



# VFIC PRE-LAW INITIATIVE



## VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

### OBJECTIVES

The Pre-Law Initiative was launched by the VFIC with two important objectives:

- **Strengthening the pre-law programs** at Virginia’s leading private colleges; and
- **Increasing the number of graduates heading to law school** from these high quality liberal arts colleges:

Bridgewater College

Emory & Henry College

Hampden-Sydney College

Hollins University

Lynchburg College

Mary Baldwin College

Marymount University

Randolph College

Randolph-Macon College

Roanoke College

Shenandoah University

Sweet Briar College

University of Richmond

Virginia Wesleyan College

Washington and Lee University

The outstanding colleges and universities in the VFIC consortium graduate young men and women with the skills for which law schools and law firms are looking for: *critical thinking, communication, and leadership*, all in the context of a broader, high quality liberal arts and sciences education. Without special emphasis or additional support, these colleges have already provided a fair share of graduates to the field of law – so imagine what could be accomplished at these institutions with more emphasis and more resources aimed at pre-law programming!

### STRENGTHENING VFIC PRE-LAW PROGRAMS

The Pre-Law Initiative is focused on generating funds needed by the colleges to expand the range of services and activities for their Pre-Law Programs. The funds will enable the colleges to underwrite activities, such as:

1. Creating a new “Law School Day” with activities, speakers and programs with law school admissions representatives;
2. “Career roundtable” luncheons for students to visit with attorneys in their area;
3. Student group visits to courts of law and to law schools;
4. Workshops focused on the law school application process;
5. Using the VFIC’s CAREER15 website to provide law schools a cost-efficient way to market themselves and to recruit students from all 15 campuses at the same time.
6. Stipends for a “pre-law coordinator” as a go-to person managing the process on campus.

These expanded services and programs will have a direct, tangible impact, influencing more talented students each year to consider the law as a career, and helping them be better prepared for - and to succeed in - law school.

# VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

## ENHANCING OUR PRE-LAW PROGRAMS

Over the years, as a basic means of meeting student interest, these colleges have developed Pre-Law Programs, primarily as extra-curricular/advising programs, focused on providing students with guidance about law schools and the coursework needed as an undergraduate. These programs have provided essential, basic services to students. A more recent trend has been the creation of more formal Pre-Law Societies on some campuses, offering a more structured approach to enhancing student interest and awareness in the field of law. Whether a Pre-Law Program or a Pre-Law Society, these operations have existed on very modest budgets, with volunteer coordinators and as a result are not as prominent or as impactful as they could be.

With the encouragement of our 15 college presidents, the VFIC is committed to raising the funds needed to enhance these Pre-Law initiatives on the campuses, to help build them into strong, proactive student activities with high profiles and high impact. The net result will be that more well-educated, well-rounded graduates of Virginia's top private liberal arts colleges will see the law as a career well worth pursuing.

## PARTNERING WITH THE VFIC - SECURING BRIGHTER FUTURES

One of Virginia's strengths is higher education, including a remarkable private college sector, the envy of other states.

Over the decades, the VFIC has played a leadership role in generating financial support and programs which have served to enhance the depth, breadth and quality of its 15 Member Colleges.

The VFIC's commitment is to further strengthen these traditional undergraduate liberal arts colleges. In an era of expanding mega-universities and impersonal online course-taking, the kind of education represented by our Member Colleges – small classes, personalized education, high quality academics, and close interaction with professors dedicated to exceptional classroom teaching – is an asset to be preserved and strengthened for the generations to come.

Your support and partnership with the VFIC in this Pre-Law Initiative will help enhance the programs of these colleges, opening prominent law schools as an option for more talented students, and ultimately benefiting the legal profession.



Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges  
8010 Ridge Road, Suite B  
Richmond, VA 23229

Phone: 804-288-6609  
Fax: 804-282-4635  
Toll-free: 800-230-6757

Web: [www.vfic.org](http://www.vfic.org)  
Email: [info@vfc.org](mailto:info@vfc.org)

