

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



ACADEMIC

1. Will my son or daughter be able to graduate in 4 years?

Most UVF majors are designed so that a student would be able to graduate in a 4-year time span.

2. What size are the classes? What is the student/faculty ratio?

UVF students enjoy a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio, ensuring an intimate, spiritually-nourishing educational environment with plenty of room for one-on-one attention and personal growth.

3. Will someone be available to monitor my son/daughter's academic progress?

Each student receives academic advising. The advisor assists the student with class selection, academic progress, course sequencing and general academic concerns. The student must become familiar with the catalog requirements of his/her major since the student is responsible for fulfilling all program requirements. The Student Success & Career Services Center also offers one-on-one peer counseling for students who need extra help with time management, coursework planning, & preparation.

4. Is there tutoring available? Is there a fee?

The Write Solution is a tutoring center for students needing assistance with written assignments, research papers, grammar/punctuation and beginning math coursework. Appointments can be scheduled or walk-in tutoring is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. The Write Solution hours are Monday-Thursday from 2-7 pm and Friday from 2-5 pm. No fee is required.

5. What academic programs are available?

Valley Forge offers over 40 undergraduate majors, 11 graduate majors, and Life Enrichment Courses. UVF also awards several associate degrees and certificates of study. Degrees are listed on valleyforge.edu.

6. What is "service learning" and why is it required in some classes?

Service Learning is an educational experience in which students participate in an out-of-class service assignment to gain further understanding of the course content while developing a greater sense of civic responsibility. Many UVF courses include a service learning component.

7. Will we get a copy of our daughter's/son's grades? Are grades sent home?

Students can log onto my.valleyforge.edu to access grades and student account information. Official transcripts must be requested from the National Student Clearinghouse at www.getmytranscript.com. It is important for parents to remember that grades, as well as other educational records, belong to the student under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). To give parents access to their educational records, students need to sign a FERPA waiver.

8. What is accreditation and where is UVF in the process?

Accreditation is a quality assurance process whereby educational institutions are evaluated by an external accrediting body to determine if standards are being met. If standards are met, accredited status is granted by the agency. UVF is accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) 1007 North Orange Street, 4th Floor, MB #166, Wilmington, DE 19801. (267.284.5000; info@msche.org.) In addition, individual majors or programs may receive specialized accreditation. For example, our social work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

9. What loans and scholarships are available?

There are a variety of federal and state grant and loan programs available, plus UVF's generous scholarship opportunities. Questions concerning these can be directed to Financial Services.

10. Does the University provide ministry placement and career planning services?

The Career Services Center assists students with job fairs, career fairs, graduate school/seminary fairs and camp fairs. Other areas of assistance include resume building, interview skills, mock interview sessions and dress-for-success sessions.

SOCIAL/INTERPERSONAL

11. What is available for students to do outside of class?

Outside of class there are cultural programs, special events, floor events, concerts, banquets and a variety of student activities, including athletics and intramurals that provide a rich and varied social atmosphere for students.

12. What specific sports and organizations are available?

The University of Valley Forge is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III and operates and competes under the rules and regulations of the NCAA and Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC). The University fields varsity teams in women's sports (soccer, volleyball, basketball, cross country, and softball) and men's sports (soccer, volleyball, basketball, cross country, golf, and baseball). Club sports opportunities include outdoor men's and women's track and field, and men's junior varsity basketball. We also have intramural sports opportunities, including but not limited to spike ball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, ping pong, softball, and flag football. Student ministry teams, clubs, and student organizations include Audience of One (human video), SALT (youth ministry), and Improv (drama club) along with many others. A variety of opportunities exist in the Music Department, including the Concert Choir (by audition only), the University Choir (open membership), chapel worship teams, and traveling worship team, UVF Worship (by audition only) that perform both on and off-campus. We also have several leadership opportunities available including serving as a resident assistant, associate resident assistant, START team leader, peer mentor, chapel usher, Student Athlete Advisory Committee member, or a missions committee member.

13. What opportunities for spiritual growth are available?

University of Valley Forge is dedicated to helping students grow in their relationship with God. A vibrant chapel atmosphere provides a daily opportunity for students, faculty and staff to express their faith through corporate worship and the preaching of God's Word. Students are encouraged to practice daily devotions and expected to attend church weekly. Prayer meetings and special services occur throughout the year.

14. What is the alcohol and drug policy and how is it enforced?

The purchase, possession, transportation, consumption or distribution of intoxicating beverages or tobacco products in any form is prohibited. For those under 21 years of age, consumption of alcohol is also a crime according to the laws of the State of Pennsylvania. The use of illegal drugs and the misuse of prescription drugs are prohibited. Main campus students agree to abstain from all drug and alcohol use the entire time they are enrolled at UVF. The steps our University will take in handling instances of drug or alcohol use are described in the student handbook. Our drug and alcohol policy may be found at valleyforge.edu and in the Student Handbook.

15. When are the Chapel services? Are students required to go?

Chapel Services are held Tuesday - Friday, 10 – 11 am. Daily chapel attendance is mandatory for all students who are enrolled in nine or more credit hours per semester, regardless of whether they live on- or off-campus. Students are permitted to miss a certain number of chapels without penalty. Other occasional chapel opportunities occur on evenings and weekends.

16. Are students required to go to church?

Weekly church attendance is fundamentally related to preparing to minister to people of all ages, seeing the local church in action, providing community outlets for ministry and accountability, and being integrally involved with a local body of believers. Class and chapel services are not a substitute for weekly church attendance in the local community. All students are expected to attend regular Sunday services at a church within a reasonable driving distance of UVF. A church attendance survey is given to students each year.

17. Are there jobs available on and off campus?

UVF provides multiple on-campus jobs to help students pay for college. Our Career Services Center networks with local business to help connect students with off-campus jobs and internships. UVF also hosts a job fair during the fall semester and students are able to see new available job postings on my.valleyforge.edu

18. Will my son/daughter need a car?

Not necessarily. Students are often able to carpool with other students for off-campus needs.

HEALTH SERVICES

19. My student is very homesick. Is that normal?

A feeling of homesickness is very normal and chances are, most new students feel the same way! Helping students see homesickness as a normal part of the transition to college will help your student learn to adjust. If homesickness continues for an extended period of time, or your student begins to show symptoms of depression, please encourage them to talk with his or her residence director, a professor or staff member for encouragement and support.

20. Is there personal counseling available?

Yes, we have a contracted, professional counselor who counsels during the week and in the evenings. Counseling sessions are \$40 per one-hour session, payable at the time of the appointment. Partial scholarship assistance may be available. Please encourage your student to take advantage of the counseling offered through our program any time it is needed. Questions about counseling can be answered through the UVF Health and Wellness Center.

RESIDENCE LIFE

21. Is student health insurance available?

No. Students are encouraged to provide their own personal insurance as a student or be included under a parental plan.

22. What happens if my son or daughter gets sick or injured?

We have a highly trained campus nurse on campus three days per week. If needed, the nurse will be able to monitor and provide assistance with an ongoing medical condition. If the nurse is not available and your son/daughter needs medical attention, he/she can seek medical attention at one of the local medical centers near the University (please see our Health Center brochure for information on these centers). If transportation is needed, students may contact a Residence Life staff person to arrange transportation by ambulance or volunteer.

23. What is your housing policy? Are students required to live on campus?

Unmarried students under 24 years of age are required to live in the residence halls unless they reside with their parents or a guardian off-campus. Single students who are 24 years of age, financially self-supporting and/or in good standing with the University may live off campus. Married students may also live off campus.

24. Does the University have a curfew?

The University does not have a curfew. This enables students to take the work and ministry opportunities available to them and encourages students to set their own personal boundaries for a healthy lifestyle.

25. Will males and females be allowed to visit each other in their rooms?

Open dorms occur once to twice a week for several hours in the evening. Resident Assistants monitor these open dorm times. In addition, UVF designates certain lounges as open lounges during day and evening hours. No member of the opposite sex is allowed in a lounge or room outside of the specified hours.

26. What hours are the Dining Commons open?

Monday-Thursday:

Breakfast 7:30 - 9:30 am
Lunch 11 am - 1:30 pm
Dinner 5 - 7:00 pm

Friday:

Breakfast 7:30 - 9:30 am
Lunch 11 am - 1:30 pm
Dinner 5 - 6:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday:

Lunch 12 - 2 pm
Dinner 5 - 6 pm

27. Is there convenient public transportation?

University of Valley Forge is conveniently located minutes away from public bus and train stations in the Philadelphia area (SEPTA). This proximity to public transportation allows students the ability to visit many local venues such as: Philadelphia's Art Museum , The Kimmel Center of Performing Arts, Valley Forge National Park, The King of Prussia Mall and as many of the Phillies, Eagles, Flyers, and 76er's games one can attend.

28. Can commuter students purchase meal plans?

Yes, they can. Interested commuter students should contact the Director of Housing in the Student Life office.

29. What is the University's mission statement and goals for students?

The mission of University of Valley Forge is to prepare individuals for a life of service and leadership in the church and in the world. University-wide Student Learning Outcomes, or goals, may be found in the Course Catalog or in the Student Handbook.

30. What are the names of the senior administrators?

Rev. David Kim, President
president@valleyforge.edu

Todd Guevin, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness
tgguevin@valleyforge.edu

Rev. Jennifer Gale, Vice President of Student Life
jdgale@valleyforge.edu

Rev. Steve DeFrain, Vice President of Development and Church Relations
srdefrain@valleyforge.edu

Dr. Stacey Sauchuk, Vice President of Finance
srsauchuk@valleyforge.edu

Steve Lazowski, Vice President of Enrollment Management
s_lazowski@valleyforge.edu

31. If I have questions, can I call?

Feel free to call us with any questions or concerns you may have.

UVF Main Telephone 610-935-0450 | Toll Free:
1.800.432.8322



UNIVERSITY OF
VALLEY FORGE

1401 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460
800.432.8322 • valleyforge.edu

Questions?

Email studentlife@valleyforge.edu