



*146th Year of the University*

SPRING 2017 | May 11-14

## GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Thursday, May 11, 2017 - Procession begins at 2:30 p.m.

**Master's degrees, certificates, education specialist, and doctoral degrees** will be conferred at the Graduate School ceremony. The ceremony is expected to last approximately two hours.

### Diplomas

Doctoral diplomas are presented during the Graduate Ceremony. Master's degree diplomas and education specialist certificates are mailed to the address that candidates are asked to provide to the Graduate School through Hokie Spa.

### Participation

**All graduate degree candidates** must confirm their plans to attend Commencement by May 1, 2017. Participants should report to Cassell Coliseum on the Beamer Way side of the building. Signage will be posted to direct candidates to their specific staging area. Check-in at Cassell Coliseum begins at 1:15 p.m. and all candidates should be on site by 2:15 p.m.

**Doctoral** candidates who will have met all requirements for graduation by May 5, 2017, are eligible to participate in Commencement.

**Major professors** who will be participating in the hooding ceremony should report to the Beamer Way side of Cassell Coliseum and follow the signage to the staging area. Please check in by 2:15 p.m. so that your name may be read.

**Faculty** participation is encouraged. Please report to Cassell Coliseum by 2:15 p.m. and follow the signage to the staging area. The deadline for renting regalia from the University Bookstore is April 28, 2017.

Questions pertaining to eligibility to participate should be directed to the Graduate School at 540-231-8636. For complete details, visit the Graduate School website at <http://graduateschool.vt.edu/academics/what-you-need-to-graduate/commencement.html>.

### Guest Seating and Parking

All university parking lots will be open to the public. However, parking in the immediate vicinity of Cassell Coliseum is limited. Families and guests are urged to arrive in time to be seated by 2:15 p.m. The procession will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m.

## UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Friday, May 12, 2017, at Lane Stadium - Procession begins at 8:30 a.m.

**Associate and bachelor's degrees will be conferred at the university ceremony.** The ceremony is expected to last approximately one hour. Degree candidates wishing to be excused from Commencement must indicate their intention by going to the Hokie Spa website under "Application for Degree" and clicking on "I will not be attending Commencement." Be sure to update your mailing address.

### Diplomas

**Undergraduate diplomas** are not presented at the university ceremony. They are presented at the separate college and department ceremonies, except in the case of department ceremonies that are held on Friday.

**Undergraduate diplomas for candidates attending Friday departmental ceremonies** may be picked up on Saturday during the time and location set by the department. If you prefer, you may request that your diploma be mailed by logging into Hokie Spa, selecting "Degree Menu" then selecting "Undergraduate Degree Menu" and "Add/Update Diploma Mailing Address."

**Note:** This process will not alter your participation in the university or college/department ceremony.

If you have questions about your diploma, please call the Registrar's office at 540-231-6252, or visit their website at <http://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief.html>.

### Participation

If you plan to complete degree requirements in the summer and wish to participate in the spring ceremony, you should inform your department so they know you will be participating.

**Associate and bachelor's degree** candidates planning to participate in the procession must arrive at the staging area on the corner of Beamer Way and Southgate Drive in the parking lot adjacent to the outdoor track no later than 8:00 a.m. Signage designating the location for lineup of each college's candidates will be posted.

**Faculty and recipients of graduate degrees** are encouraged to participate in the processional and should report to the staging area on the corner of Beamer Way and Southgate Drive in the parking lot adjacent to the outdoor track no later than 8:15 a.m. Signage will direct you to the appropriate staging area.

### Guest Seating and Parking

All university parking lots will be open to the public. Families and guests are urged to arrive in time to be seated by 8:20 a.m. The procession will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

# NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Sunday, May 14, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., Center for the Arts, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

*(There are no guest limits or ticket requirements for this ceremony.)*

## Diplomas

Doctoral diplomas are presented during the Graduate Ceremony. Master's degree diplomas and education specialist certificates are mailed to the address that candidates are asked to provide to the Graduate School through Hokie Spa.

## Participation

All candidates must confirm their plans to attend Commencement by May 1, 2017. Please confirm your attendance through Hokie Spa. Refer to the following website for information: [www.nvc.vt.edu/current-students/graduation](http://www.nvc.vt.edu/current-students/graduation). You may also contact the Graduate Student Services Office at 703-538-8327 or email your inquiry to [gssoncr@vt.edu](mailto:gssoncr@vt.edu).

Check-in for all participants begins at 11:30 a.m. Graduate candidates should report to their department tables where they will be directed to robing rooms. Personal belongings cannot be stored in the robing rooms so be prepared to make arrangements in advance to secure personal items. All graduate candidates will march by degree, college, and department. Lineup will begin at 12:30 p.m. Late arrivals will march at the end of the line.

## Guest Seating

Guests are urged to arrive in time to be seated in advance of the procession, which will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. Doors open at 12:15 p.m.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Commencement Phone Line: 540-231-3208 | Commencement Website: [www.vt.edu/commencement](http://www.vt.edu/commencement)

**To assist you in locating the section where your degree candidate is seated during the University Ceremony, the following plan for seating is provided:**

### Worsham Field West:

- 2017 Class Officers
- Honors Students
- Engineering
- Liberal Arts & Human Sciences
- Natural Resources & Environment

### Worsham Field East:

- Faculty, Ph.D., Ed.D.
- D.V.M., Master's
- Agriculture & Life Sciences
- Architecture & Urban Studies
- Business
- Science

## Programs

Undergraduate candidates will be provided one complete Commencement program with a full listing of student names. Each college or department that holds a separate ceremony will receive programs for distribution to their respective students. Full programs will be distributed at the Graduate School and National Capital Region Commencement ceremonies. The final program, complete with student names, will be available online for anyone wishing to print additional copies.

## Graduate and University Ceremonies Broadcast Live

Virginia Tech will offer live streaming video of the Graduate and University Commencement ceremonies. Links to the streams for both events will be accessible from [www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu) approximately one hour before each ceremony begins. At the conclusion of each ceremony, the video will be archived and accessible from the Commencement website at [www.vt.edu/commencement](http://www.vt.edu/commencement).

## Graduation Degree Requirements

In order to receive a degree, a student must have satisfied all academic requirements, must have fulfilled all financial obligations to the university, and must not have any pending charges, active suspensions, or dismissals by the Honor or Student Conduct systems.

## Academic Apparel: Caps, Gowns, Hoods, Tassels, and Sashes

Academic apparel is required for all graduation ceremonies. Caps, gowns, hoods, and tassels may be purchased from University Bookstore on-campus (540-231-5991), Volume Two Bookstore off-campus (540-231-9674) and at [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu). Faculty

wishing to rent regalia may do so at the University Bookstore by April 28, 2017. Students who have a 3.40 GPA or above may also purchase an honor sash and pin packet to wear on their gowns. At the end of March a list of undergraduate students with a 3.40 GPA or above is provided to each bookstore location. Periodic updates are made to this list.

## Announcements, Diploma Frames, Gifts, Flowers, and Commencement T-shirts

Personalized announcements may be ordered in advance at [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu). Diploma frames, graduation gifts, non-personalized announcements, and Commencement T-Shirts that list the names of the graduating class may be purchased at the on-campus University Bookstore, Volume Two Bookstore off-campus, and at [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu). On graduation day Commencement T-Shirts are available from on-site vendors. Graduation bouquets may be ordered in advance at [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu), and on graduation day are available from on-site vendors.

## When To Arrive

Due to multiple ceremonies being held in the same venue, it is recommended that guests not arrive more than one hour in advance of a scheduled ceremony to avoid traffic and parking delays or long wait times for building entry. Every effort will be made to have doors open approximately one hour prior to all college or departmental ceremonies.

## Tickets Are Not Required for Commencement Ceremonies

Tickets are not required for Commencement ceremonies, and there is no limit to the number of guests you may bring. However, if attending a college or departmental ceremony in a smaller venue, please consider limiting your guests to immediate family. Overcrowding is not a concern in the larger venues, such as Lane Stadium, Cassell Coliseum, and Burruss Hall Auditorium.

## Class Rings

All graduates may order class rings through the Alumni Association by calling them at 540-231-6285 or by visiting their website at [www.vt.edu/classring](http://www.vt.edu/classring).



### **Becoming Alumni of Virginia Tech**

Graduation from Virginia Tech means you are continuing your VirginiaTechforlife relationship with the University. Update your contact information and stay in touch through alumni chapters, reunions, events, and special programs of the Alumni Association. For more information: [www.alumni.vt.edu](http://www.alumni.vt.edu). Refer to [www.alumni.vt.edu/young-alumni/seniortransition.html](http://www.alumni.vt.edu/young-alumni/seniortransition.html) for graduating senior programs.

### **Accessibility Information for Individuals with Disabilities**

Accessible seating for persons with impaired mobility is available at Cassell Coliseum and Lane Stadium. Accessible parking is available in the Cassell Coliseum parking lot on Beamer Way located directly across the street from the Merryman Center, and in the Lane Stadium parking lot for the University ceremony guests. Individuals with mobility impairment who are attending a ceremony in Cassell Coliseum are advised to enter through the Merryman Center entrance.

For additional information concerning accessibility and disability accommodations, visit the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) online at [www.ssd.vt.edu](http://www.ssd.vt.edu), or call 540-231-3788. Two weeks prior to the Commencement ceremony, "Accessible (impaired mobility) Parking Passes"—which are not required if you have a DMV handicap tag—will be available for pickup at 310 Lavery Hall above the Turner Place dining facility.

### **Lodging and Dining on the Blacksburg Campus**

The Division of Student Affairs' Conference and Guest Services offers an alternative to hotel lodging. In an effort to provide convenient, low-cost accommodations, Conference and Guest Services is pleased to provide residence hall space for families and guests of graduates. Many of our Commencement guests find that staying in our residence halls during this weekend minimizes parking and dining difficulties and provides what is often a nostalgic experience. On-campus dining will be available at D2, Squires Food Court, and Deet's Place coffee shop, as noted on the Calendar of Events on the following page.

Advance reservations for lodging are required, and full payment is due at the time that reservations are made. Online reservations and payment may be made at [www.housing.vt.edu/conference/lodging](http://www.housing.vt.edu/conference/lodging).

For details and reservation information, contact Conference and Guest Services at 540-231-5721. You may also send an email inquiry to [conferences@vt.edu](mailto:conferences@vt.edu).

### **Inclement Weather Instructions**

In the event of inclement weather, the University Ceremony at Lane Stadium may be delayed or possibly canceled. Once the decision has been made, details will be posted on the Virginia Tech homepage ([www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu)), the Virginia Tech News homepage ([www.vtnews.vt.edu](http://www.vtnews.vt.edu)), and

Virginia Tech Mobile. In addition, a broadcast email will be sent to all students, faculty, and staff; a recorded message will be placed on the University Weather Line (540-231-6668); and information will be shared with other local media outlets. The announcement will also be posted to the VT News page on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/vtnews](http://www.twitter.com/vtnews)) and the Virginia Tech page on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/virginiatech](http://www.facebook.com/virginiatech)). The university may use VT Alerts, depending on conditions.

### **Official Photographer**

GradImages® will be the official photographer for Spring 2017 Commencement ceremonies on the Virginia Tech campus. Photographers will be present for the Graduate School ceremony as well as the National Capital Region Commencement Ceremony and all major college ceremonies. The photographers will be the only persons with clear access to the stages.

On Wednesday, May 10, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., GradImages® will offer free portrait sittings in the Squires Student Center Cardinal Room. All graduating students, both undergraduate and graduate, should wear their own cap and gown. As many accoutrements as desired, such as stoles, honors cords, and sashes, may be worn for the portrait sitting. No appointment is necessary.

Although students are not obligated to make a purchase, by registering an email address online prior to graduation, graduating students are eligible for a \$5 discount on any photo order of more than \$25. GradImages® will send proofs by mail—and by email if an address is provided—approximately one week after the ceremony.

If you have any questions about your order, please contact GradImages® by phone at 800-261-2576 or online at [www.gradimages.com/virginiatech](http://www.gradimages.com/virginiatech).

### **Security Measures**

Please follow the Lane Stadium clear bag policy as closely as possible: [Frequently Asked Questions](#). Wrapped packages will not be allowed in ceremony venues. You may carry in one unopened bottle of water. Strollers and umbrellas will be allowed in Lane Stadium and Cassell Coliseum. However, all items are subject to search.

*Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. For inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies, contact the assistant vice president, Office for Equity and Accessibility at 540-231-8771 or Virginia Tech, North End Center, Suite 2300 (0318), 300 Turner St. NW, Blacksburg, VA 24061.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Thursday, May 11, 2017

### GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Deet's Place (gourmet coffee, ice cream, and pastry)  
Au Bon Pain Cafe (soups, salads and sandwiches)

Cassell Coliseum  
Dietrick Dining Center, Lower Level  
Squires Food Court, Squires Student Center

Procession begins at 2:30 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Friday, May 12, 2017

\*Commencement Breakfast

\*Commencement Brunch/Lunch

Deet's Place (gourmet coffee, ice cream, and pastry)

Au Bon Pain Cafe (soups, salads and sandwiches)

\*Commencement Dinner

### UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

#### COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENTAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

##### Agriculture and Life Sciences

##### Pamplin College of Business

##### Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Apparel, Housing and Resource Management

Communication

Political Science and International Studies

Religion and Culture

Sociology

Theatre and Cinema

##### Science

Computational Modeling and Data Analytics

Nanoscience

Neuroscience

#### VA-MD REGIONAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

#### COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

#### CORPS OF CADETS COMMENCEMENT & ROTC

#### COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

D2 at Dietrick Hall, Upper Level  
D2 at Dietrick Hall, Upper Level  
Dietrick Dining Center, Lower Level  
Squires Food Court, Squires Student Center  
D2 at Dietrick Hall, Upper Level  
Lane Stadium/Worsham Field

6:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Procession begins at 8:30 a.m.

Cassell Coliseum

12 Noon

Cassell Coliseum

3:30 p.m.

Squires Student Center, Commonwealth Ballroom

3:00 p.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

12:30 p.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

3:30 p.m.

Squires Student Center, Old Dominion Ballroom

3:00 p.m.

Moss Arts Center, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre

3:30 p.m.

Squires Student Center, Studio Theatre

3:00 p.m.

Davidson Hall, Room 281, Auditorium

4:00 p.m.

Hahn Hall North, Room 130

2:00 p.m.

German Club Manor

1:00 p.m.

Moss Arts Center, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre

6:00 p.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

7:00 p.m.

## Saturday, May 13, 2017

\*Commencement Breakfast

Deet's Place (gourmet coffee, ice cream, and pastry)

Au Bon Pain Cafe (soups, salads and sandwiches)

#### COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENTAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

##### Architecture and Urban Studies

##### Engineering

Aerospace

Civil

Engineering Science and Mechanics

Materials Science

Mechanical

Ocean

##### Engineering

Biological Systems

Chemical

Computer

Computer Science

Construction Engineering and Management

Electrical

Industrial and Systems

Mining and Minerals

##### Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

English

Foreign Languages and Literatures

History

Human Development

Music

Philosophy

Science & Technology in Society

##### Natural Resources and Environment

##### Science

Biological Sciences

Chemistry

Economics

Geosciences

Mathematics

Physics

Psychology

Statistics

D2 at Dietrick Hall, Upper Level  
Dietrick Dining Center, Lower Level  
Squires Food Court, Squires Student Center

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

8:30 a.m.

Cassell Coliseum

8:00 a.m.

Cassell Coliseum

11:00 a.m.

Squires Student Center, Commonwealth Ballroom

8:30 a.m.

Squires Student Center, Colonial Hall

10:00 a.m.

Squires Student Center, Commonwealth Ballroom

11:30 a.m.

Cassell Coliseum

2:00 p.m.

Squires Student Center, Recital Salon

9:30 a.m.

Torgersen Hall, Room 2150

11:00 a.m.

Hahn Horticulture Garden, Washington Street

12:30 p.m.

Moss Arts Center, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre

8:30 a.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

11:30 a.m.

Lyric Theatre, 135 College Avenue

9:00 a.m.

McBryde Hall, Room 100

12:00 noon

Hancock Hall, Room 100

10:00 a.m.

McBryde Hall, Room 100

9:00 a.m.

Davidson Hall, Room 281, Auditorium

1:00 p.m.

Burruss Hall, Auditorium

2:30 p.m.

Hillcrest Hall

11:00 a.m.

## Sunday, May 14, 2017

### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Center for the Arts, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 1:00 p.m.

\*Meal tickets may be purchased at [www.housing.vt.edu/conference/lodging](http://www.housing.vt.edu/conference/lodging) or you may pay by cash, check, or credit card at the door. For details, call 540-231-5721. For the most up-to-date hours, please visit the Dining Center Operation Hour page at [www.dining.vt.edu/hours](http://www.dining.vt.edu/hours).