GENERAL ENGINEERING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

☐ WHAT IS MY CURRENT MAJOR?
All students admitted to the College of Engineering are classified as "General Engineering."

☐ WHY IS MY MAJOR GENERAL ENGINEERING (GE)?
The general engineering program allows you to successfully transition to a degree-granting engineering major at Virginia Tech by providing an environment focused on building community through common coursework, a dedicated design space, engaging faculty, and professional academic advisors. Research in engineering education shows that you are more likely to be successful with a foundation that allows you to develop a sense of community and strengthen motivation for success in the field.

☐ WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO CHANGE INTO A DEGREE-GRANTING ENGINEERING MAJOR?
To change into a degree-granting major from general engineering, you must complete the course requirements, earn 12 minimum GPA hours at Virginia Tech, and have a 3.0 overall Virginia Tech GPA to be guaranteed your first choice major (exceptions apply). For complete details, including the course requirements see: https://enge.vt.edu/em

☐ WHAT SHOULD I DO TO GET STARTED AS AN ENGINEERING STUDENT AT VIRGINIA TECH?
Complete all items listed on the general engineering Pre-Orientation Checklist

☐ IS ORIENTATION MANDATORY FOR THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING?
Yes, all students are required to register for and attend new student orientation. Your orientation session will include an engineering group advising session and class registration. You will receive an email invitation with a link to register for New Student Orientation. If you have questions about the sign-up process, please contact orientation@vt.edu.

☐ WHAT COURSES WILL I TAKE AS A GENERAL ENGINEERING STUDENT AT VIRGINIA TECH?
We will focus your course selection on the course requirements necessary to Declare an Engineering Major, and the Pathways to General Education courses (which replaces Curriculum for Liberal Education). Additional course recommendations will depend on expected transfer credits.

☐ WHAT IS THE COMPUTER REQUIREMENT AND ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS?
Please see: https://enge.vt.edu/content/dam/enge_vt_edu/undergraduate/orientation/engineering_supply_list.pdf

☐ HOW DO I REGISTER FOR CLASSES AT VIRGINIA TECH?
You will be pre-registered for some engineering courses prior to orientation and then make schedule adjustments when you attend orientation. We can determine the best courses for pre-enrollment through the information you provide on the pre-orientation form.
DO I NEED TO COMPLETE PLACEMENT EXAMS?

**English** - English for engineering students is a two-semester sequence (ENGL 1105 and ENGL 1106). Students place into either of these courses based on the SAT or ACT scores. Students with a 670 or above on the SAT Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) or a 31 or above on the ACT Reading will be placed into ENGL 1106. Students with scores below those thresholds will be placed into ENGL 1105.

**Math** - Math readiness or the ability to take MATH 1225-Calculus of a Single Variable is based on several factors, including Math SAT and cumulative Math GPA. If you are classified as math not-ready you will be notified in late June and are given the opportunity to take a math readiness exam at orientation.

**Spatial Visualization** - The College of Engineering requires first-year engineering students to complete the Spatial Visualization Exam to assess your spatial skills.

No additional placement options are required.

WHAT IS THE ENGINEERING FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT?

Engineering students must have completed 2 years of a single foreign language in high school or one year at the college level (6 credit hours) of the same language. College-level credits used to meet this requirement do not count towards the VT engineering degree. The Office of the University Registrar will run a foreign language program to search student’s high school courses to award credit for the foreign language requirement. This also includes students whose native language is not English. Transfer students should also submit their high school transcripts to Virginia Tech if they will meet the foreign language requirement through course work completed in high school.

I HAVE EXPECTED AP, IB, CLEP, CAMBRIDGE CREDITS, WHERE DO I SEND THE SCORES?

Scores should be sent directly from the testing agency to the Office of the University Registrar, Student Services Building Suite 250, 800 Washington St., SW, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061 at Virginia Tech. If you took exams in multiple years, request that your entire score report be sent.

I HAVE EXPECTED DUAL ENROLLMENT/TRANSFER CREDITS, WHERE DO I SEND MY TRANSCRIPTS?

Official transcripts should be sent directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Virginia Tech, 925 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061 from the college or university that the courses were taken through (high school transcripts cannot be used to award dual enrollment or transfer credits).

HOW WILL MY EXPECTED AP, IB, CLEP, CAMBRIDGE, DUAL/TRANSFER CREDITS TRANSFER?

The below charts will help you determine the appropriate equivalency:

- Advanced Placement (AP) Credit
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
- University of Cambridge International Examinations
- Virginia Community College System Transfer Guide (VCCS)
- Transfer Equivalency Database (2-year schools outside the VCCS or from 4-year schools that have been previously evaluated)
WHAT COURSES ARE REQUIRED TO GRADUATE WITH AN ENGINEERING DEGREE?
- See the College of Engineering Undergraduate Graduation Requirements (checksheets) for details.

ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR NEWLY ADMITTED ENGINEERING STUDENTS IN THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING?
- All scholarships for new students have been awarded for the entering class of 2020, however the 2021/2022 scholarship application will open in spring 2021: https://www.eng.vt.edu/undergraduate-academics/scholarship-current

WHAT TYPE OF ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR ME?
- We are committed to providing academic support and personal support, a summary of resources can be located at: https://enge.vt.edu/undergraduate/resources_and_help.html

SHOULD I ACCEPT MY AP CREDITS?
This decision should be based on how prepared you feel and if you believe you will be successful in the next level of the course if applicable. When evaluating your knowledge of the subject use the following scale for AP:
- 3 equates to a "C" grade level of knowledge
- 4 equates to a "B" grade level of knowledge
- 5 equates to a "A" grade level of knowledge

WHAT DO I KNOW THAT VIRGINIA TECH HAS RECEIVED MY EXPECTED AP, IB, CLEP, CAMBRIDGE, DUAL/TRANSFER CREDITS?
Log into Hokie Spa (www.hokiespa.vt.edu), click Hokie Spa, Grades Menu, then Transfer and Other Additional Credits
- If your transcript has been received and processed, you will see the equivalent credits posted.
- You will want to check this frequently to ensure your transcripts are received and processed.