



# IT Training and Communication

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Technology-related learning opportunities and support for VSU Faculty and Staff



## FindTime Scheduler: A Microsoft Add-in

**DIVISION of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**


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# Microsoft FindTime Scheduler

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This document was created by Sheila Hall, IT Specialist, VSU Division of Information Technology.  
Images used were captured via Snipping Tool from live demo. FindTime logo taken from Microsoft FindTime Press Kit.

*FindTime is an add-in to Microsoft Outlook Desktop and Web app that helps make scheduling meetings easier by allowing attendees, including those outside of VSU, to choose and vote on the event date and time that works best for them. Visit <https://findtime.microsoft.com/>*

## Overview of Steps

**PROPOSE TIMES + EVERYONE VOTES = MEETING SCHEDULED**

### A. ORGANIZER: PROPOSE MEETING TIME

1. Compose a new email message or reply to an existing message to send invitation.

2. For Outlook 2013, click the **Apps for Office** icon




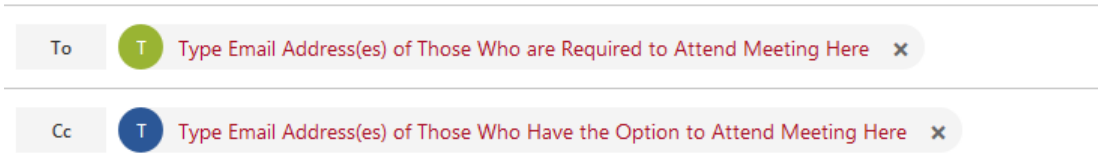
For Outlook 2016, click the **New Meeting Poll** icon



For Outlook on the Web (Office 365), click the **Add-ins** icon 

For Outlook for Mac, click the **FindTime**  button in the Apps menu bar

3. Select **FindTime** . *An animated guide wizard will appear.*
4. On the **To line**, type the email address(es) of **Required Attendee**; on the **Cc line**, type the email address(es) of **Optional Attendee**.

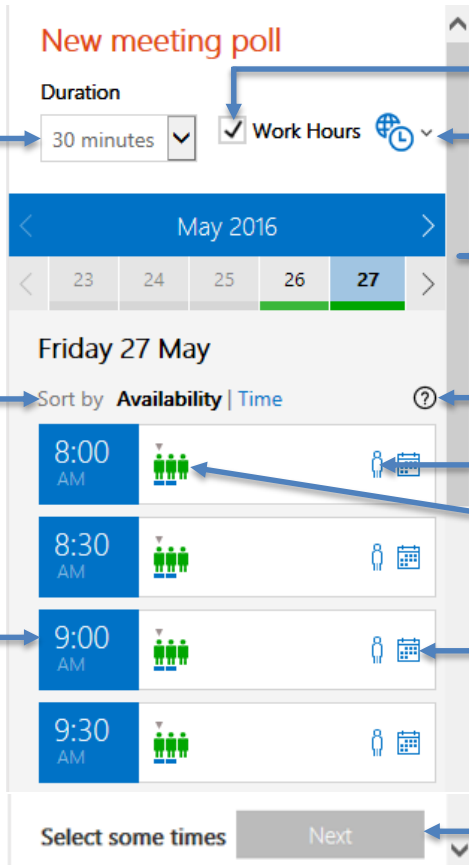


To  Type Email Address(es) of Those Who are Required to Attend Meeting Here x

Cc  Type Email Address(es) of Those Who Have the Option to Attend Meeting Here x

FindTime automatically displays the **best available days/times for all participants based on Free/Busy data**, when available.

5. Customize meeting details by clicking on available options and selecting preferred dates/times:



Annotations for the screenshot:

- Maximum **Duration** is 23 hours and 59 minutes (points to the 30 minutes dropdown)
- Uncheck **Work Hours** for weekend days (points to the Work Hours checkbox)
- Select time zone (points to the time zone dropdown)
- Navigate **month and days** (points to the calendar navigation arrows)
- Sorting by **Availability** lists best suggestions at the top; Sorting by **Time** lists suggestions in chronological order (points to the Sort by dropdown)
- View **People** icon legend (points to the help icon)
- Click on the **Attendee Status Tray**, or Hover over a **Person icon** to see corresponding Attendee information (points to the person icons)
- Click the **Calendar** icon to view your calendar information (points to the calendar icon)
- Time box turns **green** when suggested time(s) is clicked; Click again to deselect; Time box turns **blue** again (points to the 9:00 AM time box)
- Click **Next** to go to next step (points to the Next button)

6. Type in meeting **Location**, if known. Click **Insert to email** button. Optionally, click **Meeting settings** to toggle ON/OFF the following:

Location

Hide settings

Notifications **ON** Auto schedule **ON**

Holds **OFF**

- Notifications:** Sends you an email when attendees vote.
- Auto schedule:** Automatically schedules a calendar event if all required attendees vote 'yes' for a meeting option. If multiple options are available, the earliest will be scheduled.
- Holds:** Adds an appointment to your calendar for each meeting option you suggest. Holds are removed upon scheduling a meeting option or cancelling the poll.

- FindTime inserts the meeting table into the body of your message. **Type a Subject.** Optionally, include a personal message in the body. Click **Send**.

You are invited to a meeting	
Organizer	Sheila Hall
Duration	30 minutes
Location	Pine Hall Conference Room
When	1 option provided
<input type="button" value="Select options"/>	

Click the **Edit options** button to make changes and re-insert proposal into your email. **Note**, you will need to delete manually the original meeting table.

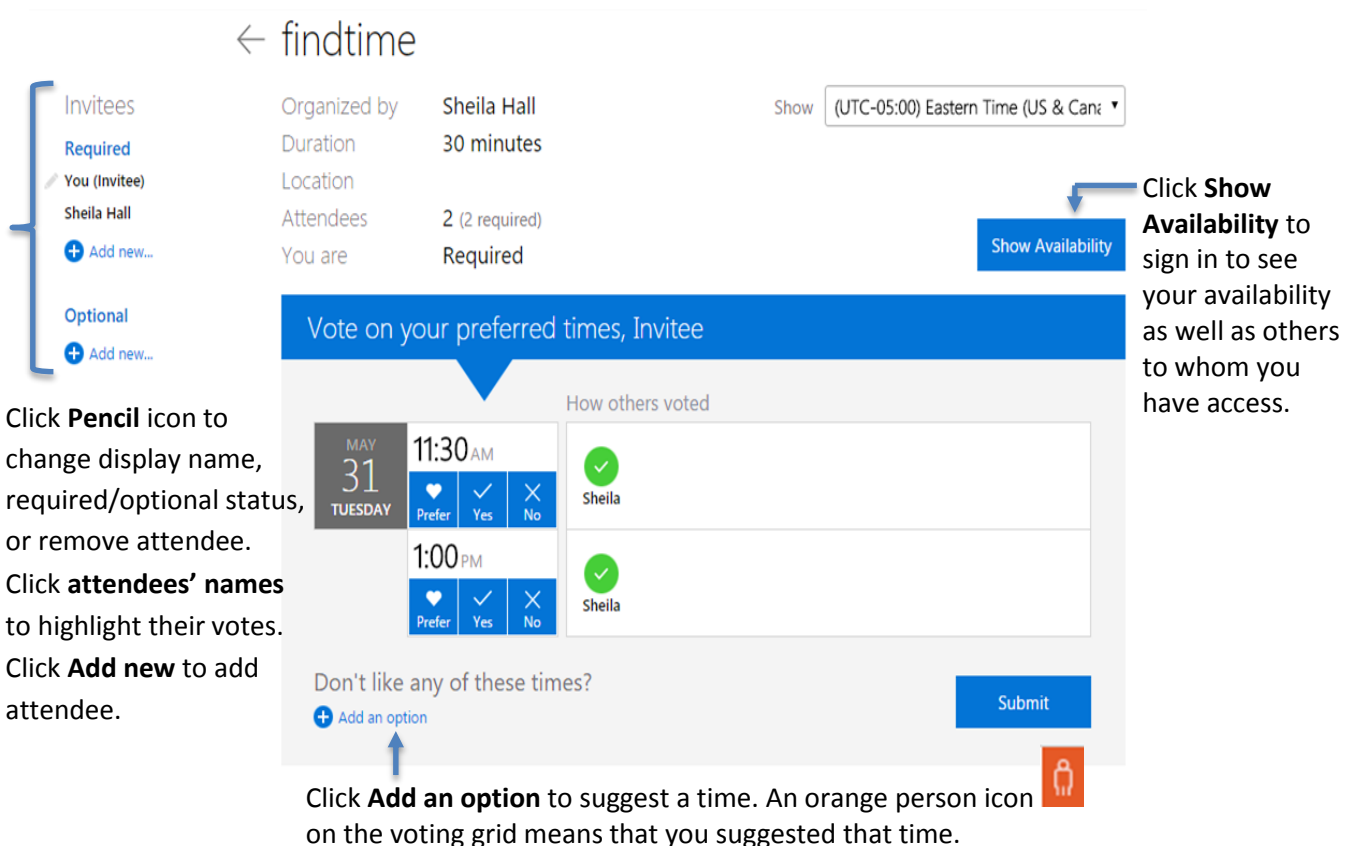
You're almost done!

Hit Send to let the voting begin.

Notifications	ON
Auto schedule	ON
Holds	OFF
<input type="button" value="Edit options"/>	

## B. ATTENDEES VOTE: THE VOTING PAGE

- Within the email invitation, attendees click the **Select options** button. A web browser window opens to the **Sign-in and/or Voting Page**.



The screenshot shows the FindTime voting interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Invitees' (Required) and 'Optional' sections. The main area shows meeting details: Organized by Sheila Hall, Duration 30 minutes, Location Pine Hall Conference Room, Attendees 2 (2 required), and You are Required. A 'Show Availability' button is highlighted with an arrow and text: 'Click Show Availability to sign in to see your availability as well as others to whom you have access.' Below this is a voting grid for two time slots: 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM. Each slot has 'Prefer', 'Yes', and 'No' buttons. A 'How others voted' section shows 'Sheila' with a green checkmark for both times. At the bottom, there's a 'Submit' button and an 'Add an option' button with an orange person icon. Text below says: 'Click Add an option to suggest a time. An orange person icon on the voting grid means that you suggested that time.'

- Click **Pencil** icon to change display name, required/optional status, or remove attendee.
- Click **attendees' names** to highlight their votes.
- Click **Add new** to add attendee.

**2.** Use the voting grid to click on your selection(s):



**Prefer:** *The attendee can make this meeting time and would much prefer this time over others*

Another attendee's preferred vote looks like:



**Yes:** *The attendee can make this meeting time*

Another attendee's yes vote looks like:



**No:** *The attendee cannot make this meeting time*

Another attendee's no vote looks like:



A **bold** name denotes a **required** attendee; a **non-bold (gray)** name denotes **optional** attendee



**Non-vote:** *The attendee has not yet voted on this meeting time*

Another attendee's nonvoter vote looks like:

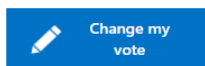


**3.** When finished, click **Submit**. A confirmation page appears. Optionally, you can click on **Change my vote** or **Subscribe to my vote**:



Your vote counts!

As soon as a time is agreed upon, you will receive an invite.



**Subscribe:** Available to those who have an Office 365 Exchange account. Tentative appointments will be added to your calendar when you vote favorably to any invitation. If you change a positive vote to a "no" vote, that hold will be removed from your calendar. When an invite is scheduled, all holds associated with that invite will be removed from your calendar. If an invite is still open, holds for any suggested times in the past will be removed as well. **Note:** At the time this guide was written, the function to *unsubscribe* had not been developed.

**C. MEETING SCHEDULED: FINISHED** 

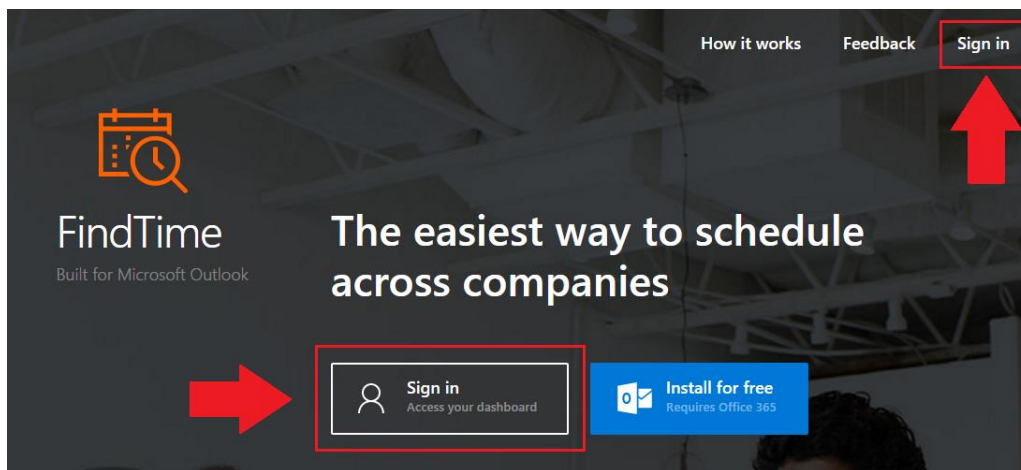
FindTime will send you email notifications and automatically place meeting date on your calendar.

## D. FINDTIME ORGANIZER DASHBOARD

The FindTime organizer dashboard and settings page allows the organizer to quickly find and manage invites and to set default settings that will be used when creating new invites.

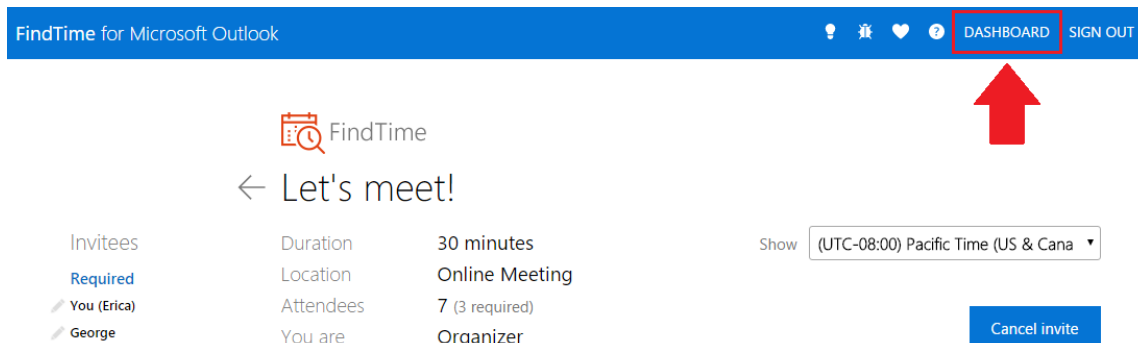
Using your VSU Active Directory/MyVSU credentials, login to the Dashboard by either:

- visiting <https://findtime.microsoft.com> – the FindTime homepage




-Or-

- using the link on the voting page itself or the confirmation page



**The Meeting Dashboard:** View Open, Completed and Cancelled invites as well as the number of Responses. You can also edit the title, location and duration of meetings.

## Meetings Dashboard

Open   Completed   Cancelled    Settings

5 open invitations				
Meeting title	Created	Attendees	Responses	
Follow up about Office 365 subscrip tion	February 26	1	0	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Cancel</a>
Let's take a cooking class	February 26	5	0	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Cancel</a>
Let's meet again!	February 24	1	1	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Cancel</a>
Let's meet!	February 24	6	5	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Cancel</a>
Invitation to meet	February 24	1	1	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Cancel</a>

**Settings:** The Settings link allows editing of Display settings, Invitation Settings, Suggestion settings, and Skype settings.

Settings

**Display settings**

Name  
Erica S [Edit](#)

Default time zone

**Skype settings**

Web url

Phone numbers

[Add](#)

Conference id

[Done](#)

**Invitation settings**

Send notification emails

Auto-schedule meetings

Tentative holds

**Suggestion settings**

Default meeting duration

Working Hours

Days:  Sun  Mon  Tue  Wed  Thu  Fri  Sat



Start:  End:

Restrict suggestions to work hours

Visit [Organizer Dashboard and Settings](https://findtime.uservoice.com/knowledgebase/articles/843009-using-the-organizer-dashboard-and-settings) to learn how to use this feature of FindTime.  
<https://findtime.uservoice.com/knowledgebase/articles/843009-using-the-organizer-dashboard-and-settings>



## E. DISABLE FINDTIME ADD-IN

1. Using your Active Directory credentials, log-in to **MyVSU** from [www.valdosta.edu](http://www.valdosta.edu), and select **VSU Email**.
2. Click on the **Gear icon**  in the upper-right corner of the screen > Select **Manage add-ins**
3. Click **My add-ins** category > Select the **On/Off bar**  **Off** next to FindTime in the list.
4. Click **Close**.

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## F. FINDTIME ONLINE SUPPORT

For more help and to learn about additional features, tricks, privacy concerns, and limitations, visit:

- **FindTime official site:** <https://findtime.microsoft.com>
- **FindTime feedback forum** at <https://findtime.uservoice.com/>