



NEED A HOTEL?

The Complete Visitor's Guide

If information is needed concerning lodging and dining accommodations, "The Complete Visitor's Guide" is available from the Richmond Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau, 401 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219 or you may call (804) 782-2777 or 1-800-370-9004.

You may also visit: www.virginia.org

The Richmond Coliseum Welcomes VSU!



Directions

From Hampton / Norfolk / Va. Beach Area

Travel west on I-64 to Richmond city limits. Take Exit 190, it will say Coliseum/5th Street/ Downtown, and follow the signs to the Coliseum. It will be on the left.

From Charlottesville / Roanoke Area

Travel east on I-64 to Richmond city limits. You will be forced to merge onto I-95 SOUTH. Travel another 2-3 miles on I-95 South and take Exit 75 -It will say 3rd Street/Downtown/Coliseum-and follow the signs to the Coliseum. It will be on the left.

From Northern VA. / Fredericksburg / D.C. Area

Travel South on I-95 to Richmond City limits. Take Exit 75, it will say 3rd Street/Downtown/ Coliseum, and follow the signs to the Coliseum. It will be on the left.

From Petersburg / Chester Area

Travel North on I-95 to Richmond city limits. Take the Broad Street exit and continue to 7th Street. Turn right. The Coliseum will be on the left.

From Brandermill / Midlothian / Chesterfield Area

Travel east on Rt.360 from Brandermill or RT. 60 from Midlothian/ Chesterfield. Take Powhite Parkway northbound, take Downtown Expressway exit going east, take 7th and 9th street exits headed north into the city. Turn left on 7th street. Go north about five blocks. The coliseum will be on your left. Toll fares must be paid on this route.



The Registrar Office
Virginia State University
P.O. Box 9217
Petersburg, Virginia 23806

Virginia State University

May 2009 Commencement Exercises



Virginia State University
Petersburg, Virginia

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

The May 2009 Commencement Exercises will be held at the Richmond Coliseum on Sunday, May 17, 2009. All graduates must report to Exhibition Hall -West by 7:45 A.M. entering at the Box Office entrance located at 7th & Marshal Streets. The procession starts at 8:30 A.M. Any candidate who will not attend the ceremony must notify Mrs. Nedra Jones in writing by April 13, 2009 at:

Virginia State University
P.O. Box 9217
Petersburg, Virginia 23806

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL

(Participants must report to Anderson-Turner Auditorium, VA HALL)

All participants must take part in rehearsal on Friday morning, May 15th, 8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. Any candidate unable to attend rehearsal, but planning to participate in the ceremony, must report to a Marshal immediately upon arrival at the Richmond Coliseum on Sunday, May 17 at 7:45 A.M. to be placed correctly in the procession.



COMMENCEMENT ATTIRE (Cap & Gowns)

Academic attire must be ordered online from www.herff-jones.com college/graduation no later than March 21. A late fee of \$15.00 may be accessed to each order after this date.

Bachelor Candidate	\$68.99 + tax
Master Candidate	\$75.99 + tax
Doctorial Candidate	\$90.99 + tax

Personalized announcements, steins, diploma frames and other items are available. For further information, please contact the University Bookstore at (804) 524-5691.

CAP & GOWN DISTRIBUTION

Cap and Gowns will be available for pick-up from the University Bookstore through May 2, 9:00am -5:00pm.

Please Contact the University at (804) 524-5691 for more information.



SPECIAL SEATING FOR DISABLED

Special arrangements for disabled guests will be provided in the following locations in the Coliseum: Sections 24L, 26L, and 31L. Please enter the Coliseum at the 6th Street and 7th Street entrances to access these seating locations. Seating will be on a first come, first serve basis.

SECURITY

All visitors will pass through a security checkpoint. All backpacks, large handbags, balloons and wrapped packages are prohibited. Flowers will be allowed.

PARKING

Reserved parking will be provided for graduates on a first come-first serve basis in two locations. Parking will be provided in the Coliseum Deck located at 7th and Clay streets, also in the Coliseum Lot located at 8th and Clay Streets. You may enter and exit the Coliseum Deck on 7th Street and 8th Street.



CANDID COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Picture taking is prohibited in front of the Commencement stage and is restricted to the Virginia State University photographer, the media and employee(s) of Candid Color Photography. Candid Color Photography is responsible for taking pictures as each candidate walks across the stage. VSU graduates will receive ordering information by mail and you may go online to www.candidcolor.net using the following password code: VSUG09.

A DVD of the Commencement Ceremony will be available for purchase at a cost of \$25.00 by money order, cashier's check or certified check payable to WVST/Virginia State University. The order form is included in the May 2009 Graduation guide. For more information call (804)524-5381.

ROTC Commissioning Ceremony

The ROTC Commissioning Ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 09:00 a.m. in the Anderson-Turner Auditorium, Virginia Hall.

Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony

The pinning ceremony in honor of our Nursing Program students will take place on Friday, May 15, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Randolph Farm Pavilion.

COMMENCEMENT BRUNCH

The Commencement Brunch will be on Friday May 15, 2009 in Jones Dining Hall, immediately following rehearsal from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. The Commencement Brunch is for graduates only.



For additional information, please contact
The Registrar's Office at (804) 524-5275

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

GRADUATION FEES/DEADLINES

\$60 Graduation Fee payable to the Cashier's Office, Room 112 (Virginia Hall) by April 1, 2009. Also, please adhere to the deadlines set by Financial Aid and Student Accounts for other University expenses. Students with outstanding balances will not receive their diplomas nor transcripts will be released until debts are paid.



EXIT INTERVIEWS

Perkins Loan recipients must complete mandatory exit interviews with the Office of Student Accounts during April 23 - 25, 2009 from 8:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Students who received Stafford Loans must complete mandatory exit interviews with the Office of Financial Aid in Foster Hall 200 at the following times: Thursday, April 23 from 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., Friday, April 24 from 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., and Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon.

The U. S. Department of Education requires that all recipients of a Federal Stafford and/or Perkins Loan attend an Exit Counseling Session regarding repayment of your student loans. Failure to complete the mandatory exit interviews will result in you not receiving a diploma during the graduation ceremony.



NOTE: All Account Balances must be cleared by April 30th. If additional charges are assessed after April 1, 2009, it is still your responsibility to make sure these charges are paid in full. Failure to do so, will result in your diploma and/or transcripts being held.

For more information, contact Student Accounts at (804) 524-5503 or 524-5506 or Financial Aid at (804) 524-5990 or 524-5338.

SENIOR CLEARANCE/AUDITS

Please see your Academic Advisor for clearance. Senior grades are due in the system by 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 11, 2009. If there are any questions regarding status, students may obtain a final clearance report from their department.

