

How to Navigate Schiffert Student Health: Summer Day Fees & Reimbursement

Visiting the Schiffert Student Health Center at Virginia Tech in the summer can be a complicated issue to navigate. We have some new information regarding referrals and reimbursements for services at Schiffert as well as some tips and information on who to contact with your questions.

Can graduate students receive care at Schiffert Health over the summer at no cost?

It depends.

Graduate students who are enrolled in summer courses are eligible to receive services over the summer. Graduate students who are not enrolled in courses (this includes graduate instructors), are not eligible to receive services at Schiffert without having to pay a day fee. More information here.

What is the day fee?

This is a charge students pay in order to receive care if they are not eligible to receive services for free because of their enrollment status. The day fee charge is approximately \$59 per visit. For students who plan to use Schiffert once or twice during the summer, this day fee charge may be more economical. For students who plan to use Schiffert more frequently, it may be in your best pay the student summer health fee (which costs approximately \$194.50).

Can I get reimbursed for the day fee costs?

YES! According to new information from the assistant vice president for student affairs, Chris Wise, Virginia Tech graduate students may be reimbursed for the \$59 day fee, unless it is going towards the yearly deductible. Questions? Contact Arlene Harris (alene@vt.edu) or call Controller's office division of Student Health Insurance at (540) 231-6226.

Can I get reimbursed for the summer health fee?

No, at this time students may not be reimbursed for the \$195 (approximately) summer health fee.

Can I see other doctors during the summer?

Yes. In fact, it is strongly encouraged that if you need to seek out non-emergency medical care during the summer you visit VelocityCare by Carilion on located on [Turner Street NE](#). For a list of services offered [visit their website](#). Remember, student health insurance provides coverage through July 31st, 2016.

Which leads us to our next piece of information...

Is it required that I have a referral from Schiffert to receive care somewhere else?

No. **A referral from Schiffert is NOT REQUIRED** or necessary in order for you to receive treatment or book appointments at an outside provider.

What if I am being treated at Schiffert and want to seek outside providers for treatment?

If you have started treatment at Schiffert prior to seeking out an outside provider, you may be eligible to receive enhanced benefits for services when care is provided by a Preferred Aetna Provider (as indicated by Tier 1 in your 2015-2016 insurance plan brochure).

A referral is **not required** in the following circumstances:

- Emergency Room Services
- Treatment received when Schiffert Health Center is closed.
- Care received outside a 20 mile radius from the Blacksburg Campus
- Maternity
- Satellite Campus enrolled students
- Treatment is for an Emergency Medical Condition
- Obstetric and Gynecological Treatment
- Pediatric Care
- Preventive/Routine Services (services considered preventive according to Health Care Reform and/or services rendered not to diagnosis or treat an Accident or Sickness).

What's being done about health insurance and student services over the summer for graduate students?

Administrators in the Graduate School continue to advocate for graduate student benefits and have put forth their recommendations for the 2016-2017 school year. The GSA knows your concerns and fully supports the work and advocacy being done for

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graduate students. As more information comes available, we will do our best to send out information.

If you have questions regarding your student health insurance please do not hesitate to contact the [Office of Student Medical Insurance](#). They are NOT an insurance company, they are a **customer service office**.

If you participate in student health insurance, **they will meet with you discuss plan benefits and help submit claims**.

If you are a participant in student health insurance, they can still work with you to provide guidance and help locate your own plan's administrator.