Hokie Transfer Community - Expanded Transfer Connections
About Us

- Research 1, land-grant institution located in Blacksburg, VA

- Total student enrollment of around 36,590 and undergraduate enrollment of 30,000
  - 2,914 transfer students

- Admission by major
  - Top five academic majors include: Engineering; Business Information Technology; Biological Sciences; Animal and Poultry Sciences; Finance
The results of the survey indicated that Virginia Tech’s transfer students encountered the following transition barriers:

- Pre-admission communication
- Transfer credit evaluation
- Transition and onboarding
- Transfer shock/isolation
- Transition to VT culture
- Housing
Virginia Tech made the decision to focus on the following strategies:

- **Strategy 1: Prioritize Transfers**
  - Dedicate resources to support transfer students

- **Strategy 3: Provide Tailored Transfer Student Advising**
  - Communicate essential information pertaining to the admissions process
  - Replicate elements of the first-year experience

Hokie Transfer Community

- Hokie Corner-Prospective Transfer Student Advising
- Transfer Peer Mentor Program
- Transfer Experience Living-Learning Community
- National Transfer Student Week
- 1-credit transitional course
- Tau Sigma National Honor Society Chapter
- Transfer Student Organization (TSO)
- Monthly socials for all transfers

https://advising.vt.edu/transfer-student-advising.html
Hokie Corner

Goals:
1. Provide student-centered advising services
2. Provide up-to-date essential information regarding the admissions process
3. Increase the number of applicants that are admissible to Virginia Tech
4. Enhance the onboarding process for new transfer students
### Appointments

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>1,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-person</td>
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770 available appointments (93.5%) 277 scheduled (38.84%)

2021-2022 total appointments offered: 1,483 (compared to 798 virtual appts. 2020-2021)

### Attendance

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-person</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>997</td>
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720 scheduled (93.5%) 277 scheduled (38.84%)

### Demographics

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>55.05%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-person</td>
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From one VCCS site

4yr VA schools: 92.8% 55.7%
4yr VA schools: 2.1% 20.1%
Out-of-state schools: 3.2% 19.7% 22.8%

2018-2019

2019-2020

2020-2021

2021-2022
### Transfer Student Admissions & Enrollment - Overall vs. Hokie Corner Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Hokie Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied</td>
<td>2,768</td>
<td>211 (7.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offered</td>
<td>1,784</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offered Rate</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>79.1% (+14.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield Rate</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
<td>82.0% (+14.2%)</td>
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*The 2021 Transfer Admissions cycle was significantly more competitive than 2020 given the increased number and strength of applications, a reduced transfer enrollment goal, and capacity limitations for several of the most popular programs*

Data Source: Virginia Tech’s Office for Analytics & Institutional Effectiveness; Office of Undergraduate Admissions
Hokie Corner Data

SURVEY SUMMARY

98% Agree that Hokie Corner staff answered their questions.
96% Agree that Hokie Corner made them feel better about their educational journey.
92% Found the communications helpful.
99% Agree that Hokie Corner staff were knowledgeable about the transfer process.
29% Survey response rate

Fall 2019 cohort
Year 1 to Year 2
Overall Hokie Corner: 90.6%

Fall 2020 cohort
Year 1 to Year 2
Overall Hokie Corner: 89.7%

Fall 2021 cohort
Fall to Spring
Overall Hokie Corner: N/A

"Hokie corner program was extremely helpful and I used a lot of the knowledge they gave me to further my application to Virginia Tech."

"I felt Hokie Corner cleared up a lot of worries that I had prior to the meeting."

"[...] I was able to ask questions about my courses and if I was on track to fulfill all the recommended requirements for transfer."

"I felt very welcome and got great feedback and other important information that can help me later on."

"Everything about the Hokie Corner was amazing! I have absolutely no complaints. I feel so much better about my transfer to VT!"
The goals of the Transfer Peer Mentor Program are to:

1. Build a community
2. Connect mentees to the VT community
3. Assist mentees with ways to get involved
4. Provide campus resources
5. Provide mentees a student perspective in their transition to VT
Transfer Peer Mentor Program
Virginia Tech | Fall 2021

Goals of Mentor Program
Connect incoming transfer students with currently enrolled transfers, and supports Hokie Transfers through finding community and integrating into life at Virginia Tech.

Mentor Program Data

30 Transfer Peer Mentors
89% survey response rate
76% referred their mentees to on campus services and resources
97% are texting, calling, and facetime their mentee to stay in contact
95% reported they would recommend serving as a mentor to a friend
87% felt confident addressing the transition concerns of their mentee as a result of training
80% were in contact with their mentee at least once a week or more
100% indicated they developed strong communication skills as a result of this role

101 Transfer Student Mentees
39% survey response rate
92% said their mentor made them feel welcome
94% reported that they would recommend the mentor program to a friend
72% of participants were referred to on campus resources
64% joined a student organization as a result of their mentor’s recommendation
87% agreed that their mentor served as reliable resource during the program

Mentees’ Retention Rate:
(VT’s average retention rate of transfers year 1 to year 2: 90%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018-2019</th>
<th>2019-2020</th>
<th>2020-2021</th>
<th>Fall 21-Spring 22</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95% retention rate</td>
<td>95% retention rate</td>
<td>97% retention rate</td>
<td>97.8% retention rate</td>
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“[my mentor] is so cool and awesome! She has really helped me get adjusted to VT and answered any questions I have and stuff I wanted to know. Its great knowing I have someone in my corner I can reach out to who has been in my shoes and is currently higher up in the same major as I am so I can talk about academics that are relevant to me.”
Transfer Experience
Living-Learning
Program

Benefits:

- Full-time dedicated professional staff
- Living with other transfer students
- On-campus community
- Engaged events and activities
- Opportunities for leadership development
LLC Data

Residents’ Retention Rate:
(VT’s retention rate of transfers year 1 to year 2: 90%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Retention Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>96% retention rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>95% retention rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 21-Spring 22</td>
<td>98.5% retention rate</td>
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National Transfer Student Week
3rd week of October

I was a transfer student

We hokie transfers

National Institution for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS)
www.nists.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Transfer Student Week Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>**Virginia Tech</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>614</strong> Students participated in NTSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19</strong> Transfer student events offered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>69</strong> Student spotlights posted online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20%</strong> Survey response rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>&quot;I felt like a member of the Hokie Community and not just a transfer student!&quot;</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>100%</strong> Feel welcomed as part of the Hokie community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>68%</strong> Were able to connect with faculty and staff during NTSW</td>
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Students involved in an HTC program are **10% more likely** to be involved in other on-campus and co-curricular activities compared to transfer students who are not involved in an HTC program.

| 30% of the 21-22 transfer students participated in one or more HTC program |  
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93% agree or strongly agree (compared to 54% in 2017) | I feel welcomed by VT faculty and staff |
| 92% agree or strongly agree (compared to 75% in 2017) | I feel that my identities are supported by VT faculty and staff |
| 87% agree or strongly agree | I feel welcomed by VT students |
| 90% agree or strongly agree | I feel that my identities are supported by VT students |
Previous College Course Preparation for VT:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not very well</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>Not very well prepared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat well</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
<td>Somewhat prepared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely well</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Extremely prepared</td>
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Approximate number of times meeting with an academic advisor:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
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<th>2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 times</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>1-2 times</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4 times</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>3-4 times</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5+ times</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>5+ times</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
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</table>
Thank you!

Please contact me at nschwab@vt.edu

Transfer.advising.vt.edu

Like us on Facebook (@VT Transfer Students)

Follow us on Instagram (hokie_transfer_community)