



What We Do

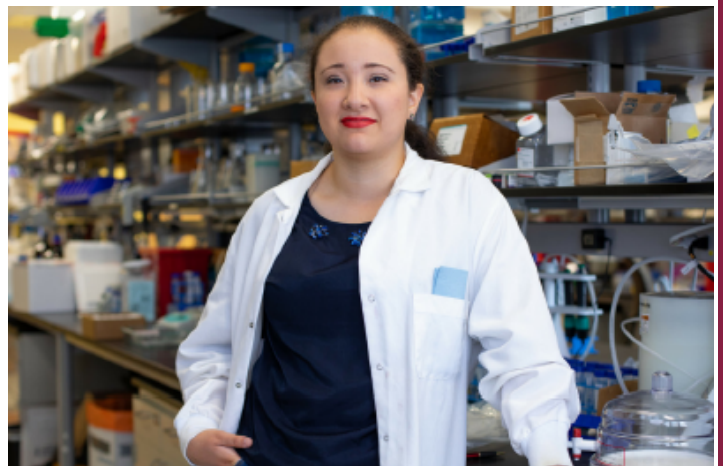
Virginia Tech Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) is a training program designed to increase the number of minorities with a PhD in biomedical and behavioral sciences and engineering who want to pursue a career in biomedical research in accordance with the NIH mission. VT-IMSD is supported by the National Institute of Health through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. Our training program is a partnership with departments and programs in all colleges at Virginia Tech. The program emphasizes community, mentoring, and networking as a foundation to becoming a successful undergraduate and graduate student.

Program History

Started in 2007, the VT-IMSD program includes 33 Ph.D.s and 10 Master's. Approximately 85% of IMSD alumni (from the predoc program) have received a Ph.D. and are pursuing a postdoc or a position at a Research 1 University or in industry. About 70% of the undergraduates who participate in the IMSD prebac program are in Ph.D. programs at different institutions including Brown, Duke, NC State, and Stanford.

Benefits

- Tuition Remission
- \$27,000 annual compensation and benefits
- Travel support to attend workshops and scientific meetings
- Individualized mentoring
- Student driven mentor selection process following three 10-week lab rotations





Research Disciplines

- Biomedical Engineering & NanoScience
- Genetics, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (GBCB)
- Human Nutrition, Food, and Exercise (HNFE)
- Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB)
- Microbial Sciences
- Psychology/Behavioral Sciences

Eligibility

- B.A./B.S. degree with a minimum GPA of 3.2 out of a possible 4.0
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Applicants must be individuals from ethnic groups considered to be historically underrepresented by the Federal Government in STEM

For a comprehensive list of STEM disciplines, visit <http://imsd.apsc.vt.edu>



Application Process

1. Complete the VT Graduate School application for the department or discipline of interest: <http://graduateschool.vt.edu>
2. Visit <http://imsd.apsc.vt.edu> and complete the application.
3. Email the following materials to imsdvt@vt.edu:
 - a. Unofficial Transcripts
 - b. Resume
 - c. Statement of career interests and how the IMSD program will help you reach them
 - d. Three Recommendation Letters, with at least 2 from faculty

To learn more, visit <http://imsd.apsc.vt.edu>

IMSD Program Office, 2250 Litton-Reaves Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-5898, email imsdvt@vt.edu



- Nine colleges and graduate school
- 170 master's and doctoral majors
- 34,440 students on and off the main campus
- Main campus includes 213 buildings and 2,600 acres
- Facilities across the state and around the globe, including a strong presence in Northern Virginia
- Ranked 46th in university research in the United States
- Main campus is located in Blacksburg, VA

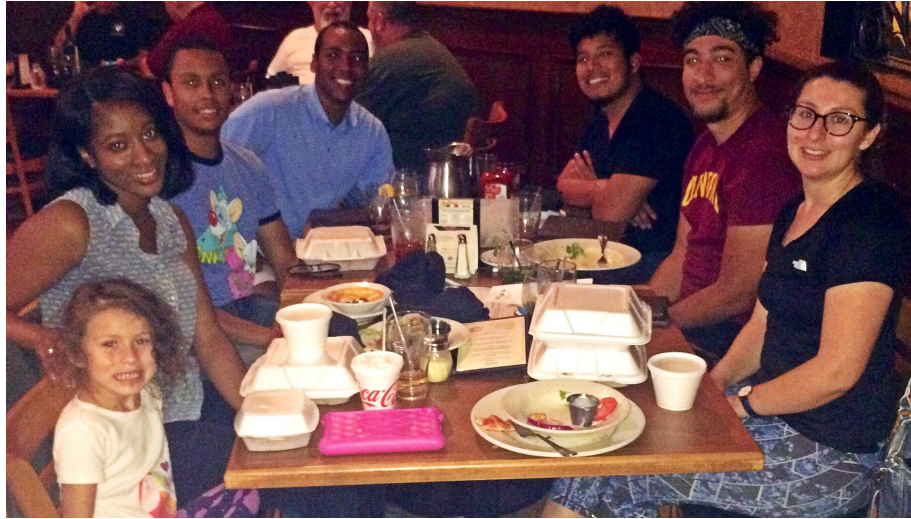


Blacksburg, VA

- Home to about 42,600 residents
- Founded in 1798
- Located in Montgomery County
- Named one of the top 10 places to live in the country by Outdoor Magazine
- 2nd largest town in Virginia
- Moderate climate with four distinct seasons

To learn more, visit <http://imsd.apsc.vt.edu>

IMSD Program Office, 2250 Litton-Reaves Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-5898, email imsdvt@vt.edu



The VT-IMSD program makes an effort to be inclusive to all and host family-friendly outings.

Fun Local Activities

- You can hike, bike, or walk the Huckleberry Trail.
- You can buy local goods at the Blacksburg Farmers Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, from April through October.
- The Blacksburg Paragon Theater shows movies in IMAX and has an arcade, bowling alley, and restaurant.
- The Starlite Drive-in Theater in Christiansburg shows movies on the weekend during warmer months.
- Virginia Tech's Moss Arts Center features a variety of performances, exhibitions, and experiences.
- There are several local breweries including: Bull & Bones brewpub, Eastern Divide Brewing, Lefty's Right Mind Brewery in Lefty's Main Street Grille, Rising Silo Brewery, and Sinkland Farms Brewery.
- Christiansburg has a Wine & Design studio where you can take public or private art classes while sipping on a beverage.
- The NRV SuperBowl has bowling and laser tag.
- Blacksburg has a bustling downtown with a variety of shops and restaurants.
- You can even attend a Hokie football game at Lane Stadium in the Fall!

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Provost's Office, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Fralin Life Sciences Institute, and Animal and Poultry Sciences Department for additional support of the VT IMSD training program.

To learn more, visit <http://imsd.apsc.vt.edu>

IMSD Program Office, 2250 Litton-Reaves Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-5898, email imsdvt@vt.edu