

2026 Graduate Education Week Student Awards

2025-26 Graduate Student of the Year Nomination Form - Doctoral

Student's name _____

Nominator _____ Nominator email _____

Nominator signature _____

AWARD CRITERIA

- Must be doctoral graduate student in good standing (full- or part-time) with min. GPA of 3.0.
- Self-nominations are accepted.
- Involvement in professional organizations, campus activities, and/or the community.
- Contribution to knowledge through research, teaching, and scholarship.
- Evidence of living by the [VT Principles of Community](#) and [Aspirations for Student Learning](#).
- Demonstrated characteristics, such as adaptability, charisma, competence, creativity, curiosity, generosity, humility, integrity, professionalism, reliability, responsibility, service-orientation, thoughtfulness, tolerance, trustworthiness.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS/CHECKLIST

- ☐ Completed nomination form.
- ☐ 2-page essay or max. 3-minute video by nominee, reflecting on how nominee lives by the [VT Principles of Community](#) and [Aspirations for Student Learning](#), or embodies characteristics described in the award criteria.
- ☐ Two letters of reference (limit of 2 pages per reference).
 - One by an academic faculty member at Virginia Tech
 - One from an individual who has personal knowledge of the candidate's character and involvements (e.g., administrator, supervisor, club advisor, etc.)
- ☐ Resume (maximum 3 pages) from the nominee that outlines experiences, achievements and contributions in presentations, performances, publications/installations; scholastic awards and recognitions; and service and extracurricular involvement.

To nominate a student, compile signed nomination form and all supporting documents on the checklist (in the above order) in a single PDF file. Upload this package through the following form:

<https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/student26>

Deadline: January 23, 2026

For more information or assistance, contact the Graduate School at 540-231-9561 or email grads@vt.edu
(type GEW Awards in the subject line.)

*A Graduate School committee will select one winner. An honorarium of \$500 will be disbursed to the student(s) account, and the Graduate School will recognize all winners during
Graduate Education Week, March 23-27, 2026.*

The Graduate School will send an announcement about the winner to VT News and various VT social media.