



PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How was I selected for this award?

The PSI Scholarship recognizes outstanding educational merit and potential for future academic and professional success. Your Admission application, including your GPA and Ut Prosim essays, are reviewed. We also consider other factors like Federal Pell Grant eligibility and first generation status.

Who should I contact if I have questions about the Presidential Scholarship Initiative?

If you have questions regarding the financial aid portion of the PSI award, email finaid@vt.edu or call 540-231-5179. If you have questions regarding the academic requirements of the PSI scholarship, contact The Student Success Center at 540-231-8440 or studentsuccess@vt.edu.

My scholarship notification states that the PSI award “in combination with federal, state, and other institutional aid, is a renewable four-year (five-years for certain programs) scholarship that covers tuition, fees, housing, and food.” What does this mean?

If your tuition, fees*, housing and food cost \$10,000 for a fall and spring semester, all grants and scholarships you have received will be added up to determine if you need any additional funding.

Example based on \$20,000 in educational expenses to include: tuition, fees, housing and food.

Award Amount	Award Source
\$6,495	Pell Grant
\$5,250	Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program
\$2,000	General Scholarship
\$600	Supplemental Education Grant (SEOG)
\$5,655	PSI Scholarship Amount

University Scholarships and Financial Aid will award you \$5,655 in Presidential Scholarship Initiative funds to ensure that your tuition, fees, housing and food are covered.

**Fees covered by the PSI award include all comprehensive fees and college, major, or lab fees. The PSI award does not cover charges for the medical clinic or other non-comprehensive fees like software bundles.*

I live off campus. Will the PSI award cover off-campus expenses?

If you live off-campus, you will be awarded scholarships and grants to cover your tuition, fees, and the average cost of off-campus housing and food. This typically allows Scholars to have approximately \$6,289 per semester to use toward off-campus rent and the purchase of an off-campus meal plan.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE (PSI):

a renewable, four-year award that guarantees tuition, fees, housing and food will be covered by all scholarships and grants awarded for full-time enrollment during the regular academic year.

(Note: Architecture students may receive up to five years of the PSI award.)

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I see that I have been offered loans in my PSI package, but will not need/want them. How do I decline loans?

Once you are able to log onto the SPA, hokiespa.vt.edu, (after you have agreed to the terms of the award) you will choose the Hokie SPA link then select Financial Aid Information > My Award Information > Award Package by Aid Year > then select 2022-23 from the drop-down menu. Under the "Accept Award" tab, select the drop down menu box to accept, reduce, or decline your federal loan(s). Then click the "Submit Decision" button at the bottom.

Are there reasons I should consider accepting loans as part of the PSI award package?

PSI will cover tuition, fees, housing and food, but does not cover additional items. i.e. books, personal expenses, computer. You can accept loans to help cover those additional items.

What are "academic enrichment activities"?

All PSI Scholars are required to complete academic enrichment activities each semester. Twice a month, scholars are forwarded a newsletter from The Student Success Center to make them aware of academic enrichment activities. The purpose of enrichment activities is to help PSI Scholars strengthen academic skills students need to be successful and to facilitate students' engagement in other activities on campus. There are various options for enrichment activities which might include, but are not limited to, informational workshops on study skills, art exhibits, and guest lectures. PSI Scholars have flexibility in picking which enrichment activities best fits their schedules and/or their interests.

Will PSI cover and Education Abroad program?

The PSI award will cover the tuition, fees, and housing and food costs for a Virginia Tech Faculty-led Education Abroad program for one semester. While we recommend utilizing PSI during a fall or spring semester, you may use it during any study abroad trip. Students attending a non-VT education abroad program such as a bi-lateral exchange program may still receive all financial aid they are eligible for, but we cannot guarantee that all tuition, fees, room and board will be covered.

Will the PSI award cover any residence hall or meal plan?

The PSI award will cover any on-campus housing or on-campus meal plan. If you are living off campus, the meal plan will come out of your room and board allowance. This will reduce the refund you would receive per term.

Do I have to pay the Virginia Tech enrollment deposit as indicated in my offer letter of admission?

PSI Scholars will have their enrollment deposit and orientation fee waived. When you accept the PSI award and complete the agreement in Scholarship Central, you will be accepting the offer of admission to Virginia Tech.

What happens if I switch meal plans or residence halls mid-year?

Students who live on campus and switch meal plans or residence halls mid year will have their financial aid award adjusted within 1-2 weeks if necessary. You do not need to notify us with changes to rooms or meal plans.

Do I need to pay the housing application fee each year?

No. PSI Scholars should have their housing application fee waived each year if living on campus. If you continue to see a housing application fee on your account, please contact us at finaid@vt.edu.

If I am awarded an outside scholarship or other funds, how does this impact the PSI award?

In general, grants and scholarships may be considered part of the financial aid that will cover tuition, fees, housing and food. This may cause the actual dollar amount of the PSI award to be reduced. However, scholarships from outside organizations or from your VT college or department will be added on top of your existing PSI award until your overall financial aid need is met. If you have additional information from an outside scholarship organization such as a letter, please send that to us at finaid@vt.edu.

What happens if I fail to meet the renewal criteria each year?

If you fail to meet eligibility criteria after the academic year has ended, we will send an email notifying you that you are in danger of losing the PSI scholarship. You will receive instructions on completing an appeal form, which requires a letter explaining failure to meet the eligibility criteria. Your appeal will be reviewed and evaluated prior to the beginning of the next academic year.

Will the PSI award cover summer sessions?

The PSI award does not normally cover summer sessions. Please check with the Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid for other options for summer school.

KEY CONTACTS

The Student Success Center

540-231-8440
studentsuccess@vt.edu

University Scholarships and Financial Aid

540-231-5179
finaid@vt.edu



ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT
**UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS
AND FINANCIAL AID**
VIRGINIA TECH.