



# Stop the Bleed Program

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## Purpose

Stop the Bleed is a national campaign launched in October 2015 by the White House. This campaign is intended to build national resilience by better preparing the public to save lives through awareness of basic actions to stop life threatening bleeding following everyday emergencies, human-caused, and natural disasters. This program's success is founded in the recognition that bystanders will always be first on scene and can provide immediate life-saving aid when appropriately trained.

Virginia Tech Emergency Management recognizes the value of providing this potentially life-saving training to the entire Virginia Tech community, in combination with placing critical bleeding-control equipment strategically across campus. In a commitment to public safety and preparedness, Virginia Tech Emergency Management will coordinate training, acquisition of kits, and placement and maintenance of the Stop the Bleed Kits.

## Scope

Individual bleeding control kits are located in automated external defibrillator (AED) cabinets across Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus. AED cabinets containing a bleeding control kit will be marked on the outside of the cabinet with a visible decal indicating that a Stop the Bleed kit is located inside the cabinet. The decal will alert the general public and building occupants of the existence of the bleeding control kit.

This program will be specific to the Blacksburg campus. However, satellite facilities wishing to participate should contact Virginia Tech Emergency Management.

## Use of Bleeding Control Kits

The bleeding control kits are not intended to be a substitute for traditional first aid kits and should only be used in emergency situations where life-threatening bleeding exists and first responders are not immediately available. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) should be notified by calling 911 when using a bleeding control kit. Virginia Tech community members should take the Stop the Bleed training to understand the full use and implications when using these kits.

For the purposes of Virginia Tech's bleeding control program, Virginia Tech adheres to the same definition of life-threatening bleeding as defined by [bleedingcontrol.org](http://bleedingcontrol.org).

- Blood that is spurting out of the wound.
- Blood that won't stop coming out of the wound.
- Blood that is pooling on the ground.
- Clothing that is soaked with blood.
- Bandages that are soaked with blood.
- Loss of all or part of an arm or leg.
- Bleeding in a victim who is confused or unconscious.

Instructions on how to use the contents of the bleeding control kit are located inside each kit. Each instruction card provides simple and easy to follow guidance on how to apply the Combat Application Tourniquet (CAT) Tourniquet to an arm or leg, how to apply gauze and compress, the use of the emergency trauma dressing, and how to apply a chest seals.

If a bleeding control kit is opened, please contact Virginia Tech Emergency Management, once the emergency is over, so the kit can be restocked. If Virginia Tech Police and Rescue Squad are notified, a report will be completed to document the injury, accident or incident. Additionally, please notify your supervisor and use the appropriate Virginia Tech Human Resources accident reporting procedures to report the incident.

### Responsibilities

Virginia Tech Emergency Management will manage the Stop the Bleed program. Responsibilities of the program will include:

- Purchase bleeding control kits
- Provide information to the university community on the location and use of the bleeding control kits
- Provide updates to the Virginia Tech Stop the Bleed program
- Replace any missing, damaged, or used bleeding control kits
- Provide Bleeding Control (B-Con) training classes each year to the campus community or by request for departments
- Update B-Con training materials as appropriate
- Perform a visual inspection of bleeding control kits throughout each year
- Inform the university community of the Stop the Bleed program

### Maintenance and Inspections

The bleeding control kits are packaged in a compact, ruggedized vacuum-sealed pouch and do not contain items that expire, therefore no maintenance or replacement timeline for items included in the kit is required. Virginia Tech Emergency Management, or their designee, will perform visual inspections of the kits contained in the AED cabinet to ensure that the bleeding control kit has not been tampered with and is still located inside the AED cabinet. Virginia Tech Emergency Management should be notified in the event that a kit is used during an emergency, missing, or removed from an AED cabinet.

### Training

Bleeding Control training is not required before using the kit. However, the university community is strongly encouraged to participate in the B-Con training.

The Bleeding Control (B-Con) course is designed for individuals who have little or no medical training but may be called upon to respond to and immediately deliver trauma care and bleeding control prior to emergency medical services. The two-hour B-Con course schedule includes:

- B-Con Information
- Hands-On Tourniquet and Wound Management
- Program Review and Summary

The Virginia Tech Stop the Bleed Program follows the B-Con curriculum from the American College of Surgeons (ACS). Training materials are from *bleedingcontrol.org*.

Virginia Tech Emergency Management is responsible for offering B-Con training opportunities to the campus community. Virginia Tech Emergency Management will also coordinate with the Building Emergency Coordinators (BECs) to encourage participation in the B-Con training program.

B-Con classes will also be included in the normal training schedule of Campus Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) classes.

Regular B-Con training classes will be scheduled through Virginia Tech Emergency Management. Visit [emergency.vt.edu](http://emergency.vt.edu) for more information. Additionally, campus departments, units, buildings, and student groups may request a B-Con course. A minimum number of 10 participants is suggested. All training requests should be submitted to Virginia Tech Emergency Management.



No matter how rapid the arrival of professional emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, so it's important to quickly stop the blood loss.

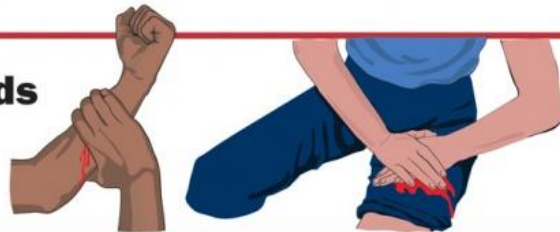
Remember to be aware of your surroundings and move yourself and the injured person to safety, if necessary.

**Call 911.**

Bystanders can take simple steps to keep the injured alive until appropriate medical care is available. Here are three actions that you can take to help save a life:

**1. Apply Pressure with Hands**

**EXPOSE** to find where the bleeding is coming from and apply **FIRM, STEADY PRESSURE** to the bleeding site with both hands if possible.



**2. Apply Dressing and Press**

**EXPOSE** to find where the bleeding is coming from and apply **FIRM, STEADY PRESSURE** to the bleeding site with bandages or clothing.



**3. Apply Tourniquet(s)**

If the bleeding doesn't stop, place a tourniquet 2-3 inches closer to the torso from the bleeding. The tourniquet may be applied and secured over clothing.



If the bleeding still doesn't stop, place a second tourniquet closer to the torso from first tourniquet.



The 'Stop the Bleed' campaign was initiated by a federal interagency workgroup convened by the National Security Council Staff, The White House. The purpose of the campaign is to build national resilience by better preparing the public to save lives by raising awareness of basic actions to stop life threatening bleeding following everyday emergencies and man-made and natural disasters. Advances made by military medicine and research in hemorrhage control during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have informed the work of this initiative which exemplifies translation of knowledge back to the homeland to the benefit of the general public. The Department of the Defense owns the 'Stop the Bleed' logo and phrase - trademark pending."



Homeland Security

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