

# Faculty Leave and Retirement Benefits



#### General Information

- Leave runs January 10 January 9
- Leave Report runs monthly, starting from the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month
  - Calendar Year Appointments: Submit Monthly
  - Academic Year Appointments: Submit Yearly (Leave period 12)
- Leave representatives at your department can assist with specific questions and processing leave
- Leave Team in Human Resources
  - hrleave@vt.edu
  - www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave.html





#### How to Report Leave (Taking Time Off)

**1** You can access the leave reporting system through Hokie Team or by following this <u>link</u>



Selective Service Registration

2 This will take you to the leave portal

VIRGINIA
TECH.

Home My Leave + Employee Leave - Logged in

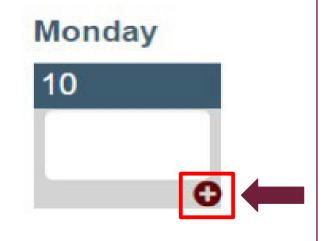
Pending Tasks

Report Leave and/or Time Worked



4 You can add in your leave requests using the plus marks on the calendar. There will be a chart to the right of the calendar with your remaining leave.

Leave submission is the 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> each month





#### Annual Leave

## Calendar Year Appointments

- Accrue 8 hours every pay period (24 days per year)
- Employees can carry over 288 hours per year
- Part-time employees accrue leave proportionate to the percentage of time worked
- Payout Limits when separating from the university:
  - Regular Faculty Payout limit is 288 hours
  - Restricted Faculty No payout
- Please reach out if you have prior state service

#### Annual Leave

# <u>Academic</u> Year Appointments

#### No annual leave

\*One exception: Administrative professional regular appointments accrue 8 hours per pay period during August 10 - May 9\*



#### Short-Term Sick Leave for <u>Regular</u> Faculty

- 26 weeks (1,040 hours) of personal sick leave upon hire
- If used, once you return, then sick leave will begin to earn back up to the 1,040 hours
- 10 days (80 hours) of personal sick leave can be used for family sick leave each year
- No payout when separating from the university



#### Short-Term Sick Leave for Restricted Faculty

- 5 hours of sick leave accrued per pay period, which equals:
  - 15 days per year for calendar year appointment
  - 11.25 days for academic year appointment
- 80 hours of the accrued personal sick leave can be used for family sick leave
- No maximum accrual limits
- No payout when separating from the university
- Also offered: short-term disability
  - Provided and paid for by Virginia Tech
  - The standard Insurance Company
  - 7-day waiting period, then 60% of regular salary for up to 6 months



#### Long-Term Sick Leave for Regular and Restricted Faculty

- Long-Term Disability
  - Mandatory
  - The standard Insurance Company
  - Premiums paid for by the employee (.182% of salary)
    - .118% income
    - .064% annuity
  - Terms:
    - 6 month waiting period
    - 60% of salary up to a maximum of \$15,000 per month not taxed, but offset by Social Security
    - Annuity Benefit of pre-disability based on salary is deposited into a TIAA retirement account on employee's behalf (Plan 1: 10.4% / Plan 2: 8.5%)

# General Information on

## Other Types of

Leave

- Military Leave (MIL)
  - Granted for active or reserve duty, summer camps, or training
  - 21 days per year and 1 day for a physical

- Civil and Administrative Leave (ADM)
  - Jury Duty
  - Summons or subpoena to appear as a witness
  - Interview with another state agency



### Family and Medical

Leave Act

(FMLA)

- Federal legislation that requires employer to provide up to 12 weeks unpaid leave for:
  - Birth or adoption of a child
  - Serious health condition of employee
  - Serious health condition of family member
  - Additional leave for military family leave
- Available to all employees who have worked for Virginia Tech for 1 year and worked at least 1,250 hours in previous 12 months

Central HR Leave Team can assist - <a href="mailto:hrleave@vt.edu">hrleave@vt.edu</a>



#### Paid Parental

Leave

- Used for the birth, adoption, foster, or custodial placement of a child, and is available up to 6 months from date of event
- 320 hours of leave (8 weeks)
  - Prorated if employee does not work 40 hours a week
- Can be used in addition to sick leave, FMLA, and short-term disability
- Available to employees employed by the Commonwealth of Virginia for 12 consecutive months and FMLA eligible

Central HR Leave Team can assist - hrleave@vt.edu



## Faculty Holidays

- New Year's Day Monday, January 1, 2024
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 15, 2024
- Memorial Day Monday, May 27, 2024
- Juneteenth Wednesday, June 19, 2024
- Independence Day Thursday, July 4, 2024
- Labor Day Monday, September 2, 2024
- Thanksgiving Day Thursday, November 28, 2024 (plus half day before and full day after)
- Winter Break Closing Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Wednesday, January 1, 2025 (7 days)
- Any other days designated by Governor



# Winter Closing

The university is closed between December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> each year for Winter Break

(these dates may vary depending on when the holidays fall each year)

Effective January 10, 2024, these days are now considered paid holidays for all eligible employees. No leave needs to be used for Winter Closing.

2024: Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - Wednesday, January 1, 2025 (7 days)



# Authorized Closings

#### **Official Notifications:**

- Emails to vt.edu accounts
- VT Alerts
- Virginia Tech Home Page
- Switchboard: (540) 231 6000
- Weather Line: (540) 231 6668
- Phone Alerts
- Desktop Alerts

#### **Emergency Personnel:**

- Find out from your department if you are considered emergency personnel
- Leave earned equals number of hours worked

Employees with remote work / hybrid agreements will be required to work from home during an authorized closing

 This will be considered regular time worked (no comp time will be earned)



## Contact Information \_\_\_\_

#### Human Resources Leave Team

300 Turner Street NW

Suite 2300 (MC 0318) Blacksburg,

Virginia 24061

540-231-9331

hrleave@vt.edu

www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave.html





# Questions?



# Faculty Retirement Options

Mandatory & Voluntary



## Retirement Vocabulary



<u>Vested</u> – vesting refers to the gradual granting of ownership of contributions made by VT



<u>Defined Benefit Plan</u> – provides a lifetime monthly benefit based on a percentage of your salary, at retirement, similar to a pension



<u>Defined Contribution Plan</u> – provides a balance to draw from in retirement based on the amount contributed by the employee/employer and the earning of those contributions

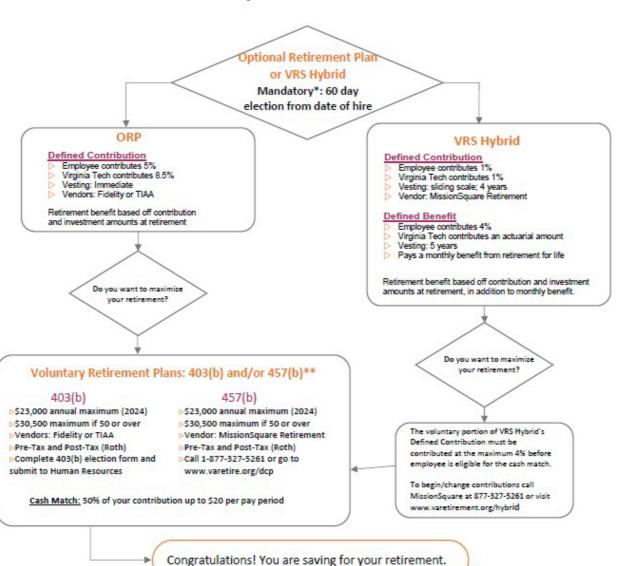




#### Division of Human Resources

North End Center, Suite 2300 300 Turner Street NW (0318) Blacksburg, Virginia 24061 P: 540-231-9331 • F: 540-231-3830 hrservicecenter@vt.edu • hr.vt.edu

#### **Faculty Retirement Plans**





# Faculty Retirement - Mandatory

#### **Two Choices**

Optional Retirement Plan (ORP)

Virginia Retirement System (VRS)

Decision must be made within <u>60 days</u> from <u>date of hire</u> and is <u>irrevocable</u>.



#### Choice 1

#### Optional Retirement Plan (ORP)





### ORP — Defined Contribution Plan

Employee selects investment vendor and investments





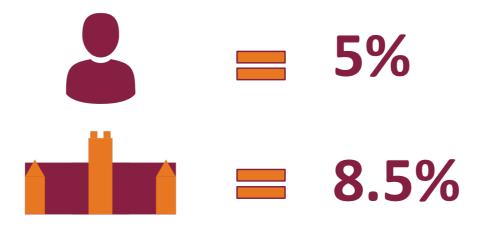
• Benefits payable to a participant at retirement are determined by the amount of contributions made to the plan, plus investment earning on those contributions over time.

(Existing account holders with TIAA or Fidelity, will participate enroll in new accounts in Virginia Tech's plan)



### ORP – Plan Basics

<u>Plan 2</u> - No previous Virginia state salaried experience <u>OR</u> previously employed by a Virginia state agency but cashed out or rolled over account



Immediately Vested



### ORP – Plan Basics

#### Options upon leaving Virginia Tech:

- Leave account in place
- Roll account over to another tax sheltered plan
- Cash out: 20% federal tax, 4% state tax, 10% penalty before age 59 ½



# Choice 2

### Virginia Retirement System (VRS)





#### VRS Hybrid Plan

 Hired on or after January 1, 2014 with a Virginia State Agency or took a refund of defined benefit portion of previous VRS account

Defined Benefit

Provides a monthly benefit at retirement

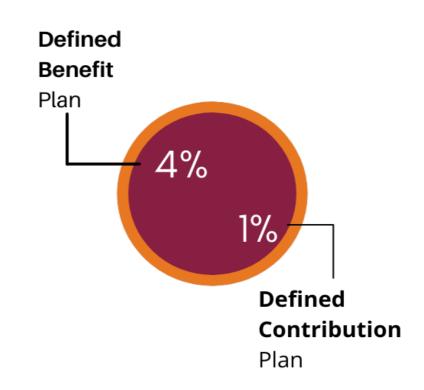
Defined Contribution

Balance is based on contributions and investment performance



#### VRS — Hybrid Plan Defined Benefit / Mandatory Contribution





5 year vesting period to receive a monthly annuity at retirement



#### VRS Hybrid Plan <u>Defined Benefit</u> – When can you retire?

# Unreduced Benefit

Rule of 90

(age + service = 90)

Normal Social Security retirement age and 5 years of service

Formula: highest 60 consecutive months of salary X length of service X 1%

#### Reduced Benefit

Age 60

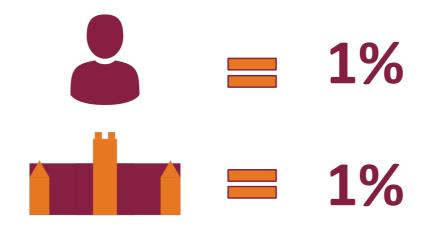
At least 5 years of service

Example of Unreduced Benefit				
Years of Service	<mark>30</mark>			
Retiring Age	60			
Salary	\$100,000 per year (for the highest 60 consecutive months)			
Annual Benefit	\$30,000			

Example of Reduced Benefit			
Years of Service	<mark>17</mark>		
Retiring Age	60		
Salary	\$100,000 per year (for the highest 60 consecutive months)		
Annual Benefit	\$10,320		



#### VRS – Hybrid Plan Defined Contribution / Mandatory



Contributions are invested with VRS fund managers and administered by MissionSquare

Sliding scale vesting period; fully vested at 4 years



#### VRS — Hybrid Plan Defined Contribution / Voluntary



Contributions are invested with VRS fund managers and administered by MissionSquare

Sliding scale vesting period; fully vested at 4 years



#### VRS — Hybrid Plan Defined Contribution

Employee Voluntary Contributions Hybrid 457 <sup>†</sup>	Employer Matching Contributions Hybrid 401(a) <sup>†</sup>	
0.00%	0.00%	
0.50%	0.50%	
1.00%	1.00%	
1.50%	1.25%	
2.00%	1.50%	
2.50%	1.75%	
3.00%	2.00%	
3.50%	2.25%	
4.00%	2.50%	

You can make changes to the Defined Contribution portion on a quarterly basis

Deadline	Change Effective
Dec 15	Jan 1
Mar 15	Apr 1
Jun 15	Jul 1
Sep 15	Oct 1
	Dec 15 Mar 15 Jun 15



#### VRS — Purchase of Prior Service

#### You may qualify to purchase prior service in the following cases:

- Refunded VRS Service
- Public salaried service with a non-VRS employer
- Non-covered (wage) service with a VRS agency
- Military Service

#### Costs (within 2 years)

- Plan 1 12.54% of salary
- Plan 2 10.89% of salary
- Hybrid 6.68% of salary
- Refunded Service no time limit. Return of refunded amount plus interest from date of refund to the purchase date, using 7% interest rate compounded annually

www.varetire.org/members/pps for more information, instructions, and forms



# VRS – Hybrid Plan

#### Options upon leaving Virginia Tech:

- Leave account in place
  - If at least 5 years of service, employee can use this account as a pensionplan
  - If less than 5 years of service, employee can come back to a Virginia state agency to resume vesting
- Roll vested portion of account over to another tax sheltered plan
- Cash out vested portion of account: 20% federal tax, 4% state tax, 10% penalty before age 59  $\frac{1}{2}$



# Plan Comparison

How long do you plan on working for the state of Virginia?

How long do you have until you retire?

(VRS benefits are largely based on length of service)

How comfortable are you with investing your money?

(ORP benefits are fully based on amount of money contributed to your account and market performance of your investments)





# VT Plan Comparison Guide



#### VIRGINIA TECH Retirement Plan Comparison Guide

for Teaching, Research & Administrative Professional Faculty

This publication is for employees of Virginia Tech who are:

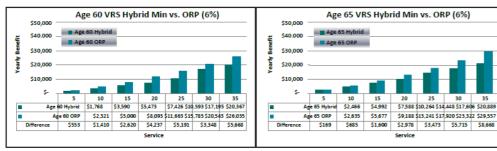
- · hired or rehired January 1, 2014 or later; and are
- eligible to choose between the VT Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) for Faculty, a defined contribution retirement plan; and the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), a hybrid retirement plan.

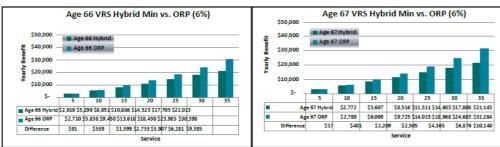


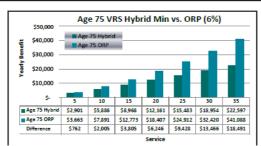
#### ORP Plan 2 vs VRS Hybrid – Annual Benefits

Page 22 (If VRS Plan 1 or 2 – see pages 24 & 25)

Minimum Hybrid Voluntary Contribution Assumptions					
Salary Increases	3.00%	COLA	2.25%		
ORP Plan 2 & VRS Hybrid (DC Component) Annual Rate of Return	6.00%	Final Salary	\$50,000		
ORP Plan 2 Contribution	13.50%**	Average Final Compensation	\$47,171		
VRS Hybrid Employee Contribution	1.00%	VRS Hybrid Employer Contribution	1.00%		







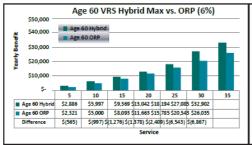
# 5% Hybrid 5% ORP

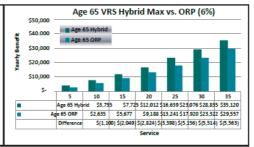


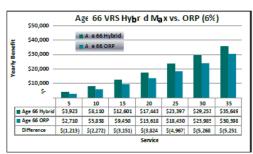
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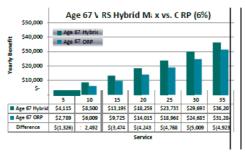
Page 23

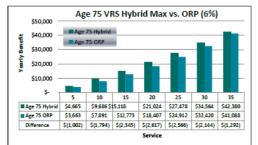
Maximum Hybrid Voluntary Contribution Assumptions			
Salary Increases	3.00%	COLA	2.25%
ORP Plan 2 & VRS Hybrid (DC Component) Annual Rate of Return	6.00%	Final Salary	\$50,000
ORP Plan 2 Contribution	13.50%**	Average Final Compensation	\$47,171
VRS Hybrid Employee Contribution	5.00%	VRS Hybrid Employer Contribution	3.50%











# 9% Hybrid 5% ORP



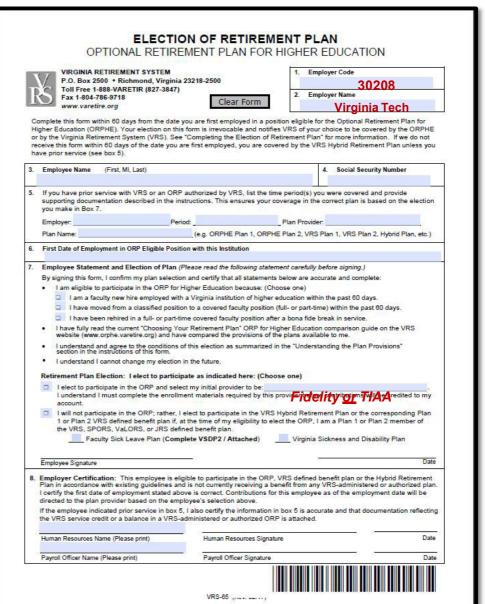
#### How Your Retirement Choice Affects Sick Leave Options

# Automatically placed in the Faculty Sick Leave Plan with The Standard Long-Term Disability Plan \*unless opted out with completed VSDP-one year waiting period for short and long-term disability)



#### Retirement Election Form - Required

- Choose either ORP or VRS
  - If ORP, choose either Fidelity or TIAA
  - If VRS, choose Faculty Sick Leave Plan (also include VSDP-2 Opt-Out from)
- Return form(s) to Human Resources
- 60 days from date of hire deadline; irrevocable
- Retroactive to your 1st paycheck; the longer you wait, the more will be taken out of one check





# Additional Ways to Save: Voluntary Retirement Plans





# Voluntary Retirement Plans: 403(b) and 457(b)

- Two options available: 403(b) and 457(b)
  - \$23,000 annual limit in 2024
  - \$7,500 catch up if age 50 or older = \$30,500 annual limit in 2024
  - Traditional (pre-tax) or Roth (post-tax) options available
  - Contributions made to plans of other employers in 2024 are cumulative for each plan type

- Employees can contribute to both 403(b) and 457(b) accounts
  - Combined total contributions allowed is \$46,000 (\$61,000 if 50 or over)



# Voluntary Retirement Plans: 403(b) and 457(b)

#### 403(b) - Vendors (TIAA or Fidelity)

- Distributions taken before age 59 ½ are subject to a 10% early withdrawal penalty (distributions are subject to income taxes if contributions are pretax)
- Has loan provisions that allow possible withdrawals while working at Virginia Tech

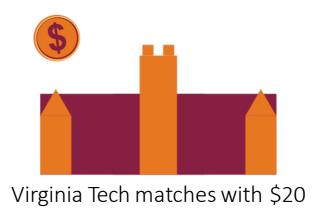
#### 457(b) - Vendor (VRS DCP / MissionSquare)

- Distributions can be taken prior to age 59 ½ with no penalty (distributions are subject to income taxes if contributions are pretax)
- Cannot take distributions while employed at Virginia Tech or a VRS agency



# Voluntary Retirement Plans: 403(b) and 457(b)





Virginia Tech matches 50% up to a maximum of \$20 per paycheck

Immediately vested

Cash match only with one company

VRS Hybrid participants must max out 4% voluntary defined contribution portion before eligible for the cash match



#### Cash Match Example

An employee taking advantage of the cash match on bimonthly basis = \$480 per year contributions to cash match

Over 20 years, that could grow to \$18,000!

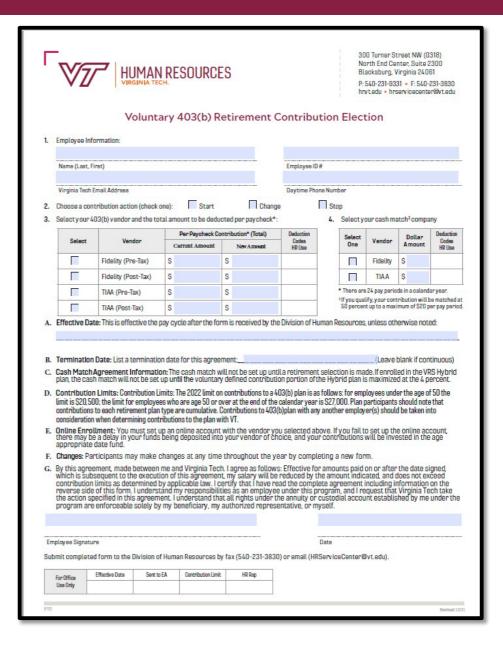
Over 40 years, that could grow to \$76,000!

Assuming cash match of \$40 each month earning 6% annual rate of return.



# 403(b) Election Form

- Name, employee ID, Virginia
   Tech email address & phone
   number
- 2. Start Contribution
- 3. Check the company, pre- or post-tax
  - Current amount: 0
  - New amount: your deduction per pay period
  - Sign and date





# Voluntary Retirement Enrollment – 457(b)

#### 457(b) Enrollment

- Online <a href="www.varetire.org/457">www.varetire.org/457</a> and select the New User Register Now link under the Account Access log-in box and follow the prompts to register online.
- By phone: VRS-DC-PLAN1 (877-327-5267), option 1



#### Automatic Enrollment in 457(b)

ORP participants and non-Hybrid VRS participants will be <u>automatically</u> <u>enrolled</u> in the 457(b) 90 days after hire date unless action is taken.

• \$20 per paycheck deferral with \$10 cash match from VirginiaTech

To opt out, you can do one of the following:

- Enroll in the 403(b) or 457(b)
- Call VRS Defined Contribution at 877-327-5261



#### Reminders

- $\square$  Your retirement election is due <u>60 days</u> from your date of hire.
  - Submit the <u>VRS-65</u> to the <u>HR Secure Dropbox</u>
  - If no election is made, you will be auto-enrolled in the Virginia Retirement System Plan with the Virginia Sickness and Disability Plan.

- ☐ VT offers two <u>voluntary retirement plans</u>: 403b and 457b
  - ORP participants and non-Hybrid VRS participants will be <u>automatically</u> <u>enrolled</u> in the 457(b) 90 days after hire date unless action is taken. To opt out, you can do one of the following: Enroll in the 403(b) and/or 457(b) or call VRS Defined Contribution at 877-327-5261



#### Resources

#### Retirement

- Human Resources Service Center: (540) 231-9331
- <a href="http://www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/retirement.html">http://www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/retirement.html</a>

#### Leave Team:

- <a href="mailto:hrleave@vt.edu">hrleave@vt.edu</a>
- www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave.html



