

Privacy statement

Effective January 1, 2001

The following discloses the information gathering and dissemination practices of official Virginia Commonwealth University Web pages (defined as institutional Web pages in the VCU Web Standards and Guidelines) and is in accordance with the following statement.

It is the policy of the commonwealth of Virginia that personal information about citizens will be collected only to the extent necessary to provide the service or benefit desired; that only appropriate information will be collected; that the citizen shall understand the reason the information is collected and be able to examine their personal record which is maintained by a public body.

The VCU website does not require that any personal information be supplied in order to download publicly available files or reports.

In addition to the VCU Web Privacy Statement, the university encourages its colleges, schools, departments, centers, institutes and other units contributing to its official Web pages to provide specific notices about the collection and use of any personal information associated with those pages.

What is collected and how is it used

When you visit the VCU website we collect the following non-personal information

- Your IP address
- Date and time
- Pages visited

- Type of browser used
- Referring Web page, if present

None of this information is associated with you as an individual and is used strictly for statistical reporting purposes in order to assess demands and usage for planning purposes.

Some VCU websites require you to provide personal information in order to provide services requested by you. If you choose to share personal information with us by sending us an e-mail message or by filling out an electronic form with personal information, we will use the information only for the purposes you authorized or in support of university sponsored programs. Should you not desire to provide this personal information, we will be unable to provide you some of the services which we offer online. Each VCU website that collects personal information will include a statement as to the purpose for collecting such personal information and how that information will be used.

Cookies

A cookie is a small amount of data that is sent to your browser from a Web server and stored on your desktop computer. The cookie is then sent back to the server each time the browser requests a page from the server. The primary purpose of cookies is to identify users in order to prepare customized Web pages for them.

The VCU website uses two kinds of cookies: non-persistent and persistent. Some VCU Web pages use non-persistent cookies for the purposes of fulfilling form requests. These cookies are discarded as soon as you close your Web browser. A small number of VCU Web pages use persistent cookies in order to provide improved service. Any VCU Web page that uses persistent cookies will include a statement as to the purpose for using persistent cookies, exactly what is being retained and how that information is being used.

Security

To prevent unauthorized access, maintain data accuracy, and ensure the correct use of information, we have put in place appropriate physical, electronic and managerial procedures to safeguard and secure the information we collect online, consistent with VCU policies and the laws and regulations of the commonwealth of Virginia.

Information disclosure

Any personal information that one chooses to supply will be maintained exclusively within VCU and will not be supplied to any other non-VCU entity or organization except as provided by law. Information you provide is only used to provide requested services and for internal statistics.

Disclaimer

This site contains links to external (non-VCU) websites. VCU is not responsible for the privacy practices or content of such websites.

Contacting us

If you have additional questions or concerns about our privacy policies, please send e-mail to the VCU Webmaster at homepage@vcu.edu. If you wish to review or change information gathered about you via an official VCU website, you may contact the VCU Webmaster who will assist you in locating the person responsible for that site so that you may make your request for that review or change directly with them.