

Description of Riding Blacksburg Transit from Campus to the Math Emporium

The following instructions are intended to help Virginia Tech students understand the basics to using Blacksburg Transit, the bus transportation system around campus. More specifically, the instructions provide step-by-step details for students travelling from campus, to the math emporium off campus, where students frequently take quizzes and exams for online math classes.

The process described allows students to use the transportation system with confidence. Knowing the steps to riding the bus from campus to the math emporium will allow students to efficiently navigate the system, waiting the shortest time at the bus stop, and never missing the desired bus, saving time in students' busy lives.

Students most commonly use the blacksburg transit system Monday through Friday during working hours, as that is when most assignments and tests are due. Although the math emporium is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to students to study, the Blacksburg Transit bus route designated for the math emporium only runs until 8:55pm on weekdays, and does not operate on the weekends.

The instructions provided chronologically follow a student riding the bus from campus to the Math Emporium. This scenario includes where and when to wait for the bus on campus, which buses to board, how to board the bus, how to request a stop at the math emporium, how to exit the bus, and how to return to campus.



Glossary of Terms

Blacksburg Transit (BT): Public transportation system provided in Blacksburg, Virginia. Buses are free for students, and run multiple routes to academic buildings, local apartment complexes and shopping centers, and Christiansburg.

Burruss Hall: The symbolic building of Virginia Tech. Located along the drillfield, this building contains a clock tower and has flags flying in front of it. The main bus stops are located in front of this building.

Bus stop: Specific locations where the BT buses stop to pick up passengers. These areas are indicated by a BT Transit sign, and at main locations, have BUS STOP written on the street.

Hokie Passport: Student identification card used by students to buy food on campus, pay to wash laundry, and other activities. Showing this card allows students to ride the BT buses for free.

Math Emporium: Off campus academic building where students go to study, take quizzes, and take exams for online math classes. Located in University Mall shopping center. The bus that drives to this building displays MATH EMPORIUM, U-MALL on the front of the bus.

Newman Library: This building contains the student library, and is located on the eastern side of campus. Another main location where BT buses stop to pick up passengers. This location contains covered waiting areas.

Pull cord: A yellow string stretched along the inside of the BT transit buses. When pulled, the string illuminates a STOP REQUESTED sign, indicating to the bus driver to stop at the closest bus stop.

University City Boulevard: The main road the Math Emporium is located on. Another bus route goes along this road and has UNIVERSITY CITY BLVD. on the front of the bus. This bus can be used as an alternate to the Math Emporium bus.

University Mall: The shopping center containing the Math Emporium. Located along University City Boulevard. The center includes stores such as CVS, Kroger, and Sweet Frog.

Step-by-Step Instructions to Ride Blacksburg Transit from Campus to the Math Emporium

The following instructions should be followed by Virginia Tech students intending to use Blacksburg Transit to ride from campus to the Math Emporium. This task should be completed during normal working hours on weekdays, and should take less than 30 minutes.

Required Materials

- Hokie Passport

Before Riding the Bus

1. Determine what day and time you want to be at the Math Emporium.
2. Look up the desired bus route schedule, and choose a time.
 - IF MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY: choose a time on the [University Mall Shuttle](#) schedule.
 - IF SATURDAY OR SUNDAY: choose a time on the [University City Boulevard](#) schedule.

3. Walk to the bus stop. All Blacksburg Transit bus stops have a sign with the BT symbol and information about the stop.

-If riding the University Mall Shuttle, walk to the bus stop at Newman Library or Burruss Hall.

-If riding the University City Boulevard shuttle, walk to the bus stop at Burruss Hall.



Don't forget your Hokie Passport! The buses have bike racks on the front if you prefer to bike to the bus stop.

Riding the Bus

4. When the bus arrives, enter the bus through the front door.



5. Show the bus driver your Hokie Passport. This allows you to ride the bus free of charge.

If you forgot your Hokie Passport, you can also pay 50 cents to ride the bus.

6. Find a seat, or stand, holding onto the metal poles or handrails above. Relax, and wait for your coming stop!

Exiting the Bus

7. When near your desired stop, pull the yellow cord that is strung along the inside of the bus. When this is pulled, a **STOP REQUESTED** sign is illuminated, indicating to the driver to stop at the next bus stop.

If someone else has already pulled the cord for this stop, you don't have to pull it.



-The University Mall Shuttle will automatically stop at the Math Emporium. You do not have to pull the cord.

- When the University City Boulevard shuttle is on the main road in front of the University Mall shopping center, pull the cord. The bus will stop by the Rite Aid. You will have to cross the street to get to the Math Emporium.

8. When the bus comes to a stop and opens the doors, exit the bus through the middle doors, not the front doors.

Be sure to thank the driver!

9. Go the Math Emporium! Good luck!

Returning to Campus

10. Wait at the designated bus stop.

-If returning via the University Mall Shuttle, wait at the Math Emporium bus stop for it to arrive.



-If returning via the University City Boulevard shuttle, walk to the street light in front of the Math Emporium, and find the covered waiting area.



11. Repeat the instructions from step one to ride the bus from the Math Emporium to campus.

If you have a while to wait, run errands at Kroger or CVS, or treat yourself to Sweet Frog!

You have now successfully learned the basics to using Blacksburg Transit to ride from campus to the Math Emporium. For additional resources, visit the [Blacksburg Transit website](#), or bt4u.org for a real-time map of Blacksburg Transit bus routes.