

**Mary Baldwin University and The Commonwealth of Virginia's
Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership**

*Our nation's only all-female corps of cadets
(report date October 1, 2024)*

VWIL proudly continues 29 years serving the best interests of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Virginia. VWIL is the nation's premier college leadership development program for women, integrating academics, fitness, leadership development, ethics, and military training. The program demands of cadets a great deal beyond the ordinary, its educational value is stronger than ever, and it produces exceptional citizens and military leaders.

Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership Facts:

- **Report.** The General Assembly requires an annual report of students participating in the Virginia Women's Leadership Program (55 students in 2024-25), the number of in-state (27) and out-of-state (0) students receiving awards, the amount of the awards (equivalent to VTAG), the number of students graduating (15 in 2025), and the number of students receiving commissions in the military (7 in 2025). Ref: SB30, Item 132 and HB30, Item 132.
- **Budget.** The Virginia budget increase of \$65,000.00 instills confidence in the nation's only women-centered military leadership development program and enables VWIL to positively invest the full appropriation \$372,899.00 of general fund support toward urgent program needs for these future leaders. This funding will help repair and replace aging transportation to weekly ROTC courses totaling over 30K miles a semester; design and update VWIL's 29-year-old Class A uniform jacket; and cover VWIL's operating budget to include advanced experiential leadership development seminars and career preparedness.
- **Demographics.** In 2024–25, the VWIL Corps is comprised of 70% minority cadets. No other senior military college or military academy represents such a diverse population by percentage – VWIL's diversity is our strength. Under the leadership of Brigadier General Terry Djuric (USAF, Retired), VWIL's national reputation has grown, and our Corps of Cadets average 50% out-of-state students from 13 states who do not benefit from the Virginia VWIL grant.
- **Virginia Residents.** Mary Baldwin University awards this Virginia VWIL financial incentive to only Virginia cadets. In the past 10 years, those awards totaled: 2013, 56 students; 2014, 52 students; 2015, 46 students; 2016, 39 students; 2017, 39 students; 2018, 35 students; 2019, 42 students; 2020, 28 students; 2021, 28 students; 2022, 21 students; 2023, 20 students; and in 2024 we have 27 students from Virginia. We're confident we'll grow our Virginia enrollment next year with renewed efforts to partner with all JROTC units and high school military academies.
- **Graduates.** To date, 520 VWIL women have graduated from Mary Baldwin University; 45% of these graduates were Virginians, 40% were first-generation college students, and 56% pursued government careers at the local, state, national and international levels. Over the past 25 years of graduates, we've commissioned 187 officers and an additional 16 enlisted into the U.S. armed forces; and our current commissioning rate averages 55% between 2019 and 2024 compared to 37% in our first few years (1999-2004).
- **Partnership.** VWIL is a successful public-private partnership of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Mary Baldwin University, established in 1995 at the Commonwealth's request. The Virginia Corps of Cadets consists of VMI, VT, and VWIL. VWIL has represented 5% of the total Virginia Corps and 30% of the women in the Virginia Corps. The Commonwealth of Virginia's annual allocation in the state budget is essential and directly supports female cadets with dedicated leadership programming. The VWIL program administrative costs have been reduced while providing quality leadership development for the VWIL cadets—women leaders who believe in truth, duty, honor.

More information: www.marybaldwin.edu/vwil

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