

# THE VIRGINIA TECH INNOVATION CAMPUS

TRANSFORMING VIRGINIA'S TECHNOLOGY ECONOMY

## VISION

The \$1 billion Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will be a global center of technology excellence and talent production, supporting graduate education, attracting top-tier faculty, sparking research and partnerships, and igniting the region's innovation economy. The Innovation Campus will deliver leading programs in computer science and software engineering, with specializations in domains such as technology and policy, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.

Globally-recognized faculty and industry partners will collaborate to deliver a robust tech talent pipeline, support research and doctoral programs that keep pace with the digital revolution, deliver startups, and create enduring foundations for economic and global impact at the frontier of public and private innovation.

The campus's design features, spaces, and location in Alexandria will position the campus to serve as a hub for tech talent. The Innovation Campus will fuse academics with integrated spaces for partners of all types - companies, startups, and public partners.

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will transform and sustain Northern Virginia and the entire region as a leading magnet for tech talent and innovation - with room to grow, adapt, and evolve as the market changes.

## VIRGINIA TECH: RIGHT PARTNER AT THE RIGHT TIME

To attract Amazon, Virginia offered a comprehensive higher education package designed to bolster education in computer science and related fields and, in so doing, strengthen the state's global competitiveness in the high-tech sector. Virginia Tech's Innovation Campus became the centerpiece of that package. The state and Virginia Tech have worked behind the scenes for more than a year to make it happen.

As the nation's 5th-largest provider of engineering and STEM-related graduates, Virginia Tech is uniquely qualified to support the rapid expansion of the tech sector and meet new industry demands.

For nearly 150 years, Virginia Tech has led technological breakthroughs, created long-lasting industry partnerships, and planted deep roots throughout the commonwealth, making the university the right partner at the right time.

The project greatly increases Virginia Tech's already sizeable footprint in Northern Virginia and will integrate with significant undergraduate expansion in computer sciences and software engineering planned for the Blacksburg campus. Approximately 60,000 alumni live in the region, and Virginia Tech maintains seven facilities and operates programs in Old Town Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Falls Church, Leesburg, Manassas, and Middleburg.

## THE INNOVATION CAMPUS

Located on U.S. Route 1 in Alexandria near National Landing, roughly a mile from Amazon's HQ2, the Innovation Campus is a first-of-its-kind effort for Virginia and the Washington, D.C. region. The 1,000,000-square-foot campus is a revolutionary model for graduate-level education that fuses academics, research, and industry. This unique mix of academic and research space, co-located with business and industry partners where students and faculty live and work, will be a collaborative magnet for leading tech talent, research, and education. It will include:

- ~300,000 square feet of academic space and cutting-edge R&D facilities.
- ~250,000 square feet of partner space dedicated to startups and corporate facilities.
- ~350,000 square feet of housing space for students and faculty.
- ~100,000 square feet of retail and support spaces.



## TIMELINE

The first 100 master's degree students will enroll next year in temporary space, with the campus hosting a total of 500 master's degree students within five years and, at scale, enrolling 750 master's degree candidates and training hundreds of doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows.

## ACADEMICS

The graduate-degree programs and research opportunities will focus on computer sciences and software engineering, while enabling specializations in high-demand areas, including data sciences, analytics and collective decisions; security and the Internet of Things; and technology and policy.

## WORLD-CLASS FACULTY

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will initially hire 50 tenure-line and research faculty. The top-tier faculty and industry and public-sector collaborators will lead the world in cutting-edge, technology-based research areas such as machine learning and artificial intelligence.

## TOP-TIER STUDENTS

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will deliver rigorous programs, including one-year master's programs, while attracting the best graduate students from around the globe - the leaders of tomorrow who will drive the innovation economy of the future.

## LEVERAGING THE REGION'S TECH ECONOMY

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will leverage the full spectrum of the university's academic strengths. The university will partner with entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and established businesses in the D.C. metro area to fast-track the development of technologies with the greatest potential for impact and commercial application. The campus's close proximity to the nation's capital allows Virginia Tech to collaborate with global businesses, K-12 schools, community colleges, and Virginia Tech's strong alumni network.

## FUNDING SOURCES

Virginia Tech and the state of Virginia have each committed to provide \$250 million (1:1 match) to seed the \$1 billion project. The funding model requires private philanthropy, industry partnerships, and other revenue streams through the innovative shared spaces of the campus plan.

## LEADERSHIP

- Campus oversight will be provided by Virginia Tech leadership including Virginia Tech President Tim Sands, Interim Provost Cyril Clarke, and other senior leaders.
- Brandy Salmon, Virginia Tech's associate vice president for innovation and partnerships and a key leader in developing plans for the campus, has been named chief operating officer. Salmon will serve in that role while leading an international search to find a long-term leader.
- An academic leader for the Innovation Campus will be chosen after an international search.
- Alexandria community members and industry leaders from top technology companies, including Amazon, will be engaged throughout the design process to provide market-driven insight and ensure that the programs, people, and partnerships meet the future needs of the region and our society.

