

2026 Graduate Education Week Student Awards

Outstanding Doctoral Student - Interdisciplinary Program Nomination Form

(one nomination per program)

Student's name _____

Graduate program director _____

(Please print name)

Signature of graduate program director _____

(Signature verifies that student is program's nominee)

Note that students eligible for the Interdisciplinary Award are not also eligible for College Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

AWARD CRITERIA

- Must be enrolled in an interdisciplinary program
- Must demonstrate clarity, effectiveness and originality of interdisciplinary ideas through academic efforts that expand and promote the concept of interdisciplinary studies across a minimum of two academic colleges
- Only Ph.D. students enrolled full-time at the time of the nomination are eligible

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS/CHECKLIST

- ☐ Completed nomination form
- ☐ Nomination letter from the major professor (not to exceed two pages) addressing the novel interdisciplinary activity through academic efforts, clearly identifying contribution across a minimum of two academic colleges
- ☐ Support letter from a committee member or other collaborator from a different discipline, highlighting interdisciplinary nature of the work
- ☐ Nomination packet may not exceed 4 pages including nomination form

Submit nominations through the following survey:

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

All information required for the award will be entered on the survey. This signed form and all nomination requirements (in the above listed order) must be downloaded as a PDF package as part of the survey.

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 the winner. The Graduate School will disburse an honorarium of \$500 to the student's account, and will recognize all winners during

Graduate Education Week, March 23-27, 2026.

An announcement about the winner will be sent to VT News and posted to various VT social media.