

December 5, 2010

It is a pleasure to introduce you to the Virginia Tech Presidential Scholarship Initiative, a conscious effort to attract and retain more Virginia undergraduates from modest and low-income families with preference given to first-generation students. Simply put, qualifying students will receive tuition, fees and on-campus room and board in grant funds for four years; as well as extensive services that include academic and social support and cultural enrichment experiences.

Please help us spread the word about this program, now beginning its third year, to students, families and organizations that have contact with potentially eligible students. Students must meet regular VT admission standards and be from families of modest financial means qualifying for the Federal Pell Grant. Most students eligible for free or reduced lunches will be eligible. To check for Pell Grant eligibility students and families should to visit <http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/>.

The application process is relatively simple. **The first step is for students to apply for admission to Virginia Tech before January 15, 2011**, so encourage students not to wait until the last minute to apply! Second, as soon as possible after January 1, 2009 students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm>. Third, students should be alert for email or written communication from VT requesting any additional information. **There's no special application for the student to complete.** Potentially eligible students will be screened based on their Federal Pell Grant eligibility, strength of academic record and test scores, and will be notified of their selection around April 1, 2011.

The Virginia Tech Presidential Scholarship is just one of the financial aid programs available for eligible students. We encourage you to visit [http://www.finaid.vt.edu/types\\_of\\_aid/](http://www.finaid.vt.edu/types_of_aid/) for additional information on grants, scholarships, and other types of financial support. We sincerely appreciate your help in spreading the word about the Virginia Tech Presidential Scholarship Initiative. Please let us know if you have any questions.

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