

Proposed Tuition and Fee Rates for 2025-26
FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

March 6, 2025

Development of 2025-26 Tuition and Fee Rates

The university has traditionally developed tuition and fee proposals in February and March of each year, with final rates submitted to the Board of Visitors at its regularly scheduled spring meeting in late March or early April. This process typically allows the university to incorporate the impact of legislative actions taken during the regular General Assembly session into the tuition and fee proposals. Finalizing these rates at the spring Board of Visitors meeting helps students plan for the financial costs of the upcoming academic year and allows the Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid to deliver timely and effective financial aid award information to current and prospective students.

The 2025 General Assembly session adjourned on February 22, 2025, sending a proposed budget to Governor Youngkin for final approval. While the state budget is not yet final, the university can now consider the final amount of General Fund support that the university projects receiving in 2025-26 as well as the nongeneral fund cost assignments that must be met with self-generated resources. With that understanding, the following tuition and fee recommendation is proposed to address the university's 2025-26 resource needs.

Attached Schedules 1–7 provide a summary of all tuition and fee rates proposed for the 2025-26 academic year.

Impact of Student Financial Aid Programs

The university continues to make strategic investments into student financial aid programs that support low-to-middle-income students and support enrollment management strategies, including the Virginia Tech Advantage initiative announced by the President in fall of 2022. Reflecting on our land grant mission and motto of Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), the university has committed to offering a broad educational experience to undergraduate students from Virginia who have financial need. The goal of the program is to improve access and affordability for in-state undergraduate students with financial need and enhance student success. Virginia Tech Advantage will transform the university's ability to meet student needs, remove barriers, and envision a future full of opportunity for every Hokie graduate.

In addition to the investment in the keystone initiative, the Virginia Tech Advantage, the university maintains a robust student financial aid program to ensure access and affordability of the institution's programs. The proposed increases to tuition and fees represent the gross charges assessed to students and may be offset by one of the university's various financial assistance programs. This includes the Funds for the Future program, which shelters returning undergraduate students from tuition and fee increases. This aid program is being expanded in FY26 to ensure families with incomes up to \$115,000 are being sheltered from tuition and fee increases. Additional new investments in Student Financial Aid will continue to enhance the university's overall student financial aid program.

Tuition

The university's Six-Year Financial Plan sets short-term targets for tuition and fees. Although these plans are developed in accordance with state guidelines based on certain assumptions about state support from the General Fund, the university develops tuition and fee recommendations for the coming year based on actual and projected revenues and costs. The university has worked to balance these criteria in developing the proposed annual base tuition rates, detailed on Schedule 1.

Veterinary Medicine

When the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine was formed, the two states agreed to provide equal contributions (per Virginia and Maryland student) to the instructional operating budget. It was also agreed that both Virginia and Maryland students would pay the same resident tuition rate. The tuition agreement has been sustained since the first class was admitted.

Each year the tuition proposal is reviewed with the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine Budget and Program Review Board (established to review the college's budget and comprised of representatives from Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland). Veterinary medicine program tuition rates are detailed on Schedule 1.

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

Integrated as the ninth college of Virginia Tech on July 1, 2018, the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine is funded through a combination of medical student tuition and partnership support. Medical program tuition rates are detailed on Schedule 1.

Graduate Candidacy Status

To recognize the largely independent nature of doctoral students who have completed two years of course work, passed their preliminary exam, and are engaged in research and dissertation efforts, the university has a lower tuition rate for research and dissertation hours for students in this status. Candidacy Status is conferred by the Graduate School after a student has completed two years of course work and passed their preliminary exam. A reduced tuition rate for Candidacy Status is intended to incentivize time-to-degree for Ph.D. students, minimize the cost to research programs, and better position the university within the competitive market. As an incentive to graduate, the rate is available for a maximum of two years for full-time students and the rate will be automatically applied in the next semester after the Graduate School affirms a student's candidacy status. This rate does not apply to executive graduate programs. These rates are discounted 15% from standard graduate tuition. The university recommends continuing this policy. Graduate Candidacy Status tuition rates are detailed on Schedule 1.

Special Tuition Rates

Semester and Part-Time Tuition Rates

Semester rates equal one-half of annual rates. Part-time rates are derived from the respective full-time rate and are directly related to the number of credit hours taken. For tuition calculation purposes, the full-time undergraduate semester rate is divided by twelve credit hours and the full-time graduate semester rate is divided by nine credit hours. Part-time rates are detailed on Schedule 2.

Summer and Winter Session Rate

The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 outlined objectives that seek to expand access to and promote degree completion across the commonwealth's higher education system. During non-traditional academic time periods, increasing year-round utilization of facilities and advancing opportunities for degree completion is an important strategy for supporting these objectives. To position the university for continued innovation in non-traditional session enrollment growth, in 2012-13 the university shifted the assessment of summer and winter session undergraduate tuition to a per-credit hour basis at a 10 percent discount of the regular session hourly rates for on-campus students. The university proposes to continue this assessment methodology for the 2025-26 winter and summer sessions. This approach provides a financial incentive for students to complete their degree at an accelerated pace and offers improved flexibility for faculty to innovate academic offerings during these non-traditional sessions. Special session tuition rates are detailed on Schedule 2.

Program Specific Online Graduate Tuition Rates

For select online graduate programs with significant demand beyond the commonwealth's borders and the capacity for growth, the university has developed a tiered set of tuition rates that apply to all students in each program. These rates ensure coverage of the direct and indirect cost of instruction and satisfy state policy requiring that nonresident students be assessed at least the average cost of education. This rate structure is organized into four tiers; market assessment and review of program costs determine each program's rate tier. Students are also assessed the traditional mandatory E&G fees (Library). As completely online programs, students are not assessed the Commonwealth Facility and Equipment Fee. These rates are detailed on Schedule 2.

Professional and Executive Graduate Pricing

To support the strategic goal of increasing the number of students enrolled in professional and executive graduate degree programs, specifically at sites outside of the Blacksburg campus, the university proposes continuing the market-based pricing strategies in select programs. Programs eligible for these pricing strategies will display market demand that extends beyond the commonwealth and generate net revenue above the direct and indirect cost of instruction (therefore, above the average cost of education). Tuition is assessed on a per-credit basis, and, in some cases, a program-specific supplemental fee may also be approved. Professional and Executive Graduate tuition rates are detailed on Schedule 2.

Special Tuition Rate for Elementary and Secondary School Personnel

Reflecting the university's commitment to improving the quality of elementary and secondary education through the continued education of elementary and secondary school teachers, in 1984 a special tuition rate was created for elementary and secondary school teachers to attend graduate classes at Virginia Tech at a reduced tuition for purposes of recertification.

In 1989, the Board of Visitors approved two expansions of this program: First, all elementary and secondary school personnel became eligible for the reduced tuition rate. Second, all graduate hours qualify for the plan, not just recertification hours.

In 1999, the Board of Visitors approved an expansion of the special tuition rate to include undergraduate-level courses for vocational teachers who do not have a bachelor's degree.

In 2015-16, the Board of Visitors established a 25 percent discount, resulting in a special tuition rate for elementary and secondary school personnel of 75 percent of the corresponding campus tuition rates (excludes professional and executive programs). The university recommends continuing this policy. Tuition rates for elementary and secondary school personnel are detailed on Schedule 2.

Special Tuition Rate for Study-Abroad Programs

Providing study-abroad opportunities is an important strategy in strengthening Virginia Tech's international programs. The Board of Visitors previously approved a special tuition rate for students who participate in the various study-abroad programs operated by the university. The special tuition rate reflects instructional services that all students receive but excludes the cost of on-campus services.

In 2008-09 the study-abroad rate was set at 80 percent of the on-campus tuition rates. Consistent with prior years, the special tuition rate for study abroad would not apply for students studying at the Steger Center for International Scholarship. The university recommends continuing this policy. Tuition rates for study abroad programs are detailed on Schedule 2.

Average Cost of Education

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a longstanding policy for considering the per student educational cost for colleges and universities. This process identifies the average educational cost for all undergraduate and graduate students. The Average Cost of Education does not include professional programs such as veterinary medicine or the VTC School of Medicine.

Until 2004, the Average Cost of Instruction was utilized as the measure of per student instructional cost. The Average Cost of Instruction identified the instructional cost components within the Educational and General appropriation. In 2004, a new state policy replaced the Average Cost of *Instruction* with the Average Cost of *Education*. The Average Cost of Education is the instructional funding need generated by the base budget adequacy model.

The Average Cost of Education serves as the basis for ensuring that nonresident undergraduate and graduate students cover at least 100 percent of the average cost of their

education as the General Assembly instructed colleges and universities in the 1991 legislative session. Nonresident tuition and mandatory E&G fee rates for the upcoming academic year are examined against the estimated Average Cost of Education in the prior year to ensure they cover 100 percent of the Average Cost of Education.

The following table presents Virginia Tech's estimate of the Average Cost of Education and coverage percentages by student category for 2025-26.

	<u>2025-26 Estimate</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>% of Average</u>
<i>Average Cost of Education</i>	\$ 23,248	
<u>Undergraduates*</u>		
Residents	13,656	59%
Nonresidents	35,503	153%
<u>Graduates*</u>		
Residents	16,348	70%
Nonresidents	32,738	141%
<u>Residency</u>		
Residents		60%
Nonresidents		149%

Excess Credit Hour Surcharge

The 2006 General Assembly (§ 23.1-509 Code of Virginia) required the establishment of a surcharge to be assessed to all resident undergraduate students beginning in the semester after 125 percent of credit hours required for baccalaureate degrees have been completed.

The surcharge amount is the difference between the Average Cost of Education and the resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory E&G fees. In effect, the surcharge requires the resident student to pay the Average Cost of Education once they have exceeded 125 percent of degree requirements due to the limit of state subsidy. The resultant surcharge can be found on Schedule 2.

Educational and General Fees

Library Fee

In 2013, the university instituted an annual fee to support a robust scholarly environment to advance academic achievement. The Library Fee supports comprehensive library resources, online access to library resources for enrolled students, and enhancements to student library services. Part-time students pay half the full-time rate. The proposed rate can be found on Schedule 3.

Commonwealth Facility and Equipment Fee

The 2003 General Assembly required the establishment of a capital fee to be assessed to all nonresident students at institutions of higher education for 2003-04 to pay a portion of the debt service on bonds issued under the 21st Century Debt Program issued for construction of new facilities on campus. The 2004 General Assembly increased the nongeneral fund portion of lease payments for the 2004-06 allocation of equipment under the Higher Education Equipment Trust fund and stipulated the source of the nongeneral funds be an increase in fees for nonresident students at public institutions of higher education starting in 2005-06. Part-time students pay half the full-time rate. The proposed rate is detailed on Schedule 3.

Immigration Services Fee

To support administrative costs and maintain the quality of immigration services provided to degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate international students, the university implemented an Immigration Services Fee beginning with students enrolling in Fall 2018. This fee helps support costs uniquely associated with the administration of international student enrollment such as academic and financial verification, immigration regulation, Student and Exchange Visitor Program System (SEVIS) reporting requirements, financial processing fees, and compliance with federal regulations. International students on a domestic campus are assessed the fee. For international Graduate students on assistantship, the fee is remitted under Section 4-2.01b.6 of the Virginia Appropriation Act in recognition of their service to the University. The proposed rate can be found on Schedule 3.

Comprehensive Fee

The Student Activity Fee, Health Service Fee, Athletic Fee, Recreational Sports Fee, and Student Services Fee are collectively called the Comprehensive Fee. Individual descriptions are below for each component of the Comprehensive Fee. Part-time students pay one-half of each fee. The proposed comprehensive fee rates are detailed on Schedule 3.

Student Activity Fee

The Student Activity Fee covers student activities programming, supports the presence and practice of the arts across campus for all students, and supports student activities as determined by the Student Budget Board.

Health Service Fee

The Health Service Fee supports normal medical and nursing attention and counseling services provided by Schiffert Student Health Services, Cook Counseling Center, and Virginia Tech Rescue Squad operations.

Athletic Fee

A portion of the university's athletic program operations is supported by the Athletic Fee. The student fee revenue covers the costs of athletic administration and sponsoring intercollegiate varsity sports that do not generate revenue. This fee entitles students to free admissions into sporting events, while recognizing that student seating is limited thus not guaranteed.

Recreational Sports Fee

The Recreational Sports Fee supports recreational programs and intramural and extramural sports club programs.

Student Services Fee

The Student Services Fee supports the issuance of Hokie Passport student IDs, the Division of Student Affairs, transportation services, and the campus wireless network. Students enrolled at Virginia Tech have unlimited access to bus transportation provided by the Blacksburg Transit System through a contract the university negotiates with the Town of Blacksburg each year. In addition to the convenience for students, the bus system and alternative transportation programs save the university considerable resources by lowering requirements for on-campus parking.

Comprehensive Fee Reduction for Students Studying at a Distance

In recognition of students living and studying away from the Blacksburg campus, and supporting the university's goal of affordability, the university continues to recommend a 50% reduction in the comprehensive fee as detailed in Schedule 3 for full-time students enrolled in an all-virtual schedule or engaged exclusively in research hours or independent study not located on campus. Students must certify that they will reside more than 50 miles from the Blacksburg campus for the entire semester. Part-time and special session enrollment may be eligible for a derivative reduction using the same eligibility requirements. Students maintained access to services provided virtually.

Campus Fees

Specialized campus fees are designed to cover costs that are unique to a specific campus. These fees are charges established for a specific campus which are beyond regular tuition and fees and are equal for students, both resident and nonresident. The Comprehensive Fee, which supports a number of services on the Blacksburg campus, is not charged to students in other locations. The proposed annual fees by location are detailed in schedule 3.

Northern Virginia Region Student Services Fees

Students attending courses in the Northern Virginia Region benefit from services including the infrastructure and use of the wireless network and the issuance and use of student identification cards.

Northern Virginia Region Transportation Services Fee

Through a collaboration with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), the Northern Virginia Region Transportation Services Fee supports eligible full-time students in the region with unlimited access to the Metrorail and Metrobus throughout the fall and/or spring semesters. Executive and part-time students are excluded from the program.

Roanoke Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine Comprehensive Fee

Students attending courses at the VTCSOM in Roanoke benefit from several of the traditional Comprehensive Fee services and are assessed a Student Services Fee, Health Services Fee, Student Government/Activity Fee, and Recreational Sports Fee.

Steger Center for International Scholarship Fee Rates

The Steger Center for International Scholarship (the Center) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, opened in the Fall of 1993. The Center serves as a resident educational facility for Virginia Tech students from many academic programs. Providing the opportunity for students to study abroad is an important strategy in strengthening the international programs of Virginia Tech, an objective of both the university and the commonwealth.

For purposes of financing the operations of the Center, two separate programs are maintained. First, all instructional costs are accounted for in the E&G program of the University Division. Second, the housing, dining, and student activity auxiliary enterprise programs are recorded within the university's Residential and Dining Hall System. The university's Swiss subsidiary corporation manages the day-to-day activities of the Center.

Students attending the Steger Center for International Scholarship are assessed the same tuition as on-campus students.

For housing and dining services at the Center, the proposed fees reflect the cost of living at the Center. Students are not required to pay the Blacksburg campus Comprehensive Fee while studying abroad. A student activity fee supports students with community-building social and recreational events and activities. The proposed annual student activity fee and room and board rate are detailed on Schedule 3.

Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center Fee

To support the cost of operations and ensure the quality of the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC), the college recommended that a supplemental fee be assessed to Virginia Tech and WAAC Consortium students in residence at the center on a per-semester basis. This E&G fee helps manage the cost of instructional facilities and equipment and support students in their academic efforts in the robust curricular environment of the WAAC. The proposed annual WAAC Center fee is detailed on Schedule 3.

Room and Board Charges

The university's Residential and Dining Programs serve students by providing on-campus housing and dining services. Generally, all entering freshmen must live on campus, and housing is available on a limited basis for returning students who choose to live on campus. The university establishes optional room and board rates based on a derivation of the Board-approved fee to appropriately reflect costs for Summer Session and summer conferences. All students living on campus must select a meal plan, except students who elect to reside in the Oak Lane – Phase IV housing development; off-campus students may participate in one of the meal plan programs.

Room Charges

The proposed annual room charges by location and room type are detailed on Schedule 3.

Living Learning Community Charge

The Living Learning Community charge is for students participating in Living Learning Communities on campus. These living and learning opportunities are available in select residence halls to those students who elect to participate. The proposed annual charge is detailed in Schedule 3.

Residential Telecommunications Charge

All students living on campus pay the Residential Telecommunications fee, which supports technology for students in campus residences, wired network connectivity, and wireless network coverage. The proposed annual charge is detailed in Schedule 3.

Board Charges

Students living on-campus currently have a choice of three types of flexible meal plans. The Flex Plan operates like a debit account with a designated amount for the purchase of food in the dining facilities. Students may deposit cash to their Flex accounts to increase their balance during the year. Consistent with the purchasing power of traditional meal plans, the intent of annual rate changes for the Flex Plans is to hold overall purchasing power constant from year to year. The proposed annual board charges are detailed on Schedule 3.

Supplemental Program Fees

Supplemental Program Fees are designed to cover costs unique to a specific discipline. To maintain the intent of the commonwealth's funding policies regarding the collection and allocation of tuition revenues, Program Fees are established for a specific program and are beyond regular tuition and fees and are equal for both resident and nonresident students. The proposed annual Supplemental Program fees are described below and detailed on Schedule 4.

Agriculture Fee

Students in the College of Agriculture are assessed a program fee to ensure that the college is able to continue to deliver innovative, high-quality instruction and maintain critical laboratory facilities and equipment that are unique to the program.

Architecture + Design Fee

Architecture, industrial design, interior design, and landscape architecture students in the School of Architecture + Design need access to appropriate studio equipment, academic programming, and technology. This fee supports costs that are unique to Architecture + Design students including the updating of equipment and materials for instructional studios, student projects, quality enhancements, and operational support of instructional studios.

Building Construction Fee

An annual program fee recognizes the differential cost of instruction for students in the university's Building Construction major. This fee is assessed to students admitted into the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design's Building Construction degree program before Fall 2023. This program transitioned to the College of Engineering in Fall 2023, and all Building Construction students admitted thereafter are subject instead to the Engineering fee.

Corps of Cadets Fee

Capital improvements have increased and enhanced the Corps of Cadets program space, supporting the recruitment and retention of high-quality students. To support these needed enhancements, the university established a Corps of Cadets fee beginning in Fall 2023, assessed to all members of the Corps of Cadets. Proceeds from the fee are used exclusively for Corps of Cadets program space improvements. The proposed annual rate is detailed on Schedule 4.

Engineering Fee

To ensure that engineering students continue to receive a state-of-the-art education in a quality learning environment, the university began recognizing the higher cost of instruction in the College of Engineering through a supplemental fee in Fall 2007. This fee supports costs that are unique to College of Engineering students including: the continuing need for modernization of instrumentation and materials for instructional laboratories and student projects, instructional space costs, effective maintenance of instrumentation and technology, quality enhancements, and operation of the instructional laboratories.

Master of Public Health Fee

The Master of Public Health fee provides resources for program-specific course development, faculty and leadership support, and instructional needs.

Master of Business Administration Fee

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program fee aligns pricing of the Virginia Tech MBA program and provides funding for the college's academic program and enhanced career placement services for students. This fee applies to students in the EvMBA and OMBA programs yet is not assessed to Executive MBA students (who have a separate rate structure).

Master of Science in Business Administration (MSBA) Fee

To ensure the Pamplin College of Business MSBA programs in Business Analytics (BA) and Hospitality & Tourism Management (HTM) are positioned to continue to deliver high-quality instruction, provide experiential learning opportunities, and career services to students, the university recognizes the differential cost of the MSBA-BA and MSBA-HTM programs through the assessment of a supplemental E&G program fee.

Pamplin College of Business Fee

Delivering a high-quality business education requires the resources to address costs unique to the Pamplin College of Business. To ensure continued excellence in the Pamplin College of Business, a per-credit hour fee was established in 2013-14 to provide dedicated resources to be utilized exclusively for the Pamplin College of Business. Beginning in Fall 2023, students entering the college are assessed an annual program fee instead of the per-credit fee.

Veterinary Medicine Facility Fee

All Veterinary Medicine students are assessed a facility fee. Proceeds from the facility fee are used exclusively for College of Veterinary Medicine instructional space improvements. The proposed annual rate is detailed on schedule 4.

Course Specific Charges

The university may establish course specific charges for study abroad costs, field trips, course materials, laboratory costs, or other extraordinary costs tied to individual courses. The university avoids establishing course charges for materials and laboratory charges in programs with specialized program fees.

Professional & Executive Graduate Degree Program Fees

While similar to specialized graduate program fees, the industry standard for this type of professional education program is to be quoted in terms of a total cost for the entire program period. Programs generally span from 12 to 24 months. A new multi-year total cost is developed for each incoming cohort. The annual program fees are established as the difference between applicable tuition and fees and the total cost during the cohort period. The program fee for a cohort's second year is established when tuition and fee rates are set for that year; this can be impacted by several factors including cost assignments by the General Assembly but are designed to honor the previously quoted total cost of the entire program period. Each program and its total cost proposal are summarized on Schedule 4.

Executive Master of Natural Resources (XMNR) Pricing

In 2010-11, the College of Natural Resources expanded the existing Master of Natural Resources program delivered in the National Capital Region by adding an executive format cohort. The program is an accelerated graduate degree for working professionals with significant management experience. The program utilizes the Professional Graduate tuition rate, Library Fee, Facility & Equipment Fee, and a program fee to achieve the total program cost. Tuition is assessed on all credits taken.

Ph.D. in Executive Business Research (BXBR) Pricing

The Pamplin College of Business launched a new Ph.D. in Business with a concentration in Executive Business Research that started in Fall 2016. The three-year program is administered through the College's Falls Church facility in the National Capital Region and provides business professionals with rigorous training in analytical and research techniques, exposure to the scholarly literature in business, and dissertation research experience that is translational in

nature. The degree follows a three-year plan of study and is assessed Executive Graduate tuition, Library Fee, Facility & Equipment Fee, and a BXBR program fee on a per credit hour basis. BXBR students continuing beyond the scheduled three years will be assessed Executive Graduate Tuition and fees and the BXBR program fee on a per credit hour basis.

Graduate Tuition Pricing Basis

As the university continues to develop and offer targeted educational opportunities to meet student and market demand, the university may elect to utilize per-credit hour tuition pricing in lieu of the traditional full/part-time pricing approach in situations where such pricing better aligns with the program delivery model. A leading example is accelerated master degrees where credit hours delivered significantly exceeds the level planned through traditional full-time programs.

Summary of Tuition and Fee Rates

A summary of the recommended tuition rates is shown on Schedules 1 and 2, and a summary of fees is attached on Schedules 3 and 4. Finally, the total mandatory costs for students to attend Virginia Tech are detailed on Schedule 5 for undergraduate students, Schedule 6 for graduate students, and Schedule 7 for medical and veterinary students.

RECOMMENDATION:

The board approves tuition, fee, room, and board rates as recommended effective Fall semester 2025.

Contingent upon the outcome of the state budget, should a limit on tuition and mandatory educational and general fees for in-state undergraduates be adopted, the increases approved herein shall be modified to comply.

March 25, 2025

Schedule 1

**VIRGINIA TECH
2025-26 TUITION RECOMMENDATIONS
SUMMARY OF ANNUAL CHARGES**

RECOMMENDATION

	<u>2024-25 Charge</u>	<u>Proposed 2025-26</u>	<u>Rate Increase</u>	
			<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
Undergraduate Students				
Resident	\$13,153	\$13,540	\$387	2.9%
Nonresident	34,376	35,387	1,011	2.9%
Graduate Students				
On-Campus Programs				
Resident	15,768	16,232	464	2.9%
Nonresident	31,690	32,622	932	2.9%
Off-Campus Programs				
Resident	17,446	17,959	513	2.9%
Nonresident	33,918	34,915	997	2.9%
Graduate Candidacy Status (a)				
Resident On-Campus	13,403	13,797	394	2.9%
Nonresident On-Campus	26,937	27,729	792	2.9%
Resident Off-Campus	14,829	15,265	436	2.9%
Nonresident Off-Campus	28,830	29,678	848	2.9%
Veterinary Medicine				
Virginia/Maryland	24,877	25,598	721	2.9%
Nonresident	56,881	58,531	1,650	2.9%
VTC School of Medicine	60,406	62,158	1,752	2.9%

(a) Reduced tuition rate for doctoral students taking research and dissertation hours after completing two years of course work and passing their preliminary exam.

VIRGINIA TECH
2025-26 SPECIAL TUITION RATES
SUMMARY OF HOURLY RATES

	2024-25 Charge	Proposed 2025-26	Increase	
			\$	%
<u>Regular Part-Time Students (a)</u>				
<u>Undergraduate Students</u>				
Resident	\$548.00	\$564.25	\$ 16.25	3.0%
Nonresident	1,432.25	1,474.50	42.25	2.9%
<u>Graduate Students</u>				
On-Campus Programs				
Resident	876.00	901.75	25.75	2.9%
Nonresident	1,760.50	1,812.25	51.75	2.9%
Off-Campus Programs				
Resident	969.25	997.75	28.50	2.9%
Nonresident	1,884.25	1,939.75	55.50	2.9%
<u>Summer & Winter Sessions</u>				
On-Campus Programs				
Undergraduate Resident	493.25	507.75	14.50	2.9%
Undergraduate Nonresident	1,289.00	1,327.00	38.00	2.9%
<u>Program Specific Online Graduate</u>				
Tier 1 Online Master of Business Administration (OMBA)	1,150.00	1,183.00	33.00	2.9%
Tier 2 Master of Information Technology (MIT)	1,075.00	1,106.00	31.00	2.9%
Master of Agricultural and Applied Economics (MSAAEC) Degree/Certificate				
Tier 3 Master of Agriculture and Life Sciences (OMALS)	975.00	1,003.00	28.00	2.9%
Construction Engineering for Infrastructure Projects Certificate (CEIC)				
Tier 4 Master of Natural Resources (MNR)	930.00	970.00	40.00	4.3%
Graduate Certificate in Local Government Mgt (LGMC)				
<u>Professional and Executive Graduate</u>				
Professional Graduate Tuition Rate (EvMBA, MSBA-HTM, XMNR)	1,100.00	1,132.00	32.00	2.9%
Executive Graduate Tuition Rate (BXBR)	1,879.50	1,934.75	55.25	2.9%
<u>School Personnel</u>				
Undergraduate Resident	411.00	423.25	12.25	3.0%
Graduate Resident				
Blacksburg Campus	657.00	676.25	19.25	2.9%
Extended Campus	727.00	748.25	21.25	2.9%
<u>Study Abroad Programs (b)</u>				
Undergraduate Resident	438.50	451.50	13.00	3.0%
Undergraduate Nonresident	1,145.75	1,179.50	33.75	2.9%
Graduate Resident	700.75	721.50	20.75	3.0%
Graduate Nonresident	1,408.50	1,449.75	41.25	2.9%
Excess Credit Hour Surcharge	\$299.50	\$319.75	20.25	6.8%

(a) Part-time tuition charges for all student categories are derived from the full-time rate and are directly related to the number of credit hours taken. For tuition calculation purposes, the full-time undergraduate semester rate is divided by 12 credit hours and the full-time graduate student semester rate is divided by 9 hours.

(b) Tuition rates for study abroad do not include students studying at the Steger Center for International Scholarship.

VIRGINIA TECH
2025-26 FEES AND USER CHARGES
SUMMARY OF ANNUAL CHARGES

Schedule 3
Attachment V

	2024-25 Charge	Proposed 2025-26	Increase	
			\$	%
<u>Educational and General Fee</u>				
Library Fee	\$ 113	\$ 116	\$ 3	2.7%
Commonwealth Facility & Equipment Fee (Nonresident Students)	604	604	-	0.0%
Immigration Services Fee (International Students)	550	550	-	0.0%
<u>Comprehensive Fee</u>				
Student Activity Fee	559	520	(39)	-7.0%
Health Service Fee	646	670	24	3.7%
Athletic Fee	437	732	295	67.5%
Recreational Sports Fee	400	413	13	3.3%
Student Services Fee	642	535	(107)	-16.7%
Total Comprehensive Fee	2,684	2,870	186	6.9%
Comprehensive Fee Reduction: Online & Absentia students (Per Semester)	(671)	(718)		
<u>Campus Fees</u>				
Northern Virginia Region Student Services	197	217	20	10.2%
Northern Virginia Region Transportation Services	329	329	-	0.0%
VTCSOM Student Services Fee	197	217	20	10.2%
VTCSOM Health Services Fee	608	632	24	3.9%
VTCSOM Student Govt/Activity Fee	185	185	-	0.0%
VTCSOM Recreational Sports Fee	400	413	13	3.3%
Steger Center Student Activity Fee (Per Semester)	150	150	-	0.0%
Steger Center Room & Board (Per Semester)	7,700	7,925	225	2.9%
Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center Fee (Per Semester)	300	300	-	0.0%
<u>Room Charges</u>				
Category A (Non-Air Conditioned Multiple)	6,371	6,638	267	4.2%
Category B (Air Conditioned Multiple)	8,877	9,250	373	4.2%
Category C (Air Conditioned Single)	12,133	12,644	511	4.2%
Living Learning Community Charge	100	100	-	0.0%
Residential Telecommunications Charge	394	394	-	0.0%
<u>Board Charges</u>				
Major Flex Plan	5,593	5,868	275	4.9%
Mega Flex Plan	5,999	6,294	295	4.9%
Premium Flex Plan	6,419	6,736	317	4.9%

VIRGINIA TECH
2025-26 SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAM FEES
SUMMARY OF ANNUAL CHARGES

		2024-25	Proposed	Increase	
		Charge	2025-26	\$	%
<u>Program Fees</u>					
<u>Agriculture & Life Sciences Supplemental Fee</u>					
Undergraduate/Graduate	Full-time	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	-	0.0%
	Part-time	375.00	375.00	-	0.0%
<u>Architecture + Design Supplemental Fee</u>					
Undergraduate/Graduate	Full-time	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	0.0%
	Part-time	750.00	750.00	-	0.0%
<u>Building Construction Supplemental Fee</u>					
CAUS – Undergraduate/Graduate	Full-time	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	0.0%
(Admitted to AAD spring 2023 and prior)	Part-time	750.00	750.00	-	0.0%
<u>Corps of Cadets Fee</u>					
	Full-time	480.00	480.00	-	0.0%
<u>Engineering Supplemental Fee</u>					
Undergraduate/Graduate	Full-time	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	0.0%
(incl BC majors admitted to COE Fall 2023 and beyond)	Part-time	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	0.0%
<u>Master of Public Health</u>					
	Full-time	525.00	525.00	-	0.0%
	Part-time	262.50	262.50	-	0.0%
<u>Master of Business Administration (EvMBA, OMBA)</u>					
	Per Credit Hour	175.00	175.00	-	0.0%
<u>Master of Science in Business Administration (MSBA)</u>					
Concentrations in Business Analytics (BA)	Per Credit Hour	175.00	175.00	-	0.0%
and Hospitality & Tourism Management (HTM)					
<u>Pamplin College of Business Supplemental Fee</u>					
Undergraduate-Admitted Fall 2023 and Beyond	Full-time	2,550.00	2,550.00	-	0.0%
	Part-time	1,275.00	1,275.00	-	0.0%
Undergraduate 4000 Level Courses	Per Credit Hour		105.00		
<u>Veterinary Medicine Facility Fee</u>					
		1,200.00	1,200.00	-	0.0%
<u>Professional/Executive Program Rates</u>					
<u>Executive Master of Natural Resources (XMNR) (a)</u>					
<u>Spring 2025 Starting Cohort</u>		<u>Total Program</u>	<u>Spring 2025</u>	<u>Summer 2025</u>	<u>Fall 2025</u>
XMNR Total Cost		\$41,500.00	\$15,106.25	\$8,827.00	\$17,566.75
(less) Professional Graduate Tuition & Fees			(13,558.50)	(6,779.25)	(14,019.00)
XMNR Fee – 2025 Cohort			1,547.75	2,047.75	3,547.75
<u>Spring 2026 Starting Cohort</u>		<u>Total Program</u>	<u>Spring 2026</u>	<u>Summer 2026</u>	<u>Fall 2026</u>
XMNR Total Cost		\$41,500.00	\$15,166.50	\$8,694.50	\$17,639.00
(less) Professional Graduate Tuition & Fees			(13,944.00)	(6,972.00)	TBD
XMNR Fee – 2026 Cohort			1,222.50	1,722.50	TBD
<u>Executive Ph.D. in Business Research (BXBR) Fee</u>					
	Per Credit Hour	126.25	126.25	-	0.0%

(a) Executive Model Graduate Degree Program fees are designed to allocate a total cost over multiple years of the program, and utilize a fee to balance the difference between the quoted price and traditional tuition and fees. Changes from year to year do not necessarily reflect a change in total program cost.

Schedule 5

VIRGINIA TECH
TOTAL COST TO STUDENTS
Comparison of 2024-25 and 2025-26 Annual Charges

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

	2024-25 Charge	Proposed 2025-26	Increase	
			\$	%
<u>Resident</u>				
Tuition	\$ 13,153	\$ 13,540	\$ 387	2.9%
E&G Fees	113	116	3	2.7%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	13,266	13,656	390	2.9%
Comprehensive Fee	2,684	2,870	186	6.9%
Total All Residents	15,950	16,526	576	3.6%
Room (Category A Room & Telecommunications Fee) ^(a)	6,765	7,032	267	3.9%
Board (Major Flex Plan) ^(a)	5,593	5,868	275	4.9%
Subtotal Room and Board	12,358	12,900	542	4.4%
Total Cost for Residents Living on Campus	28,308	29,426	1,118	3.9%
<u>Nonresident</u>				
Tuition	34,376	35,387	1,011	2.9%
E&G Fees	717	720	3	0.4%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	35,093	36,107	1,014	2.9%
Comprehensive Fee	2,684	2,870	186	6.9%
Total All Nonresidents	37,777	38,977	1,200	3.2%
Room (Category A Room & Telecommunications Fee) ^(a)	6,765	7,032	267	3.9%
Board (Major Flex Plan) ^(a)	5,593	5,868	275	4.9%
Subtotal Room and Board	12,358	12,900	542	4.4%
Total Cost for Nonresidents Living on Campus	50,135	51,877	1,742	3.5%

(a) The majority of incoming students are housed in these residence halls and choose the Major Flex plan.

VIRGINIA TECH
TOTAL COST TO STUDENTS
Comparison of 2024-25 and 2025-26 Annual Charges

	<u>2024-25</u> <u>Charge</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>2025-26</u>	<u>Increase</u>	
			<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>GRADUATE STUDENTS</u>				
On-Campus Programs				
<u>Resident</u>				
Tuition	\$ 15,768	\$ 16,232	\$ 464	2.9%
E&G Fees	113	116	3	2.7%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	<u>15,881</u>	<u>16,348</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>2.9%</u>
Comprehensive Fee	<u>2,684</u>	<u>2,870</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>6.9%</u>
Total Cost for Residents	<u>18,565</u>	<u>19,218</u>	<u>653</u>	<u>3.5%</u>
 <u>Nonresident</u>				
Tuition	31,690	32,622	932	2.9%
E&G Fees	717	720	3	0.4%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	<u>32,407</u>	<u>33,342</u>	<u>935</u>	<u>2.9%</u>
Comprehensive Fee	<u>2,684</u>	<u>2,870</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>6.9%</u>
Total Cost for Nonresidents	<u>35,091</u>	<u>36,212</u>	<u>1,121</u>	<u>3.2%</u>
 Off-Campus Programs ^(a)				
<u>Resident</u>				
Tuition	17,446	17,959	513	2.9%
E&G Fees	113	116	3	2.7%
Total Tuition and E & G Fee	<u>17,559</u>	<u>18,075</u>	<u>516</u>	<u>2.9%</u>
 <u>Nonresident</u>				
Tuition	33,918	34,915	997	2.9%
E&G Fees	717	720	3	0.4%
Total Tuition and E & G Fee	<u>34,635</u>	<u>35,635</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>2.9%</u>

(a) Student services and fees vary by campus location.

VIRGINIA TECH
TOTAL COST TO STUDENTS
Comparison of 2024-25 and 2025-26 Annual Charges

	2024-25 Charge	Proposed 2025-26	Increase	
			\$	%
<u>VETERINARY MEDICINE</u>				
Virginia/Maryland Students				
Tuition	\$ 24,877	\$ 25,598	\$ 721	2.9%
E&G Fees	113	116	3	2.7%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	24,990	25,714	724	2.9%
Vet Med Facility Fee	1,200	1,200	-	0.0%
Comprehensive Fee	2,684	2,870	186	6.9%
Total Cost for Virginia/Maryland Students	28,874	29,784	910	3.2%
Nonresident Students				
Tuition	56,881	58,531	1,650	2.9%
E&G Fees	717	720	3	0.4%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	57,598	59,251	1,653	2.9%
Vet Med Facility Fee	1,200	1,200	-	0.0%
Comprehensive Fee	2,684	2,870	186	6.9%
Total Cost for Nonresident Students	61,482	63,321	1,839	3.0%
<u>VIRGINIA TECH CARILION SCHOOL OF MEDICINE</u>				
Tuition	60,406	62,158	1,752	2.9%
E&G Fees	113	116	3	2.7%
Subtotal Tuition and E & G Fee	60,519	62,274	1,755	2.9%
VTCSOM Comprehensive Fee	1,390	1,447	57	4.1%
Total Cost for VTCSOM Students	61,909	63,721	1,812	2.9%

Honorable Members of the Board of Visitors,

Thank you for allowing me to speak today. My name is Ronnie Mondal, and I serve as the President of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. I am here to voice the urgent concerns of Virginia Tech's graduate students regarding student fees and tuition.

Graduate students conduct research, teach courses, and support the university's mission of innovation and excellence. Yet, we continue to struggle financially. Our stipends remain below a living wage, and increasing tuition and fees will only worsen this crisis.

Our comprehensive fees have already increased. Most of our assistantships do not cover these fees—we must pay them out of pocket from our already stretched stipends. A further increase would amount to an effective **pay cut**, making graduate education more inaccessible.

This comes at a time of immense financial uncertainty. Inflation continues to rise, with costs for housing, healthcare, groceries, and childcare outpacing our stipends. Many of us have families and dependents to take care of. A fee increase will push many to take on additional jobs or even debt.

Coupled with shifts in research funding priorities, visa policies, and economic conditions, many students, especially international students, are unsure about their financial stability and future career prospects. A financial burden will make Virginia Tech a less attractive option for top talent and directly impact our reputation and ability to remain a leading research institution.

I urge you to consider alternative funding sources rather than placing the burden on graduate students who are already struggling to make ends meet. We ask that you **freeze student fees and tuition**, at least for this coming year, to prevent further hardship. Instead of increasing financial strain, let's work together to create long-term solutions that support students and strengthen Virginia Tech's research and educational mission.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Good afternoon, everyone,

My name is Alexander Efird, and I am here representing the 31,035 undergraduate students here on campus as President of the Undergraduate Student Senate, our undergraduate student body government.

You have most likely heard, and will continue to hear from, many students on their own perspectives, but I wanted to provide you all some quick thoughts on what I've gathered from speaking with many of my fellow students.

First, I want to commend the Board for their efforts in past years to limit tuition and fee increases for students. While we've seen peer institutions in the Commonwealth and beyond heavily increase the financial burden that students face year-after-year, we've been fortunate here at Virginia Tech to see little to no increases in the cost of our educations.

In conversations I have with my fellow students, tuition and fees are always front-of-mind. As you would expect, the vast majority of students support keeping the current tuition and fees levels for the next academic year. One of the major concerns I hear from students every day is the financial burden they face because of tuition and fee costs. When students have to face these challenges, it can affect their social lives and their ability to join some of the over 800 clubs that we have here on campus. In some instances, students are so stressed that they cannot devote the attention needed to their schoolwork, leading to missed assignments and poor grades.

However, many of us understand that with the rising costs of living and operations expenses we all face, small increases may be inevitable. Yet, when the cost of education becomes less affordable, we all suffer. Students who are not privileged or who don't come from affluent backgrounds may be more inclined to reduce their involvement here on campus or may even take a step back from college entirely. That can deprive our Virginia Tech community from some incredible knowledge and perspectives that make us stronger as a whole.

That is why I also emphasize the financial aid programs that are at the disposal of students. These programs give students who lack the resources to achieve a full college education with the opportunity to do so. I've spoken with numerous students here on campus who have taken advantage of these programs, and they are all doing incredible things in their respective fields and will go on to represent the Virginia Tech name with pride and distinction. Continuing to expand these programs, including the Virginia Tech Advantage, will only enhance the quality of our community here at Virginia Tech and will provide students with the resources they need to be successful and accomplish great things.

Thank you all so much for your time.

	Commenter Classification								
Comment Theme	Alumnus	Faculty/ Staff	Graduate Student	Graduate Student with Tuition Remission	Undergraduate Student	Member of the Public	Parent	Unknown	Grand Total
No Increase In Fees			9	21		2	2		34
Affordability Burden							2		2
Graduate Student Fees - Cost of Living Hardship			9	18		2			29
Increase Graduate Stipend to Offset the Fee Increase				1					1
Reallocate Funds or Reduce Spending				1					1
Services Not Used/Poor Quality of Services Provided				1					1
No Increase - Tuition and Fees		1	3			3			7
Affordability Burden			3			2			5
Exempt Research and Dissertation Credits From Tuition Calculation		1							1
Program Elimination/Defunded - Funds Generated Do Not Benefit Students						1			1
No Tuition Increase	1								1
DEI Program Elimination/Defunded - Funds Generated Do Not Benefit Students	1								1

Comment Theme	Alumnus	Faculty/ Staff	Graduate Student	Graduate Student with Tuition Remission	Undergraduate Student	Member of the Public	Parent	Unknown	Grand Total
General Comment							1	1	2
Bad Decision								1	1
BOV Lacks Black Members							1		1
Total Responses Received	1	1	12	21	0	5	3	1	44

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Camille Alvino	Student	<p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed increase in student fees, particularly as it impacts graduate students who are already struggling with financial hardships. As a graduate student living on a fixed stipend, any additional financial burden exacerbates the existing challenges we face in maintaining a basic standard of living.</p> <p>Graduate students at Virginia Tech play a vital role in the university's research, teaching, and service missions. However, our stipends have not kept pace with the rising costs of living. In recent years, inflation has significantly increased the prices of essential goods, including housing, food, transportation, and healthcare. For many of us, our stipends already fall short of covering necessary expenses, forcing us to make difficult financial decisions or take on additional work, which can negatively impact our academic responsibilities and overall well-being.</p> <p>An increase in student fees would only worsen this financial strain. Unlike salaried employees, who may receive cost-of-living adjustments, graduate students have limited avenues to negotiate higher pay or secure additional personal funding. At the same time, rental prices in the Blacksburg area continue to rise, along with the costs of groceries and other necessities. A higher fee burden would effectively reduce our already minimal take-home income, making it even harder to afford basic needs.</p> <p>I urge the Board of Visitors to consider the disproportionate impact that fee increases have on graduate students, who contribute immensely to the university yet often struggle with financial insecurity. Rather than increasing fees, I encourage the university to explore alternative funding mechanisms that do not place additional burdens on those who can least afford them.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Emma Rice	Student	<p>I am a PhD student at Virginia Tech and currently pay 3,149 per year on student fees. The proposed changes would raise this to 3,743, which is 10% of my annual income. This is not normal - as a master's student at Michigan State University, a comparable land grant institution, my annual student fees were \$200 annually (\$100 per semester). I believe raising student fees would have a disproportionate impact for graduate students living on stipends compared against the amount of income it would generate for the institution.</p>	Graduate Student
Madison Thurber	Student	<p>I am a graduate student in the fish and wildlife department at Virginia Tech. I struggle every semester to pay the almost 2000 fees. I have to take out loans or sign up for the payment plan which takes out of my rent money. I find myself struggling to afford groceries and other living expenses because of this. I can not stress enough how much increasing this financial burden on me would be extremely stressful and detrimental to my academic career.</p>	Graduate Student

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Braiden Quinlan	Student	I am a graduate student in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation. Last year, I made \$26,682.03 after taxes and paid \$3,446.66 in student fees. 12.92% of my yearly income already goes back to VT. Does any other job in existence require you to PAY your employer in order to work for them? That leaves me \$1,903.78 per month to cover rent, food, gas, insurance, car payments, utilities, electricity, internet, etc. Further, with the current administration in the White House and the executive orders being signed daily, I could lose funding any day as many of my colleagues have. This makes our livelihoods even more vulnerable to increasing student fees. Low pay for graduate students has been an issue for decades across universities everywhere. I KNOW almost all graduate students are in the same boat that I am in- barely scraping by, having to have multiple roommates in your 20s & 30s to make ends meet. Increasing student fees would further strain our ability to provide research that the world depends on and VT profits off of. Increasing these fees will likely cause graduate students to drop out of their programs simply because they can no longer afford it- we are already at the precipice.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Mary Adebote	Student	The increase in tuition and fees will make it difficult for me to pay my rent, purchase food items, and utilize funds for basic needs that make me mentally balanced.	Graduate Student
Tanis McDonnell	Student	As a graduate student at Virginia Tech, my fellow students and myself are extremely aware of the political and economic climate we are experiencing today. I am proud to be a graduate student at Virginia Tech however the lack of support and understanding we as graduate students receive from this administration is not only blatant, but embarrassing for a school with such strong ties to research and forward thinking. Graduate students have been extremely vocal in their need for diminished student fees, therefore increasing student fees once again is a clear demonstration of what Virginia Tech thinks of their students. We are expected to work to contribute to Virginia Tech's "greatness" with little pay and increasing fees will leave graduate and undergraduate students alike need for more support that Virginia Tech will never give.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Fang Chen	Student	I am an international PhD student living on a stipend, which already barely covers my basic living expenses. If the university increases fees, I will not be able to afford a reasonable standard of living in Blacksburg.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Matt Millar	Parent	I get the need to raise fees and I am supportive of ensuring a financially healthy institution. But folks, now is not the time. We're getting killed out here.	Parent
Mary Grace Larson	Student	Please do not raise graduate student comprehensive fees, we can barely afford the cost of living here as it is. The current cost per semester is already untenable, an increase is absolutely unimaginable.	Graduate Student
Zackary William Isenhour	Student	The robust increase in fees for graduate students is appalling. With current trajectory of being approximately an increase of \$500 a year for a single graduate student, estimating an income of \$30,000 in our department of approximately 1.7% of our total salary. 2.1% of our salary post taxes. For a single semester alone, I've already been paying greater than \$1,600 a semester. At this rate we are expected to pay 12.3% of our total salary or 15.4% of our take home salary back to Virginia Tech. At an already extremely low salary, barely livable with roommates and astronomical housing costs, this increase in fees is intolerable from our administration.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Elaine Metz	Student	<p>I am a graduate student who publishes research, teaches students, and participates in the VT community. The proposed increase in fees would be financially devastating to me. The increase would cost me nearly the equivalent of two months of my pay yearly. Meanwhile, I have seen my cost of utilities, groceries, and insurance all rise since arriving here at VT with no matching increase in salary. I budget every dollar I spend, and I am barely able to afford living here.</p> <p>Even though the increase may seem small to you, it is huge for me.</p> <p>I work hard, I am passionate, and I want to contribute to VT as an institution. Increasing the fees for the graduate students who work extremely hard and provide so much of the value (eg. research, teaching) that this institution touts as central to its achievements and goals is extremely disappointing. Please find another way.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Amanda King	Student	<p>As a master's student on a graduate research assistantship, I was dismayed by the proposed increase in student fees. While I am fortunate to have an assistantship, my stipend falls below the national poverty line. With the proposed fees, I will be paying approximately 15% of my take-home income—excluding required parking fees. Many of the services covered by these fees are seldom used by graduate students in my program, as we have found free and more effective alternatives. Having previously attended and graduated from another land-grant university, I find Virginia Tech's fees to be particularly burdensome and unfair to graduate students already struggling financially. This financial strain is further exacerbated by inflation and federal uncertainties surrounding research funding. I understand that the university has financial obligations, but for many graduate students—who function more as employees than traditional students—these fees pose a significant hardship on an already fixed and limited income. Thank you for taking the time to review my input.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Darby McPhail	Student	<p>As a research graduate student who is the backbone of making Virginia Tech an R1 institute and furthering innovation on behalf of this school, I find this increase of tuition and fees extremely detrimental. We had to fight to increase our stipends to a living wage which we still do not have and on top of that we are supposed to pay more in times of severe inflation making our quality of life poorer and poorer. Please do not increase tuition and fees.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Amaryllis Medero-Vargas	Member of the Public	<p>Increasing the tuition and fees after defunding programs like peace studies and violence prevention outrageous. Where is the money supposed to go if not towards programs that benefit the students who are already paying so much?</p>	Member of the Public

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Mariana Castaneda Guzman	Student	As an international student, we not only face higher taxes, which reduces our net income, but we also incur out-of-state fees without the opportunity to switch to in-state tuition. The increase in fees severely affects our livelihood. Housing prices have skyrocketed, making rent nearly unaffordable given our salaries. The overall fees are exorbitantly high, and any further increase is simply unmanageable for maintaining our standard of living, even now it is incredibly hard to live off our wages. Graduate students should not have to pay check! fees are about 2/3 of one months earning, that is not okay. As international students, we face several financial challenges. Not only do we encounter higher taxes, which reduce our net income, but we also pay out-of-state fees without the option to switch to in-state tuition. The increase in these fees significantly impacts our livelihoods. Housing prices have skyrocketed, making rent nearly unaffordable based on our salaries. Overall, the fees are exorbitantly high, and any further increases are simply unmanageable for maintaining our standard of living. It is incredibly difficult to live on our wages as they stand. Graduate students should not have to pay fees that amount to about two-thirds of one month's earnings; this situation is unacceptable.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Student	Student	I, along with several graduate students across departments, firmly believe these increases in fees would make it even more difficult to live off our current wages. Graduate students still receive little compensation for our work, and having to take out fees from our pay makes it even more difficult to afford things like food and housing. This is even further worsened for international students or students who have families. A further increase in fees would only serve to harm the student body.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Ziomara Medero-Vargas	Alumnus	I oppose raising tuition after hearing about defunding programs established after the 2007 Massacre, claiming they were DEI (for example peace studies, violence prevention, social justice studies, etc). Not only is this insulting to the history and legacy of Virginia Tech, eliminating these valuable programs (including other DEI programs and initiatives) will be to the detriment of incoming students who would benefit from the knowledge and opportunities these programs provide to prepare them for their futures.	Alumnus
Chandra Colbert	Parent	Why are there no black people on your board making decisions?	Parent

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Bridget Re	Student	<p>I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed 3% fee increase and the additional \$500 flat fee. As a graduate student, I am already struggling to afford basic necessities such as groceries and housing. With the rising costs of living due to inflation, supply chain disruptions, and other economic pressures, even a modest increase in fees feels overwhelming. Many graduate students, including myself, are unable to save any of our income, leaving us financially vulnerable. This added financial burden not only affects our well-being but also impacts the quality of work we are able to produce. Graduate students play a critical role in Virginia Tech's research, teaching, and innovation, and excessive financial stress hinders our ability to contribute effectively. A university that prioritizes student success must also consider the economic realities we face. I respectfully urge the Board to consider the long-term consequences of this increase—not only on individual students but on the broader academic community. A financially stable and supported graduate student body is essential for maintaining the high standards of excellence that Virginia Tech is known for. Thank you for your time and for considering the well-being of those who contribute so much to this institution.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Henry Stevens	Member of the Public	<p>I am writing as a concerned member of the public to strongly oppose the proposed 3% fee increase and \$500 flat fee increase for graduate students at Virginia Tech. These students are the backbone of the university—conducting critical research, teaching undergraduates, and contributing to VT's academic excellence. Yet, many are already struggling to afford basic necessities like food and housing.</p> <p>With the rising cost of living, this fee increase will only push them further into financial hardship. It is unacceptable for a prestigious institution like Virginia Tech to place such a burden on students who are essential to its success. Financially strained graduate students cannot perform at their best, which ultimately harms the university's research output, teaching quality, and reputation.</p> <p>Instead of increasing fees, VT should be working to support the well-being of its students. I urge the Board to reconsider this proposal and prioritize policies that ensure graduate students can afford to live and work without constant financial stress.</p>	Member of the Public
Emma Place	Member of the Public	<p>This would cause extreme undue financial burden on your PHD students. At a time when their life's work is already under extreme attack by the United States government, they deserve support. Financial stress on top of the existential stress they are already experiencing will not only harm your students but the work they are able to produce.</p>	Member of the Public

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Audrey Re	Member of the Public	Hello, I am writing as a concerned family member to one of your graduate students and a graduate student myself. The proposed increase in fees would disadvantage and financially burden your graduate students resulting in graduate students being unable to afford to live and eat in Virginia. Already, it is widely understood that graduate student stipends are barely livable on and many students have to turn to food vouchers or food pantries to survive. A recently published article in Nature outlines how stagnant stipends have resulted in a drop in PhD enrollment (https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00425-4). Enacting an increase in fees would worsen living for your graduate students and directly impact the research that comes from the university, making it a less desirable place for PhD students to do their research, ultimately resulting in less impactful science being produced by Virginia Tech. In summary, this fee increase would have adverse repercussions not only on your student body but the university's research. Therefore, I am writing to implore you to not enact this fee increase. Sincerely, Audrey Re	Member of the Public
Katherine Millar	Student	Increasing the cost of tuition and fees while the cost of living is high and continues to increase will make it even more difficult for people to afford a higher education. Please do not increase the cost of tuition and fees as this will have a great negative impact on students' ability to afford a college education and to pursue their desired career.	Graduate Student
Alexa Zytick	Unknown	This is a bad decision	Unknown
Linbo Shao	Faculty/Staff	<p>As an PI actively conduct sponsored research, I would like to comment on the Tuition of PhD-level students beyond their courses and purely enrolled in research courses. Other universities, from state universities, such as Penn State University, as well as private universities, such as Harvard, the full tuition is only charged in first two years, and only fees are charge when they only registered for "Research and Dissertation" (e.g. ECE 7994). PhD students at such level do not enrolled in technical courses should not be charged the tuition. Previous discount of 10% in tuition beyond preliminary is far below the peer universities.</p> <p>I would like to propose to exempt "Research and Dissertation" credits from tuition calculation.</p> <p>Current situation of high tuition for senior PhD students (\geq 3rd year) results in a disadvantage of VT faculty compared to other R1 universities. Meanwhile, create a unfavourable situation for PhD students, especially for PhD students; some of them might choose to transfer to another university that PI at VT is collaborating with, to have a higher stipend due to no/much lower tuition paid to university. The university has to acknowledge the fact that most research programs has capped total budget, paying such high tuition will reduce the capability to keep talented students.</p>	Faculty/Staff

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Student	Student	Graduate students are struggling to get by, the only thing that should be considered is reducing or eliminating these fees. As a first year student relying on food pantries, living paycheck to paycheck, and not being paid for my work over school breaks, I have had to neglect urgent medical care because I can't afford it. These fees are an enormous barrier for low income students who don't have family support. It doesn't make sense that I pay taxes on "income" that doesn't even get to my bank account, it immediately goes back to my employer. The costs of these fees, health insurance, and parking put students well below the poverty line. A 0% increase is the least the BOV should be doing.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Emma Hultin	Student	While inflation has raised by over 20%, and tuition has increased by 14%, graduate student stipends have not increased proportionally. Despite having the lowest student fees of the large universities in Virginia, the graduate student fees are still several times higher than at comparable universities in the southeast. Grad students are already struggling to afford the cost of living on our stipends and will be severely impacted by increases to our student fees without any changes to our income.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Courtney Taylor	Member of the Public	Raising fees and tuition would strongly impact students who are already contributing significantly to the university. Virginia Tech should be a place where students are able to learn, research, teach, and thrive without undue financial pressures. Please consider not implementing these proposed changes.	Member of the Public
Akea Cader	Student	Hello Board of Visitors, I am writing to express my fear about the potential increase in student fees. As is, I am already on a tight budget to be able to afford rent, groceries, and other bare necessities. I also work a second job so that I can pay my student fees without having to take out loans. With projections of increasing prices related to groceries and other material goods, I fear that this increase in fees will significantly impact my ability to provide for myself. As such, I am requesting that our fees NOT be increased at this time.	Graduate Student
Amy Hagen	Student	<p>Please consider a 0% increase in fees. Graduate students are already not making a living wage, and the current state of the economy is making it even harder to be a graduate student in Blacksburg. I realize that VT is also facing problems because of the state of our country right now, but putting the burden on students to make up this gap is, in my opinion, unconscionable.</p> <p>I would also like to point out that this year I will pay an extra ~\$650 in federal taxes because the ~\$3400 I pay in fees is included in my stipend. If you must continue to raise fees, please find a mechanism to take the fees out of our stipends before we are paid to avoid this extra tax burden. I receive this money and return it directly to you, so why must I pay so much in taxes?</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
David Lugo	Student	With the current political climate, inflation has continued to increase and compound the effects of being paid below a living wage in Blacksburg, VA. If student tuition fees are increased, it will damper the success of graduate students that promote VIRGINIA TECH across the world in cutting edge research. Living off of a couple grand a month is already hard enough.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Abir Jain	Student	<p>I am an international graduate student and have already been having hardship with managing my funds and support myself. Out of my \$2400/month salary. I have been paying \$286 twice a month (\$572/month) or ~1800 per semester as a part of my comprehensive budget tuition plan. This is already very high (almost x2 and x3 the amount) compared to other land grant universities I have friends in.</p> <p>About ~\$850/month goes in paying the rent. And ~\$350/month goes in groceries. These are bare minimum expenses. And there are always other expenses. Which barely leaves \$628 a month! There is nothing left for savings. If I want to travel to my home country once a year - whatever little savings I have are gone. I again I didn't even add other miscellaneous expenses.</p> <p>Given the current anxiety around uncertainties about so many things including the funding landscape. I hope the university administration sees through the perspective of graduate students and take step to avoid hiking the fees. Thank you!</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Zoie McMillian	Student	The proposed a 3% fee increase PLUS a flat increase of more than \$500/year would severely harm my success as a graduate student here. That additional cost, without any mandated raises, would make it so that I could no longer afford to live in my current apartment, which would affect my ability to stay here and complete my degree. Additionally, our graduate student fees are already astronomically greater than many other VA state schools as well as the fees of public universities in bordering states. I sincerely beg you all not to move forward with such damaging action, especially during such uncertain times when many graduate students do not know if they will even maintain their current payment and funding (a particularly pressing issue in the fish and wildlife department).	Graduate Student
Althea McMillian	Parent	As a parent of a graduate student that also attended VT for her undergraduate degree, I am opposing the fee increase. Through the years that my child has attended I have seen the fees increase exponentially. College tuition and fees are getting to be unaffordable for my family.	Parent
Jordan Mouton	Student	I am a current master's student studying at Virginia Tech, asking that the Board of Visitors reconsider their proposed changes to the institution's tuition and fees. Current economic conditions have placed undue strain on graduate students both personally and institutionally, and the proposed raises in tuition and fees will only serve to exacerbate this issue. I ask on behalf of myself and my fellow graduate students at Virginia Tech, who are the backbone of this institution's research component, that the Board of Visitors not approve a future increase in tuition and fees. Thank you.	Graduate Student

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Megan Zeger	Student	<p>The student fees are already high enough and raising them without providing additional services seems excessive. As a grad student, we make barely above the minimum to apply for food stamps. The cost of my student fees were more than an entire paycheck from my grad stipend. The cost of living in general has increased at every aspect of our lives (groceries, rent, etc.), while our pay hasn't.</p> <p>Many of us are busy being students and having an additional job to pay for these fees is not possible for everyone. This is especially true for international students who are legally not allowed to work or have very limited hours that they are able to work.</p> <p>I have enjoyed my time at Virginia Tech, but the increase of tuition fees feels as though you're trying to squeeze as much money out of people who are already doing services (research, etc.) for the university.</p>	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Dayna Winograd	Student	The student fees are already much higher at VT than compared to other institutions. A fee increase would make it increasingly difficult for graduate students to thrive.	Graduate Student
Julia Rohde	Student	I am writing to firmly voice my opinion that there should be a 0% fee increase, as this would be a huge burden to me personally given my already strained resources and the exorbitant student fees already in place at this university. This would also place huge burdens on my peer and damage the productivity and cohesion of our graduate school program.	Graduate Student
Amanda Steinberg	Student	<p>Dear Board of visitors,</p> <p>On behalf of my fellow graduate students, I'm reaching out to request a 0% increase in student fees. In fact, we as student students have been striving to reduce the current fees, so an increase would be counterproductive to our mission.</p> <p>I feel immensely grateful to be a Hokie and to get to produce research that I'm passionate towards. However, the graduate student life does come with a big price and much of that price is within the student fees. With the high cost of living in a college town, it is difficult to even pay rent let alone have savings, especially when student fees are in the mix. Any increase in the student fees would make a severe impact on each grad student's life, who's trying their best to work hard and get by as it is. I seriously hope you consider these comments when making your decision, because again, we will be impacted by any %increase. Thank you for your time.</p>	Graduate Student

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Gabby Patarinski	Student	I am a graduate student in clinical psychology. Due to the recent political upheaval and uncertainty plaguing universities across the US, my work has been affected by not only by increased financial strain due to rising inflation and a failing economy, but also by the uncertainty of funding to complete my doctoral research at this institution. Graduate students make far less in pay than we are worth, considering our degrees, experience, and the amount of labor we provide our institutions. Research, teaching, and outreach are not low-effort or cost-free activities, and we are certainly not paid enough to live in Blacksburg without the burden of financial strain constantly hindering our progress. Mandatory fees present an undue burden on the graduate students that this university relies on to function. Further, our advisors are prohibited from supporting us by covering these costs in most cases. Potential applicants are deterred by these astronomical fees, which represent a substantial percentage of the meager salary we are paid. It would be wonderful if VT could invest back into its graduate students the way we invest in VT's future. Please vote for a 0% fee increase. Surely, a university such as VT should be able to reallocate internal money, reduce administrators' salaries, spend less on athletics, or use some of the millions of dollars collected on our record-breaking giving days to figure out how to support vital university functions without actively harming it's graduate students with more fee increases and no increase in graduate student salary.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Allison Tobar	Student	Please do not raise fees for graduate students. I am not making a livable wage and most of my peers make close to the poverty line. Not only do we have regular expenses but our wage does not cover unexpected expenses like car repairs or medical bills. Increasing the fees will prevent me from being able to pay for my monthly utilities as 200+ per paycheck is already deducted with the payment plan but that can help pay for car payments and gas and food. I had to decline blood work from my doctor to check on my health because I wouldn't be able to pay for it since I was already behind on previous medical bills.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Cecelia Wood	Student	Dear BOV, Please do not increase the comprehensive student fees next year! With the ever-increasing cost of living, it has become very difficult to afford to live in Blacksburg. An increase of student fees would make it even harder for students to thrive and would drive away prospective grad students, imperiling the ability of VT to conduct top-tier research. Additionally, my very tubby cat is eating me out of house and home and an increase in fees means a decrease to her snack budget! My cat, Jolene, says thank you in advance for your consideration. Best, Cecelia	Graduate Student

Commentor Name	Affiliation	Comment	Classification
Avery Gendell	Student	I urge the BOV not to increase E&G fees for FY26. As a graduate student, fees are already a stressful financial burden at their current amount. I, and the average grad student at Virginia Tech make well less than the cost of living in Blacksburg, even before paying fees. I see many of my peers struggle with food insecurity, despite working for a high-ranking land-grant university that grows in value by millions of dollars each year. Raising fees will hinder student well-being and success, and I ask that you consider this sincerely.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission
Andrew Gunsch	Student	It is already so expensive to live in Blacksburg. Graduate students are not earning a living wage as it is. Please do not raise our fees.	Graduate Student With Tuition Remission