



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

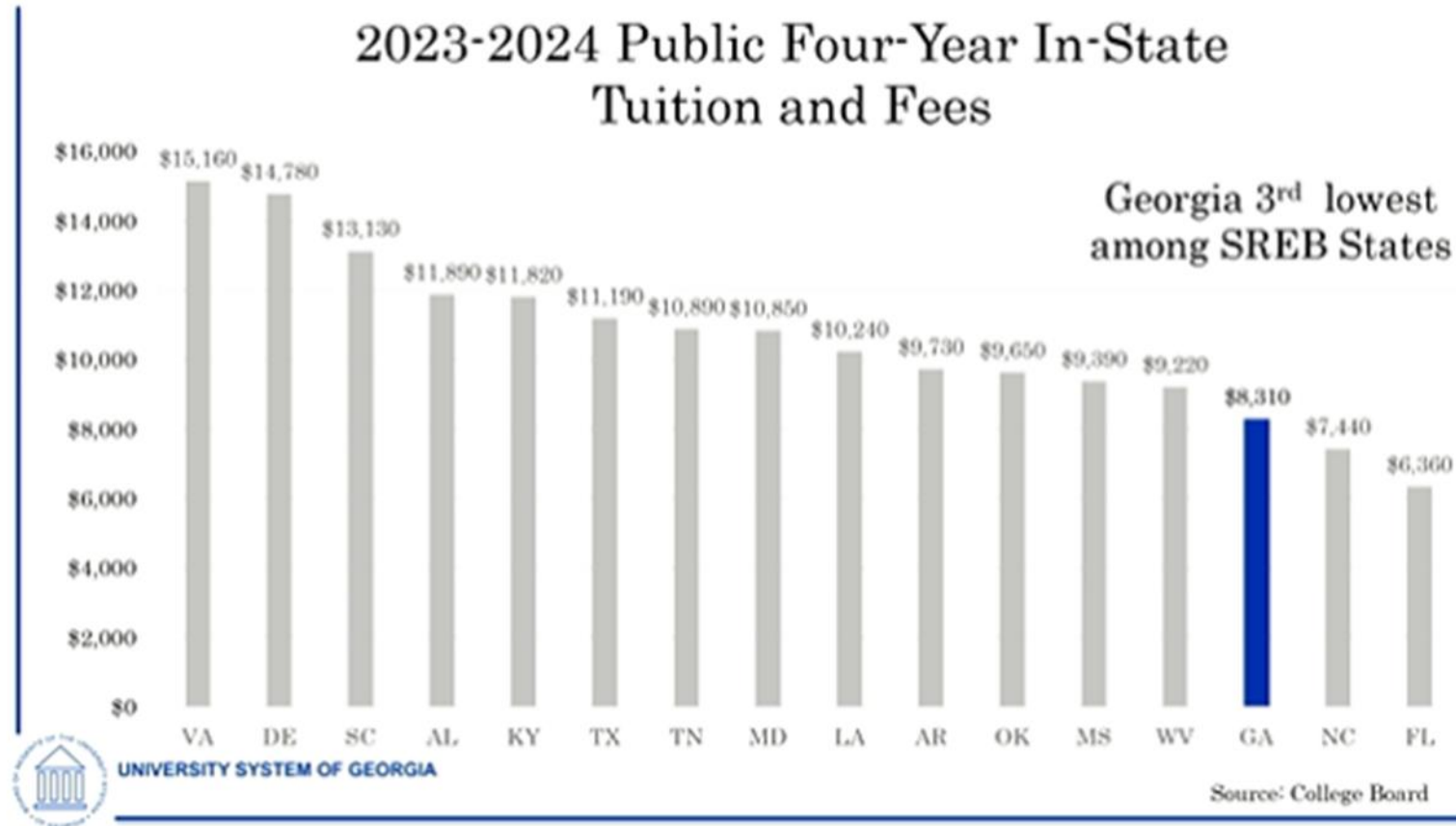
PAYING FOR COLLEGE

OFFICES OF FINANCIAL AID, VETERANS AFFAIRS, BURSARY AND REGISTRAR

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY



GEORGIA TUITION IS AFFORDABLE!





VSU FRESHMAN LIVING IS AFFORDABLE!

| | Freshman All Access Dining Rate | Highest Freshman Housing Option | Total Living Cost |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| GA Gwinnett | \$ 2,155 | \$ 5,431 | \$ 7,586 |
| Kennesaw | \$ 2,125 | \$ 4,879 | \$ 7,004 |
| Georgia Tech | \$ 2,977 | \$ 3,811 | \$ 6,788 |
| University of North Georgia | \$ 2,576 | \$ 4,188 | \$ 6,764 |
| Georgia College | \$ 2,582 | \$ 3,969 | \$ 6,551 |
| Georgia Southwestern | \$ 2,557 | \$ 3,837 | \$ 6,394 |
| GA Southern | \$ 2,554 | \$ 3,837 | \$ 6,391 |
| West Georgia | \$ 2,491 | \$ 3,850 | \$ 6,341 |
| Savannah State University | \$ 2,268 | \$ 4,036 | \$ 6,304 |
| University of Georgia | \$ 2,222 | \$ 4,021 | \$ 6,243 |
| Augusta University | \$ 2,145 | \$ 4,090 | \$ 6,235 |
| Georgia State University | \$ 2,111 | \$ 4,096 | \$ 6,207 |
| Clayton State | \$ 2,472 | \$ 3,696 | \$ 6,168 |
| Albany State | \$ 2,520 | \$ 3,636 | \$ 6,156 |
| Columbus State | \$ 2,756 | \$ 3,354 | \$ 6,110 |
| College of Coastal Georgia | \$ 2,178 | \$ 3,646 | \$ 5,824 |
| Middle Georgia State University | \$ 1,800 | \$ 3,900 | \$ 5,700 |
| Dalton State College | \$ 1,848 | \$ 3,700 | \$ 5,548 |
| Gordon State | \$ 1,700 | \$ 3,804 | \$ 5,504 |
| Valdosta State | \$ 2,260 | \$ 3,204 | \$ 5,464 |
| Fort Valley State University | \$ 2,393 | \$ 2,847 | \$ 5,240 |
| East Georgia State College | \$ 1,490 | \$ 3,573 | \$ 5,063 |
| ABAC | \$ 1,900 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 4,900 |
| South GA State | \$ 1,994 | \$ 2,900 | \$ 4,894 |
| Average | \$ 2,253.08 | \$ 3,804 | \$ 6,057 |



HOW ARE CHARGES DETERMINED?

- **TUITION RATES VARY, DEPENDING ON FORMAT OF CLASS (IN PERSON OR ONLINE)**
- **IN STATE/OUT OF STATE CHARGES**
 - **SPEAK TO AN ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE IF YOU ARE FROM A BORDER STATE, REGARDING THE “BORDER STATE WAIVER”**
- **LIVING ON CAMPUS/OFF CAMPUS**



HOW WILL I BE CHARGED?

- **All students are assigned a student account with an 870#**
- **Upon registration, Tuition and fee charges are assessed to the student's account**
- **Amounts are determined by number of registered hours and other charges elected, like housing and meal plans**
 - **<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/tuition-and-fee-schedules.php>**



What Not To Bring

| | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Weapons of any kind | Candles, incense, or other open flame items | Pressure Cookers |
| Hot Plates | George Forman Grills | Air Fryers |
| Gasoline powered items | Combustible items | Duct Tape |
| Extension cords | Ceiling Fans or Light Dimmers | Barbells or Dumbbells |
| Animals | Waterbeds or other water furniture | Wireless routers |
| Hoverboards | Large Furniture | Bean Bag Furniture |

<https://www.valdosta.edu/housing/bring-or-not-to-bring.php>



How Much To Bring



<https://www.valdosta.edu/housing/bring-or-not-to-bring.php>



HOW DO I KNOW WHAT TO PAY?

- **We will apply authorized Financial Aid and other payments against the charges on student accounts, resulting in either a net balance due to VSU or due back to the student**
- **Invoices for amounts due to VSU are electronic and available **real time** in the Online Student Account Center (OSAC)**
 - **MYVSU – Online Student Account Center or https://secure.touchnet.com/C20243_tsa/web/login.jsp**
 - ****Students Must Ensure** that all requirements are met by the fee payment deadline**



HOW DO I PAY?

- **PAYMENT DEADLINES ARE PUBLISHED AND COMMUNICATED EACH SEMESTER**
 - **A GOOD RULE OF THUMB: ACCOUNTS SHOULD BE SETTLED BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS**
- **EMAIL AND TEXT COMMUNICATIONS ARE SENT TO STUDENTS SEVERAL TIMES**
 - **[HTTPS://WWW.VALDOSTA.EDU/ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE-ADMIN/FINANCIAL-SERVICES/STUDENTS/SERVICES](https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services)**



WHAT FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE?

- **SCHOLARSHIPS**
 - **HOPE, ZELL MILLER, OTHER OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **GRANTS**
 - **PELL GRANT, SEOG GRANT**
- **LOANS**
 - **FEDERAL LOANS, STATE LOANS, PRIVATE LOANS**



WHAT IS THE FAFSA?

- **FAFSA = FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID**
 - **FEDERAL GRANTS, FEDERAL LOANS, STATE SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **[HTTPS://FAFSA.GOV](https://fafsa.gov)**
 - **PAPER APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE, BUT NOT RECOMMENDED. SO APPLY ONLINE!**





WHAT IS THE VERIFICATION?

- **10-20% OF ALL SUBMITTED FAFSA APPLICATIONS REQUIRE STUDENTS/PARENTS TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION TO SCHOOL (CALLED "VERIFICATION").**
- **BEING CHOSEN BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETE THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETELY RANDOM.**

Visit <https://valdosta.studentforms.com> to complete this process.





PELL GRANT

- **NEED-BASED GRANT**
 - **ELIGIBILITY BASED ON HOUSEHOLD SIZE, TAXABLE, AND UNTAXABLE INCOME.**
- **GRANT = DOES NOT NEED TO BE REPAYED.**
- **USED TOWARDS AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE ONLY.**
- **\$7395 = MAXIMUM ANNUAL PELL GRANT AWARD.**
 - **\$3448 CAP PER SEMESTER.**



STUDENT LOANS (FEDERAL)

- **STAFFORD LOANS (AVAILABLE TO STUDENT)**
 - **SUBSIDIZED**
 - **UNSUBSIDIZED**
- **PARENT PLUS LOAN (ONLY PARENTS CAN APPLY)**
 - **[HTTPS://STUDENTAID.GOV](https://studentaid.gov) TO APPLY**
 - **CREDIT CHECK REQUIRED**



SCHOLARSHIPS (STATE)


- **AVAILABLE TO GEORGIA RESIDENTS, CAN ASSIST WITH THE TUITION PORTION OF COLLEGE EXPENSES*.**
 - **HOPE: 3.0 GPA FROM HIGH SCHOOL, PAYS ABOUT 100% OF PRIOR YEAR TUITION RATE (EX: \$2805 PER SEMESTER, IF TAKING 15 HOURS).**
 - **ZELL MILLER: 3.7 GPA FROM HIGH SCHOOL, PLUS MINIMUM SAT/ACT SCORE (26/1200). PAYS 100% OF CURRENT TUITION RATE (EX: \$2805 PER SEMESTER, IF TAKING 15 HOURS).**

*College expenses include; tuition, fees, housing, meals, other misc. expenses and books.



SCHOLARSHIPS (OTHER)

- **INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**
 - **ATHLETIC, MERIT BASED, OTHER**
- **PRIVATE/OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**
 - **OFTEN PROVIDED BY PRIVATE COMPANIES**
 - **LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL**
- **SCHOLARSHIP UNIVERSE APPLICATION PORTAL**
 - **[HTTP://VALDOSTA.SCHOLARSHIPUNIVERSE.COM](http://valdosta.scholarshipuniverse.com)**



-Fastweb.com
-Myscholly.com
-others



VETERANS (VA) EDUCATION BENEFITS

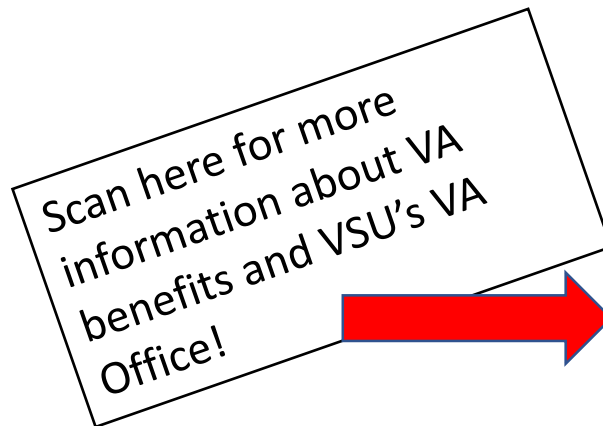
- **ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS CAN INCLUDE:**

- **VETERANS**
- **DEPENDENTS OF VETERANS**

- **DIFFERENT TYPES OF BENEFITS**

- **SOME PAY DIRECT SCHOOL COSTS, SOME DON'T**

- **VSU HAS MORE THAN 300 STUDENTS CURRENTLY USING SOME FORM OF VA BENEFIT TO HELP THEM PAY FOR COLLEGE!**





MORE FUNDING OPTIONS

- **PAYMENT PLAN (VSU OFFERS THE NELNET PAYMENT PLAN)**
 - **[HTTP://MYCOLLEGEPAYMENTPLAN.COM/VSU/](http://mycollegepaymentplan.com/vsu/)**
 - **OPEN JUNE 18TH TO AUGUST 21ST**
- **529 SAVINGS PLANS**
 - **PRIVATE PLANS**
 - **FLORIDA PREPAID**
 - **OTHER**





EVEN MORE FUNDING/PAYMENT OPTIONS!

- **SHORT TERM LOAN PROGRAM**
- **TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA)**
- **DEBIT, CREDIT, CASH, AND CHECK PAYMENTS**

Visit the VSU Bursary's webpage to find out more about all of our payment options!





WE CAN HELP YOU TODAY!

- **FINANCIAL AID REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE NOW, TO MEET WITH YOU TO DISCUSS YOUR EXACT COSTS AND FUNDING OPTIONS!**
- **SIGN IN USING THE KIOSK LOCATED IN THE SHANNON CENTER AT THE END OF THE THIRD-FLOOR HALL NEAR THE ELEVATORS.**
 - **WE WILL SEND YOU A TEXT WHEN IT IS YOUR TURN TO MEET WITH US!**





FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

- **THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) IS A FEDERAL LAW DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF A STUDENT'S EDUCATION RECORDS.**
- **THIS ACT PROHIBITS UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS FROM DISCLOSING ANY RECORDS, INCLUDING GRADE REPORTS, ACADEMIC STANDINGS, TRANSCRIPTS OF RECORDS, OR ANY OTHER RECORDS, FILES, DOCUMENTS, AND MATERIALS IN WHATEVER MEDIUM, WHICH CONTAIN INFORMATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE STUDENT AND FROM WHICH THE STUDENT CAN BE INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIED.**



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar
1500 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA 31698
Ph: 229-333-5727 Fax: 229-333-5475

STUDENT RECORDS RELEASE FORM

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF RECORDS

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law designed to protect the privacy of a student's education records. This Act prohibits university officials from disclosing any records, including grade reports, academic standings, transcripts of records, or any other records, files, documents, and materials in whatever medium, which contain information directly related to the student and from which the student can be individually identified.

Valdosta State University must have a signed acknowledgment from you before educational information can be released to a person or entity other than the student.

Student Information

Student's Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Student Identification Number

Daytime Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Release Information to:

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Daytime Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Release Authorization

I hereby authorize Valdosta State University to release information regarding my academic records to the individual named above in person.

Student Signature (required)

Date

PLEASE NOTE: The complete text of Valdosta State University's policy with regard to the protection of and access to student records in accordance with University System Board of Regents policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is published in the VSU Catalog.



THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- **KNOW WHAT YOU OWE**
- **COMPLETE THE FAFSA**
- **VIEW YOUR AWARDS IN BANNER SELF SERVICE**
- **KNOW HOW YOU WILL COVER THE DIFFERENCE**



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
& VOLUNTEER SERVICES

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY





What do we offer?:

- Career Counseling
- Job Search
- Salary Negotiation
- Networking Strategies
- Career Readiness Workshops
- Goal Setting
- Resume Critiques
- Career Assessments
- Career Events
- Service Opportunities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Internships
- Experiential Learning
- Cooperative Education
- Employer Connect
- Mock Interviews



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

College Degrees Equal Higher Life-Time Earnings



Life-Time Earnings

The lifetime earnings report offers additional evidence about how earnings increase substantially with each step up in earned degree. On average, each credential generates additional earnings over a person's lifetime by...

Certificate: +\$238,455

Associate degree: +\$377,000

Bachelor's degree: +\$1,152,500

Master's degree: +\$1,399,500

Professional degree: +\$2,167,500

Ph.D.: +\$2,037,500

Information taken from University System of Georgia news release, August 2022

https://www.usg.edu/news/release/university_system_of_georgia_graduates_will_earn_over_1_million_more_during_their_lifetimes



The Road to Higher Earnings

Year One: Explore Industry Exploration

- Build Relationships
- Know where you want to be

Parent Check In: October & March Ask questions:

- Did you attend the Part-Time Job Fair?
- What are your plans for Summer? (Summer Internships open October/November)
- Are you volunteering?

Year Two: Deciding Career Exploration and Investigation Activities

- Conduct an Information Interviews with potential employers
- Know where you want to be

Parent Check In: October & March Ask questions:

- What is your career choice? What are your plans for Summer?(Summer Internships open October/November)
- Research with Faculty?

Year Three: Experience Gaining Experience

- Build Relationships: Student Organizations in leadership
- Attend career fairs to establish relationships with employers

Parent Check In: October & March Ask questions:

- What do you need to do in order to develop yourself further?
- What are your plans for Summer?(Summer Internships open October/November)



The Road to Higher Earnings

Year Four: Job Seek

Job Search/Transition to Work

- Conduct an Information interview with potential employers
- Apply for full-time jobs 6 months before graduation

Parent Check In: October & March

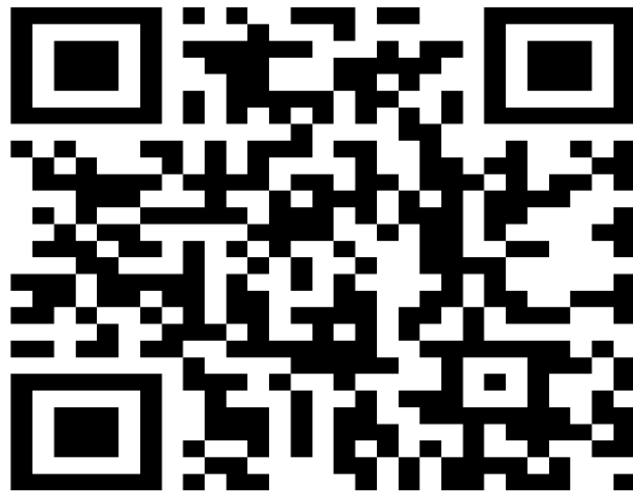
Ask questions:

- How can you get a job after graduation?
- Have you developed your resume and cover letter?
- Have you participated in a mock interview?

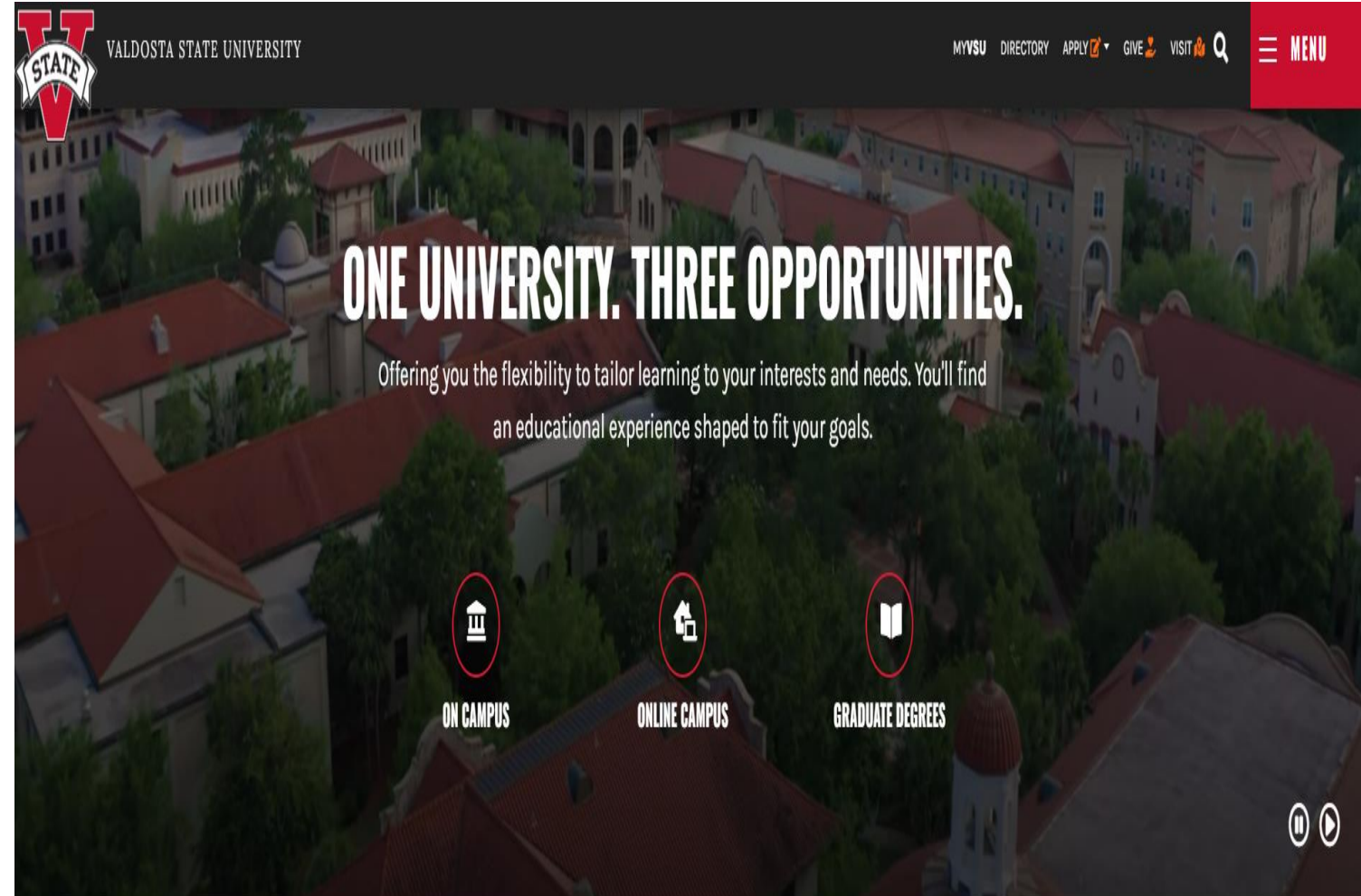


Handshake: Access the Blazing Careers

- Go to www.valdosta.edu or use the QR code
- Then select “MYVSU”



Handshake





Handshake: Access your Blazing Careers

- Sign-In to MyVSU
- Sign in using the VSU email address and password you have created



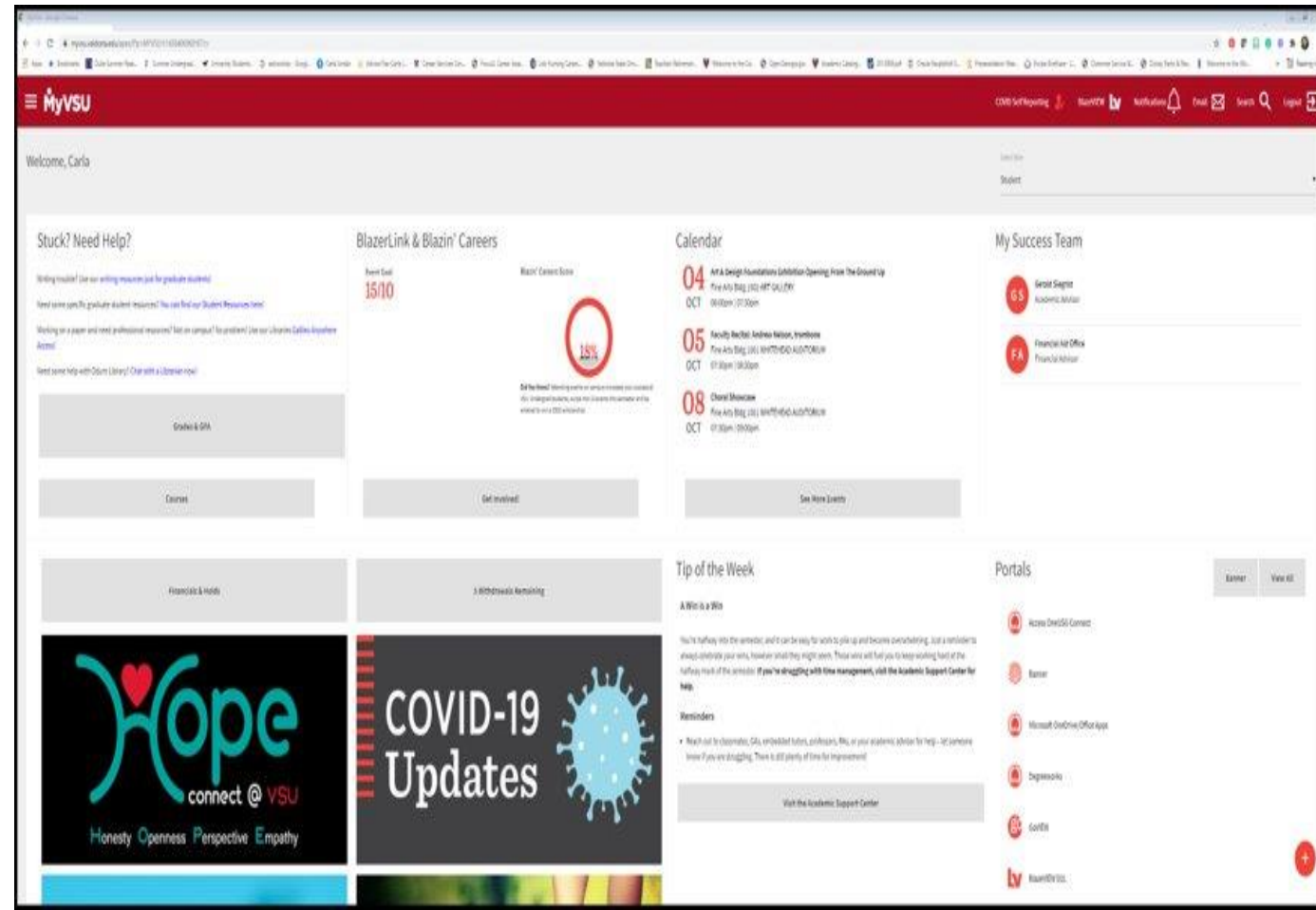
Sign in with your organizational account

SIGN IN



Handshake: Access your Blazing Careers

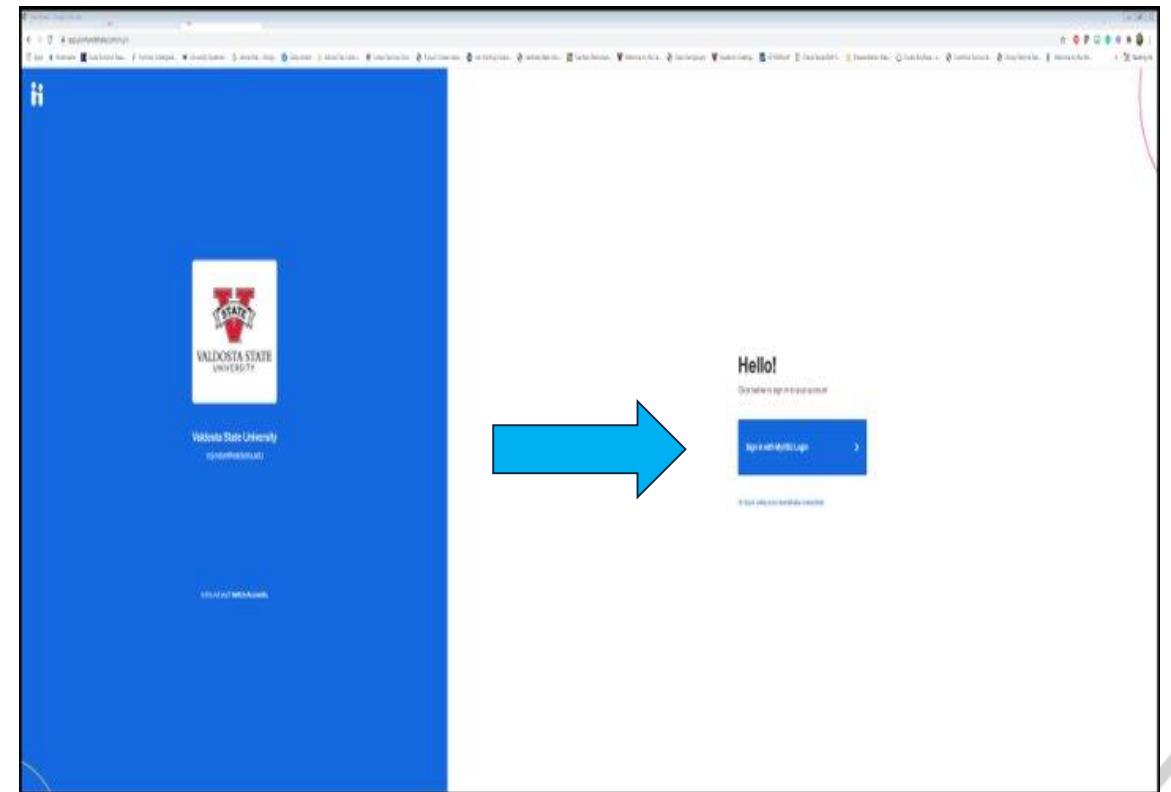
- On the homepage, look for “BlazerLink & Blazer Briefcase”
- Then select “Get Involved.”
- Then select “Blazer Briefcase”





Handshake: Access your Blazing Careers

- Use your credentials to sign-in
- If you are a “new user,” select “new Student” and complete the requirements.
- If you are a “returning user,” sign in using your email address and password.
- Please use your VSU Email Address





VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY



Start your Blazer Path with our new career tool Steppingblocks

What does it do?

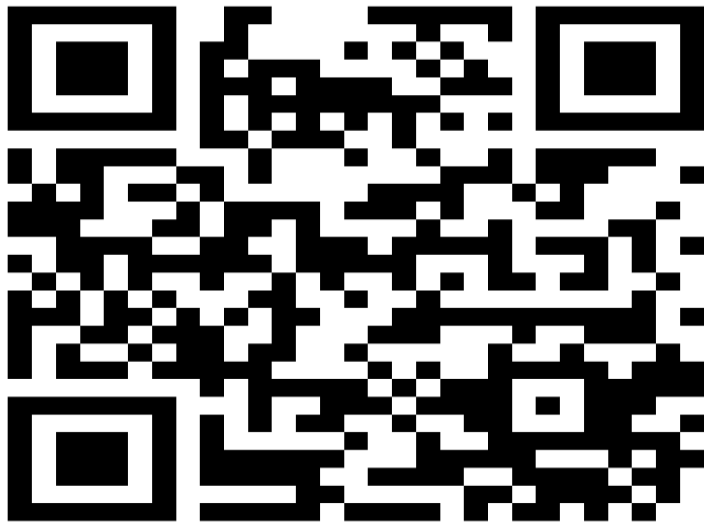
- Explore different career paths and compare job opportunities across various locations, industries, and skill sets.
- Receive personalized career recommendations based on your skills and interests
- Analyze and optimize your resume for the job you want
- Access data-driven insights about the talent landscape to help you make informed decisions about your career



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Stepping Blocks: Access your Blazer Path


- Go to valdosta.steppingblocks.com or use the QR code
- Select “Valdosta State University Sign on”
- Use your VSU credentials to Sign-In



Stepping blocks



Welcome Back!
Your Digital Career Counselor



VALDOSTA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Sign in to Steppingblocks

Valdosta State University Sign On

OR

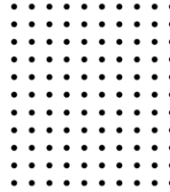
Use your school associated email address for free access to Steppingblocks
(student@univ.edu)

Email

Send One-Time Sign On Link >>>>






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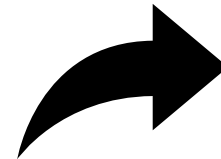
Steppingblocks

EXPLORE DIFFERENT CAREER PATHS AND COMPARE JOB OPPORTUNITIES
ACROSS VARIOUS LOCATIONS, INDUSTRIES, AND SKILL SETS.

Steppingblocks is a powerful tool that can help you explore different career paths and make informed decisions about your professional development.

-  Receive personalized career recommendations based on your skills and interests.
-  Analyze and optimize your resume for the job you want.
-  Access data-driven insights about the talent landscape to help you make informed decisions about your career.

REGISTER NOW



Activity

Scan the QR Code
Complete the personality
assessment

**What is your
personality?**

Extraversion (E) or
Introversion (I)
Sensing (S) or Intuition (N)
Thinking (T) or Feeling (F)
Judging (J) or Perceiving (P)



Career Opportunities & Volunteer Services Your VSU F·r·i·e·n·d·s

We'll be there for you



Fridays at
Career Opportunities &
Volunteer Services



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Questions?

Contact Us



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY



Student Financial Services
studentaccounts@valdosta.edu
229-333-5725

Financial Aid
finaid@valdosta.edu
229-333-5935

Career Opportunities & Volunteer Services
careerops@valdosta.edu
229-333-5942

Registrar
registrar@valdosta.edu
229-333-5727