# Cover Page

## 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 gmu.campusesp.com.

#### 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.

[insert QR code] Scan here with your mobile device.

#### CONNECT WITH US!

*[insert email icon]* [**families@gmu.edu**](mailto:families@gmu.edu)

*[insert phone icon]* 703-993-2475

*[insert website icon]* [masonfamily.gmu.edu](https://masonfamily.gmu.edu/)

*[insert connection icon]* [**gmu.campusesp.com**](https://gmu.campusesp.com/)

*[insert Instagram icon]* [**@masonnsfp**](https://www.instagram.com/masonnsfp/?hl=en)

*[insert Facebook icon]* /**[masonnsfp](https://www.facebook.com/masonnsfp)**

*[insert YouTube icon]* [***@OfpsGMU***](https://www.youtube.com/user/ofpsgmu)

# July 2025

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.

Visit **registrar.gmu.edu** for information about summer sessions.

*July important dates*

* 7/4: Independence Day Observance (University Closed)
* 7/5-7/6: Ashura
* 7/7: Summer Selective Withdrawal Period Ends
* 7/27: National Parents Day

# August 2025

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 Mason360 for more info!

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

**Welcome2Mason** takes place August 25–September 30.

Visit **welcome2mason.gmu.edu** for the full list of events.

*August important dates*

* 8/1: Fall/Summer Immunization Record Deadline
* 8/4: U.S. Coast Guard Birthday
* 8/7: Purple Heart Day
* 8/7: Last Day of Summer Classes
* 8/7-8/9: Summer Exam Period
* 8/20 - 8/21: First-Year Move-In
* 8/21 - 8/24: Preamble
* 8/22-24: Upper-Level Move-In
* 8/23: Degree Conferral
* 8/25: First Day of Fall Classes
* 8/25: Welcome2Mason Begins
* 8/26: Women’s Equality Day
* 8/30: Gradstravaganza

# September 2025

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**.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15

*September important dates*

* 9/1: Labor Day (University Closed)
* 9/2: Last Day to Add Classes
* 9/3: Get Connected Fair (Rain date: 9/4)
* 9/7: Pitru Paksha Begins
* 9/7: National Grandparents Day
* 9/8: Last Day to Drop Classes (100% Refund)
* 9/11: Day of Service
* 9/15: Hispanic Heritage Month Begins
* 9/16: Last Day to Drop Classes (50% Refund)
* 9/17: Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins
* 9/18: U.S. Air Force Birthday
* 9/21: Pitru Paksha Ends
* 9/22: Midterm Evaluation Period Begins (Full Semester 100-200 Level Classes)
* 9/22-9/24: Rosh Hashanah
* 9/22: First Day of Autumn
* 9/29-10/1: Fall Career Fair
* 9/30: Welcome2Mason Ends
* 9/30:Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends

# October 2025

**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.

LGBTQ+ History Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Hispanic Heritage Month ends on October 15

*October important dates*

* 10/1: Selective Withdrawal Period Begins
* 10/1-10/2: Yom Kippur
* 10/6: Sukkot Begins
* 10/10: World Mental Health Day
* 10/13: U.S. Navy Birthday
* 10/13: Indigenous Peoples’ Day
* 10/13: Fall Break (Classes Do Not Meet)
* 10/13: Sukkot Ends
* 10/15: Hispanic Heritage Month Ends
* 10/17-10/19: Family Weekend
* 10/17: Midterm Evaluation Period Ends
* 10/20: Diwali
* 10/27: Selective Withdrawal Period Ends
* 10/31: Halloween

# November 2025

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.

National Native American Heritage Month

*November important dates*

* 11/1-11/2: Día de los Muertos
* 11/2 All Souls Day
* 11/2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
* 11/10 U.S. Marine Corps Birthday
* 11/11 Veterans Day
* 11/13-11/19: Transgender Awareness Week
* 11/17-11/21: International Education Week
* 11/20: Transgender Day of Remembrance
* 11/26-11/30: Thanksgiving Recess (No Classes)
* 11/27: Thanksgiving

# December 2025

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 important dates*

* 12/1: World AIDS Day
* 12/2: Giving Tuesday
* 12/8: Last Day of Classes
* 12/9: Reading Day
* 12/10-12/17: Examination Period
* 12/13: U.S. National Guard Birthday
* 12/14: Hanukkah Begins
* 12/18: University Commencement
* 12/20: Degree Conferral
* 12/21: Yule Begins
* 12/21: First Day of Winter
* 12/22: Hanukkah Ends
* 12/22-1/2/26: Winter Recess (University Closed)
* 12/24: Christmas Eve
* 12/25: Christmas Day
* 12/26: Kwanzaa Begins
* 12/31: New Year’s Eve

# January 2026

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.

* 1/1: New Year’s Day
* 1/1: Kwanzaa Ends
* 1/1: Yule Ends
* 1/2: Winter Recess Ends
* 1/3: Mahayana
* 1/15: Spring Immunization Record Deadline
* 1/19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (University Closed)
* 1/20: First Day of Spring Classes
* 1/27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day
* 1/28: Get Connected Fair
* 1/27: Last Day to Add Classes

# February 2026

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.

Black History Month

*February important dates*

* 2/2: Groundhog Day
* 2/3: Last Day to Drop (100% Refund)
* 2/10: Last Day to Drop (50% Refund)
* 2/11: Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins
* 2/14: Valentine's Day
* 2/16: Presidents’ Day
* 2/16: Midterm Evaluation Period Begins
* 2/17: Ramadan Begins
* 2/17: Lunar New Year
* 2/18: Ash Wednesday
* 2/24: Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends
* 2/25: Selective Withdrawal Period Begins
* 2/26: Spring Career Fair

# March 2026

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!

Women’s History Month

*March important dates*

* 3/2 - 3/3: Purim
* 3/4: Holi
* 3/8: International Women’s Day
* 3/8: Daylight Savings Time Begins
* 3/9 - 3/15: Spring Recess (No Classes)
* 3/17: St. Patrick's Day
* 3/18: Ramadan Ends
* 3/19-3/20: Eid al-Fitr
* 3/20: First Day of Spring
* 3/20: Midterm Evaluation Period Ends
* 3/23 - 3/27: Graduate Student Appreciation Week
* 3/27: International Week Begins
* 3/29: Palm Sunday
* 3/30: Selective Withdrawal Period Ends

# April 2026

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!

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Month of the Military Child

National Arab American Heritage Month

Celebrate Diversity Month

National Minority Health Month

*April important dates*

* 4/1: April Fool's Day
* 4/1: Passover Begins
* 4/3: Good Friday
* 4/4: International Week Ends
* 4/4 - 4/18: Pride Week
* 4/5: Easter
* 4/7: World Health Day
* 4/9: Passover Ends
* 4/10: National Siblings Day
* 4/15: Tax Day
* 4/22: Earth Day
* 4/24: Mason Day

# May 2026

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.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

National Military Appreciation Month

*May important dates*

* 5/4: Last Day of Classes
* 5/5: Cinco de Mayo
* 5/5: Reading Day
* 5/6 - 5/13: Examination Period
* 5/10: Mother’s Day
* 5/10: Reading Day
* 5/14: University Commencement
* 5/15: Degree Conferral
* 5/18: First Day of Summer Classes
* 5/21-5/23: Shavuot
* 5/25: Memorial Day (University Closed)
* 5/26: Last Day to Add Classes

# June 2026

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.

Pride Month

*June important dates*

6/1: Last Day to Drop Classes (100% Refund)

6/8: Last Day to Drop Classes (50% Refund)

6/9: Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Begins

6/14: U.S. Army Birthday

6/14: Flag Day

6/15: Unrestricted Withdrawal Period Ends

6/16: Selective Withdrawal Period Begins

6/16-6/17: Islamic New Year

6/19: Juneteenth

6/21: First Day of Summer

6/21: Father’s Day

We hope you enjoyed the 2025–26 Family Calendar!

Stay connected by visiting **masonfamily.gmu.edu** and joining the Mason Family Connection at **gmu.campusesp.com**.

# Contact Information

Academic Advising

advisor@gmu.edu

advising.gmu.edu

Academic Standards

703-993-6209

academicstandards.gmu.edu

Bookstore

703-993-2666

gmu.bncollege.com

Center for Leadership and Intercultural Engagement

703-993-2700

clie.gmu.edu

Contemporary Student Services (CSS)

masoncss@gmu.edu

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

703-993-2380

caps.gmu.edu

Dean of Students/  
University Life

703-993-8760

ulcentrl@gmu.edu

ulife.gmu.edu

Dining Services

703-993-3313

dining@gmu.edu

dining.gmu.edu

Disability Services

703-993-2474

ods@gmu.edu

ds.gmu.edu

Financial Aid

703-993-2000

financialaid.gmu.edu

First-Gen+ Center

703-993-2700

firstgen.gmu.edu

Housing and Residence   
Life (HRL)

703-993-2720

housing@gmu.edu

housing.gmu.edu

Information Technology Services

703-993-8870

support@gmu.edu

its.gmu.edu

Learning Services

703-993-2999

lsstaff@gmu.edu

learningservices.gmu.edu

LGBTQ+ Resources Center

703-993-2702

lgbtq@gmu.edu

lgbtq.gmu.edu

Mason Money, Mason ID,   
and Meal Plans

703-993-1004

masonid@gmu.edu

masoncard.gmu.edu

Mason Student Services Center

703-993-2000

mssc@gmu.edu

mssc.gmu.edu

Military Services

703-993-1316

military@gmu.edu

military.gmu.edu

New Student and Family Programs (NSFP)

703-993-2475

nsfp.gmu.edu

masonfamily.gmu.edu

Parking and Transportation

703-993-2828

parking@gmu.edu

parking.gmu.edu

Patriot Tech

703-993-4100

ptech@gmu.edu

gmu.bncollege.com

Police

Non-emergency: 703-993-2810

Emergency: 911

police.gmu.edu

Provost/Undergraduate Education

703-993-8770

gmuprov@gmu.edu

provost.gmu.edu

Registrar

703-993-2000

registrar.gmu.edu

Safety Escorts

Fairfax: 703-993-2810

Mason Square: 703-993-8070

SciTech: 703-993-8370

police.gmu.edu/programs-and-services

Student Accounts

703-993-2000

osc@gmu.edu

studentaccounts.gmu.edu

Student Conduct

703-993-6209

studentconduct.gmu.edu

Student Health Services

Appointments and Nurse Advice: 703-993-2831

shs.gmu.edu

Student Involvement

703-993-2909

sa@gmu.edu

si.gmu.edu

Student Success Coaching

703-993-2470

mycoach@gmu.edu

coaching.gmu.edu

Student Support and   
Advocacy Center (SSAC)

703-993-3686

ssac@gmu.edu

ssac.gmu.edu

University Career Services

703-993-2370

careers@gmu.edu

careers.gmu.edu

University Information

703-993-1000

infodesk@gmu.edu

info.gmu.edu

University Studies

703-993-3794

univ@gmu.edu

univstudies.gmu.edu

# Colleges and Schools

College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)

703-993-2080

cehd.gmu.edu

College of Engineering and Computing (CEC)

703-993-1511

cec.gmu.edu

College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS)

703-993-8720

chss.gmu.edu

College of Public Health (CPH)

703-993-1901

publichealth.gmu.edu

College of Science (COS)

703-993-3622

science.gmu.edu

College of Visual and   
Performing Arts (CVPA)

703-993-8877

cvpa.gmu.edu

Donald G. Costello College of Business

703-993-1880

business.gmu.edu

Honors College

703-993-1110

honorscollege.gmu.edu

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution

703-993-4165

carterschool.gmu.edu

Schar School of Policy and Government

703-993-2280

schar.gmu.edu

School of Integrative Studies (SIS)

703-993-1436

integrative.gmu.edu