Focus Areas
- Cancer
- Development, Aging, and Repair
- Health Implementation Science
- Immunity and Infectious Disease
- Metabolic and Cardiovascular Science
- Neuroscience

Admissions
The Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health program seeks highly motivated students with strong backgrounds in the life, behavioral, physical, engineering, mathematical, or computational sciences — and with a passion for being on the leading edge of interdisciplinary biomedical and health-based research.

A minimum of a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in a relevant discipline, is required. Competitive applicants will have a GPA of 3.5 or greater (on a 4.0 scale), GRE exam scores in the upper quartile, and research experience. All undergraduate and graduate transcripts, as well as GRE scores, curriculum vitae, a written personal statement, and three letters of recommendation, are required for admission.

All applications must be submitted online through the Graduate School at Virginia Tech (graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/how-to-apply.html).
Virginia Tech’s Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health program is a research-intensive, integrative, and multidisciplinary doctoral program in the biomedical and health sciences that emphasizes the concept of translational science across multiple levels of inquiry. The program brings together students from the life, behavioral, physical, engineering, mathematical, and computational sciences to consider today’s major challenges in health and disease.

Through an innovative, interdisciplinary curriculum designed to balance breadth and depth, the program seeks to develop a new generation of research scientists and thought leaders, one that will identify and tackle the complex challenges for improving human health, by making and translating discoveries into preventions, diagnostics, treatments, cures, and healthier behaviors.

### An Expansive Curriculum

In their first semester, all Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health students take a specially designed gateway course that introduces them to a range of topics that span molecules, systems, populations, and policy. The course exposes students to the concepts of homeostasis in living systems, disequilibrium of living systems leading to disease, and the impact of diseases on individuals, families, populations, and societies.

In their second semester, students commit to one of the six focus areas and engage in coursework to learn fundamentals of that specialization, with a continued emphasis on the processes by which research findings — whether in the lab, clinic, or community — translate into effective therapeutics. Students deepen their expertise through elective coursework and dissertation research, while they continue to build interdisciplinary skills through core program elements such as seminars and professional development training.

### Program Features

#### Interdisciplinary Education

Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health is a single degree-granting program with six focus areas: Cancer; Development, Aging, and Repair; Health Implementation Science; Immunity and Infectious Disease; Metabolic and Cardiovascular Science; and Neuroscience. Although students ultimately specialize in one area of research, they continue to share educational experiences as members of a unified community of learners.

### Competitive Student Support

The program provides full tuition, student fees, and health insurance, as well as $27,000 annually for living expenses.

### Programmatic Flexibility

Students carry out three research rotations in their first year. This gives them the opportunity to sample several focus areas before selecting a thesis mentor and committing to a single focus area their second semester.

### The Virginia Tech Difference

The program not only leverages a $150-million investment in a new medical center in Roanoke, but it also taps the expertise of more than 200 faculty members from 17 departments across seven Virginia Tech colleges in Blacksburg.

### Professional Development

Students take professional development coursework and prepare individual career development plans, as they set strategic goals and consider a range of career paths.

### Affordable Living in a Beautiful Setting

The Roanoke-Blackburg region offers big-city amenities yet a low cost of living, all in the beautiful setting of the Blue Ridge Mountains.