

#MASONFAMILY



The Johnson Family
2024 George Mason Family of the Year

2025-26 FAMILY CALENDAR





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear George Mason Families,

I welcome you to a new academic year at George Mason University, the largest and most innovative public university in Virginia!

You are part of an institution whose impact is growing by the day. *The Wall Street Journal* ranks George Mason as the No. 30 public university in the country, and top in the Commonwealth of Virginia for value and upward mobility. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks George Mason as the top public university in the state for innovation, upward mobility, and internships.

Whether you're the family member enrolled in classes or not, you're *all* Patriots to us. We encourage you to play an active role in your student's experience at George Mason. Visit our campuses and the dynamic Washington, D.C., region. Take part in the many activities we offer, from the arts to athletics to events specifically for George Mason families such as Family Weekend, which is an annual highlight.

This calendar provides important dates, monthly tips, and contact information for services to make the George Mason student and family experience one to cherish now and for years to come.

We look forward to seeing you! Go, Patriots!

Gregory Washington
President, George Mason University

STAY CONNECTED

AS A GEORGE MASON FAMILY



New Student and Family Programs (NSFP) recognizes the important role families play in their student’s development and success at George Mason. NSFP serves as a liaison between the university and families and provides pathways for families to become active members of the George Mason community through programming and outreach.

Take advantage of the following resources and stay connected to George Mason throughout the year!

GET INVOLVED

Parent and Family Council
The Parent and Family Council (PAFC) provides an opportunity for parents and families to meet with university leadership, volunteer at events, and become actively engaged and informed members of the George Mason community.

Parent and Family Fund
The Parent and Family Fund offers parents and families the opportunity to play a role in building and shaping an exemplary educational experience for George Mason students. You can be part of every student’s success by giving a gift of any size at any point throughout your student’s time at George Mason.

COME BACK TO VISIT

Family Weekend
October 17-19, 2025
Join us for our annual university-wide celebration that takes place each fall. Events are designed to allow you to meet other families, become familiar with university resources, spend time with your student, and learn more about life as a George Mason Patriot!

STAY INFORMED

Website
If you have a question about George Mason and aren’t sure where to start, visit masonfamily.gmu.edu and take advantage of a multitude of resources.








Mason Family Connection
Everything you need to make the most of your George Mason family experience is located within the Mason Family Connection. This platform provides a space for you to find your community within our larger family network, customize the content and frequency of updates, and much more. Join or update your profile at gmucampusesp.com.



Scan here with your mobile device.

Family Support Series
The Family Support Series is intended to help parents, families, and supporters understand how they can best assist their student while at George Mason. Webinars are typically held in the evenings, last approximately one hour, and are recorded and made available on our website following each session.

CONNECT WITH US!

-  families@gmu.edu
-  703-993-2475
-  masonfamily.gmu.edu
-  gmucampusesp.com
-  [@masonnsfp](https://www.instagram.com/masonnsfp)
-  [/masonnsfp](https://www.facebook.com/masonnsfp)
-  [@OfpsGMU](https://www.youtube.com/OfpsGMU)



Whether your student is living on or off campus, remind them to become familiar with their best routes to and from George Mason. For some students, being prepared for the first day of class could involve purchasing a parking permit or learning a bus or Metrorail route. Encourage your student to create an account at [masoncommutes.com](#) if they are interested in riding with others who are traveling at the same time and to the same destination. Information on parking and transportation options is available at [transportation.gmu.edu](#).

Ask your student to register your contact information at [alert.gmu.edu](#) to receive **emergency notifications** from the university. All students are automatically enrolled in Mason Alert and are advised to add their cell phone number and additional emails to receive information in a timely manner.

JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
					Independence Day Observance (University Closed)	Ashura Begins
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Ashura Ends	Summer Selective Withdrawal Period Ends					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Visit registrar.gmu.edu for information about summer sessions.	
National Parents Day						



AUGUST

Remind your student to purchase or rent textbooks in time **for the first day of class**. Textbooks can be purchased online or in person at the bookstore on George Mason's Fairfax Campus.

Encourage your student to connect with their success coach to set goals and support their definition of success at George Mason. Students can find their success coach at coaching.gmu.edu/findyourcoach.

Patriot Experience has a First Year Challenge for incoming first-year and transfer students to get connected to George Mason and learn about the resources, experiences, and opportunities available. Have your student log into Ma-son360 for more info!

Registration for **Family Weekend** is open! Visit the Mason Family Connection to register your family.

AUGUST 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Welcome2Mason takes place August 25–September 30. Visit welcome2mason.gmu.edu for the full list of events.					1 Fall/Summer Immunization Record Deadline	2
3	4 U.S. Coast Guard Birthday	5	6	7 Purple Heart Day Last Day of Summer Classes	8	9
					Summer Exam Period	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				The Preamble		
			First-Year Move-In		Upper-Level Move-In	
24 The Preamble Upper-Level Move-In	25 First Day of Fall Classes	26 Women's Equality Day	27	28	29	30
31	Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)					Gradstravaganza
Welcome2Mason						



SEPTEMBER

One of the most challenging skills for students to master is **time management**. Encourage your student to attend a free workshop offered by **Learning Services** if they are having trouble establishing balance in their schedule.

Encourage your student to nominate your family for the 14th annual Alan and Sally Merten **Family of the Year Award**. This award is presented during Family Weekend and recognizes one family for the critical role they played in their student’s success at George Mason. More information can be found at masonfamily.gmu.edu.

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <div>Labor Day (University Closed)</div>	2 <div>Last Day to Add Classes</div>	3 <div>Get Connected Fair</div>	4	5	6
Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)						
7 <div>Pitru Paksha Begins National Grandparents Day</div>	8 <div>Last Day to Drop Classes (100% refund)</div>	9	10	11 <div>Day of Service</div>	12	13
Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)						
14	15 <div>Hispanic Heritage Month Begins</div>	16 <div>Last Day to Drop Classes (50% refund)</div>	17 <div>Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins</div>	18 <div>U.S. Air Force Birthday</div>	19	20
Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)						
21 <div>Pitru Paksha Ends</div>	22 <div>First Day of Autumn Rosh Hashanah Begins Midterm Evaluation Period Begins (Full Semester 100-200 Level Classes)</div>	23	24 <div>Rosh Hashanah Ends</div>	25	26	27
Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)						
28	29	30 <div>Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends</div> <div>Fall Career Fair</div>	Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15			
Welcome2Mason (8/25–9/30)						



University Events



NSFP Events



Student Life Events



OCTOBER

Registration for spring classes is quickly approaching. Check in with your student to see whether they have made an appointment to speak with an academic advisor.

Family Weekend is October 17–19! Visit masonfamily.gmu.edu for details and to view the schedule of events.

OCTOBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LGBTQ+ History Month Domestic Violence Awareness Month National Disability Employment Awareness Month Hispanic Heritage Month ends on October 15			1 Selective Withdrawal Period Begins Yom Kippur Begins	2 Yom Kippur Ends	3	4
Fall Career Fair						
5	6 Sukkot Begins	7	8	9	10 World Mental Health Day	11
12	13 U.S. Navy Birthday Indigenous Peoples' Day Sukkot Ends Fall Break (No classes)	14	15 Hispanic Heritage Month Ends	16	17 Midterm Evaluation Period Ends	18
19	20 Diwali	21	22	23	24	25
Family Weekend					Family Weekend	
26	27 Selective Withdrawal Period Ends	28	29	30	31 Halloween	



Over major school breaks such as Thanksgiving and Winter Break, Parking and Transportation Services offers **shuttles** from the Fairfax Campus to several regional cities in Virginia and beyond. Shuttles are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis, so encourage your student to book a spot early! Information on regional shuttles is available at shuttle.gmu.edu about four weeks before the scheduled break.

NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
National Native American Heritage Month						1 Día de los Muertos Begins
2 Día de los Muertos Ends All Souls Day Daylight Saving Time Ends	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 U.S. Marine Corps Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
				Transgender Awareness Week		
16	17	18	19	20 Transgender Day of Remembrance	21	22
Transgender Awareness Week				International Education Week		
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30 Thanksgiving Recess				Thanksgiving Recess (No Classes)		



DECEMBER

Finals are right around the corner, so this may be a time of increased academic pressure on your student. Remind them of the importance of **balance**, which includes a healthy diet, adequate sleep, exercise, and some relaxation!

Remember that **grades** do not provide a full picture of a student's academic progress, especially in their first year. If your student's grades are not what they hoped for, help them reevaluate time management strategies and study skills.

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 World AIDS Day	2 Giving Tuesday	3	4	5	6
	Thanksgiving Recess					
7	8 Last Day of Classes	9	10	11	12	13 U.S. National Guard Birthday
		Reading Day	Examination Period			
14 Hanukkah Begins	15	16	17	18	19	20
Examination Period				University Commencement		Degree Conferral
21 First Day of Winter Yule Begins	22 Hanukkah Ends	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
	Winter Recess (University Closed)					
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			
Winter Recess (University Closed)						



JANUARY

Students may again feel the anxiety of leaving home and **transitioning back to George Mason**. Reassure your student that these feelings are normal and that adjusting to college is an ongoing process.

Tuition and university fees must be paid by the first day of classes on January 20. Encourage your student to check their account in **Patriot Web** regularly.

Talk with your student about **living arrangements** for the 2026–27 year and encourage them to start making plans now. Students can visit housing.gmu.edu for information about living on campus. Contemporary Student Services can provide information on upcoming housing fairs and tips to prepare your student for the off-campus housing selection process.

JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day Kwanzaa Ends Yule Ends	2	3 Mahayana
Winter Recess						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Spring Immunization Record Deadline	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (University Closed)	20 First Day of Spring Classes	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 International Holocaust Day of Remembrance Last Day to Add Classes	28 Get Connected Fair	29	30	31



FEBRUARY

With summer only a few months away, make sure your student is thinking about internships or jobs they would like to complete during the summer break. **University Career Services** can help your student navigate the internship and job search process. Encourage your student to attend the Spring Career Fair. For more event info, visit careers.gmu.edu.

Show your George Mason pride by joining us for **Homecoming!** Families are invited to partake in the spirit and fun.

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Groundhog Day	3 Last Day to Drop Classes (100% refund)	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Last Day to Drop Classes (50% refund)	11 Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents' Day Midterm Evaluation Period Begins	17 Ramadan Begins Lunar New Year	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20	21
22	23	24 Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends	25 Selective Withdrawal Period Begins (Undergraduates only)	26 Spring Career Fair	27	28

Black History Month



University Events



NSFP Events



Student Life Events

MARCH



If your student will be moving out of a residence hall in May and returning to campus in August, encourage them to utilize the summer storage program offered by the UPS Store, located in Merten Hall. The UPS Store will store your student's belongings, so they don't have to haul it all home and back!

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Purim Begins	3 Purim Ends	4 Holi	5	6	7
8 International Women's Day Daylight Savings Time Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
Spring Recess (No Classes)						
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Ramadan Ends	19 Eid al-Fitr Begins	20 Eid al-Fitr Ends First Day of Spring Midterm Evaluation Period Ends	21
Spring Recess						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
					International Week (3/27-4/4)	
Graduate Student Appreciation Week						
29 Palm Sunday	30 Selective Withdrawal Period Ends	31	Women's History Month			
International Week (3/27-4/4)						



APRIL

Every year, George Mason hosts International Week. Encourage your student to take part in the weeklong celebration that showcases the many countries and cultures that make up the George Mason community!

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 April Fools' Day Passover Begins	2	3 Good Friday	4 <div>Pride Weeks</div>
International Week (3/27-4/4)						
5 Easter	6	7 World Health Day	8	9 Passover Ends	10 National Siblings Day	11
Pride Weeks						
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18
Pride Weeks						
19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24 <div>Mason Day</div>	25
26	27	28	29	30	Sexual Assault Awareness Month Month of the Military Child National Arab American Heritage Month Celebrate Diversity Month National Minority Health Month	



MAY

If your student is living on campus, encourage them to talk to a resident advisor to confirm **move-out policies and procedures**.

Finalize **summer plans** with your student. Encourage them to stay engaged, whether they are working a summer job or taking classes, so the transition back to George Mason in the fall won't be a drastic change in lifestyle.

MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month National Military Appreciation Month					1	2
3	4 Last Day of Classes	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9
		Reading Day	Examination Period			
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
Reading Day	Examination Period			University Commencement	Degree Conferral	
17	18 First Day of Summer Classes	19	20	21 Shavuot Begins	22	23 Shavuot Ends
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Memorial Day (University Closed)	Last Day to Add Classes				



JUNE

The transition home after being away at college can be difficult. Allow your student **more responsibility and independence**. Discuss new expectations and rules for living at home over the summer.

Encourage your student to create a **savings plan** if they have a part-time job over the summer. Remind them how nice it will be to access money throughout the fall semester.

Encourage your student to **stay in contact with friends from George Mason** and even visit, when possible, while still making time for family and other summer responsibilities.

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pride Month	1 Last Day to Drop Classes (100% refund)	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8 Last Day to Drop Classes (50% refund)	9 Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins	10	11	12
13	14 U.S. Army Birthday Flag Day	15 Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends	16 Selective Withdrawal Period Begins (Undergraduates only) Islamic New Year Begins	17 Islamic New Year Ends	18	19
20	21 First Day of Summer Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26 Juneteenth (University Closed)
27	28	29	30	We hope you enjoyed the 2025–26 Family Calendar! Stay connected by visiting masonfamily.gmu.edu and joining the Mason Family Connection at gmucampusesp.com .		

CONTACT INFORMATION

Academic Advising advisor@gmu.edu advising.gmu.edu	First-Gen+ Center 703-993-2700 firstgen.gmu.edu	New Student and Family Programs (NSFP) 703-993-2475 nsfp.gmu.edu masonfamily.gmu.edu	Student Conduct 703-993-6209 studentconduct.gmu.edu
Academic Standards 703-993-6209 academicstandards.gmu.edu	Housing and Residence Life (HRL) 703-993-2720 housing@gmu.edu housing.gmu.edu	Parking and Transportation 703-993-2828 parking@gmu.edu parking.gmu.edu	Student Health Services Appointments and Nurse Advice: 703-993-2831 shs.gmu.edu
Bookstore 703-993-2666 gmu.bncollege.com	Information Technology Services 703-993-8870 support@gmu.edu its.gmu.edu	Patriot Tech 703-993-4100 ptech@gmu.edu gmu.bncollege.com	Student Involvement 703-993-2909 sa@gmu.edu si.gmu.edu
Center for Leadership and Intercultural Engagement 703-993-2700 clie.gmu.edu	Learning Services 703-993-2999 lsstaff@gmu.edu learningservices.gmu.edu	Police Non-emergency: 703-993-2810 Emergency: 911 police.gmu.edu	Student Success Coaching 703-993-2470 mycoach@gmu.edu coaching.gmu.edu
Contemporary Student Services (CSS) masoncss@gmu.edu	LGBTQ+ Resources Center 703-993-2702 lgbtq@gmu.edu lgbtq.gmu.edu	Provost/Undergraduate Education 703-993-8770 gmuprov@gmu.edu provost.gmu.edu	Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) 703-993-3686 ssac@gmu.edu ssac.gmu.edu
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) 703-993-2380 caps.gmu.edu	Mason Money, Mason ID, and Meal Plans 703-993-1004 masonid@gmu.edu masoncard.gmu.edu	Registrar 703-993-2000 registrar.gmu.edu	University Career Services 703-993-2370 careers@gmu.edu careers.gmu.edu
Dean of Students/ University Life 703-993-8760 ulcentrl@gmu.edu ulife.gmu.edu	Mason Student Services Center 703-993-2000 mssc@gmu.edu mssc.gmu.edu	Safety Escorts Fairfax: 703-993-2810 Mason Square: 703-993-8070 SciTech: 703-993-8370 police.gmu.edu/programs-and-services	University Information 703-993-1000 infodesk@gmu.edu info.gmu.edu
Dining Services 703-993-3313 dining@gmu.edu dining.gmu.edu	Military Services 703-993-1316 military@gmu.edu military.gmu.edu	Student Accounts 703-993-2000 osc@gmu.edu studentaccounts.gmu.edu	University Studies 703-993-3794 univ@gmu.edu univstudies.gmu.edu
Disability Services 703-993-2474 ods@gmu.edu ds.gmu.edu			
Financial Aid 703-993-2000 financialaid.gmu.edu			

COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) 703-993-2080 cehd.gmu.edu	College of Public Health (CPH) 703-993-1901 publichealth.gmu.edu	Donald G. Costello College of Business 703-993-1880 business.gmu.edu	Schar School of Policy and Government 703-993-2280 schar.gmu.edu
College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) 703-993-1511 cec.gmu.edu	College of Science (COS) 703-993-3622 science.gmu.edu	Honors College 703-993-1110 honorscollege.gmu.edu	School of Integrative Studies (SIS) 703-993-1436 integrative.gmu.edu
College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) 703-993-8720 chss.gmu.edu	College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) 703-993-8877 cvpa.gmu.edu	Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution 703-993-4165 carterschool.gmu.edu	

The programs and services offered by George Mason University are open to all who seek them. George Mason does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnic national origin (including shared ancestry and/or ethnic characteristics), sex, disability, military status (including veteran status), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, pregnancy status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. After an initial review of its policies and practices, the university affirms its commitment to meet all federal mandates as articulated in federal law, as well as recent executive orders and federal agency directives.



New Student and Family Programs

An Office of University Life
4400 University Drive, MS 5G2
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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703-993-2475

masonfamily.gmu.edu