

# ABOUT VCU

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Located in the heart of Richmond, the capital of Virginia since 1779, Virginia Commonwealth University serves an integral role in the economic health of the city and the state, educating the current and future workforce, reaching out to the community, advancing research and enhancing patient care.

VCU was founded in 1838 as the medical department of Hampden-Sydney College, becoming the Medical College of Virginia in 1854. In 1968, the General Assembly merged MCV with the Richmond Professional Institute, founded in 1917, to create Virginia Commonwealth University.

Today, VCU offers comprehensive undergraduate, master's, doctoral and professional programs and encompasses one of the largest academic health centers in the nation. With \$335 million in externally funded research awards for the 2020 fiscal year, VCU is one of only 71 institutions in the country with an academic medical center to be designated by the Carnegie Foundation as "Community Engaged" with "Highest Research Activity." Its centers and institutes of excellence support the university's research mission and involve faculty from multiple disciplines in the arts, public policy, biotechnology and health care discoveries.

VCU enrolls more than 29,000 students in more than 200 degree and certificate programs in the arts, sciences and humanities. Twenty-two of the programs are unique in Virginia, many of them crossing the disciplines of VCU's 11 schools and five colleges. VCU has a full-time instructional faculty of more than 2,500 who are nationally and internationally recognized for excellence in the arts, business, education, engineering, the humanities, the life sciences, social work and all the health care professions. With more than 23,000 employees, VCU and VCU Health also have a significant impact on Central Virginia's economy.

Through the guidance of its strategic plan, Quest 2025, VCU is working to meet the demands of diverse populations through impactful research and creativity, rigorous study, and extensive community engagement and is taking its place among the nation's premier urban, public research universities.

VCU and the VCU Health System have been honored with prestigious national and international recognition for top-quality graduate, professional and medical-care programs, reflecting a commitment to be among America's top research universities, supporting students, faculty and the VCU community.

## Nondiscrimination

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, veteran status, genetic information (including family medical history), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or disability, consistent with applicable law.

VCU's notice of nondiscrimination and nondiscrimination policies, with contact information for the office and individuals responsible for enforcement, are in the university's policy library (<https://policy.vcu.edu/>).