



# Delegate Handbook

Dear Delegates, Sponsors, Faculty, and Friends,

On behalf of the VTMUNC I Secretariat, it is our pleasure to invite you all for the inaugural iteration of the Virginia Tech Model United Nations Conference. Established 4 years ago by VT students who strived to create an enriching and creative environment for students to engage in diplomatic dialogue through the core principles of the United Nations, VT Model UN has grown into a powerhouse full of young leaders empowered by inclusion, integrity, humility and humanity. We are humbled and honored to share this by setting precedence for what will be a tradition for years to come at Virginia Tech.

We strive to make this experience unforgettable by meticulously crafting a series of unique and thought provoking committees designed to challenge and inspire delegates to come up with solutions that require collaboration and communication from all diverse backgrounds. Our conference theme, “As We Bloom” reflects our central goal of mutual empowerment, wherein everyone who participates in this conference will be able to grow and discover more about themselves. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or first time participant, we hope that each and every one of you will embrace this experience wholeheartedly and seize the chance to broaden your horizons.

As we embark on this journey together, we would like to express our gratitude to our sponsors, faculty, staffers, volunteers, and members of the Virginia Tech community for their unwavering support, and countless hours of hard work and dedication which has made this conference possible. Your dedication to fostering global awareness and promoting diplomacy among young minds is commendable, and we cannot have done this without you.

Our wonderful Secretariat has been working tirelessly to create a conference that is memorable and unique to you and the culture of Virginia Tech. Everyone on this team has brought experiences from diverse backgrounds that contributed to making this conference exceptional and leadership that has set the foundation for a long lasting legacy for VT Model UN.

We cannot wait to welcome you all to VTMUNC I in Blacksburg, Virginia. May this be the beginning of a lifelong journey of learning, growth, and making a positive difference in the world.

Warm Regards,

Aaryan S. Menon, Secretary General  
Nekhita Kassey, Director General  
Prince Wang, Senior Advisor

# Conference Policies

All conference attendees are expected to adhere to the policies outlined below for the duration of the conference. VTMUNC Secretariat reserves the right to remove delegates found to be in violation of these policies from further participation in the conference. This includes removal from awards consideration, suspension from the conference, or prohibiting participation in future conferences. Delegates are also expected to adhere to policies outlined by their respective schools and sponsors.

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## **Plagiarism & Pre-Writing**

Plagiarism or the use of pre-written documents, other than your position paper, is strictly prohibited at VTMUNC. Any delegates found to possess plagiarized or pre-written documents will be immediately disqualified from awards in their respective committee and may be subject to suspension from the conference.

## **Dress Code**

The dress code for VTMUNC committees is Western Business Attire unless stated otherwise. Delegates are expected to wear a suit, a blouse with skirt or slacks, or a professional dress with closed-toed shoes to all committee sessions. This dress code does not apply to socials or other events outside of committee. If a delegate requires accommodations for this policy, please reach out to our Director of Finance.

## **Attendance**

Delegates are expected to attend every committee session for the duration of the conference. Any delegate that does not attend every session will not be considered for awards. If there are extenuating circumstances, please communicate with your dais or the Director of Delegate Affairs. Social events hosted by VTMUNC are optional.

## **Finances**

All information regarding payment for VTMUNC will be available on the conference website under the “registration” tab. Please contact our Director of Finance with any questions.

## **Harassment & Discrimination**

Prejudice against anyone due to their race, gender, sexual orientation, or other identity will not be tolerated. Any delegates found to violate this policy, following thorough investigation, will be immediately disqualified from awards in their respective committee and will be subject to suspension from the conference. Any delegate found to be engaging in harmful conduct, such as violence, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, or threatening behavior will be removed and potentially banned from participation in future conferences.

## **Alcohol & Drug Policy**

The possession of alcohol or drugs by any persons under the age of 21 is strictly prohibited. This includes the possession of vaporizers and electronic cigarettes. Any delegate found in possession of illicit substances will be removed from consideration from awards and suspended from the conference.

### **COVID-19 Policy**

Delegates participating in VTMUNC are strongly encouraged to have received a COVID-19 vaccination. In order to ensure the safety of all participants, delegations may be asked to provide proof of vaccination. If you are not vaccinated, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask for the duration of the conference.

### **Technology**

The use of personal electronic devices (laptops, cell phones, etc.) is prohibited during committee sessions unless otherwise stated by the dais. All cell phones should be silenced before the start of the committee sessions. If a delegate has extenuating circumstances that require the use of their cell phone during a committee session, they are expected to inform the dais before the session begins. If a delegate requires accommodations, please reach out to the Director of Finance prior to the conference weekend.

### **Position Papers**

Position Papers are recommended but not required. For all position papers, plagiarism will not be tolerated or accepted. Citations must be incorporated at the end of all position papers. Any delegates found violating this policy will be immediately disqualified from awards in their respective committee and could be subject to suspension from the conference.

### **Awards**

Awards will be given only to individual delegates and small/large delegations. Small delegations include any delegation with less than 15 delegates, and large delegations include any delegations with 15 or greater delegates. Individual awards will be given at the discretion of the dais. Group awards will be given at the USG's discretion.

### **Social Events**

Any delegate who plans on participating in events hosted by VTMUNC will be expected to provide proof of delegation with the badge provided at registration. For the safety of all participants, those without a badge will not be granted entry. These events include but are not limited to delegate socials, Q&A sessions, and guided tours.

### **Emergencies**

For emergency situations, dial 9-1-1.

Non-emergency calls can be directed to Virginia Tech Police at 540-382-4343 or the Blacksburg Police Department at 540-443-140.

For general concerns, do not hesitate to contact any member of the secretariat or visit our delegate affairs desk.



# Where to Eat

There are a variety of places to eat on and near campus for this conference. If you choose to eat at the on-campus dining halls, please keep these things in mind:

1. All Virginia Tech Dining Halls are **CASHLESS** facilities, only debit/credit cards will be accepted
2. Dining halls on the academic side of campus (ex. Turner Place, VIVA Market) will be **CLOSED** on weekends. Dining halls on the residential side of campus will remain open.

For more information about eating on campus, such as menus and allergen information, please visit the Virginia Tech [Dining Service Website](#)

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## Dining Off-Campus

There are a variety of restaurants and cafes around the Blacksburg area to choose from. Most restaurants are right next to campus on Blacksburg's Main Street. Here are a few:

### Fast Food

- McDonald's (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 110 Turner St NE
- Chipotle (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 314 N Main St
- Taco Bell (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 608 N Main St
- Wendy's (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 701 N Main St
- Jimmy John's (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 217 College Ave

## **Eat-In Restaurants**

- Roots Natural Kitchen (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 898 Prices Fork Rd
- Mellow Mushroom (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 207 S Main St
- Green's Grill and Sushi Bar (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 109 College Ave
- Cabo Fish Taco (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 117 N Main St
- Cellar Restaurant (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 302 N Main St
- Mezeh (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 616 University City Blvd
- Zeppoli's Italian Restaurant (Driving or Transit Recommended)
  - 810 University City Blvd
- Panera Bread (Driving or Transit Recommended)
  - 715 University City Blvd
- Cafe Mekong (Driving or Transit Recommended)
  - 1405 S Main St

## **Cafes (These all provide complimentary wifi)**

- Halwa Bakery & Cafe (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 700 N Main St
- Mill Mountain Coffee and Tea (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 700 N Main St
- Next Door Bake Shop (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 460 Turner St NW
- Coffeeholics (Walking Distance from Campus)
  - 211 Draper Rd NW
- Our Daily Bread Bakery & Bistro (Driving or Transit Recommended)
  - 1329 S Main St





# Transportation and Parking

Virginia Tech has an amazing public transportation system that will help get you around campus and most of Blacksburg. While we recommend getting a hotel somewhat close to the campus, we understand that won't always be available. Below is more information regarding Blacksburg Transit hours and routes, as well as information regarding parking on campus if needed. Please **NOTE** that buses will be busy during the day time and run on reduced schedules during the weekends—be sure to plan accordingly. Blacksburg Transit is a fare free transportation company, there should be no need for worries about transportation costs to and from campus using this system.

For delegations initially arriving through the transportation hubs in Roanoke, the Smart Way Commuter Bus links both the airport and train station directly to Virginia Tech's campus for a low fare. See the link below for more information.

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Parking: During weekends, people are able to park in F/S or Commuter slots. If you choose to park on Friday, you can park at places with a Parkmobile sign. Parkmobile is an app you can download on your phone to pay for hourly parking.

Blacksburg Transit Website: <https://ridebt.org/routes-schedules>

Virginia Tech Parking Services: <https://parking.vt.edu/>

Smart Way Bus Website: <https://smartwaybus.com/>

*Tip: Google Maps, Apple Maps, and the BT App are all great resources to use when traveling around campus*

# Hotels Near Campus

There are many hotels near campus and neighboring areas for delegations to stay at. The closest hotel to campus is The Inn at Virginia Tech (we will be holding our opening ceremonies there). Here are a few hotels in the area and the necessary transportation to get from hotel to campus. Please **NOTE** it is the responsibility of the sponsor of each delegation to book the hotel, not VT MUN on your behalf.

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## The Inn at Virginia Tech

901 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24061  
8 Minute Walk from Campus

## Hyatt Place

650 University City Blvd, Blacksburg, VA 24060  
12 Minute Walk from Campus

## Residence Inn

850 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24060  
12 Minute Walk from Campus

## Hilton Garden Inn

900 Plantation Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24060  
Driving or Transit Recommended  
30 Minute Walk from Campus

# Getting to Blacksburg

VTMUNC is excited to host delegations from throughout Virginia and surrounding areas. Below is a brief guide to traveling to Blacksburg from a variety of regions, as well as via multiple modes of transportation.

Delegations taking third-party modes of transportation (flying, rented vehicles, etc.) are encouraged to reach out to your transportation company directly with any questions.

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## Driving

For those driving from Northern Virginia (or around this relative distance of 300), driving is a very cost-effective means of transportation as gas for a car of four will be roughly a maximum of 25 dollars per person round trip. For the most part, driving to Blacksburg is very simple, it is a straight shot from I-81 until you take the exit to get to Christiansburg/Blacksburg.

## Flying

The closest airport to Blacksburg is the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport. As this is a regional airport, the only direct flights are from Atlanta, Charlotte, New York (LaGuardia), Orlando (Sanford), Philadelphia, St. Petersburg (Clearwater), and Washington, D.C. (Dulles). Delegations taking flights from any other location will require a layover.

Roanoke Airport is roughly 45 minutes from Virginia Tech. Once delegations reach the airport, there are a variety of options for making the final stretch. Delegations may take the Smart Way bus for a low fare, which connects the airport directly to Squires Student Center. More information about this option is linked under the “Transportation and Parking” section. The airport also offers rental car and taxi services. More information about the airport can be found at their website: <https://www.flyroa.com/>

## Train (via Amtrak)

Roanoke is also part of Amtrak’s Northeast Regional line. This line is the only direct train route that stops at Roanoke Station. This line connects Roanoke to Boston, MA, and includes stops in major areas such as Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City. This train often sells out, and prices are subject to change, so it is recommended that tickets are purchased in advance.

For connection to the Virginia Tech campus, delegations may take the Smart Way bus for a low fare. More information about this option is linked under the “Transportation and Parking” section. As this is an unstaffed location, there is no option to rent a car or arrange other transport through the station. However, there are regular connecting buses that take individuals from Roanoke to Blacksburg. More information about Amtrak can be found on their website: <https://www.amtrak.com/home.html>.



# Resources

**Research Binders:** The purpose of a research binder is to compile important information pertaining to your committee for the conference. This binder helps you to prepare by making sure you are adequately researched and allows you to perform your best by having the resources you need for the conference. Below is a link to Best Delegate's Guide to how to make a research binder!

<https://bestdelegate.com/mun-research-made-easy-15-things-every-delegate-should-have-in-their-research-binder/>

Research Gathering:

Here are some general research sites/databases that might be useful! These are generally all accredited sources that will help delegates with their research.

- [The World Factbook](#)
- [United Nations Security Council |](#)
- [Human Rights Watch](#)
- [Amnesty International](#)
- [Foreign Policy](#)
- [Pew Research Center](#)
- [Proquest](#)
- [Britannica](#)

**Tip:** To find something specific, simply insert your country, the topic, and your desired website into your search engine to find articles and journals (i.e. Bolivia Femicide Human Rights Watch).

## Guide to Model UN

**Getting Started/Parliamentary Procedure**

- BestDelegate: Getting Started With Model UN (we use UNA-USA procedure)
  - <https://bestdelegate.com/mun-made-easy-how-to-get-started-with-model-united-nations/>
- University of Virginia's Guides to Parliamentary Procedure
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOu7VAkuEEg>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBHzmRc0Xf0>
- State of the World: Everything You Need to Know
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nijZhSnDyrg>
- Flow of Debate Procedures
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYYwBLJ9q5E>

## **Committee Basics & Tips**

- UNSC Live Demonstration
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJ0SONkpEnc>
- Overview of Specialized Committees
  - <https://www.allamericanmun.com/mun-101-specialized-committees/>
- Overview of Crisis Committees
  - <https://bestdelegate.com/everything-you-need-to-know-about-crisis-committees/>
- UC San Diego Crisis Crash Course
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8IgKWS0pR4>
- BestDelegate Crisis Tips
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfIUzvB0uws>
- Advanced Crisis Strategies
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q\\_tFw9RIMCU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_tFw9RIMCU)

## Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Phone Number
Secretary General	Aaryan Menon	aaryanm@vt.edu	732-822-4200
Director General	Nekhita Kassey	nekhitakassey@vt.edu	757-634-7232
Senior Advisor	Prince Wang	princewang7777@vt.edu	571-230-4017
Director of Operations & Staff	Taylor White	wtaylor21@vt.edu	804-878-2113
Charge D’Affaires	Delaney Moran	chargedaffaires@vtmunc.org	336-549-8548
Director of Delegate Services	Deimos Provell	deimos@vt.edu	732-210-7611
Director of Finance	Alyssa Bohnstengel	alysab19@vt.edu	301-452-1833
Director of Philanthropy and Merchandise	Karina Gonzalez	karinag@vt.edu	830-325-0302
Director of Marketing	Nina Ruback	nina21@vt.edu	845-630-8945
Directors of Technology	Erland Syafiq Quinn Anderson	erland@vt.edu quinnanderson@vt.edu	540-618-1619 773-892-8506
USG of General Assemblies	Shriya Chemudupati	shriyac822@vt.edu	804-585-4918
USG of Specialized	Madeline Pedersen	pedersenmk@vt.edu	540-535-3544
USG of Crisis	Juan Camilo Bonilla	eresjcbsmun1210@vt.edu	540-605-0417

## Room Assignments



<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Building – Room</b>
Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)	Lavery 335
World Health Organization (WHO)	Pamplin 2028
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Lavery 345
Ancient Mythology Meets Modern America: Camp Half-Blood	Mcbryde 321
Small Islands, Big Problems: Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)	Pamplin 3010
Suez Showdown: The Suez Crisis of 1956	Pamplin 3004
Raise a Glass to Freedom: Revolution in the American Colonies	Mcbryde 216
Just Another Week in Paradise: 1893 Hawai’ian Coup d’etat	Pamplin 3008
Restoring Balance: The Legend of Korra	Mcbryde 304
One Count and Ten Thousand Systems: A Star Wars: the Clone Wars Committee	Pamplin 2003
The Wizarding War: Harry Potter Committee	Mcbryde 307
Trouble in Barbieland	Mcbryde 218
President's Ad-Hoc	Mcbryde 316

Room assignments shall remain the same for the entire conference. After the opening ceremony, you will be walked to your room by your chairs. Please remember the locations of these room assignments and please feel free to contact us, incase you get lost.