100	3.18	1180/1020	3.63/2.78
Saint Paul's College	4	2	2	0	2	690	1.79	770/620	2.13/1.57
Shenandoah University	4	3	2	2	2	1010	3.12	1120/900	3.50/2.60
Southern Virginia College(1)	4	2	2	2	2	1040	3.25	1130/930	3.58/2.75
Sweet Briar College	4	3	2 w/lab	3	2	1230	3.50	1210/960	3.83/3.16
University of Richmond	4	3	2	2	2	**	**	1370/1250	**
Virginia Intermont College	4	2	1	2	0	954	2.95	1030/890	3.50/2.50
Virginia Union University	4	2	2	2	2	750	2.30	850/680	2.80/2.20
Virginia Wesleyan College	4	3	2	1	2	970	2.83	1070/870	3.26/2.43
Washington & Lee University(1)	4	3	1	1	2	1350	3.87	1410/1280	4.12/3.59
World College	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

* = 2-3 or 5 combined math and science
 ** = Do not collect SAT and HS GPA information
 *** = Did not submit data to SCHEV
¹ = College of Tech., Richmond and Roanoke
 (1) Data for Fall 2000 are unavailable; data quoted are for Fall 1999.
 GPA = Grade Point Average
 SAT = Scholastic Assessment Test
 H.S. = High School

SCHEV Institutional Effectiveness
 13-Nov-00
 Data Source, SCHEV B10

From High School to College: Your Choices and Options

Advanced Studies Program: College-Preparatory Courses

Each high school has the Advanced Studies Program. If you take these courses, you will improve your chances of getting into the college of your choice. In addition, taking college-preparatory courses in high school will eliminate having to take costly remedial or high school courses after you get into college. Remember, these college-preparatory courses are free in high school and you earn credit for them but in college you will have to pay for them, and you get no credit.

Dual-Credit Programs

It is possible to take college courses while you are in high school. There are several ways this can be done:

A. Advanced Placement Classes

These are subjects that prepare students to take national examinations in various academic subjects. At the end of one of these courses, you will have the opportunity to take the national examination. If you make a score on the national examination that is acceptable to the college you wish to attend, you may receive college credit for the course. Although there is a fee for taking the national exam, students who can document need may have this fee waived.

B. Dual-Enrollment Course

Beginning in high school, you will have opportunities for beginning your college education prior to high school graduation. Students who take advantage of such opportunities can still participate in school activities for which they are eligible. Although the courses are offered by the community college, most of these courses are taught on the high school campus.

Wherever possible, students are encouraged and afforded opportunities to take college courses simultaneously for high school graduation and college degree credit, under the following conditions:

1. Prior written approval of the high school principal for cross-registration must be obtained;
2. The college must accept the student for admission to the course(s); and
3. The course(s) must be given by the college for degree credits (no remedial courses will be accepted).

Note: Not every high school participates in a dual-credit program. Although school systems are encouraged to offer courses at no cost to students, some students are required to pay all or part of the expenses.

C. Four-Year College Programs

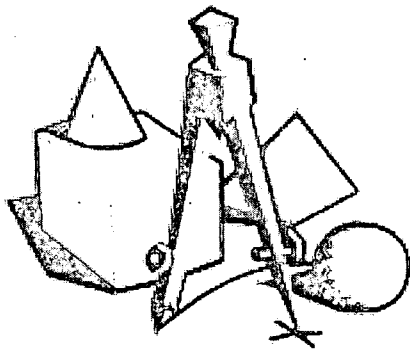
Several four-year Virginia institutions offer college courses to high school students for credit that is fully accepted at these institutions, or credit can be transferred to other institutions the student may choose to attend.

Tech Prep

Tech Prep is a career path that is linked to business, industry, labor, government, and the community, and leads to further education and employment. It is a four-year (two in high school and two in an occupational/technical program in a community college) coordinated curriculum with a strong emphasis on academic skills, designed to prepare students for technical



occupations. The components of Tech Prep include: a comprehensive career development plan; courses designed for a specific career that integrate academic and occupational preparation; a learning environment emphasizing mathematics, communications, science, and technologies; and a smooth transition from high school to college or employment.



International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is a rigorous pre-university course of studies, leading to examinations, that meets the needs of highly motivated secondary school students between the ages of 16 and 19 years. Designed as a comprehensive two-year curriculum that allows its graduates to fulfill requirements of various national education systems, the IB Diploma model is based on the pattern of no single country but incorporates the best elements of many. Currently offered at nearly 700 high schools in 92 countries, the IB is highly regarded by colleges and universities around the world as superior preparation for the academic challenges of postsecondary education. If you want to know more about these programs, please contact: **Dr. Beverly Thurston, Specialist for International Education, State Department of Education, 101 North 14th Street, Richmond, VA 23219, (804) 225-2893.** The following high schools in Virginia are authorized to offer the IB Diploma program:

<i>Alexandria:</i>	Thomas A. Edison High School
<i>Arlington:</i>	Washington-Lee High School
<i>Berryville:</i>	Clarke County High School
<i>Bristol:</i>	Virginia High School
<i>Fairfax:</i>	James W. Robinson, Jr. Secondary School W. T. Woodson High School
<i>Falls Church:</i>	George C. Marshall High School George Mason High School J.E.B. Stuart High School
<i>Manassas:</i>	Stonewall Jackson High School
<i>Martinsville:</i>	Cartilste School
<i>Mechanicsville:</i>	Lee-Davis High School Atlee High School
<i>Newport News:</i>	Warwick High School
<i>Norfolk:</i>	Granby High School
<i>Reston:</i>	South Lakes High School
<i>Richmond:</i>	Henrico High School Meadowbrook High School Trinity Episcopal School
<i>Roanoke:</i>	Fleming-Ruffner Magnet Center
<i>Salem:</i>	Salem High School
<i>Springfield:</i>	Mount Vernon High School
<i>Virginia Beach:</i>	Princess Anne High School
<i>Woodbridge:</i>	Gar-Field Senior High School
<i>Yorktown:</i>	York High School

College Transfer

Virginia's 23 community colleges are designed to meet the vocational and educational needs of those who seek skill development and enrichment for employment or continued academic growth. Many students start their college studies at one of these institutions and later get credit for the courses when they enroll in a senior (four-year) college or university.

This simply means transfer degree programs completed at a community college can be used later to meet the graduation requirements at a four-year college at which the student has been accepted. The process of using courses taken at one institution and later having these credits accepted at another institution is called "transfer."



Legend

• = Degree

COLLEGE TRANSFER (AA, AS, AA&S)																
Assoc. in Arts	Associate in Science							Associate in Arts and Sciences								
FINE ARTS	LIBERAL ARTS	MUSIC	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	COMPUTER SCIENCE	EDUCATION	ENGINEERING	GENERAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ARTS AND SCIENCES	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	EDUCATION	ENGINEERING	GENERAL STUDIES	LIBERAL ARTS	SCIENCE
BLUE RIDGE										•						
CENTRAL VIRGINIA											•	•		•	•	•
DABNEY S. LANCASTER											•	•		•	•	•
DANVILLE											•	•		•	•	•
EASTERN SHORE											•	•		•	•	•
GERMANNA											•	•		•	•	•
J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS	•	•	•			•		•	•							
JOHN TYLER										•						
LORD FAIRFAX											•	•		•	•	•
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE											•	•		•	•	•
NEW RIVER											•	•		•	•	•
NORTHERN VIRGINIA	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•							
PATRICK HENRY											•			•		•
PAUL D. CAMP											•	•		•	•	•
PIEDMONT VIRGINIA	•	•	•		•		•	•								
RAPPAHANNOCK											•			•	•	•
SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA											•	•		•	•	•
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA											•	•		•	•	•
THOMAS NELSON		•	•			•	•	•								
TIDEWATER	•	•	•		•	•	•	•								
VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS											•	•		•	•	•
VIRGINIA WESTERN		•	•		•	•	•	•								
WYTHEVILLE											•	•		•	•	•

Transfer Module

Although community colleges typically recommend that students complete the associate degree prior to transfer, many students choose to transfer before graduating. Therefore, the State Committee on Transfer developed a module that provides a recommended set of courses for students who begin at community colleges without a clear sense of their future educational goals. The transfer module is available from a community college or senior transfer office. For further information, contact a two-year or four-year chief transfer officer.

Chief Transfer Officers: Senior Public Institutions & Richard Bland College

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How Do You Select a College?

Seriously think about a profession that you might like to go into or an area of study that really interests you.

Learn which colleges or universities offer training in that profession, or courses in that area of study.

Find out the admissions requirements for those colleges and universities. Most schools require an entrance examination [Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or American College Test (ACT)], a good high school record, and completed college-prep courses.

Get information on the current freshman class from the college's admissions office, including the students' high school grade-point average and entrance test average. This is important because it will help you determine if your academic abilities are strong enough to compete with students enrolled in the college to which you are applying.

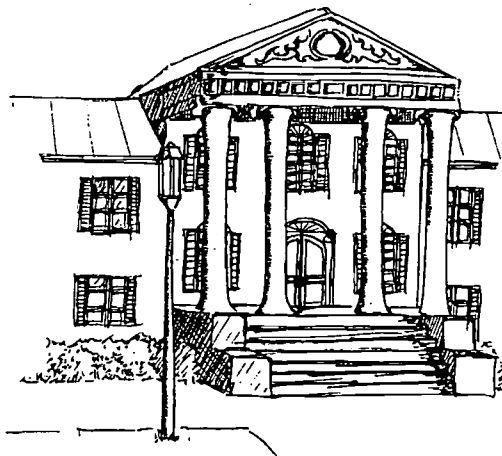
Get to know the campus and its community. Find out about its location, atmosphere, and resources. See what resources the surrounding community provides in terms of jobs to help offset the cost of college as well as religious, community, or campus organizations that may interest you. Discover what housing is available both on-campus and off. Also, learn as much as you can about the college's reputation locally and nationally.

The Federal Campus Security Act requires that all colleges that receive federal student aid must compile certain information on campus security policies and crime statistics. The institutions must publish annually and distribute the information to all students and employees and, upon request, to any applicant for enrollment or employment. The law also requires that, in addition to the report, institutions make "timely reports to the campus community on crimes considered to be a threat to other students and employees that are reported to campus security or local police agencies." If you would like a copy of the published information for a specific campus, please contact the admissions office.

The Virginia Department of Education Student Services section has published a guide to postsecondary schools and the services they provide to students with disabilities. Disabled students need to consider their abilities, special needs, talents, interests, and career goals in selecting a college. Copies of this guide can be obtained from:

Mr. Harley A. Tomey III
Virginia Department of Education
101 North Fourteenth Street, 25th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219-3684
Or call 1-800-292-3820

Once you've done a little homework, choosing the right college or university for you will be much easier than you may think.



High School Timetable for College-Bound Students

Freshman-Year Activities (9th Grade)

1. Make sure you are enrolled in the classes that are designed to prepare you for college.
2. Set up at least two appointments with your high school counselor, preferably in the early fall and spring, to schedule your classes. Talk about careers, professions, or studies that interest you.
3. Visit <http://vaview.vavv.vt.edu/> the Website for the Virginia VIEW (Vital Information for Education and Work) on the Internet. The toll-free hotline number for Virginia VIEW is 1-800-542-5870.

6. Check out the many club and service organizations you might join in high school and in your community that may expose you to interesting careers.

7. Look for opportunities to work or volunteer with people who are professionals in careers that interest you.

8. Many colleges and professional groups offer outstanding summer and evening programs. Read your school's newsletter and ask your counselor about enrichment activities such as Boy Scout Explorers Program, Upward Bound, writers' workshops, computer camps, and other programs for high school students.

9. Talk with your parents or relatives about your options, ambitions, and aspirations.

Sophomore-Year Activities (10th Grade)

1. Make sure you are enrolled in the classes that are designed to prepare you for college.
2. Use the career center in your high school to determine course selection for getting into college and/or getting a job.
3. Make appointments in October and January with your counselor to discuss career plans.
4. Maintain and improve grades during your sophomore year.
5. Read about college opportunities and talk to college representatives when they visit your region. Ask counselors to post College Day/Night schedules.

Junior-Year Activities (11th Grade)

1. Maintain and improve grades during your junior year. Grades can make the difference in whether you receive scholarships and grants.

2. Use the career center in your high school to examine the educational opportunities available to you.

3. Review the admissions requirements for the colleges and universities that interest you.

4. Take appropriate courses to meet college entrance requirements.

5. Discuss your plans with family members.

6. Meet with your counselor.

7. Attend College Day/Night programs.
8. Attend meetings concerning financial aid or college admissions held in your region.
9. Register for and take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQT), usually given in October.
10. Set up a calendar for taking tests and completing college applications.
11. Discuss your family's financial resources and review plans for financial aid.
12. Think about people who might write you a recommendation; start with teachers, counselors, and employers.
13. In the spring, register for and take the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT).
14. See your counselor about available Summer Enrichment Programs.

Senior-Year Activities (12th Grade)

July and August

1. Write the colleges you are considering to request application forms, catalogs, and financial aid information.
2. Visit selected college campuses; talk to graduates and students at the institutions.

September

1. Maintain or improve academic grades during the senior year. College officials look unfavorably upon failing grades and reduced or less rigorous academic loads during the senior year.

2. Check with your counselor and use the Career Center to determine which tests are required and the deadlines for applying.
3. Set up a calendar for taking tests and completing college applications.
4. Make sure to fulfill application requirements.
5. Check early-decision deadlines.

October and November

1. Attend College Day/Night programs.
2. Apply to colleges with different admissions requirements (least selective to more selective).
3. Ask your counselor to look over your application form and discuss the next steps in applying for college.
4. See your counselor about completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
5. Colleges require that students requesting financial aid provide the FAFSA, including the part that explains any unusual financial circumstances.
6. Check with your counselor for testing deadlines and scholarship information.
7. Mail completed forms to colleges.
8. Check Military Academy and ROTC application and scholarship deadlines.

December

1. Send all applications and copies of high school grades to the colleges before Christmas, unless a college indicates otherwise.
2. Give your guidance counselor all required forms at least two weeks before they are due since November and December are very busy months for counselors.
3. Take the Assessment Test required by some colleges.

January

Some colleges accept outstanding candidates during this month.

1. Mail the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
2. Take the College Board Assessment Tests if required by the colleges and if you have not taken them previously.

February

Ask your counselor to send your first semester's grades to the colleges, along with any other information not already forwarded. Some colleges provide forms for this purpose and some do not.

March

Recheck college catalogs and see your counselor to make sure you have taken all of the necessary tests. If you haven't, make sure you register to take the tests in May.

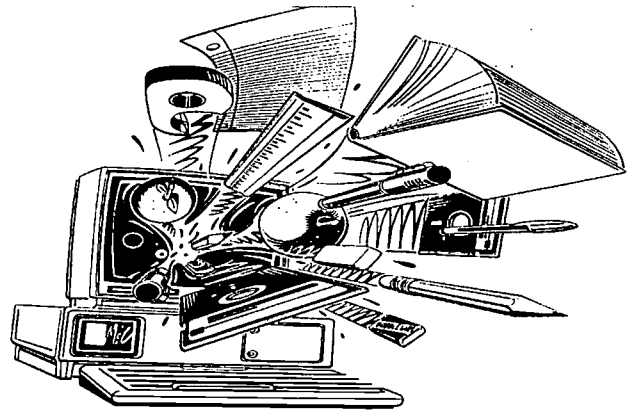
April, May, and June

1. Keep a record of acceptances, rejections, and financial aid awards.
2. Reply promptly to colleges to notify them of your decision.

Source: Courtesy of the Roanoke County Public Schools



3. Reply promptly when you are notified that you have been awarded a financial aid package. Tell the college whether you are accepting or declining the award.
4. Meet the reply deadline or you may lose the admission acceptance or financial aid you have earned.
5. Before you leave school in June, see your counselor to request that a final transcript be sent to the college or university of your choice.







Things to Save

- ✓ Copies of guidance office newsletters
- ✓ Cancelled checks or money order receipts
- ✓ Admission tickets to tests and correction forms
- ✓ All test score reports
- ✓ Transcripts of high school grades
- ✓ Work copy of the FAFSA and all other financial aid forms
- ✓ College Scholarship Services acknowledgement form
- ✓ Copies of all correspondence sent to or received from schools, including applications and acceptances


College Admissions Procedures







Following these steps will help you as you prepare for college:

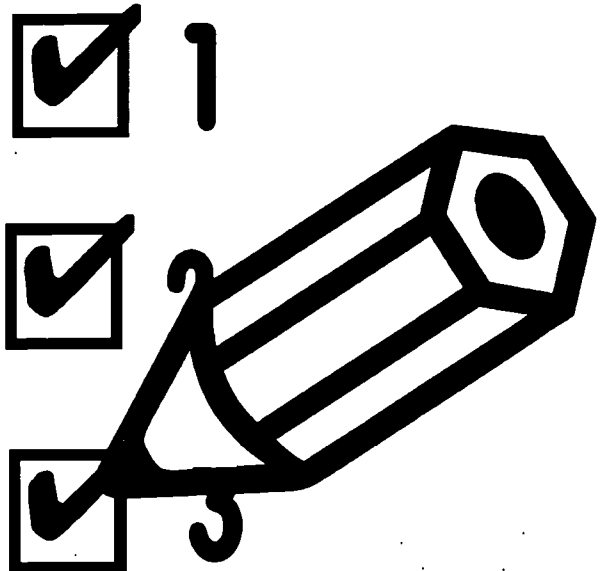
-  Participate in College Day/Night activities in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.
-  Gather information about specific colleges that interest you.
-  Obtain applications at least 12 months before anticipated enrollment date. Make a note of application deadlines.
-  Arrange to take required Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or American College Test (ACT) during your junior and senior years.

When completing applications:

1. Read all applications before starting to complete them.
2. Make a copy of the original application for practice and use the copy as a work copy. This will eliminate mistakes on the original. Follow directions carefully.
3. In case of problems understanding what is being asked, ask for help from a counselor, academic advisor, teacher, or family member.
4. Arrange to have required materials such as transcripts, health certificates, application fees, and test scores forwarded to the college or university on time.
5. Talk to people you would like to have as references before submitting their names. You may want to ask them in writing.
6. **Complete all sections of the application.** Double-check all completed applications.
7. **Return the applications to the admissions offices at the colleges or universities before the due date.**

-  Make sure applications are completed and returned **on time and to the right place.**

-  Visit and have personal interviews at the colleges you like. Take advantage of college recruitment visitations and tours.
-  Keep track of acceptances, rejections, and financial aid awards.
-  If you are accepted, reply promptly to colleges to notify them of your decision.
-  Reply promptly when you are notified that you have been awarded a financial aid package. Tell the college whether you are accepting or declining the award.
-  **Meet the reply deadline or you may lose the admission acceptance or aid you have earned.**
-  Before you leave high school in June, see your guidance counselor to request that a final transcript of your grades be sent to the college or university you plan to attend.



How Will You Pay for College?

There are three general types of financial aid available to students:

1. Grants & scholarships which do not have to be repaid.
2. Loans which must be repaid.
3. Work-study jobs which enable students to earn a portion of their school costs while enrolled in college.

How Do You Know If You Qualify for Financial Aid?







You will not know what aid you are qualified for until you apply. Don't lose your chance for financial aid by assuming you are not eligible. As soon as possible, call or write the financial aid office at the college or university you would like to attend to get the necessary application forms and financial aid information.

Student Responsibilities









Students should be aware of their responsibilities in applying for and receiving all types of financial assistance:

1. Review all information about the school's programs before you enroll.
2. Read and make sure you understand all agreements you are asked to sign and keep copies of them.
3. Complete all forms accurately and submit them on time to the right place.
4. Provide papers or other information as requested on time and to the right place.
5. Always ask the financial aid office for help if you have questions.

Do not pay companies to do financial aid searches. Any information that would be available through these companies can be found in the following publications, or ask your local library:

-  *Virginia Financial Aid Programs* by The Educational Credit Management Corporation
-  *The College Blue Book* by Macmillan Publishing Company
-  *College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook* by The College Board
-  *Financial Aids for Higher Education* by Oreon Keeslar
-  *Need a Lift?* by the American Legion
-  *The Scholarship Book* by Daniel Cassidy

Other sources for financial aid information can be obtained through the following web sites:

-  www.collegeboard.org/ - The College Board
-  www.ecmc.org/ - Student Loan Guarantee Agency
-  www.finaid.org/ - The Financial Aid Information Page
-  www.fastweb.com/ - The Financial Aid Information Page
-  www.srnexpress.com/ - S.R.N. Express
-  www.schev.edu/ (click on Financial Aid) - State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
-  www.salliemae.com - Student Loan Association
-  www.vpep.state.va.us/ - Virginia College Savings Plan

Virginia College Savings Plan

The Virginia College Savings Plan offers families the opportunity to participate in an IRC § 529 qualified state tuition program with both savings trust investment and prepaid options. The Virginia Education Savings Trust ("VEST") can be used for persons of any age, even for students in college or graduate school. VEST accounts offer a flexible savings plan that provides favorable state and federal tax benefits. The Virginia Prepaid Education Program ("VPEP") allows families to prepay tomorrow's tuition at today's prices with a variety of payment options. VPEP is open to children in ninth grade or younger if the child or the purchaser is a Virginia resident and offers significant federal and state tax advantages. For more information about these programs, contact the Virginia College Savings Plan toll-free at (888) 567-0540 or visit their website www.vpep.state.va.us/

How Much Does It Cost to Go to College?

The 2000-01 in-state undergraduate tuition, required fees, room and board, and 1998-99 average financial aid award for Virginia's state-supported colleges and universities.

	In-State Tuition	Required Annual Fees(1)	Average Room and Board(2)	Total	1998-99 Average Financial Aid Award
Christopher Newport University	\$1,888	\$1,208	\$5,350	\$8,446	\$5,965
College of William and Mary(3)	2,302	2,385/2,415	5,096	9,783	6,950
George Mason University	2,376	1,392	5,411	9,179	5,761
James Madison University(3)	1,550	2,450/2,590	5,504	9,504	5,712
Longwood College	1,995	2,008	4,833	8,836	7,371
Mary Washington College (4)	1,550	1,696	5,448	8,694	5,135
Norfolk State University	1,350	1,719	5,267	8,336	6,707
Old Dominion University	2,184	1,732/1,798	5,090	9,006	7,003
Radford University (3)	1,609	1,341/1,525	4,937	7,887	5,922
University of Virginia	3,046	1,114	4,767	8,927	6,921
University of Virginia's College at Wise	1,885	1,445	4,820	8,150	4,851
Virginia Commonwealth University	2,492	1,158	4,955	8,605	6,951
Virginia Military Institute (5)	2,924	3,224	4,564	10,712	7,664
Virginia State University	1,588	1,640	5,310	8,538	7,063
Virginia Tech	2,792	848	3,954	7,594	6,229
Richard Bland College	1,488	164	N/A	1,652	2,018
Virginia Community (6) College System	1,100	59	N/A	1,159	2,177

- (1) All fees listed are for general undergraduate students, living both on and off campus and, therefore, exclude any special fees for specific curriculums or special charges associated with dormitory living, such as room and board.
- (2) Room and board charges are weighted averages for double occupancy rooms.
- (3) Required fees vary by residency, in-state/out-of-state.
- (4) Includes a \$222.00 telecommunications debt service fee for students living on-campus. The charge for students living off-campus is \$120.00.
- (5) At Virginia Military Institute, all students are required to live on post, therefore, room, board and laundry fees are also required fees.
- (6) Tuition calculated by multiplying \$36.65 (in-state) per credit hour by 15 for two semesters. Two mandatory fees totaling \$59.00 (\$1.97 per credit hour) are required at all community colleges. Other mandatory fees vary by institutions, ranging from \$0.00 to \$160.50 per academic year, and are not included in this summary.

The 2000-01 undergraduate tuition, required fees, room and board, and 1998-99 average financial aid award for Virginia's private colleges and universities.

	Tuition and Mandatory Fees	Average Room and Board(1)	Total	1998-99 Average Financial Aid Award
Averett College	\$14,190	\$4,797	\$18,987	\$9,857
Bluefield College	8,290	4,960	13,250	5,543
Bridgewater College	14,970	6,970	21,940	13,600
Bryant & Stratton College(2)	9,504	N/A	9,504	**
Christendom College	11,530	3,950	15,480	6,032
College of Health Sciences (3)	8,880	2,000	10,880	11,006
Dominion College(4)	8,472	N/A	8,472	**
Eastern Mennonite University	14,150	5,120	19,270	10,862
ECPI College of Tech. -- VA Beach (5)	7,450	N/A	7,450	5,015*
Emory and Henry College	13,150	5,322	18,472	11,576
Ferrum College	11,900	5,250	17,150	10,290
Hampden-Sydney College	17,189	6,076	23,265	12,162
Hampton University	11,110	5,090	16,200	9,814
Hollins University	17,210	6,415	23,625	13,923
Liberty University	8,750	4,800	13,550	6,931
Lynchburg College	18,105	5,000	23,105	12,987
Mary Baldwin College	15,310	7,450	22,760	12,432
Marymount University (6)	14,420	6,600	21,020	11,291
Randolph-Macon College	18,450	5,036	23,486	11,954
Randolph-Macon Woman's College	17,500	7,160	24,660	12,939
Roanoke College	17,960	5,722	23,682	12,864
Saint Paul's College	8,380	4,568	12,948	9,468
Shenandoah University	16,300	5,800	22,100	11,298
Southern Virginia College	10,160	3,900	14,060	7,679
Stratford College (7)	10,146	N/A	10,146	**
Sweet Briar College	17,324	7,016	24,340	13,154
University of Richmond	20,140	4,530	24,670	10,466
Virginia Intermont College	11,750	5,200	16,950	8,294
Virginia Wesleyan College	15,035	5,750	20,785	11,104
Washington and Lee University	17,965	5,688	23,653	9,441

(1) Room and board charges are weighted averages for double occupancy rooms.

(2) These charges apply to both the Virginia Beach and Richmond campuses.

(3) The amount listed for room and board is for room only. The College does not have a meal plan.

(4) Charges are for the associate degree program in accounting and are based on three quarters at \$2,824 per quarter. Most students attend year round. Charges are the same at both campuses, Roanoke and Harrisonburg.

(5) The tuition and fee charges apply to all four campuses: Capital, Peninsula, Roanoke, and VA Beach.

(6) Room and board charges include a \$250 phone/data/cable TV service fee.

(7) Charges are for the associate degree program in Enterprise Network Management.

* Financial aid award for three campuses: Capital, Roanoke, and VA Beach campuses.

** Financial aid data not available.

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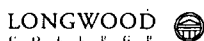
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INSTITUTION

Dabney S. Lancaster
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Danville Community
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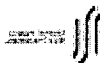
Eastern Shore
Community College



Germanna Community
College



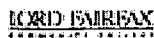
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INSTITUTION

Piedmont Virginia
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Rappahannock
Community College



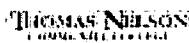
Southside Virginia
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Thomas Nelson
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Averett

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INSTITUTION

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Hampden-Sydney
College



Hampton University



Hollins University



Liberty University



Lynchburg College



Mary Baldwin College



Marymount University



Patrick Henry College



Randolph-Macon
College



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Mary Baldwin College
Frederick and New Streets
Staunton, VA 24401
540-887-7022

Ms. Debbie Raines
Marymount University
2807 North Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22207-4299
703-284-1530

Mr. Bob Beavin
Patrick Henry College
Post Office Box 1776
Purcellville, VA 20134-1776
540-338-1776

Mrs. Mary Y. Neal
Randolph-Macon College
P.O. Box 5005
Ashland, VA 23005-5505
804-752-7259

INSTITUTION**ADMISSIONS OFFICER****FINANCIAL AID OFFICER**

Randolph-Macon
Woman's College



Ms. Connie Gores
Randolph-Macon Woman's College
2500 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24503-1526
804-947-8100

Ms. Sharon M. Wilkes
Randolph-Macon Woman's College
2500 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24503-1526
804-947-8128

Roanoke College



Mrs. Rita A. Detwiler
Roanoke College
221 College Lane
Salem, VA 24153-3794
800-388-2276 or 540-375-2270

Mr. Thomas S. Blair, Jr.
Roanoke College
221 College Lane
Salem, VA 24153-3794
540-375-2235

Saint Paul's College



Mr. Gil Powell
Saint Paul's College
115 College Drive
Lawrenceville, VA 23868-1299
800-678-7071 or 804-848-3984

Ms. Ditamichelle D. Terry
Saint Paul's College
115 College Drive
Lawrenceville, VA 23868-1299
804-848-3111

Shenandoah University



Mr. Michael Carpenter
Shenandoah University
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601-5165
800-432-2266 or 540-665-4581

Ms. Nancy S. Bragg
Shenandoah University
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601-5195
540-665-4538

Southern Virginia
College



Mr. Tont Caputo
Southern Virginia College
One College Hill Drive
Buena Vista, VA 24416-3097
800-229-8420

Mr. Ralph Olmo
Southern Virginia College
One College Hill Drive
Buena Vista, VA 24416-3097
800-229-8420

Sweet Briar College



Ms. Nancy E. Church
Sweet Briar College
Box AS
Sweet Briar, VA 24595-1095
800-381-6142

Mr. Robert A. Steckel
Sweet Briar College
Box AS
Sweet Briar, VA 24595-1095
800-381-6156

University of Richmond



Ms. Pamela W. Spence
University of Richmond - Undergraduate Adm.
Richmond, VA 23173-9998
800-700-1662 or 804-289-8640

Ms. Cynthia A. Bolger
University of Richmond
Richmond, VA 23173-9998
804-289-8438

Virginia Intermont
College



Mr. George Wolf
Virginia Intermont College
1013 Moore Street
Bristol, VA 24201-4298
800-451-1Vic or 540-669-6101

Ms. Nancy Roberts
Virginia Intermont College
1013 Moore Street
Bristol, VA 24201-4298
540-669-6101, Ext. 209

Virginia Union
University



Mr. Rudolf Randall
Virginia Union University
1500 North Lombardy Street
Richmond, VA 23220
800-368-3227 or 804-257-5881

Mrs. Phenie D. Golatt
Virginia Union University
1500 North Lombardy Street
Richmond, VA 23220
804-257-5882

Virginia Wesleyan
College



Mr. Richard T. Hinshaw
Virginia Wesleyan College
1584 Wesleyan Drive
Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA 23502-5599
800-455-3201 or 757-455-3201

Mrs. Eugenia F. Hickman
Virginia Wesleyan College
1584 Wesleyan Drive
Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA 23502-5599
757-455-3207

Washington and Lee
University



Mr. William M. Hartog III or
Ms. Julia Kozak
Washington and Lee University
Gilliam House
Letcher Avenue
Lexington, VA 24450-0303
540-463-8710

Mr. John H. DeCourcy
Washington and Lee University
Gilliam House
Letcher Avenue
Lexington, VA 24450-0303
540-463-8717

Contacts at Virginia's For-Profit In-State Institutions

INSTITUTION

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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American Military
University

American Military University
9104-P Manassas Drive
Manassas Park, VA 22111
703-330-5398

American Military University
9104-P Manassas Drive
Manassas Park, VA 22111
703-330-5398

Bryant & Stratton
College



RICHMOND CAMPUS
Bryant & Stratton College
8141 Hull Street Road
Richmond, VA 23235-6411
804-745-2444

RICHMOND CAMPUS
Bryant & Stratton College
8141 Hull Street Road
Richmond, VA 23235
804-745-2444

VIRGINIA BEACH CAMPUS
Bryant & Stratton College
301 Centre Pointe Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4417
757-499-7900

VIRGINIA BEACH CAMPUS
Bryant & Stratton College
301 Centre Pointe Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4417
757-499-7900

Dominion College



ROANOKE CAMPUS
Dominion College
5372 Fallowater Lane
Roanoke, VA 24014
540-776-8381

ROANOKE CAMPUS
Dominion College
5372 Fallowater Lane
Roanoke, VA 24014
540-776-8381

ECPI College of
Technology



HAMPTON CAMPUS
ECPI College of Technology
1919 Commerce Drive, #200
Hampton, VA 23666
757-838-9191

HAMPTON CAMPUS
ECPI College of Technology
1919 Commerce Drive, #200
Hampton, VA 23666
757-838-9191

VIRGINIA BEACH CAMPUS
ECPI College of Technology
5555 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
757-671-7171

VIRGINIA BEACH CAMPUS
ECPI College of Technology
5555 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
757-671-7171

ECPI Technical
College



RICHMOND SOUTH CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
800 Moorefield Park Drive
Richmond, VA 23236
804-330-5533

RICHMOND SOUTH CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
800 Moorefield Park Drive
Midlothian, VA 23236
804-330-5533

RICHMOND WEST CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
4305 Cox Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
804-934-0100

RICHMOND WEST CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
4305 Cox Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
804-934-0100

ROANOKE CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
5234 Airport Road
Roanoke, VA 24012
540-563-8000

ROANOKE CAMPUS
ECPI Technical College
5234 Airport Road
Roanoke, VA 24012
540-563-8000

National College of
Business and Technology

National College
of Business and Technology
Post Office Box 6400
Roanoke, VA 24017-0400
540-986-1800

National College
of Business and Technology
Post Office Box 6400
Roanoke, VA 24017-0400
540-986-1800

INSTITUTION

Rockwell University

Stratford College



Tidewater Tech

University of
Management and
Technology

University of
Northern Virginia



Yorktown University

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Rockwell University
3211 Germantown Road, Suite 700
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-0200

Stratford College
7777 Leesburg Pike
Suite 100 South
Falls Church, VA 22045
800-444-0804

Tidewater Tech
2697 Dean Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
757-340-2120

University of Management and Technology
1925 North Lynn Street, Suite 307
Arlington, VA 22209
703-516-0035

University of Northern Virginia
900 South Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
703-536-9588

Yorktown University
Post Office Box 653
Yorktown, VA 23690-0653
757-572-6777

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

Rockwell University
3211 Germantown Road, Suite 700
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-0200

Stratford College
7777 Leesburg Pike
Suite 100 South
Falls Church, VA 22045
800-444-0804

Tidewater Tech
2697 Dean Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
757-340-2120

University of Management and Technology
1925 North Lynn Street, Suite 307
Arlington, VA 22209
703-516-0035

University of Northern Virginia
900 South Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
703-536-9588

Yorktown University
Post Office Box 653
Yorktown, VA 23690-0653
757-572-6777



Phyllis Palmiero, Executive Director

In order to serve you better, we ask that you complete and return the form below. Please send your response in an envelope addressed to:

Sosanya Jones
Student Success Programs Coordinator
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
James Monroe Building, 9th Floor
101 North Fourteenth Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Check one: Student Parent Teacher Counselor

Name _____

Address _____

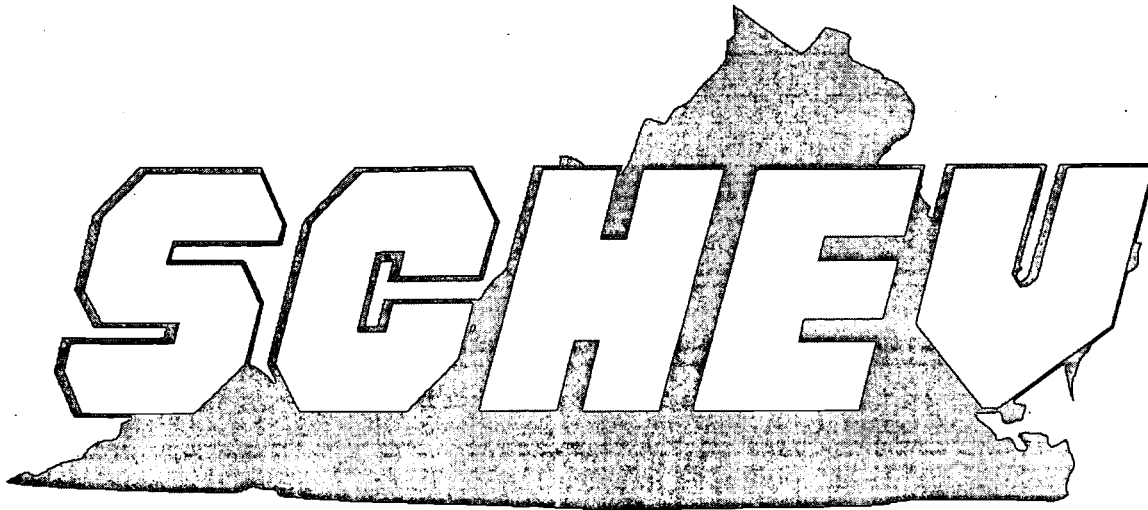
School _____

Date _____

Please check the most beneficial parts of this book.

- The College Experience (pg. 3)*
- Academic Preparation for College (pg. 4)*
- What Classes Prepare You for College... and Why? (pg. 5)*
- How You Can Get It All Done: Suggested Curriculum for Grades 8-12 (pg. 6)*
- What Do You Need to Get Into College? (pgs. 7-8)*
- From High School to College: Your Choices and Options (pgs. 9-10)*
- College transfer (pgs. 11-13)*
- How Do You Select a College? (pg. 14)*
- High School Timetable for College-Bound Students (pgs. 15-17)*
- College Admissions Procedures (pg. 18)*
- How Will You Pay for College? (pg. 19)*
- How Much Does It Cost to Go to College? (pgs. 20-21)*
- Institutional Contacts (pgs. 22-31)*

What other information would be helpful to you? _____



State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

SCHEV
James Monroe Building
101 North Fourteenth Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Phone: (804) 225-2600
Fax: (804) 225-2604
TDD: (804) 371-8017
Website: www.schev.edu

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