

GW BUFF & BLUE BOOK



YOUR JOURNEY TO GW BEGINS NOW!

CONGRATULATIONS

on officially becoming a member of our GW family! Your journey to GW begins now. Over the spring you will learn more about what it means to be a GW student, interact with your future classmates and current students, and complete necessary tasks to prepare you for success here at GW. The Buff and Blue Book covers everything you need to know and accomplish before starting your first day of classes. We encourage you to begin taking steps toward completing this checklist of required tasks.

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WELCOME FROM VICE PROVOST & DEAN OF STUDENTS



HELLO!

On behalf of the entire George Washington University community, let me be the first to say welcome. We are thrilled that you have chosen us! You are joining a vibrant community of scholars, leaders, creators and innovators who are dedicated to making a difference in the world. Membership in our community grants you access to an exceptional education that combines rigorous academics with hands-on learning experiences. Our world-renowned faculty are experts in their fields and are committed to helping you achieve your academic and career goals. You will have the opportunity to engage in cutting-edge

research, internships and community service projects that will allow you to apply what you learn in the classroom to real-world challenges.

Beyond the classroom, you are empowered to develop your leadership skills as we prepare you for a life of learning, engaged citizenship, and care for self and others. We encourage you to get involved in student organizations, community service and activities that align with your interests and passions.

As you begin your journey at GW, know that we are here to support you every step of the way. We will be alongside you through commencement, and we are committed to helping you achieve your goals and make the most of your time at GW.

Once again, welcome to the George Washington University! We are excited to embark on this journey together.

RAISE HIGH!

Colette Coleman
Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

ACADEMIC CALENDAR & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

"MEMBERSHIP IN OUR COMMUNITY **GRANTS**
YOU ACCESS TO AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION
THAT COMBINES RIGOROUS ACADEMICS WITH
HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES."

COLETTE COLEMAN, VICE PROVOST FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF STUDENTS



SPRING 2024

CALENDAR DATES

* VIEW OFFICIAL CALENDAR AT [GWU.EDU/ACADEMIC-CALENDAR](https://www.gwu.edu/academic-calendar)

RESIDENCE HALL MOVE-IN FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS:

Friday, Jan. 12 - Saturday, Jan. 13

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION:

Sunday, Jan. 14

NEW FAMILIES ORIENTATION:

Sunday, Jan. 14

MLK DAY:

Monday, Jan. 15

MLK DAY OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP:

Monday, Jan. 15

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES:

Tuesday, Jan. 16

WELCOME ICE SKATING:

Saturday, Jan. 20

DISTRICT CONNECTIONS WELCOME BACK:

Saturday, Jan. 20

PROGRAM BOARD’S GALA:

Friday, Feb. 2

PRESIDENT’S DAY (NO CLASSES):

Monday, Feb. 19

SPRING BREAK (NO CLASSES):**

Monday, March 11 - Saturday, March 16

LAST DAY OF CLASSES:

Monday, April 29

MAKE-UP DAY:

Tuesday, April 30

DESIGNATED MONDAY:

Wednesday, May 1

READING DAYS:

Thursday, May 2 - Friday, May 3

FINAL EXAMS:

Saturday, May 4 - Friday, May 10

COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND:

Thursday, May 16 - Sunday, May 19

****Note:** Residence halls remain open during spring break and summer break.



MLK Day of Service and Leadership

Dr. King recognized the power of service. He famously said, “Everyone can be great because everybody can serve.” GW’s MLK Day of Service and Leadership (MLK DoS) is a day to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., through a day of service, workshops, and reflection. GW’s 29th annual MLK DoS will take place on Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, from 11 AM-4 PM.

This day of service is a unique opportunity for hundreds of GW students, faculty, staff, alumni, and DC community members to strengthen their service values, create positive and impactful contributions to our communities, and commit to continuing acts of service as exemplified by Dr. King.

You can register now until Dec. 22, 2023, at go.gwu.edu/mlkday24!

District Connections Welcome Back

Welcome to campus! The District Connections (GWxDC) team is excited to welcome you to your new home. To kickoff the start of your GW journey, we’re taking all incoming students down to Washington Harbor Ice Skating Rink on Jan. 20. Get ready to meet friends, explore the historic Georgetown community, and of course, hit the ice! Sign ups will be sent to your GW email a week prior to the event.

ORIENTATION & WELCOME

WELCOME TO GW!

We are so excited to have you joining us this fall, and cannot wait for you to arrive on campus.

This year's New Student Orientation theme is **Empowering Community: GW Strong!** This theme highlights and celebrates all of the people, traditions, support systems and opportunities that make the GW community an amazing place to learn, grow, and thrive. From the first day of Orientation to Commencement on the National Mall, GW students are empowered to craft their own GW story, while positively contributing to the collective GW legacy.

As the newest member of our community, incoming students will explore what it means to be an active participant in shaping the community that is GW Strong through our NSO guiding principles: Curiosity, Critical Thinking, Exploration, Empathy, and Community. These principles will be discussed throughout the Orientation experience to help students center important attitudes and skills that will help them transition to college and GW.

So, take a deep breath and get ready to dive in. The New Student Orientation team will be your guides this spring and into the first couple of weeks of school as you prepare for your college transition. Our roles are to help orient, connect, and support you, your families, and all of our undergraduate students who will be attending GW for the first time in spring 2024. We are excited to get to know you and answer any questions you may have.

Once again, welcome to GW! We are excited to see how you make it your new home.

RAISE HIGH!

Your 2024 New Student Orientation Team
Charlotte, Kraemer, Steven and Dani



WAYS WE WILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU THIS FALL

■ YOUR GW EMAIL!

In early December, all email communications will be sent to your GW email. (See *checklist for how to set-up your GW email.*)

■ NEXT STOP, GW!

An electronic newsletter providing timely and relevant information, dates, deadlines and reminders you are required to complete throughout the fall and winter and upon arrival to GW. In addition, this communication tool provides an introduction to important campus resources, campus living and learning, and student life.

■ UPDATES FROM THE ORIENTATION TEAM!

Between *Next Stop, GW!* Newsletters, our student coordinators will communicate directly with you via your small group including virtual chats and email updates.

■ **OUR CAMPUS PARTNERS** also have relevant information to share. Here's what else you can expect:

- **How to register** for on-campus housing and select your dining plan via Campus Living and Residential Education.
- **How to submit** materials to process and create your GWorld Card via the GWorld Office.
- **How to submit** your health records including general immunizations verification, Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) and more via the Student Health Center.
- **A guide to understanding your eBill**—your tuition, housing, dining and other fees invoice via Student Accounts.
- **Introduction** to academic schools, undergraduate advising teams and the class registration process via the schools and colleges.

CHECKLIST & ACTION ITEMS BY MONTH



FALL 2023: YOUR JOURNEY TO GW

Placing your deposit is the first step in your journey to GW. This fall as you prepare for your first day of class on Jan. 16, these are your must-do action items to complete by month to help you have a smooth transition to college. Visit your student portal to help you complete these tasks.

FALL

→ THROUGHOUT FALL

- ☐ **Work on the Pre-Orientation Online Module**
This module must be completed by Jan. 6 as you will need the information learned in this module during a mandatory first-year group advising webinar. **Note: While this module will be available in the fall, you are not able access the module until after you have created your GW email.**

- ☐ **Register with Disability Support Services (if applicable)**
If you would like support to accommodate a disability for your classes or living on campus, you can register with **Disability Support Services (DSS)**. Should your situation change, you may register with DSS at any point while enrolled at GW.

→ STARTING MID-OCTOBER

- ☐ **Register for First-Year On-Campus Housing**
All first- and second-year students are required to live on campus with a few exceptions for local commuters, etc. The registration process starts mid-October. Students will receive instructions directly from Campus Living & Residential Education. The registration and room assignment process takes about a month. Students will receive their housing assignment mid-December.

→ BY NOV. 6

- ☐ **Claim your GW Identity** (i.e., UserID/GW email)
You will need your UserID/GW email to search for a roommate, apply for housing, register for classes and much more. Your UserID starts with the letter G followed by an eight-digit number. After Nov. 6, we will no longer email your personal email address. Check your GW email often (**we suggest daily**). Your GW email is the primary means by which GW offices and units will communicate with you while you are enrolled at GW.

Note: You will need your UserID and GW email to complete the following action items.

- ☐ **Register for New Student Orientation**
You must register for new student orientation by Dec. 21 so we can reserve your space and assign you a small group. During registration you will also select a District Connections trip to attend during orientation week. Reminder: In-person orientation is Jan. 14 and make-up orientation is Jan. 20.

- ☐ **Submit Mandatory Health Immunizations**
The District of Columbia Immunization Law requires that all enrolled students under the age of 26 provide proof of certain immunizations prior to registration. Deadline to submit immunizations via the Student Health Center medical portal is Jan. 4.

FALL (CONTINUED)

BY NOV. 6 (CONTINUED)

- ☐ **Review GW’s Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) Coverage**
All undergraduate students, including international students, must have medical health insurance coverage while enrolled at GW. Students are automatically enrolled each academic year in the GW Student Health Insurance Plan provided by Aetna Student Health.

If you are still covered by a parent’s or guardian’s employer coverage and want to continue using their health insurance plan, you must waive out of the GW Student Health Insurance option each year you are enrolled.

Before you waive out of GW’s Student Health Insurance plan, we recommend that you familiarize yourself with how your insurance coverage works outside of your geographic area (e.g., copays, deductibles, networks). This is especially important for international students as health care insurance from other countries may not be compatible with the U.S. healthcare system. **The waiver (opt-out) period opens Dec. 1 and closes Feb. 1, 2024**
- ☐ **Review and Update Your Personal Information**
In GWeb choose “My Profile” under the personal information menu. Here you can add or update your chosen name (which will be your display name across university systems, including class rosters), pronouns and gender identity, and contact information. To update your legal name or sex, please use the **Registrar’s Biographical Update form**. **Note: you can review and update your personal information on GWeb at any time while enrolled.**

→ DUE DECEMBER 15

- ☐ **Upload Your Photo to Create Your GWorld Card (your student ID)**
Your **GWorld Card** is your official GW identification card. It grants you access to campus including all academic buildings, the library and your residence hall. You will also use your card to enter the dining halls to eat, unlock your residence hall door, and print your term papers at printing kiosks.

→ ONGOING TASKS

- ☐ **Take Placement Exams**
Language, math, economics and chemistry classes may require placement exams to determine your class level. **Note: You must complete all required placement exams a minimum of one week before class registration begins to help your academic adviser determine which course best fits your level and schedule.**

Language: Each foreign language department has a specific exam and/or policy regarding placement. Those with high AP/IB scores and native speakers may have special instructions for which level they should take. For details, visit the **Language Center website**.

Math and Economics: The ALEKS (Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces) Math Placement Test is required for any students who intend to register for ECON 1001, ECON 1011, MATH 1051, MATH 1220, MATH 1231 or MATH 1252.

• Tuesday, Jan. 16: 9-11:30 am, 12-2:30 pm and 3:15-5:45 pm

• Wednesday, Jan. 17: 9-11:30 am, 12-2:30 pm and 3:15-5:45 pm

Consult the Department of **Economics’ ALEKS webpage** and the Department of **Mathematics’ ALEKS webpage** for more information and to take the test.

Chemistry: General Chemistry (CHEM 1111) requires completion of the ALEKS Chemistry Preparatory Course (CPC). This applies to all incoming students who intend on pursuing coursework in the following fields: applied sciences, biological sciences, chemical sciences, engineering (all majors), physical science (B.S. only), pre-health sciences (e.g., dentistry, medicine, veterinary medicine and nursing). For more information and to take the test, visit the Department of **Chemistry’s ALEKS website**.

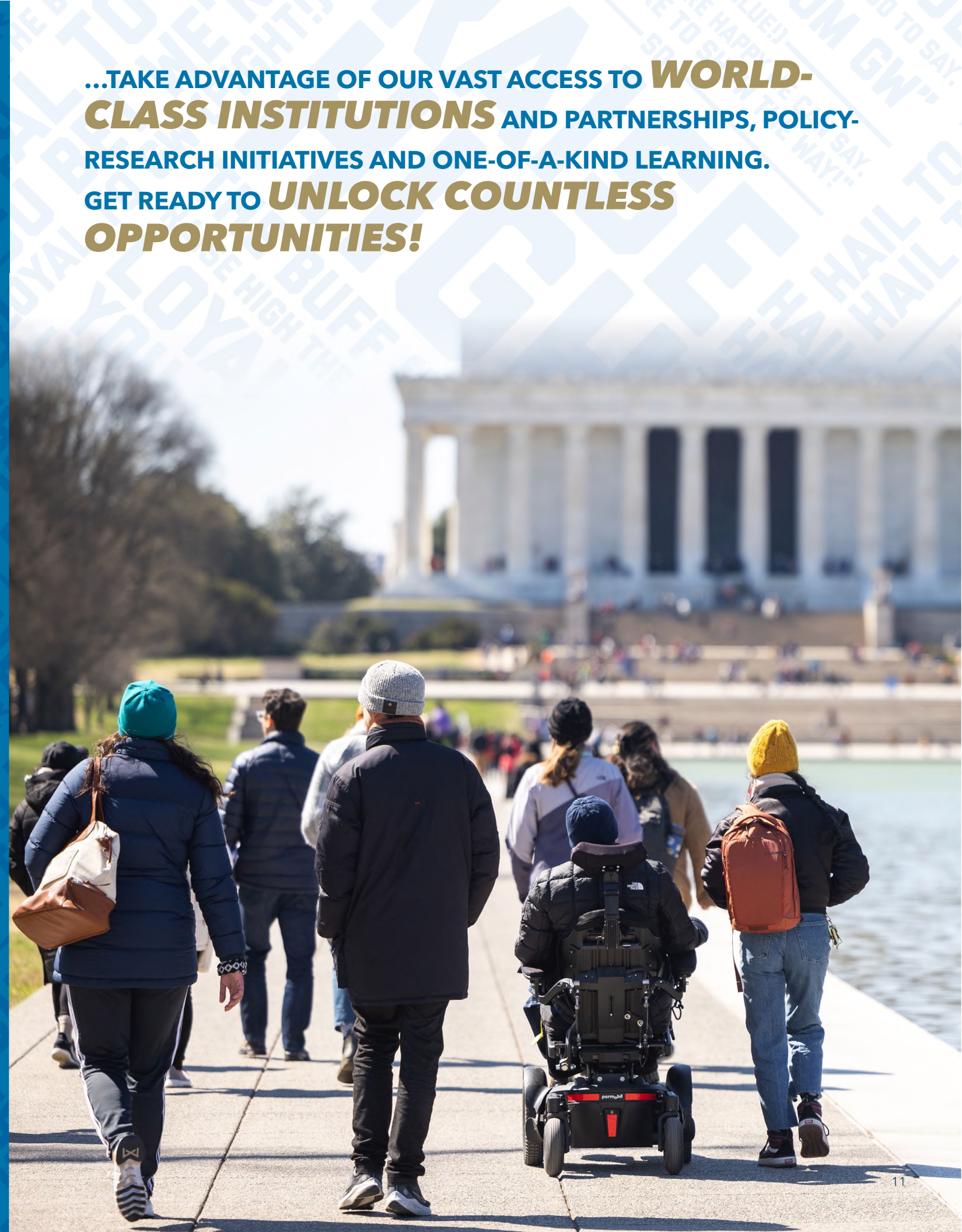
- ☐ **Review and Submit Your FERPA Waiver (if applicable)**
GW abides by the federal government’s FERPA policy (**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974**), which requires the university to protect the privacy of your student educational record. This means staff and faculty can only talk to you, and not your parent, guardian or other family member about your classes, grades, financial aid, etc. If at any time, you would like to give consent to allow a staff or faculty member to talk to a family member about your educational records, you will need to fill out a **FERPA/Student Consent Release Form**. **Note: this form can be completed at any time while enrolled at GW.**
- ☐ **Review Your Student eBill (tuition invoice) and Grant an Authorized User Access to Your Student Account**
To help with your financial planning, the Office of Student Accounts will email first-year students a preliminary eBill, i.e., invoice for tuition, room and board and fees (**as applicable**). A follow-up eBill will be issued after class registration. You (the student) can grant another authorized user access to your Student Account who can make online payments on your behalf such as a parent, guardian or another family member. Add a new authorized user by **logging into the eBill system** and clicking authorized users on the right menu bar. Next enter the other individual’s email address and that new authorized user will be sent a unique encrypted password and link to your eBill. **Note: registering another individual as an authorized user does not sign them up for any emails/lists from GW. They will only receive information from Student Accounts about the eBill.**



CAMPUS RESOURCES:

YOUR ACADEMIC
EXPERIENCE

...TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR VAST ACCESS TO **WORLD-
CLASS INSTITUTIONS** AND PARTNERSHIPS, POLICY-
RESEARCH INITIATIVES AND ONE-OF-A-KIND LEARNING.
GET READY TO **UNLOCK COUNTLESS
OPPORTUNITIES!**





SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OVERVIEW

- **COLUMBIAN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (CCAS)** – The broad study of the liberal arts is matched with ground-breaking research that advances discovery and influences policy at GW's oldest and largest college.
 - **Corcoran School of the Arts and Design** –The Corcoran School, part of Columbian College, is an incubator for the fine arts and offers performing arts and art exhibitions open to the greater university community.
 - **School of Media and Public Affairs (SMPA)** – Part of Columbian College, prepares the next generation of journalists and political communicators as students and faculty uncover the most effective ways to connect and inform in today's complex media world.
- **ELLIOTT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (ESIA)** – While every school of international affairs bridges theory and practice, the Elliott School offers more than bridges: It provides sidewalks. Our location in the heart of Washington, D.C., enables the fresh exchange of ideas and information between policy shapers and academic experts.

- **SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (GWSB)** – With established relationships within the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the U.S. State Department (all located just blocks away), students in GWSB learn firsthand how to see beyond the bottom line and consider the big picture of international affairs, finance, sustainability, ethics and corporate responsibility—often all at once.
- **SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE (GW ENGINEERING)** – In the heart of the nation's capital, GW Engineering isn't just about engineering – we're about "engineering and...". GW Engineering provides a world-class education and research enterprise, talented faculty, modern facilities, and engineering solutions to societal grand challenges.
- **MILKEN INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH** – The only school of public health in Washington, D.C., Milken Institute SPH spearheads initiatives and programs that fight obesity, improve community health policy and assess the quality of care provided nationally and around the world.



WHAT IS ACADEMIC ADVISING AND WHY IT MATTERS!

Academic advising helps students explore academic interests, review degree requirements and curriculum, and discuss career paths and plans. Your academic advisor is there to help you navigate your academic career while keeping you on track to graduate on time.

TO SET YOU UP ON THIS PATH FOR SUCCESS, FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- Learn the basics through the Pre-Orientation Online Module.
- Complete the academic interest survey.
- Attend your school's mandatory advising webinar.
- Utilize the Plan Ahead feature to prepare for class registration.

By establishing a solid foundation of courses in your first semester, you will be primed for success. The academic advising focus in the fall is preparing you for your first class registration.

While we know you may have specific questions about your academic plans, advisors are unable to discuss these broader goals until after you attend your school's advising webinar. Additionally, students will attend a First-Year Experience course in the spring. These First-Year Experience courses in conjunction with ongoing conversations with your advisor are the opportune time for you to address your plans and specific questions as your college journey begins.



CLASS REGISTRATION

How Class Registration Works

- As you prepare for spring registration, we encourage you to update your contact information, including your cell phone number and current address. You can do this by logging in to GWeb and navigate to the "prepare for registration" link under the Records and Registration menu.
- Prior to the date and time of your registration, you are encouraged to login to GWeb to ensure you can login successfully.
- On your spring registration date and start time login to GWeb.
- Once you are logged in, click on the Registration Menu. More details, including screenshots and instructions about the registration process is available in Section 1 of the Pre-Orientation Online Module.



LIBRARIES AND ACADEMIC INNOVATION

- **GW LIBRARIES** - Provides many of the services and resources students need to be successful in their learning and research endeavors.

Highlights of GW Libraries

- Quiet and group study available with a variety of spaces to meet your preferences.
- Research materials and assistance available in person and online. Distance students can have print materials mailed to them at no charge.
library.gwu.edu
- CREATE digital studio offers professional-level AV equipment and computers for editing as well as workshops and individual advice in multimedia software.
- Libraries available to all GW students:
 - Gelman Library (Foggy Bottom campus)
 - Eckles Library (Mount Vernon campus)
 - Virginia Science and Technology Campus Library
- Hours of Operation
library.gwu.edu/hours

- **ACADEMIC COMMONS** - A one-stop shop for all academic services and resources available at GW. Visit the Ask Us desk on the ground floor of Gelman Library.

Services Offered

- Tutoring and Review Sessions: Course-specific peer tutoring and review sessions are free.
go.gwu.edu/tutoring
- Writing Help: Dedicated attention to writing and research projects at all stages of the writing process.
writingcenter.gwu.edu
- Research Assistance: Personalized help in strategizing and finding resources for any project or paper is available by appointment.
go.gwu.edu/consultations
- Study Skills for Virtual and In-Person Learning: Learn to better manage your time, improve your note-taking skills, or get organized with information and videos, many made by GW students.
academiccommons.gwu.edu/study-skills
- Workshops and Consultations: Free workshops and consultations are available in programming, coding, data organization, statistical analysis, Adobe Creative Suite, Geographic Information System and more.
go.gwu.edu/libworkshops
- Undergraduate Research: Get hands-on experience in your field of interest by participating in the undergraduate research opportunities available.
researchcommons.gwu.edu



GW JARGON

YOUR INSIDER'S GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING ACRONYMS AND PHRASES YOU'LL ENCOUNTER WHILE AT GW

- **#OnlyatGW** - A phrase used by GW students, faculty and staff to describe events that one can only experience at GW, such as attending an on-campus event with Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.
- **Buff & Blue** - GW's official school colors.
- **CC | Community Coordinator** - A professional staff member who lives in your residence hall. CCs are a resource for students living in the halls.
- **CLRE** - Short for Campus Living & Residential Education. This is the team that manages the residence halls and helps students create community there.
- **Gelbucks** - This is what you get when you combine Gelman Library with Starbucks. Why? The Starbucks is located on the ground floor of Gelman Library.
- **GWorld | GWorld Card** - Your official student ID. It is used to tap into residence halls, swipe into the dining halls, and pay for laundry, printing and other items.
- **GARMY** - George's Army, a.k.a. the student section at our sporting events (mainly basketball).
- **HelWell** - Home base for campus recreation and fitness is the Lerner Health and Wellness Center, known colloquially as HelWell.
- **Hilltern** - A student with an internship on Capitol Hill.
- **Kogan** - Kogan Plaza is often shortened to just Kogan, as in "meet me in Kogan." It's the area outside of the Gelman Library, and our center of Foggy Bottom campus.
- **LA | Learning Assistant** - A learning assistant is an undergraduate student who works closely with the instructor of a course to run small group sessions in class and review sessions outside of class. They differ from teaching assistants in that they don't share grading responsibility.
- **MSSC | Multicultural Student Services Center** - Provides multicultural programming, community, cultural education, and a safe and supportive environment for underrepresented and historically underserved students.
- **Raise High!** - GW's rally cry that unites and encourages all students, alumni, faculty and staff to strive for excellence
- **SA | Student Association** - GW's student government
- **Safe Ride** - Provides a free and safe ride to/ from Foggy Bottom campus residence halls and academic buildings during late-night hours for students who prefer not to walk alone.
- **Square 80** - Green space area located between G and H streets and 21st and 22nd streets respectively.
- **TA | Teaching Assistant** - Graduate or undergraduate students who help professors with grading and teaching and hold their own office hours to help answer student questions.
- **The Vern | MVC** - The Mount Vernon campus is located in D.C.'s Foxhall neighborhood. The Vern as it is affectionately known houses about a third of the first-year population.
- **USC | University Student Center** - The student-centric building that houses student organization meeting space, the Student Health Center, GWorld Office, Student Services Hub, the MSSC, Division for Student Affairs, student rooms and dining options.
- **UserID** - Your UserID starts with the letter G followed by an eight-digit number. It is the ID that you'll use to log into most GW resources.
- **U-Yard | University Yard** - GW's grassy quad on the Foggy Bottom campus.
- **Vern Express | Mount Vernon Express** - The shuttle that transports the GW community between the Mount Vernon and Foggy Bottom campuses.
- **Vool** - The pool located on the Mount Vernon campus.

CAMPUS RESOURCES:

YOUR LIFE ON-CAMPUS,
OUTSIDE OF THE
CLASSROOM

**GW'S ACADEMIC LIFE GOES
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM...**





CAMPUS LIVING & RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION

Contact Information

 living.gwu.edu

 202-994-2552

 living@gwu.edu

 [@homeatgw](https://www.instagram.com/homeatgw)

Purpose

Campus Living & Residential Education (CLRE) supports all aspects of residential living, creating safe, supportive and inclusive communities where all residents can feel at home. On-campus living is a premier residential experience that sparks vibrant communities, cultivates lifelong connections, promotes self-discovery, develops global leaders and fosters an affinity for GW.

Services

First-Year Housing Registration: All first-year students are required to live on campus unless approved for an exemption. Housing at GW is based on a student's class year at GW, not on the academic credits that a student has.

Transfer Student Housing Registration: If you have graduated from high school and completed at least one college course since high school graduation you will register for housing as a transfer student.

Move In and Out Logistics: After you receive your room assignment, you will sign-up for a move-in time slot .

Gender-Inclusive Housing: Students who identify as different genders or have a gender identity different than the one they were born with may live together in one apartment or room.

24/7 Administrator On-Call: Staff are on duty 24/7 to address urgent student concerns and provide after-hours support for situations that cannot wait until the next business day.

Faculty-in-Residence: Faculty live in the residential halls to facilitate learning beyond the classroom and serve as role models.

Living-Learning Communities: Communities where students live together based on shared interest or academic program.

Residential Student Leadership: Join your hall council to help program events and provide your voice and input in residence hall governance.



You will engage with **Community Coordinators** who are professional staff members living in the residence halls. They are there to assist with issues related to living with a roommate, personal difficulties adjusting to college life, and building issues or concerns.



TO BUILD CONNECTIONS

We encourage you to attend the events hosted in your residence hall by your Community Coordinators. These programs will help you meet your hallmates, and they create opportunities to build connections.



GW DINING

Contact Information

 dining.gwu.edu

 202-994-0927

 dining@gwu.edu

 [@gwdining](https://www.instagram.com/gwdining)

Purpose

Dining meal plans are designed to fit your unique needs. With flexibility, convenience and affordability in mind, the aim of the on-campus dining experience is to provide students with access to food that is culturally diverse and allergen-friendly in state-of-the art dining spaces inside our residence halls and through our on- and off-campus dining partners. All first-year students living on campus participate in the unlimited meal plan, which allows students to transition to life away from home without the concern of budgeting for each meal.

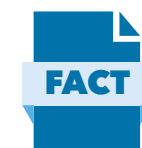
Services

On-Campus Dining:

- Three all-you-care-to eat dining spaces: in Thurston, Shenkman and West residence halls.
- District House and the University Student Center dining offers different stations where you order a “meal deal,” i.e., entree, side and drink at one of the four stations located within.
- Hillel Cafe serves kosher food with seating for 150 people.

GWWorld’s Dining Partners: A set amount of dining dollars are included with your unlimited meal plan. Use your dining dollars like a debit card to “eat out” at one of more than 80 dining partners across campus and in D.C.

GW’s “GET” mobile app: Add dining dollars to your GWWorld card at any time during the semester.



Once per hour you can dine at any of the all-you-care-to-eat dining halls, District House and the University Student Center. You can first swipe in at Thurston for lunch and then one hour later also swipe into Shenkman if you realize you are still hungry and want dessert or a sandwich to-go on the way to your next class.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

TECHNOLOGY AT GW

Contact Information

 it.gwu.edu

 202-994-GWIT (4948)

 ithelp@gwu.edu

Purpose

GW Information Technology (GW IT) is the chief provider of technology infrastructure, services and applications. The division equips students, staff and faculty with the technology know-how and tools necessary to achieve academic excellence by providing advanced technology solutions.

Services

Claim Your Identity: Set up your password and two-step authentication for your GW email. You will need your GW email to complete class registration, housing and other requirements.

Email: GW uses Google mail and calendar for student email accounts.

Internet Access: On-campus wireless internet access is available using your UserID followed by @gwu.edu and password.

Connect Streaming Devices: Apple TV, Playstations, Roku, Nintendo Switches and Xboxes may connect to GW’s wireless entertainment network.

Printing: Print from anywhere on- or off- campus, and even from your mobile devices. A print credit is allocated at the beginning of the academic year to help offset printing costs.

Technology Purchase Recommendations: Should I bring a laptop or desktop? That depends! Check out the [New Student Technology Guide](#) prior to your arrival to campus.



CAMPUS RECREATION

Contact Information

 campusrecreation.gwu.edu

 202-994-1532

 fit4life@gwu.edu

Purpose

GW Campus Recreation strives to create a space and environment for students to move joyfully, explore different types of physical activity, enjoy constructive competition opportunities for individuals of all abilities, and connect with others in meaningful ways. Workout in the state-of-the-art Lerner Health and Wellness Center. Most importantly, have fun and build sustainable and positive health habits that will stay with you for a lifetime!

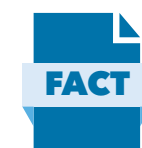
Services

Club Sports: Registered student organizations established by students who are motivated by a common interest to participate in a specific sport.

Group Fitness: Each class is first-come, first-serve for the first 30 participants. Class types, days and times will vary.

Intramural Sports: Offers opportunities to meet new people with similar interests as well as compete against each other in a fun, safe environment.

Lerner Health and Wellness Center: This 189,000-square-foot fitness center is located at 23rd and G streets and features a variety of cardio and strength training equipment, a pool, a track, several courts and multipurpose rooms.



More than 100 group fitness classes, workshops and fitness tutorials are on the [GW Campus Rec YouTube channel](#). If you can't make it to Lerner for a fitness class, use your mobile device and work out in your residence hall room.

STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

Contact Information

 healthcenter.gwu.edu

 202-994-5300

 shcadmin@gwu.edu

Purpose

The Student Health Center (SHC) is a multidisciplinary, integrated student healthcare service that provides confidential, student centered care in an accessible, safe, culturally sensitive and supportive environment. The health center promotes healthy lifestyle choices in support of the physical and emotional well-being of students to help them achieve academic success.

Services

Medical Services: Physicians, nurse practitioners and registered nurses provide primary and preventative medical care services and monitor and respond to public health issues on campus.

Counseling and Psychological Services: Counselors provide a safe, non-judgmental and confidential environment for students to discuss concerns through a personalized stepped-care approach.

Psychiatric Services: Assessment, diagnostic and treatment recommendations are provided by staff psychiatrists with short-term treatment available or for ongoing treatment, referrals are offered.

AcademicLiveCare: Access to expanded telehealth services including additional counseling services, urgent medical care, therapy and psychiatry appointments at no cost to full-time GW students.

Student Health Insurance Plan: GW offers a comprehensive plan through Aetna Student Health.



BE FAMILIAR WITH MYHEALTH.GWU.EDU

Familiarize yourself with the SHC's patient portal- myhealth.gwu.edu. The portal is used to upload your **immunization records** (mandatory) and COVID-19 vaccination documentation (recommended). The portal is also where you receive messages from your health provider.




STUDENT INVOLVEMENT & LEADERSHIP

Contact Information

 studentlife.gwu.edu/get-involved

 202-994-6555

 orghelp@gwu.edu

 [@studentlifeatGW](https://www.instagram.com/studentlifeatGW)

Purpose

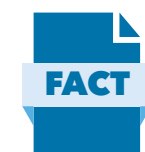
The Student Involvement and Leadership team focuses on the student experience through student organizations, leadership programs, and fraternity and sorority life. The team facilitates involvement and engagement in the campus community so that students can find belonging and connectedness at GW.

Services

Fraternity and Sorority Life: More than 1,300 students participate in 34 chapters and four councils.

GW Engage: Student portal to access a calendar of activities and events for students. Most events are free, and all are fun!

Student Organizations: Dedicated to an array of causes, identities and interests, student organizations put on some of the most highly anticipated campus events and offer endless opportunities for involvement and leadership.



There are **more than 500 student organizations** at GW, so there's something for everyone!



TRY NEW THINGS

Don't be afraid to try new things, attend org meetings and talk to student org leaders! Everyone is excited for you to find your passion and get involved.

STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Contact Information

 studentconduct.gwu.edu

 202-994-6757

 rights@gwu.edu

Purpose

Student Rights & Responsibilities fosters equitable and restorative accountability to community standards. This is accomplished by promoting individual rights and communal responsibilities, supporting community members to identify and repair harm, and growing community capacity for conflict management.

Services

Code of Academic Integrity: The primary document that sets minimum standards for academic student conduct, the code defines the rights of students charged with an academic disciplinary violation, lists the procedures for resolving academic disciplinary matters and provides guidance for academic disciplinary sanctions.

Code of Student Conduct: The primary document governing non-academic student behavior, it defines prohibited conduct for students and student organizations and sets up a conduct system to address reported violations and preserve student rights.

Before you become a GW community member, you'll want to know what GW expects of you and what you can expect from GW.

- Your right to **speech and expression**
- Your right to be free from **prohibited discrimination**
- What is permitted and prohibited for everything from marijuana use to academic citations – **know the codes**.



CONSIDER DECISIONS FOR THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

Make decisions deliberately and thoughtfully, considering both what you are seeking immediately as well as the impact your actions will have on others and your future self



STUDENT SUPPORT

Contact Information

 studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-support

 202-994-6555

 students@gwu.edu

Purpose

The Student Support team helps students succeed by connecting them to resources and helping to develop plans of action to meet their goals. In addition to supporting **first-generation**, **transfer**, **off-campus**, and **military and veteran-affiliated students**, the team helps students navigate long-term illness, family emergencies or other issues.

Services

CARE Referral Network: This team manages an online **form** that allows for any individual to submit a concern on behalf of a GW student. The team will assess the concerns reported and connect students to appropriate resources.

First-Gen Support: There are many definitions for what it means to be a first-gen college student, the Student Support team helps these students navigate the complexities of college life.

Health Promotion and Education: Offers peer-health education through Raise Up GW, an initiative focused on comprehensive well-being experiences across campus through programming such as GW Late Night, Final Lap, Chalk-In, etc.

Military and Veteran Services: Assists student veterans, dependents and military personnel with timely and accurate benefit processing and supportive community-building activities.

The Store: A student-run food pantry, The Store provides free food, lightly used business attire, household items, toiletries and menstrual hygiene products.




ALCOHOLEDU®

By the first day of classes all incoming first-year students must complete AlcoholEdu®, an online training designed to prevent risky drinking and other drug use. If you do not complete your training, a hold will be placed on your student account

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Contact Information

 diversity.gwu.edu

 202-994-7434

 diverse@gwu.edu

 [@InclusionatGW](https://www.instagram.com/InclusionatGW)

Purpose

The Office for Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement (ODECE) supports GW's strategic priorities and aspirations for academic excellence by providing diversity expertise, tools, data and programming that inform and shape curricular, research, administrative and outreach activities to improve teaching and learning outcomes; facilitate mentoring and leadership development; increase the dissemination and application of knowledge; and build and sustain vital community partnerships.

Services

- Supports students from historically marginalized populations.
- Educational opportunities for students, faculty and staff.
- Oversees the university's **bias incident reporting**.
- Creates avenues for students to receive support, feel seen and affirmed, and show up as their most authentic selves.
- Advocates for students to receive equitable experiences.
- Eliminates barriers and obstacles impacting student success.



ODECE hosts an **annual three-day diversity summit each spring** (typically March). Past keynote speakers have included activist Angela Davis and actress MJ Rodriguez!



MULTICULTURAL STUDENT SERVICES CENTER

Contact Information

 mssc.gwu.edu

 202-994-MSSC (6772)

 mssc@gwu.edu

Purpose

MSSC facilitates student leadership development and provides cultural education and programming in a safe space that invites and welcomes students to explore, embrace and share their diverse identities and experiences. The MSSC invites students to join others at a variety of events and activities and take advantage of resources to access the support they may need.

Services

MSSC signature programs include:

- MSSC Block Party
- Family Dinners
- King Week
- MSSC Thanksgiving Dinners
- National Coming Out Day
- Cultural Heritage Celebrations
- Queer & Conversation Series
- Trans @ GW
- Pride Month



EVERYONE BELONGS

As you embark on this new journey, remember to take a deep breath, set a manageable pace and find a supportive community to help you along the way. We believe in creating a safe and inclusive space where everyone belongs. Please reach out and connect with others. You are not alone.

HONEY W. NASHMAN CENTER FOR CIVIC AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Contact Information

 serve.gwu.edu

 202-994-9900

 gwserves@gwu.edu

Purpose

The center is dedicated to meeting community needs, promoting active citizenship in a diverse democracy, and enhancing teaching, learning and scholarship. The center gets students engaged in national and international service that makes an immediate and powerful impact through a variety of programs that include community service, social innovation and community-engaged scholarship.

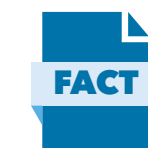
Services

Annual Service Events: From the Welcome Day of Service to the MLK Day of Service, annual events present opportunities to engage in service on a one-time basis.

Civic Leadership Certificate: An opportunity to design an engagement experience as a way to develop knowledge and skills

Community Service and Engagement: Long-term service opportunities with off-campus partners.

Record Your Service Hours: Each hour of service signifies an area where our community made a sustainable and ethical impact.




In 2020-21, **more than 5,000** GW community **members** recorded **654,708** hours of service.



TITLE IX OFFICE

Contact Information

 titleix.gwu.edu

 202-994-7434

 titleix@gwu.edu

 [@gwttitleix](https://www.instagram.com/gwttitleix)

Purpose

The Title IX Office supports the university's commitment to maintaining a positive climate for study and work by fairly and equitably responding to reports of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. If you have experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and/or dating violence or stalking, there are people at GW and in the community who want to help you. You don't have to go through this by yourself.

Services

GW Title IX Policies: GW policies explicitly prohibit sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. They also explain the resolution process when a formal complaint is filed with the Title IX coordinator.

Title IX Office's Prevention Training Calendar: Prevention education training is offered including topics such as healthy relationships, bystander intervention, how to respond to disclosures and designated reporter responsibilities.

Mandatory Title IX Training: All new, first-time students are required to complete an online and in-person training.

How to Get Help: If you have been affected by sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and/or dating violence, or stalking there are campus resources to help you.

Title IX Online Reporting Form: Report sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking even if you were not directly involved in an incident and even if you would prefer to remain anonymous.




IT'S OK TO SEEK HELP

The GW Title IX Office wants all students to know that it is OK and encouraged to seek help, particularly in the aftermath of a traumatic incident. We offer supportive resources, care about your well-being and are here to support you.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

Contact Information

 safety.gwu.edu/oas

 202-994-0443

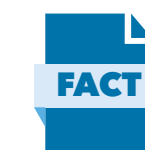
 oas@gwu.edu

Purpose

The Office of Advocacy and Support provides trauma-informed and healing-centered confidential support to GW students impacted by sexual violence, relationship violence and/or stalking. The office works to foster a community that values and promotes healthy relationships through support and prevention programming.

Services

- Safety planning
- Confidential, trauma-informed processing space
- Resource navigation and referrals
- Prevention education programming



OAS is the **only confidential support resource** for student survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence and intimate partner stalking




BUSINESS SERVICES

Contact Information

 business-services.gwu.edu

 202-994-9718

 dining@gwu.edu
parking@gwu.edu
gwmails@gwu.edu
Upass@gwu.edu

 [@StyleGW](https://www.instagram.com/StyleGW)

Purpose

Business Services works to enhance the campus-life experience by providing industry-leading, accessible, sustainable and affordable services to the GW community including Dining, the Campus Store, Parking, Mail Operations, Licensing and Trademarks, Laundry, Vending, Summer Storage and the U•Pass program.

Services

Campus Store: If you forgot to get your GW gear during your campus visit, order online so you can sport the buff and blue when you get to campus.

Parking: First-year students are prohibited from bringing vehicles to campus except in extenuating circumstances.

Mail Operations: Check out how to ship packages to campus.

Laundry: Residential students receive 34 free laundry cycles per semester pre-loaded on their GWorld card.

U•Pass Student Transit program: Unlimited use of Metrorail and Metrobus for \$100 per semester.



U•PASS CARD

Don't forget to pick up your U•Pass card when you check-in to your residence hall. Commuters, go to the GWorld Office for yours.

STUDENT SERVICES HUB

STUDENT FINANCIAL & REGISTRATION SERVICES

Contact Information

 studentserviceshub.gwu.edu

 202-994-9000

 serviceshub@gwu.edu

 [@GWServicesHub](https://twitter.com/GWServicesHub)

Purpose

Student Financial and Registration Services is a centralized hub located on the ground floor of the University Student Center that brings together the offices of Student Financial Assistance, Student Accounts and the Registrar into one space. Staff are cross-trained to assist you with your financial aid, registration and billing questions.

Services

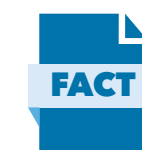
Apply for Financial Aid: Don't forget to re-submit your FAFSA yearly. March 1 is the priority deadline for continuing students.

Discuss your Bill and Charges: Students receive an eBill invoice for each semester enrolled. Payments must be made by the first day of class each semester.

Register for Class: Use the Plan Ahead tool to help you create up to five draft schedules to reference when it is time to register.

Secure Transcripts: You may be asked to supply a copy of your academic record if you are applying for a loan, scholarship or grant.

Online Help: Use the online chatbot to help with general questions about deadlines, how to complete required tasks and general navigational guidance. The chatbot can be found on the [Student Financial Assistance](#), [Student Accounts](#) and [Registrar](#) websites.



In 2022, **the Hub responded to thousands of phone calls, emails and walk-ins!**



CENTER FOR CAREER SERVICES

Contact Information

 careerservices.gwu.edu

 202-994-6495

 gwcareercenter@gwu.edu

 [@gwcareercenter](https://www.instagram.com/gwcareercenter)

 [@gwcareercenter](https://twitter.com/gwcareercenter)

Purpose

The Center for Career Services supports students through all stages of their career development, from exploring career options, interests and skills to gaining internship experience, building a professional network and transitioning into their chosen field after graduation. The center offers individual career coaching, professional development workshops, industry panels, career fair and professional networking events.

Services

Career Coaching Appointments: Sign up for career coaching appointments through Handshake.

Workshops and Panels: Workshops include resume and cover letter writing, interviewing and job search strategies.

Career Events: In-person and virtual career fairs and industry-focused networking events are held every semester, giving students the opportunity to connect directly with hiring employers.

Industry Newsletters: Sign up for online newsletters produced by the industry career coaches and stay informed of the latest events, resources, internships and jobs in your field of interest.

Networking: Network with alumni willing to offer career advice or mentorship.

Affinity Communities: Resources to assist the career and personal development of diverse students.

FACT

More than \$200,000 in student grants is awarded annually to students to offset unpaid, high-quality internships related to academic and career goals

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Contact Information

 careerservices.gwu.edu/student-employment

 202-994-8046

 gwcareercenter@gwu.edu

 [@gwstudentemploy](https://www.instagram.com/gwstudentemploy)

 [@gwstudentemploy](https://twitter.com/gwstudentemploy)

Purpose

Student Employment is an option for students to work in an hourly wage part-time position. Positions include **Federal Work-Study (FWS) positions** with an on-campus department or **approved off-campus organizations** as well as **Non-FWS positions** with an on-campus department. Working in a student employment position during your college years can help you gain experiences and develop skills for your future career.

Services

The **Student Employment** and the **Center for Career Services Career Learning and Experience** teams can help students through applying, interviewing and getting hired into a position.

FACT

Each year **more than 4,200 student employees work in 200 departments** on- or off-campus through the Federal Work Study program



APPLY EARLY, APPLY A LOT

Apply to positions early, apply to multiple positions and use the resources available to be successful in your position search. Most positions are filled in the first month of the fall semester. First-year students often wait and then have a challenging time finding a position.



GW POLICE DEPARTMENT

Contact Information

 safety.gwu.edu/police

 202-994-6110 (Non-Emergency) | 202-994-6111 (On-Campus Emergency)

 safety@gwu.edu

Purpose

The George Washington University Police Department (GWPD) provides residential hall security and patrol services to the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses and coordinates safety and security for a variety of on-campus special events. In addition to those roles and responsibilities, GWPD provides crime prevention education to the GW community.

Services

Around-the-Clock Patrol Services: Officers take reports and engage with students while on patrol and engage with students during campus events.

Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) Class: A basic physical defense course for women focuses on techniques in self-defense, highlights awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance.

Coffee with the Chief: Students have the opportunity to interact with the chief and the department's officers in a non-law enforcement capacity.



GWPD's motto is "Pride in Protection and Service." The department believes in trust, transparency and accountability




TAKE YOUR TIME, ASK QUESTIONS

Transitioning to a city campus that is open to the public can be challenging and overwhelming. Take your time to become familiar with the campus, if you are unsure of things or something does not feel right, don't hesitate to ask questions and know that GWPD is always here to assist in any way that we can.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Contact Information

 safety.gwu.edu/emergency-management

 202-994-4936

 oem@gwu.edu

 [@gwsafety](https://www.instagram.com/gwsafety)

Purpose

The Office of Emergency Management works with the GW community to lead GW in mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from all hazards.

Services

EMeRG (GW EMS): A student-run EMS group serves the Foggy Bottom campus.

GW Alert: Email alerts are sent to all students to provide updates on emergency situations. To receive text alerts, add your mobile number to the portal.

Guardian App: An additional layer of security to GW's emergency mass notification services. The app also has a safety timer that helps monitor your safety late at night.

Campus Advisories: Provides incident-related and non incident-related updates to situations happening on and sometimes near campus.

Emergency Response Handbook: Actions to take if you find yourself in an emergency situation when on campus.

GW Emergency Operations Plan: The plan describes how the university responds to emergencies.



BEING PERSONALLY PREPARED IS BEST WAY TO BE READY

Personal preparedness is the best way to be ready in case of an emergency. Have an emergency kit, know what numbers to call and have a plan.

RAISE HIGH THE BUFF & BLUE!



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC