Application Requirements

Students may request application materials or apply online through the Graduate School website at http://www.grads.vt.edu/admissions/applying/index.html Choosing the online option will help expedite the application process.

All applicants to the Computer Science M.S. or Ph.D. program must submit:

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores
- Official transcripts from schools where degrees were granted
- Three letters of recommendation from current or former professors, or supervisors
- TOEFL scores for applicants from countries where English is not the native language or who do not hold a degree from a university in the United States
- A non-refundable application fee

All credentials submitted in support of an application become the property of the university.

For more information on required course prerequisites and for answers to most frequently asked questions, visit http://www.nvc.cs.vt.edu/web/admission/faq.htm

Financial Aid

Competitive financial aid options are available. For information regarding research projects and departmental financial aid information visit our website at http://www.nvc.cs.vt.edu/ or email: support@nvc.cs.vt.edu

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Computer Science plays a pivotal role in the technology revolution fueling society’s economic and personal advances. Virginia Tech’s Computer Science graduate program offers an exceptional blend of high academic standards and well-situated educational facilities in the National Capital Region. State-of-the-art classrooms feature fiber-optic network internet connections, video, computer labs, and online distance learning capabilities.

To complement Virginia Tech’s renowned computer science laboratories on its main campus in Blacksburg, the National Capital Region supports four research laboratories:

- Data Mining and Visualization
- Software Reuse and Reliability
- Database
- Mobile Computing

These labs provide fertile resources for students to engage in innovative research with expert faculty in areas which include secure and dependable computing, quantum computation, data mining, visualization, data and knowledge management, intelligent agents, wireless and mobile computing, multimedia, software architecture, and software engineering.

Computer Science M.S. and Ph. D. Programs

The Computer Science Department offers graduate programs leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science and Applications.

A student pursuing a doctoral degree is expected to exhibit a comprehensive knowledge of a broad cross section of computer science and contribute significant knowledge to the discipline through research for a doctoral dissertation. Emphasis is on interaction and mentoring; students are encouraged to participate in new and ongoing research projects with faculty advisors. The program is designed to be completed in four to five years (if the student has a B.S. degree in Computer Science or a related field), or three to four years (if the student has an M.S. degree).

The M.S. degree program focuses on design, implementation, operation, and evaluation of complex systems. Students devote extensive attention to the areas of software engineering, data mining, knowledge engineering, information assurance, multimedia, and mobile computing applications.

Both M.S. and Ph.D. programs are designed to accommodate the schedules of both full-time professionals and full-time students interested in pursuing lucrative research careers. M.S. students may choose from two options: course work only or traditional research-oriented thesis.

Classes are held at the Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church, off Route 7 and Interstate 66, and conveniently located adjacent to the West Falls Church Metro station.

Graduate Certificate in Information Assurance

Students enrolled in the Computer Science M.S. or Ph.D. graduate program are also eligible to receive a Graduate Certificate in Information Assurance Engineering if they complete the following courses in their plan of study:

- Network and Computer Security
- Network Architecture and Protocols
- Software Engineering
- Information Assurance Engineering

Virginia Tech offers students:

- Quality education at the Commonwealth’s leading technological university, convenient to one of the nation’s largest and fastest growing technology communities
- Renowned faculty who foster effective research and education opportunities
- Proven and recognized graduate programs designed for both working professionals and aspiring researchers
- Flexible delivery of educational services through advanced networks and e-learning alternatives

“Computing drives information technology and enables engineering, business and science disciplines. Our M.S. and Ph.D. graduate programs aim to equip working professionals in the National Capital Region with enabling computing knowledge and problem solving skills to revolutionize computing technology development.”

— Ing-Ray Chen, Ph.D.
Director, Computer Science