

**Benjamin Avellaneda**  
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## **1.0 EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Philosophy, Geophysics**, Expected May 2030  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

**Bachelor of Science, Geosciences**, 2024  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

**Associate of Science**, 2022  
Lord Fairfax Community College, Warrenton, VA

## **2.0 HONORS / AFFILIATIONS**

- Best Presentation Award, Geosciences Student Research Symposium, 2026
- Thomas T. Jeffries Geoscience Endowed Fund, 2024
- Donald Dalton Scholarship, 2024
- Sigma Gamma Epsilon, National Honor Society for the Earth Sciences, 2024
- Geosciences Excellence Award, Virginia Tech, 2023
- Byron Cooper Geoscience Endowed Fellowship, 2023
- Army Achievement Medal, Army National Guard, 2022

## **3.0 RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- GNSS-based tectonic kinematics
- Continental deformation
- Geohazards

## **4.0 RELATED EXPERIENCE**

### **4.1 Research**

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Geosciences, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA  
Present

- Conduct research related to GNSS-based tectonic kinematics on an NSF-funded grant.
- Support ongoing research activities and project development in the Department of Geosciences.
- Use technical and analytical skills to contribute to research workflows and scientific problem solving.

### **4.2 Military**

Sergeant Team Leader, Virginia Army National Guard  
2020–Present

- Lead training activities and supervise junior soldiers.
- Support team readiness, accountability, and mission preparation.

Combat Engineer, Virginia Army National Guard, Petersburg, VA  
2017–Present

- Work in team-based and high-pressure environments requiring discipline, adaptability, and problem solving.
- Support training and mission requirements while maintaining safety and operational standards.

#### **4.3 Leadership / Service**

Food & Banquet Committee Co-Chair, Geoscience Student Research Symposium (GSRS)  
Present, 2026

- Helped coordinate food, banquet, and volunteer logistics for the 31<sup>st</sup> GSRS (2026).

Geosciences Ambassador, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA  
2022–2024

- Assisted with outreach and recruitment events for the Department of Geosciences.
- Represented the department to prospective students and visitors.