

Family and Guest Checklist

Before you leave Blacksburg

- PURCHASE** something **orange** and **maroon**. **GO HOKIES!**

On the way home

- CHAT** about all future visits/communication... frequency, methods, and expectations
- DISCUSS** whether or not your student wants to participate in the CEED Peer Mentoring Program
<https://www.enge.vt.edu/ceed/mentoring> - sign up deadline is August 4th at 8am!
- ESTABLISH** open lines of communication regarding grades, choice of major, and career decisions

At home this summer

- ENCOURAGE** your student to send all AP, IB, and Transfer Credit to VT from the testing agency/institution <http://enge.vt.edu/undergraduate/Courses.html>
- VERIFY** with your student that they have completed the immunization history requirements
http://www.healthcenter.vt.edu/new_student.html
- REVIEW** the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
<http://registrar.vt.edu/contact/FERPA.html>
- SET-UP** the guest account access for financial aid and academic record information
<http://finaid.vt.edu/oldsite/receive/hokie-spa-guest-access.html>
- SUBSCRIBE** to the Center for Enhancement of Engineering Diversity (CEED) Parent newsletter
https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a025ETPCAbAFVcN
- FAMILIARIZE** yourself with the Academic Calendar/deadlines for Fall 2017
<https://registrar.vt.edu/dates-deadlines-accordion/index1/Fall-2017.html>
- REVIEW** day 2 families and guests presentation
http://enge.vt.edu/content/dam/enge_vt_edu/undergraduate/orientation/day2.pdf

Before your student returns to VT to start classes

- REMIND** your student that starting college is a major transition and that VT has wonderful resources to help with this transition <http://enge.vt.edu/undergraduate/ugResources.html>
- READ "10 Things to Do in College..."** with your student, and encourage your student to be an engaged, active participant in student life at VT
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sarah-juliet-lauro/ten-things-to-do-in-college_b_5358967.html
- ENCOURAGE** your student to complete all items in their orientation checklists
<http://enge.vt.edu/undergraduate/orientation.html>
- ARRANGE** for your student to bring their social security card with them if pursuing employment
- RECOMMEND** that your student collaborate with and read all emails from their academic advisor
- SUGGEST** your student look up their textbook list for fall classes at
http://www.bookstore.vt.edu/ePOS?store=1&form=shared3%2ftextbooks%2ftext_browse%2html&esign=vt&campus=MAIN
(See more info on textbooks on the back of this sheet)

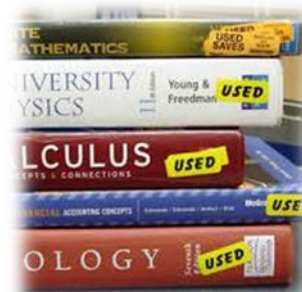
At move-in

- PREPARE** for hot temperatures, high humidity, thunderstorms, and walking...bring water, comfortable shoes, and tarps to cover belongings
- AVOID** staying around too long, those first few hours/days/meals are when most students get to know one another; give your student the ability to join-in right away
- ENCOURAGE** your student to walk to each of their classroom locations prior to the first day of classes

Where can my student buy books...

Locally?

- Virginia Tech bookstores <http://www.bookstore.vt.edu/>
 - On campus (across from Newman Library)
 - Volume II (on University City Boulevard)
- Tech Bookstore/Neebo (downtown – not affiliated with university) <http://www.neebo.com/vt>
- Bookholders (downtown) <https://www.bookholders.com>



Online?

- Half.com (an Ebay company)
- Ebay.com
- Chegg.com
- Bookrenter.com
- Ecampus.com
- Amazon.com
- Bigwords.com (a price aggregator site: shows you the cheapest on-line price for the book you're searching)

E-book versus textbook?

Personal preference. Students use computers often. Some students say they don't use e-books to give their eyes a "rest" from the screen. Others prefer the ease of having all textbooks available in one device.

Rent or own?

Again, personal preference. Renting can be much more affordable than purchasing. But, because the book's condition needs to remain "clean" for the greatest cost benefit, if your student likes to mark up his/her text, or prefers to keep the text for reference, renting may not be the best plan.

Other things to consider?

Many math and science courses require an online key that can be obtained in a bundle with the text to save money.