## ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY

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registrar.vcu.edu (http://registrar.vcu.edu/) Bernard Hamm, university registrar

## General policy governing admission and enrollment

As a comprehensive, metropolitan, public institution, Virginia Commonwealth University seeks to provide excellent higher education for those who will profit from an intellectually challenging experience. The university encourages applications from people who are sincere in their desire to study in an environment where excellence in teaching, research, scholarly activities and community services is stressed.

VCU is committed to inclusive admissions practices and does not consider race or legacy status as a factor when determining admission to the university. VCU does not discriminate in admissions, treatment, employment or access to its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin (including ethnicity), age, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions), parenting status, marital status, political affiliation, military status (including veteran status), genetic information (including family medical history), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or disability.

Although the university has a primary responsibility to educate Virginia residents, the value and contribution of a diverse student body is recognized and the enrollment of students from other states and countries is encouraged. Admission requirements are in full compliance with all applicable federal and state statutes, rules and regulations.

All people admitted to and enrolled in the university are classified as either degree-seeking or nondegree-seeking students. Degree-seeking students are presumed to be working toward a degree in approved educational programs, while nondegree-seeking students are permitted to enroll in classes on a semester basis. The university enrolls as many

qualified degree-seeking and nondegree-seeking students as resources permit. VCU prioritizes applicants who present credentials showing the greatest potential for academic success in degree programs.

The Board of Visitors establishes university admission policies on the recommendation of the university administration. Admission criteria and policies are recommended by the Office of Admissions as well as the deans of the schools and colleges of the university on the advice of their faculties. In addition, admissions requirements for schools and the colleges within the university may differ. Further, individual departments may have unique admission requirements, such as examinations, auditions, portfolios, interviews, licensure or language proficiency, in order to evaluate a student's potential for success in specific programs or courses.

The university selects applicants who present the strongest qualifications in scholastic achievement and potential and through the holistic review of other evidence of potential, including strength of character. Each applicant is reviewed on an individual basis.