

RAISE



HIGH

2024-2025 Calendar & Handbook
for George Washington University Families and Supporters

THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
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WASHINGTON, DC



Introducing

GW **Family Connections**

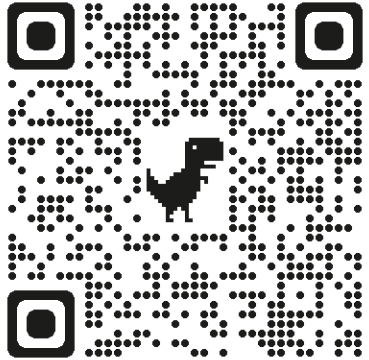
Division for Student Affairs



The best way to learn more about the George Washington University and support your student through their educational journey!

GW Family Connections is designed to provide the information you need, when you need it. This resource will help you stay engaged and focused on what matters most: your student's success at GW.

Sign up now at familyconnections.gwu.edu/signup





Alumni Association

GW Alumni & Families Weekend 2024

SAVE THE DATE
OCT 18 - OCT 20, 2024

#GWAFFW24

alumnifamiliesweekend.gwu.edu



THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
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WASHINGTON, DC



Welcome to the GW Family!



Dear GW Families,



On behalf of the entire Division for Student Affairs, I want to welcome you to the GW Family. As Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, I am thrilled that your student has chosen to call GW home and excited to partner with you as a supporter on the journey that lies ahead. Your student is now part of a vibrant community of scholars, leaders, creators and

innovators who are dedicated to making a difference in the world. I'm looking forward to helping them along the way.

We know that you, a parent or family member of an undergraduate, have played an integral role in your student's path to college. As they begin their GW journey, know that you belong here, too! Our network of families is an important support system for our students, helping them thrive both academically and in the many aspects of their personal lives throughout their college experience.

Our mission in the Division for Student Affairs is to cultivate an inclusive community that supports connection, growth and wellbeing for every student throughout their GW journey, and you'll find our team committed to enhancing your student's experience here. When challenges arise, you can feel confident that we will be there to help navigate them. Our staff will be available as resources to your student starting at New Student Orientation right through to Commencement on the National Mall and at each step in between - from community-building activities like GW x District Connections, to campus traditions like Midnight Breakfast and Chalk-In. We'll challenge them to explore their passions and engage with them in experiences that happen #OnlyAtGW.

We are excited to embark on this journey together to help your students find their pride of place here at GW!

Raise High!

Colette Coleman

Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
gw_deanofstudents

Welcome to the George Washington University campus community!

We are excited for your family's next chapter to begin and we hope your student's time at GW will be a unique journey filled with many new experiences, challenges, and opportunities. We hope you will use the information provided in this calendar/handbook to assist you in supporting your student's transition to campus life.

Being the parent or guardian of a college student takes some adjustment. You are the family members who have helped your student get to where they are today, and you have an important role in their higher education journey. At GW, we recognize that parents and families are valuable partners in a student's success. We encourage you to stay connected with your student's experience, as you also encourage your student to advocate for themselves, find solutions, grow, and develop critical thinking skills.

You have a new role as a parent or family member of a college student; you are becoming a mentor. Your student will be encountering adult responsibilities and you can become a trusted advisor in this process. College is the time to let your student take all the good advice you have given them and put it to the test. When your student succeeds, CELEBRATE! When they struggle, LISTEN. Asking open-ended questions will encourage dialogue and assist with the adjustment to these new roles. Provide your best care and support when needed for those challenging times, and use the resources we provide to help your student develop a plan for resolution.

You may have heard of the term "helicopter parent," which often refers to parents and family members that hover over their college student. We encourage your family to think of a new image: a tandem bicycle. When your child was younger, you sat in front and steered the bicycle, you pedaled, and you determined the destination, all while your child was on the back, trying to reach the pedals and enjoying the ride. In college, the roles change and your student is on the front of the bike steering their own course and pedaling, and you, the parent or family member, are right there with them on the back of the bike, pedaling, supporting, and cheering them on!

We look forward to being a resource for you while your student is at the George Washington University. On behalf of the Orientation, Class Year, and Families Programs staff, we wish you and your student a successful year!



Raise High, Revolutionaries!

Laci Weeden, Ed.D.

Assistant Dean for Family Engagement
Division for Student Affairs



Campus Living & Residential Education 202-994-2552

living.gwu.edu

GW Dining 202-994-0927

dining.gwu.edu

George Washington University Police Department (GWPD)

Non-Emergency 202-994-6110

On-Campus Emergency 202-994-6111

EMeRG 202-994-6111

police.gwu.edu

Student Health Center 202-994-5300

healthcenter.gwu.edu

Student Outreach & Support . . . 202-994-6555

studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-support

For more information about various dates and events on campus, please visit the following campus calendars:

Academic Calendar gwu.edu/academic-calendar
(including five- year calendar)

The University Calendar calendar.gwu.edu

GW Engage (student events) gwu.campuslabs.com/engage

Orientation, Class Year, & Families Programs

At the George Washington University, Orientation, Class Year & Families Programs (OCYFP) offers and emphasizes intentional programming curated and designed to holistically engage each student throughout their time at GW. OCYFP collaborates with campus partners across GW to ensure all students are aware of and understand the community of respect and support they are entering and expected to uphold. We value the strength of the diversity of our student body in their identities, backgrounds, experiences, and beliefs, and train our staff and student leaders to accommodate each student individually in their transition to GW. We strive to ensure that every student and family member who engages in an Orientation experience or Class Year Program is heard, appreciated, and supported, and has the tools and resources to be successful.



Orientation

Orientation programming welcomes all incoming students to the GW community, including first-year and transfer students in both the fall and spring semesters. We utilize a variety of methods to best prepare incoming students for personal and academic success at GW, including newsletters, webinars, educational sessions, and fun and memorable events both on- and off-campus! We also create opportunities for incoming students to get to know some of their peers via Small Groups, led by an experienced Orientation Leader to guide students through their transition to GW and support them during their first weeks on campus.

Class Year

Class Year Programs are events and engagement opportunities that build affinity and community for each class year at GW. From helping first-year students explore D.C. with District Connections, celebrating sophomores at Halfway to Grad, bonding with juniors, all the way to our unforgettable Senior Week. All class year programming is designed to provide a lasting and memorable experience for GW students.

Families

GW views the relationship we have with our students' families as a partnership created to help students be successful. When families are informed, students benefit. Our office facilitates ongoing communications with GW families, co-hosts events such as Alumni & Families Weekend, and provides a variety of resources to support your student and your family throughout the GW journey.



Orientation, Class Year & Families Programs

Website: students.gwu.edu/families

Phone Number: 202-994-6555

Email: families@gwu.edu

Sign-up to receive communications for GW families
at familyconnections.gwu.edu/signup

Meet the Orientation, Class Year, and Families Programs Team!



Kraemer Clayton

Director, Orientation, Class Year,
& Families Programs



Emilee Saigh

Assistant Director, Orientation,
Class Year, & Families Programs



Ayomide Fashola

Coordinator for Families Programs



Dani Villardi

Coordinator for Class Year Programs



Pedaling Pointers

Here are some pointers to get your ride off to a great start in the first few weeks.

Let your student know you believe in them. Reaffirm your family's values and trust your student to make sound decisions. You've done a great job!

- **Be happy and excited about your student's new college experience.**
If your student knows or can sense that you are worried, they may be less confident.
- **Encourage your student to resolve problems without your assistance.**
Remind them about campus resources and suggest possible solutions. Some of the best lessons will be learned through mistakes and challenges.
- **Listen to what they have to say.**
Your student may be giving you hints as to how they are feeling and adjusting to campus life.
- **Your student may question if GW was the right choice for them and if they belong here.**
Please let them know that most students feel that way at some point and encourage them to get involved and connected with other students and events on campus. This will help with their transition.
- **Assure them that you are okay.**
Let your students know that they are missed by everyone back home, but you are happy for their new chapter at GW!

AUGUST 2024



Staying in Touch



It is a good idea to discuss with your student how you want to communicate with each other and how often. Every day may be too much for your student trying to establish a new network at GW, but for some families, once a week is too long to go without communicating. Talk to your student about how often you will communicate by video calls, phone calls, text messaging, emails, letters, or social media. These are all great ways to stay in touch without taking up too much of your student's time. It is important that both you and your student agree to the plan, and it can be helpful to revisit it as things change from semester to semester.



TIPS

- › Students will want to explore campus and the city, meet new people, and exercise their independence. Give them the freedom to do so. Encourage them to check out District Connections!
- › Ask questions about your student's classes, roommate(s), friends, and new life.
- › Expect changes in their behavior, look, and schedule. As they begin to flex their freedom, they might not remember to call home as often.
- › With change often comes homesickness and the longing for something familiar. If your student struggles to make friends or find connections during the first six weeks, recommend they attend events during the Weeks of Welcome with their roommate or classmate or ask about student organizations they've seen on campus to get involved. For more information about Weeks of Welcome, visit studentlife.gwu.edu/weeks-welcome.
- › If your student lives on campus, encourage them to get to know their Community Coordinator or Community Engagement Advisor, who are the full-time and student staff members that live and work in their residence hall. If your student is living off-campus and commuting, encourage them to utilize the commuter lounge in the University Student Center and to get involved in the Commuter Student Association, find a campus job, or get involved in intramural activities.
- › If your new student is feeling overwhelmed or stressed-out adjusting to college life, then suggest they visit the Student Outreach & Support office for help finding connections and resources on-campus that help them feel more in tune with GW. Visit students.gwu.edu/find-support for more information.
- › If your student has always enjoyed giving back and helping others, suggest they check into volunteering with the Nashman Center. They can learn about local and global issues firsthand, put solutions into practice, make friends with similar interests, get on-the-job training, and give back to D.C. and world communities.
- › Have you made travel plans and preparations to attend GW's Alumni & Families Weekend on **October 18-20, 2024**. For more information, visit alumnifamiliesweekend.gwu.edu.

Weeks of Welcome occurs the first six weeks of the semester

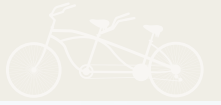
AUGUST 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Waiver Period Open for GW's Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 6-Week Session II ends August Payment Plan Due
11	12	13 Complete the Arriving at GW Pre-Orientation Module (Part III)	14 First Year Students in Pre-Orientation Programs Move-In	15 Early New Families Orientation	16 First Year Move-In Day UPass Start Date	1 First-Year Move-In Day Transfer Student Arrival Full-Term Session I Ends
18 New Families Orientation	19 Late Night at the Rec National Aviation Day Raksha Bandhan	20 Mount Vernon Community Cookout	21 Last day to Enroll in Regular Fall 2024 Payment Plan Mount Vernon Vool Party	22 First Day of Classes Student Account eBill Due First Gen Welcome Social	23	24 Convocation and Welcome Days of Service First Night & Org Fair
25 	26 Women's Equality Day Janmashtami	27 Fraternity and Sorority Life Open House	28 GW Night at IKEA	29 Mount Vernon Screen on the Green Sophomore Welcome Back	30	31 Summer Degree Conferral

SEPTEMBER 2024



Team Family



College is a time of transition for students and families. Your student may feel overwhelmed with the campus, new and unfamiliar services, different policies and procedures, new roommate(s), and new classes. Changes in routines for family members staying at home can also cause concern for you and the rest of the family. For example, have some of the chores that your GW student did shift to other children at home, or did your GW student always help you with all your IT needs? Everyone feels the transition in the fall semester, so calls, messages, and letters will help everyone during this time of change for the whole family.


When you do connect with your student, convey interest in what they are experiencing and show that you are listening and there to support them. Your student may share with you that they are struggling with a roommate or a challenging class. Encourage them to work out situations to the best of their ability. Your instinct may be to “fix” the problem. Instead, recommend that your student use campus resources such as their Community Coordinator in the residence halls, Student Health Center, Peer Tutoring & Academic Support, or Center for Career Services. Several of these resources are in the handbook section at the back of this calendar. By encouraging your student to seek support at GW, you are fostering their independence and developing their critical thinking skills, while still offering care and support at the same time.

TIPS

- › The library is a great resource for academic support and as a quiet study space. Your student can also talk to their professors and academic advisors during faculty and staff office hours about any concerns or questions before it is too late in the semester.
- › GW has over 500 registered student organizations, and 87% of GW students are involved in at least one student organization. Ask your student if they've found anything they like thus far, and if not, encourage them to check out GW Engage to access information about any student organization and connect. The Org Fair Fridays series during Weeks of Welcome is a great way to learn more!
- › If your student is exhibiting signs of depression, anxiety, or loneliness, encourage them to visit Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) in the Student Health Center to speak with a counselor. Drop-in hours are from 12 - 4 pm. All GW students have FREE, 24/7 access to virtual care services with TimelyCare, a virtual health and well-being platform designed for college students. Students do not need insurance to visit GW's Student Health Center in person or to gain access to this telehealth platform. For more information visit, healthcenter.gwu.edu/timelycare
- › Establish or reestablish expectations for budgeting and finances. Check in with your student and ask how their spending is going, about their dining dollar balance, budgets for groceries, etc.
- › Did you know that the Lerner Health & Wellness Center hosts numerous programs and services and is a great place to engage their physical well-being by staying active, relieving stress, and getting to know other students through group fitness classes? The programs, activities, and opportunities offered at Lerner help your student connect to resources and a community dedicated to supporting a student's active and healthy lifestyle through dynamic and transformative experiences.
- › Your student should know that all District Connections events are small group experiences led by staff or faculty member as well as a student leader and include time prior to departure for participants to get to know one another. Events are free to students and registration is required. District Connections events are open to first-year undergraduate students only, unless otherwise noted in promotions.

Hispanic Heritage Month, (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day (no classes)	3	4 Meet Fraternity and Sorority Life	5	6 MSSC Block Party & Org Fair Friday	7 Ganesh Chaturthi
8 Last day to add a course on GWeb	9	10 September Payment Plan Due	11 Patriot Day 9/11 Memorial Display	12 Waiver Period Closes for GW's Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)	13	14
15	16	17	18 Junior Ice Cream Social	19	20	21
22 Last Day to drop a course on GWeb	23	24 Fall Begins	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER 2024



Changing Gears

Students involved in at least one student organization are more likely to feel connected to their peers, get higher grades, have fewer problems with alcohol and other drugs, and are better prepared for life after graduation. A tremendous amount of learning, personal growth, and development occurs in and out of the classroom. With so many excellent opportunities to get involved with over 500 student clubs and organizations, students are sure to find a group that not only interests them but also provides a chance to meet new people, pursue new interests, and give them a sense of belonging.

As your student is settling into campus life, making new friends, and learning more about GW, it is also a good time to see how they are doing personally. During your check-ins with your student, you should ask them about general health. A healthy lifestyle encompasses both physical and mental health, too. This can include getting enough sleep, proper nutrition, exercise, and ensuring students address their mental health needs. There are numerous ways your student can start or maintain a healthy lifestyle while they are at GW, and several resources are available to help them succeed.





TIPS

- › Encourage your student to get their Flu and COVID vaccine every fall. For more information visit [Flu - cdc.gov/flu/prevent/flushot.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/flushot.htm) For more information about Flu/COVID vaccines at GW visit [healthcenter.gwu.edu/medical-services](https://www.healthcenter.gwu.edu/medical-services)
- › Did you know that 14% of undergraduate students are a member of a fraternity or sorority? These organizations are a great way to get involved and find connections. Each chapter on campus sponsors their own philanthropy and holds events throughout the year.
- › Involvement in a pre-professional or major-related organization can help students connect with like-minded peers in a particular academic area and it can open up opportunities after graduation.
- › Suggest the exploration of opportunities for involvement in the residential community. Your student can ask their Community Coordinator or Community Engagement Advisor about the Residence Hall Association, in-hall involvement, and leadership opportunities in their residence hall.
- › Did you know that in addition to Engage - GW's student organization platform - you can find out about upcoming events on the University Calendar (calendar.gwu.edu)? By logging in to their account, students can browse and favorite events, add events directly to their calendars, and even build an automatic email digest to receive notifications for events that interest them!
- › Tell your student to cheer on their fellow GW Revolutionaries at athletic events throughout the year. For a schedule of the events go to [gwsports.com](https://www.gwsports.com)
- › Trust them to make the right decisions. You have raised them with a great set of values, and they will likely keep those values throughout their college career.
- › CAPS can help with managing some of the stress and anxiety that comes with midterms season. Submitting a CARE referral or connecting with Student Outreach & Support office would allow staff to connect your student with the resources they need.
- › FAFSA opens on October 1 each year. Make sure to review your financial aid information and complete the FAFSA for the next academic year.

Latino Heritage Month, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)

OCTOBER 2024

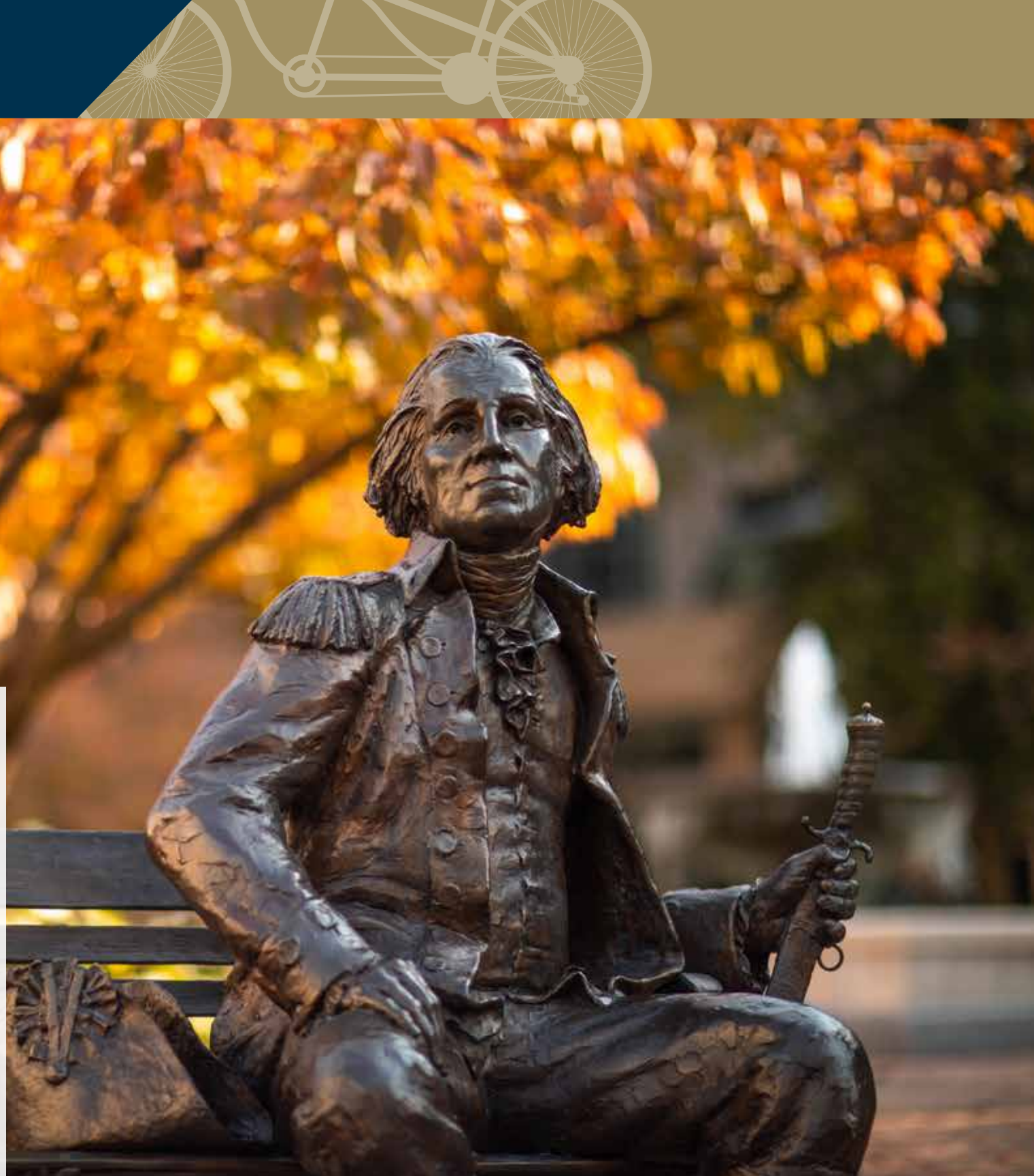
Events to look out for this month:
Nightmare on H Street & Student Showcase

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bollywood Casino Night	3 Navaratri begins	4	5
			Rosh Hashanah			
6	7	8	9	10 October Payment Plan Due	11 National Coming Out Day	12 GW x DC Senior Trip Navaratri ends
				Fall Break - no classes		
					Yom Kippur	
13	14 Indigenous People's Day	15	16 First Year Ice Cream Social Sukkot Begins	17	18	19 GW Alumni & Families Weekend Vern Harvest
20 GW Alumni & Families Weekend	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Program Board & HPE: Nightmare on H Street	31 Halloween Diwali		

NOVEMBER 2024

Falling for GW

Where did the time go? As midterms and projects are ending, the focus shifts to final projects and final exams in December. As many students will admit, this is the time when procrastination comes back to haunt them - suddenly, projects, papers, and exams feel like they are all due on the same day. In addition, as the holidays approach at the end of November and December, students are also busy making travel plans with family and friends. There is a lot of pressure on your student right now, stemming from personal expectations from other family members. Please encourage your student to take advantage of the end-of-semester programs and events created to support their success during this time.



TIPS

- › The Thanksgiving holiday provides a nice break to help your student refocus their energies for the remainder of the semester. Still, your student should not put studying and coursework completely aside as finals are quickly approaching.
- › While your student is home during the Thanksgiving Break, be sure to celebrate the semester’s victories and work together to understand challenges.
- › If your student is staying on campus for the Thanksgiving Break, be sure to check emails from the Division for Student Affairs for special programming. You can also email living@gwu.edu for some suggestions for your student.
- › If your student expresses concern about tackling coursework and upcoming finals, remind them about GW Academic Commons, which conducts in-person and virtual/on-demand workshops on preparing for exams and academic coaching to help with study strategies. For more information visit academiccommons.gwu.edu.
- › Reiterate the importance of adequate sleep, healthy eating, exercise, and relaxation. Encourage your student to find time for a favorite sport or hobby they can pursue to keep up morale and maintain balance. Raise Up GW provides great tips & tricks with a list of resources to help students practice good wellbeing habits. studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-initiatives
- › Intramural sports allow your student and their friends to form teams and play competitive sports on a casual level. Your student can learn more at Lerner Health & Wellness Center by emailing imsports@gwu.edu.
- › Remind your student that the Division for Student Affairs and the Dean of Students Office provide great resources for getting connected and engaging with the GW community.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day Last day to withdraw from a course with a grade of "W" on GWeb	2 All Souls' Day
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends	4	5 Election Day (no classes)	6	7	8	9
National First Gen Week						
10 November Payment Plan Due	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Thanksgiving at the Vern	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30
Thanksgiving Break (no classes)						

DECEMBER 2024



Home For The Holidays

As students head home for winter break when final exams are finished, some students may have concerns about family issues and how they will adjust to routines back at home. It is important to discuss expectations with your student before they return home for winter break. Prepare yourself and others because the student who returns may not be the student you sent off to college. It may help to renegotiate curfew hours and family responsibilities. This time is an adjustment for everyone as your family grows and changes during your student's GW journey. When they first arrive home after exams, they will want to see you and their friends, eat homemade food, sleep, and decompress after a challenging semester. Enjoy quality time with your students over winter break and make special holiday memories!



TIPS

- › Encourage your student to take a break from studying for final exams, and have some fun! They can participate in campus traditions like Midnight Breakfast, engage in their well-being through Final Lap programs and group fitness classes, and so much more! For more information, visit studentlife.gwu.edu/final-lap.
- › Accept that your student’s grades may suffer or decline if they are new to GW. Remind them that college is supposed to be more difficult, but they will adjust in time. Be sure to let them know that you are proud of them, recognize their hard work, and love them.
- › Understand students may need some additional space and time as they buckle down for exams or students may become homesick and reach out more often in their stress.
- › Send your student a care package with enough treats to share with roommates and friends.
- › Offer support by calling, texting, sending emails, or visiting the campus if you can – check with your student first to ensure they have time to visit you during this stressful time.
- › It’s easy to forget about financial obligations during this time, but make sure your student’s loan payments and other fees have been paid for the upcoming semester. Remember, the eBill System sends online statements to students. Parents may gain access to the eBill System if the student adds them as an authorized user.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Vern Lights	7
Final Lap						
8	9 Midnight Breakfast	10 Last day of Classes December Payment Plan Due	11 Make-up/ Reading Day	12	13	14
Final Exams						
Final Lap						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Winter begins
Final Exams						
Residence Halls close for Winter Break UPass end date for Fall semester						
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa begins	27	28
Winter Break – campus closed						
29	30	31 New Year’s Eve				
Winter Break – campus closed						

JANUARY 2025

Keeping Up the Tempo

Now that your student has completed the fall semester, changing majors may be on their mind. This often creates worry and concern for both you and your student. Choosing a major is a difficult process. This can be a good opportunity for your student to explore interests and determine what they want to study. Your student may also benefit from an internship or other employment to help them define career options. However, it is important to remember that students are more than their majors. The best way to prepare for a career is to get a sound education, develop leadership skills and gain career-related experience through internships, community service, part-time jobs, and campus involvement.



JANUARY 2025

TIPS

- › If your student did not meet their academic goals in the fall, suggest a visit to the Office for Student Success at studentsuccess.gwu.edu/academic-program-support, which offers a variety of resources to address your student's individual academic performance needs.
- › Review your student's financial needs for the upcoming year. Several financial assistance resources are available: grants, scholarships, and loans. Encourage your student to apply for as many as possible. Even small scholarships will help.
- › If your student is already thinking about how to make the most of the upcoming summer, bring up Handshake. Handshake helps students search and apply for jobs and internships, explore and network, make appointments with career coaches, and attend events.
- › Students should have a current resume listing their part-time employment, internship, and/or co-op experience. Your student should also attend career fairs to gain exposure to all the opportunities at GW.
- › Second-year students may want to discuss changing majors, adding minors/certificates, career options, and defining their purpose. Students interested in exploring options for majors, minors, or certificates can work with their undergraduate advisor by making an appointment online or emailing with quick questions.
- › Encourage your student to speak with their undergraduate advisor if they have concerns about their major.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1 New Year's Day (campus closed) Kwanzaa ends	2 Hanukkah ends	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 First Year Welcome Back (District Connections Ice Skating Trip)	
		Panhellenic Recruitment					
12 Bid Day Panhellenic Recruitment	13 First day of Classes First Gen Welcome Back Social Student Account/ eBill Due	14	15	16	17	18	
19 Inaugural Ball	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no classes) Inauguration Day	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28 Last day to add a course on GWeb	29 Lunar New Year	30	31		
IFC Recruitment					Fam Fest Weekend		

FEBRUARY 2025

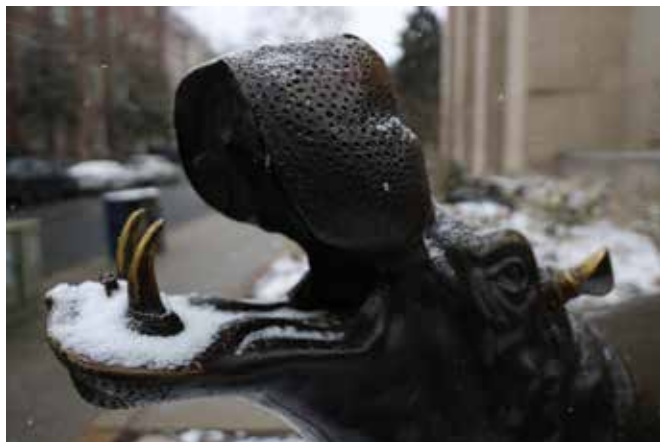
Explore, Learn, and Grow at GW

Diversity at the George Washington University thrives through many programs and resources and our multicultural student body, faculty, and staff. Recognizing the importance of cultural backgrounds, GW provides students with many opportunities on campus, in Washington, D.C., and globally to learn about those different from them. Encourage your student to make the most of their college experience by studying abroad, taking a class, attending a program or lecture, or joining a student organization.



TIPS

- › Talk with your student about study abroad opportunities. Whether it is for a week, a semester, or a year, studying abroad allows your student to learn another language, take major and elective coursework, discover new places, and make meaningful connections around the world.
- › Talk with your student about the different backgrounds of people they've met on campus. Explore their relationships and promote an open dialogue with students different from themselves.
- › Encourage them to visit or attend programs by the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement. These programs provide a space for students to drop-in, relax, attend educational programs, and meet new friends.
- › The Multicultural Student Services Center (MSSC) is an integral part of the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement (ODECE) in the Office of the Provost. Our vision and mission reflect our dedication to building a welcoming, enriching, and inclusive environment at GW. Our rich history demonstrates our role and impact across campus as educators, trainers, advocates, mentors, and community builders.
- › One small step to care, one giant leap for self-care. Encourage your student to visit CAPS during walk-in hours for their mental health and self-care referral needs. They can also learn about resources on and off campus.



FEBRUARY 2025

Black History Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Events to look out for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Student Union Homecoming • GW Program Board Gala 						1 Fam Fest Weekend IFC Recruitment
2 Fam Fest Weekend Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6	7 NPHC Step Show	8
9	10	11 Last day to drop a course on Gweb	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 President's Day (no classes)	18	19	20	21	22 GW Lifts
23	24	25	26	27	28 First Night of Ramadan	

MARCH 2025



GW

**THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.**
WASHINGTON, DC


MARCH 2025

Women's History Month

South Asian Heritage Celebration

TIPS

- › Spring has sprung, and with it, there is the possibility of severe weather. Ensure your student has signed up for GW Alert to receive cell phone and email notifications about weather and other emergencies.
- › Encourage your student to meet with their academic advisor to discuss early registration for summer and fall classes.
- › Spring Break happens in March and some students will choose to serve on an Alternative Break trip. Alternative Breaks are community service-learning experiences for GW students typically during the university's fall, winter, and spring breaks. Programs are geared to support community partners and students through mutually-beneficial service-learning programming, building skills and experiences to make meaningful change through active citizenship. To learn more visit serve.gwu.edu/gw-alternative-breaks.
- › If your student needs help with issues such as time management, relationships, or feelings of distress or depression, they can schedule an appointment with CAPS or take advantage of one of its workshops. healthcenter.gwu.edu/caps-workshops
- › Encourage your student to visit Lerner Health and Wellness Center. Exercise can help can help relieve stress and students can make connections with other students and have fun.
- › Send care packages complete with snacks, multivitamins, and encouraging words before or during midterms to give your student a little boost.
- › If your student is considering going on to graduate school, they should start thinking now about applying. A good rule of thumb is to begin the application process at least one full year in advance of anticipated graduate school enrollment.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	
2	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday	6	7	8	
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins	Spring Break (no classes)					14 Holi	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 First Day of Spring Vernal Equinox	21	22 Veterans Day of Service	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30 Last Day of Ramadan	31						
Eid-al-Fitr							

APRIL 2025

End of the Semester in Full Bloom

April brings us closer to the end of the semester, and for some, graduation is right around the corner. The pressure continues to escalate as the term winds down. From putting the finishing touches on that final assignment, coordinating a group project, and preparing for final exams, students' minds are racing with all the work that still needs to be done before they leave for the summer. On top of this, many clubs, organizations, and campus departments are hosting end-of-year banquets, formals, and awards dinners. Since sleep often suffers in times of stress, ensure your student is practicing healthy habits during the remaining hustle and bustle of the end of the year. Keep your student encouraged during the end of the semester and finals with positive and supportive calls, texts, and care packages.



APRIL 2025

TIPS

- › Buff and Bloom Week is the newest campus tradition for all things spring, cherry blossoms, and GW! Encourage your student to attend a week jam-packed with numerous events, programs, spectacular activities, and all things pink!
- › Encourage your student to use the library as a resource and as a quiet study space. Also, encourage students to talk to their professors about any concerns or questions before it is too late in the semester.
- › Summer is a great opportunity for your student to get ahead or take a class that may be a little more challenging. Encourage them to look into summer school classes at GW or at a college campus near home.
- › Emphasize the wisdom of approaching finals with the attitude of doing their best, and not worrying about what has or has not happened so far in the semester.
- › Plan ahead for health. If your student is in need of virtual healthcare (medical, counseling, psychiatric) at home over the summer, TimelyCare is available to them.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
Events to look out for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fountain Day • Day of Excellence • Student Government Association • GW Program Board's Spring Fling 						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Buff and Bloom Week						
						Blossom Bash
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Palm Sunday		Tax Day			Good Friday	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Easter Orthodox Easter		Earth Day First Day of Passover				Fountain Day at the Vern
27	28	29	30			
	Last Day of Classes	Make-Up Day	Last Day of Passover Designated Monday			



MAY 2025

Dancing on the Pedals



Congratulations to your student and your entire family for navigating this year! While finals are wrapping up, students are thinking of packing up their rooms, returning home, and leaving friends and relationships. Others may stay in Washington, D.C., at GW for internships or other summer jobs. Some hope they can maintain their independence while at home for the summer, while others hope to maintain their new friendships and relationships. May is also a time for celebration and next steps for those graduating and heading to that first job, graduate school, or another exciting adventure! Enjoy celebrating with your GW Revolutionaries! Congratulations, and Raise High!

Summer at home with a returned college student can mean major adjustments for you, your student, and the rest of your family. You may notice changes in your student, including appearance and behaviors. Now is an excellent time to discuss expectations regarding curfew, social activities, responsibilities, family trips, working, etc. Clarity, consistency, and compromise can go a long way in finding common ground. Remember, adjustments take time, and before you know it, your student will return to GW for another year.

MAY 2025

TIPS

- › Before students head home for the summer, remind them to wrap up things on campus before they leave in May. Things to think about are forwarding their mail to their summer address, storage possibilities for all their belongings for the summer if they can't bring everything home, and travel arrangements for the summer.
- › Keep the lines of communication open and supportive. One of the best strategies against stress and fatigue is encouraging your student to talk with someone they trust.
- › Prepare yourself and other family members that the student who returns may not be the student you sent off to college. It may help to renegotiate curfew hours and family responsibilities for the summer. It is an important time of adjustment for everyone as your family grows and changes.
- › Once your student returns home for the summer, review the events of the past year with your student. Identify problem areas and encourage your student to consider possible solutions.
- › Summer is often a time for students to work and make money to take back to school.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Reading Days	2	3 Final Exams
4	5 Final Exams, Final Lap Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9	10 Final Lap
11 Final Lap Mother's Day	12	13	14	15 Commencement Weekend	16	17
18 Commencement Weekend Spring Degree Conferral	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day (no classes)	27	28	29	30	31



JUNE 2025



Cruisin'

Just because the spring semester is over doesn't mean your student won't be experiencing some significant transitions and adventures in the next few months. There are many paths that students can take over the summer, and each involves its challenges. Some students may study abroad, find internships, or enroll in summer classes. For some students, especially first-year students, life back at home after a year away can take some getting used to. Your student knows they are not a guest in your house, but they also no longer feel like a full-time resident. Some things around the house may have changed while your student was away, and that independence streak you've been nurturing may make your student seem a little distant. However, if you keep the lines of communication open and are clear about your expectations for the summer, your student should slowly begin to readjust to home life.

TIPS

- › Help your student feel at home again by jointly planning family activities. This will also continue to encourage your student's responsible nature.
- › It may take some time for your student to adjust if they have decided to come home for the summer. Work with your student to set up a schedule and introduce any potential curfews.
- › Your student's relationship with hometown family and friends may have changed, so work with your student to come to terms with or redefine those personal relationships.
- › Make time to visit your student if they are going to be away for the summer. Your student will appreciate your extra effort to spend time together.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Eid al-Adha	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth (no classes)	20 First Day of Summer	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 6-Week Session I Ends
29	30 Session II Begins (6 week session)					



JULY 2025



JULY 2025

TIPS

- › Spend quality time with your student discussing what worked and what didn't last semester and how to use the experience to make the next semester even better.
- › Review your student's financial needs for the upcoming year. Talk to your student about the importance of credit and money management as they prepare to return to campus for the upcoming year.
- › Discuss any goals they have for the upcoming year and ask how you can best support them.
- › If your student was not able to explore the Washington, DC area as much as they had planned, encourage them to see what opportunities are available when they return to campus.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day (no classes)	5 Ashura
6 Muharram	7	8	9	10 Deadline to sign-up for a time slot to register for Fall classes Guru Purnima	11	12 8-Week Session I Ends
13	14	15	16	17 Begin Mandatory Online Training Module	18	19
20	21 Complete the Academic and Support Services Pre-Orientation Module Part II	22	23	24	25 Class Registration	26 10-Week Session I Ends
27 Class Registration	28	29	30	31		

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Helpful Transition Tips

Familial support contributes significantly to student success at GW. Here are some helpful tips on how to assist your student during this exciting transition to campus life at GW!

- › Learn about the support services available to you and your student.
- › Help your student understand that because GW’s Foggy Bottom Campus is located in a city setting, there are certain safety precautions that they will need to take.
- › Challenge your student to identify, define, and solve problems independently. This will help them succeed now and in the future.
- › Be alert to signs that your student is under significant stress, is taking unhealthy risks, or is ill. Discuss concerns with your student and assist them in developing a plan to address the problem. There are many campus resources available to help your student through these issues.
- › Encourage your student to set and achieve personal goals and make responsible decisions related to academics, career planning, social interactions, and community engagement.
- › Listen to and support your student as they face uncertainty and learn to perform in complex environments and challenging situations.
- › Allow your student to accept the consequences of their actions and accept responsibility for personal errors. Urge your student to examine disappointments and unexpected experiences in order to assess what caused them, what can be done about them, and how to avoid them in the future.
- › Understand the limitations regarding access to student records, as delineated by federal requirements outlined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- › Support and encourage your student as they learn, perform, lead, and serve through campus and community activities.
- › Stay connected by participating in volunteer opportunities. GW has many offerings for all members of our community to get involved.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

To protect the privacy of students, educational records are considered confidential under a federal law called the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. While FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their student's education records, these rights transfer to the student when they reach the age of 18 or attend a college or university.

GW abides by the federal government's FERPA policy, which requires the university to protect the privacy of your student's educational record. This means staff and faculty can only talk to students, and not a parent, guardian, or other family member, about your student's classes, grades, financial aid, etc. If a student would like to give consent to allow a staff or faculty member to talk to a family member about their educational records, they need to fill out a [FERPA/Student Consent Release Form](#), which can be found by visiting this link, registrar.gwu.edu/forms.

Note: for most GW records, this form can be completed at any time while a student is enrolled at GW.

Office of the Registrar

The Office of the Registrar provides the best possible service to all members of the GW community. The office maintains academic records from enrollment through graduation and offers a wide range of services in the areas of classroom scheduling, enrollment verification, registration, requirements tracking, transcripts, and degree conferral. We support the university's mission to promote lifelong learning by administering the various academic policies of the university and providing support to students, faculty, administrators, and alumni. For more information, visit registrar.gwu.edu or call 202-994-4900.

Conflict Education & Student Accountability

**(formerly Student Rights & Responsibilities)*

Website: students.gwu.edu/cesa

Email: cesa@gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-6757

Before your student becomes a GW community member, you may want to know what GW expects of your student and what your student can expect from GW.

- Students' right to speech and expression - <https://freeexpression.gwu.edu>
- Students' right to be free from prohibited discrimination - studentconduct.gwu.edu/student-discrimination-reporting-options
- What is permitted and prohibited for everything from marijuana use to academic citations - Know the Codes. studentconduct.gwu.edu/know-codes

All members of the academic community share the responsibility to secure and to respect general conditions conducive to the freedom to learn, regardless of the mode of interactions, including face-to-face and virtual, digital, or online settings or through electronic media. The university has a duty to develop policies and procedures that provide and safeguard this freedom. The George Washington University believes that the procedures, rights, and safeguards outlined below are indispensable to achieving the goals desired - freedom to teach, to learn, and to search for truth. The primary purpose for the maintenance of conduct in the university setting is to protect the university community and to establish clear standards for civil interaction among community members. The university's goal, through the maintenance of standards set forth in the Codes of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct, is to help students experience democratic citizenship and its attendant obligations and responsibilities.

We thank you for your assistance as we seek to hold students to the highest of standards - not just for their own personal security and success, but to protect the value and credibility of the George Washington degree. We invite you to learn more about Conflict Education & Student Accountability, the educational and conflict management resources we provide the community, and the policies and procedures GW has in place to help ensure academic and non-academic communal accountability. Please do not hesitate to contact Conflict Education & Student Accountability with any questions or concerns.

Policies Regarding Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

To maintain an environment that is consistent with the University's educational focus, GW complies with all federal, state, and local laws and policies, including the policies of Code of Student Conduct, on the use of alcohol and other drugs by its students. In Washington, DC, it's illegal for anyone under 21 to consume alcohol or purchase alcohol. Marijuana is prohibited on GW's campus, regardless of age or circumstances of the user.

Each member of the GW community should be involved in the implementation of and compliance of this policy. Unless otherwise stated by law, individuals retain responsibility for their actions at all times, regardless of their mental or physical state, even if altered by alcoholic beverages or other drugs. For more information on the Code of Conduct, please visit our website: studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-student-conduct

Good Samaritan/Medical Amnesty Provision

GW is thankful to the students who take an active role in caring for fellow students by acting in responsible and timely ways during serious situations such as alcohol or other drug use. Seeking help that is critically needed for a fellow student shows courage and leadership.

Through the university's Alcohol & Other Drug Medical Amnesty program, a student needing to be evaluated for transport, regardless of the outcome of that evaluation, to medical professionals for the first time as the result of alcohol intoxication and/or other drug use will not face formal non-academic student conduct action by Conflict Education & Student Accountability, provided that the student has not committed any other violations of the Code of Student Conduct that warrant formal nonacademic disciplinary action. A "Good Samaritan" who makes a call to obtain medical assistance for a student following harmful use of alcohol and other drugs also will not face formal non-academic student conduct action, provided that they have committed no violation of the Code of Student Conduct other than the possession or use of alcohol by persons under 21 years of age or intoxication on or off university premises or possession or use of other drugs.

SCHOOLS & COLLEGES OVERVIEW

For specific information on academic advising within each of GW's colleges, visit the college's website.

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. columbian.gwu.edu

- **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. corcoran.gwu.edu

- **School of Media and Public Affairs (SMPA)**

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. smpa.gwu.edu

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, DC, enables the fresh exchange of ideas and information between policy shapers and academic experts.

elliott.gwu.edu

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. business.gwu.edu

School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS)

As the only school of engineering and applied science based in the heart of Washington, DC, GW Engineering provides a hands-on, highly collaborative environment that enables students to explore their options—in the classrooms and labs across the campus and city, and even around the world. engineering.gwu.edu

Milken Institute School of Public Health

The only school of public health in Washington, DC, 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. publichealth.gwu.edu

Degree programs and requirements, course descriptions, and other important academic information are online at bulletin.gwu.edu.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Undergraduate Academic Advising

Each GW school offers undergraduate academic advising. An academic advisor is assigned to your student when they are admitted. Academic advisors ensure your student is on track to graduate on time. For more information, visit each school's website.

- Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (CCAS) - advising.columbian.gwu.edu
- Elliott School of International Affairs (ESIA) - elliott.gwu.edu/undergraduate-academic-advising
- Milken Institute School of Public Health (MISPH) - publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/undergraduate-advising
- School of Business (GWSB) - business.gwu.edu/current-students/undergraduate/advising-center
- School of Engineering & Applied Science (SEAS). Note that once a SEAS student has declared a major, they are assigned a faculty advisor, which can be seen on DegreeMap. seas.gwu.edu/undergraduate-student-services-advising

Libraries and Academic Innovation

GW Libraries - Provides many of the services and resources students need to be successful in their learning and research endeavors. library.gwu.edu

Highlights of GW Libraries:

- Quiet and group study available with a variety of spaces to meet your students' preferences. Gelman also has reservable rooms for small group meetings and study groups. library.gwu.edu/study-room-reservations

- Research materials and assistance are 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. library.gwu.edu/create
- The Center for Undergraduate Fellowships and Research provides inclusive support and membership for undergraduates pursuing national scholarships and research opportunities. go.gwu.edu/cufr

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. Encourage your student to visit the Ask Us desk on the ground floor of Gelman Library. academiccommons.gwu.edu

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 at go.gwu.edu/consultations.
- **Study Skills for Virtual and In-Person Learning:** Students can learn to better manage their time, improve their note-taking skills, or get organized with information and videos, many made by GW students, at 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 at go.gwu.edu/libworkshops.
- **Undergraduate Research:** Students can get hands-on experience in their field of interest by participating in the undergraduate research opportunities available on researchcommons.gwu.edu.

Office of Disability Support Services

Website: disabilitysupport.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-8250**

Email: dss@gwu.edu

Disability Support Services (DSS) at GW recognizes disability in the context of diversity. We work collaboratively with students, faculty, and staff across the campus to foster a climate of universal academic excellence while promoting disability culture and GW's broader diversity and inclusion initiatives.

The work of DSS is grounded in evidence-based practices, that centers disabled voices and lived experiences in service provision. Our efforts are also fundamentally influenced by social justice, disability studies, disability justice, feminist theory, and Universal Design frameworks.

We aim to create an inclusive environment that challenges notions of normality that influences scholarship across all disciplines and university programming.

Pre-Graduate and Pre-Professional Advising

Undergraduate students interested in careers in medicine, veterinary science, or law should also meet with a pre-professional academic advisor. Pre-professional advising is designed to assist and support students as they explore graduate and professional programs.

- Pre-health advising (includes pre-med and pre-vet) - prehealth.gwu.edu
- Pre-law advising - prelaw.gwu.edu

Student Innovation

The George Washington University Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship is housed under the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. The office provides programming around innovation, education, venture creation, and making connections to support GW entrepreneurs and the Mid-Atlantic startup community.

Founded in 2010, the office has worked with thousands of students, faculty, and alumni, and serves as a focal point for entrepreneurship at GW. It leverages the unique strengths of our university's schools in the nation's capital to serve society at large through the knowledge and practice of entrepreneurship. For more information, visit innovation.gwu.edu.

Summer and Special Session Initiatives

GW provides hundreds of summer courses and programs for current GW students, visiting students, and professionals. Course options are available in a variety of subject areas and can be taken on campus or online. Special programs such as Summer Institutes and Short-Term Abroad are also available during the summer. GW summer courses are open to current GW students, visiting students, and professionals.

Students may take a maximum of six credits per session, for a total of twelve credits per summer. Permission to take more than six credits per session must be obtained from the student's advising office. Any holds on your account must be cleared prior to registration.

Learn more at summer.gwu.edu.

Tutoring and Academic Support

GW is challenging—that is one reason your students are here! They will learn that they can do the work and can meet the demands of a rigorous education. Part of excelling is getting help when you need it! GW has the resources and staff to help make your students' journey to graduation easier and more rewarding. Peer tutoring is available in courses across the curriculum through Academic Commons. Students can schedule one-on-one appointments, access drop-in tutoring, or attend structured review sessions in select courses. Libraries and Academic Innovation hosts free workshops for improving skills. Student Success Coaching, a program offered through the Office for Student Success, is provided to all undergraduate students to help equip students with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to successfully navigate their undergraduate experience. The Writing Center offers students one-on-one consultations to work in dialogue with writers at all stages of the writing process.

For more information, visit academiccommons.gwu.edu or reach out to **202-994-6048**.

Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

Undergraduates who participate in research projects and the development of original scholarships build valuable skills that can be applied throughout their education and professional careers.

These proficiencies range from research-specific skills such as developing a testable hypothesis, evaluating source material, interpreting results,

analyzing data, and synthesizing conclusions to professional skills such as organization, critical thinking, time management, teamwork, problem solving and effective written and oral communication.

For more information visit,

research.gwu.edu/undergraduate-research-and-scholarship

LIVING ON CAMPUS

Campus Living & Residential Education

Website: living.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-2552

Email: living@gwu.edu Instagram: @homeatgw

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.

College is a time to grow, discover yourself and the world around you, and develop long-lasting relationships. GW has five residential neighborhoods, with unique traditions and identities, designed to give students the opportunity to realize their full potential through a wide range of programs, activities, and support services. GW's residential neighborhoods include North Village, East Commons, South Square, West Way, and the Mount Vernon Campus.

In your first two years, students will live in one of 26 residence halls on the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses. Students can choose their room based on costs, hall amenities, location and even select roommates through GW's housing application process. Room styles vary per hall and include multi-person units, singles, studios, suites, and some apartment-style rooms with kitchens.

Through our affinity housing, students can live in groups of like-minded students who share the same passion for sports, literature, film, and more. Our living-learning communities – such as the Women's Leadership Program and the Politics and Values Community – integrate critical thinking into residential life.

A great part of a student's time at GW will be spent outside the classroom, in one of GW's 26 residence halls. Students have choices when it comes to selecting their room costs, hall amenities, building locations, and roommates that fit their GW life.

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 your student graduated from high school and completed at least one college course since high school graduation, they will register for housing as a transfer student.

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: Our residential communities are staffed by trained, full-time professional Community Coordinators who live in the communities they serve. While each building has a Community Coordinator who serves as a student's main point of contact during normal business hours, our staff members also serve in a 24/7 Administrator on Call (AoC) duty rotation within each of the residential neighborhoods. By addressing urgent student concerns and providing after-hours support for situations that cannot wait until the next business day, AoC's provide an additional level of caring staff response. Each residential neighborhood has a team of staff who serve on-call for that community. Students receive their neighborhood's on-call number through email communication, building meetings, and it is prominently displayed on the digital display in the lobby of the residence halls on campus. If your student needs assistance with an emergency in progress, please have them contact the George Washington University Police Department (GWPD) at **202-994-6111**.

Faculty in Residence and Faculty Partners: The central mission of university life is fostering the practice of creative and critical inquiry, using methods that are artistic, humanistic, scientific, social-scientific, quantitative, and culturally aware. The Faculty-in-Residence (FiR) and Faculty Partner program places faculty in the residential community to facilitate learning beyond the classroom and serve as role models. Living within the residence halls, FiRs facilitate academic and intellectually driven programs, as well as engage with students informally through a variety of different experiences. As a partnership between Faculty Affairs and

CLRE, FiRs collaborate directly with Community Coordinators to build and support the community development in their neighborhoods. Our Faculty-in-Residence connect with residents in a variety of ways, including through programs in the residence halls, trips around the DMV area, workshops, and informal interactions.

Living-Learning Communities: GW is a community of scholars and Living-Learning Communities (LLCs) take critical thinking and reflection beyond the classroom and into the residential experience. LLCs bring students together under a shared interest or academic program where they discover new passion areas. Through intentional opportunities for involved learning, students engage meaningfully with faculty members and peers around the LLC theme. Research shows that students who participate in LLCs have a smoother transition to college both academically and socially, higher engagement with their campus community, and higher levels of academic self-confidence and persistence. Working closely with faculty and staff, our programs combine passion areas with on-campus living, resulting in a greater sense of purpose and belonging for our students. For more information, visit living.gwu.edu/living-learning-communities.

Residential Student Leadership: Encourage your students to join their hall council to help program events and provide their voice and input in residence hall governance.

License Agreements and Billing

GW's License Agreement and other policy information is available on Housing's website, living.gwu.edu/policies. Deposits, rent, and fees will be billed through the student's eBill account. Visit living.gwu.edu to get housing rates and plans.

Breaks/Halls Closings

During Winter Break and at the end of the spring semester, GW residence halls close, and GWorld access is turned off. CLRE allows for case-by-case consideration of late departures. The process to request an extended stay is announced via email mid-semester. Requests made outside of the designated request timeframes may not be considered.

The First-Year Experience Program

The transition to being a college student can be challenging - your student is navigating new academic, personal, and extracurricular spaces. There

is support for your student in offices and people across campuses. New first-year students have opportunities to participate in pre-orientation experiences ranging from outdoor education to leadership workshops, to engage in Orientation programming designed to support your families' transition to the campus community, and to get involved in events planned throughout the first year aimed at getting students engaged with the DC community. Encourage your student to take advantage of the opportunities around them as they embark on their GW journey. For more information and details, visit studentlife.gwu.edu

DINING ON CAMPUS

GW Dining Website: dining.gwu.edu

Email: dining@gwu.edu Instagram: [@gwdining](https://www.instagram.com/gwdining)

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.

At GW, learning is not limited to the classroom. We take full advantage of all that our city has to offer, including DC's vibrant food scene. Our dining experience gives students access to food and groceries from more than 80 GW Dining Partners located both on- and off-campus, with our off-campus dining partners concentrated in our nearby Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhoods for quick and easy convenience to campus. Designed to fit the busy lifestyle of GW students, GW dining supports myriad dietary preferences by providing healthy foods and convenience.

In addition to the GW Dining locations, GW Dining has relationships with more than 80 dining partners, including restaurant, quick service, fast-casual and grocery partners, at both on-and off-campus locations. These dining partners accept Dining Dollars as a form of payment for your food. Dining Dollars are affiliated with the GW Dining Meal Plans and are stored money (i.e.: 1 dining dollar is \$1 cash dollar) on your GWorld card. Dining Dollars can be used to purchase food at participating GWorld Dining

Partners both on- and off-campus. Dining Dollars cannot be used for retail or service purchases (i.e.: barbershop/hair salons).

All first-year students living in the residence halls will participate in the unlimited meal plans. Second year students may choose from the unlimited or unlimited flex dining plans. Third and Fourth year students can choose from the unlimited plans or the block based plans.

GW's unlimited meal plan provides access to the all-you-care-to-eat meals at our dining halls in Thurston and Shenkman, as well as our retail concept in District House, on the Foggy Bottom campus, as well as the Eatery at the Pelham Commons on the Mount Vernon Campus. These dining halls will be open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and late nights during the week and on weekends for brunch, dinner and late-nights. Once you 'swipe' into Thurston, Shenkman or Pelham during a meal period (breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner or late-night) you can eat as much as you want while in the dining hall. On the unlimited meal plan, 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. The key to the unlimited plan is ONCE PER HOUR you can dine at any of the all-you-care-to-eat dining halls and District House.

On-Campus Dining:

Three all-you-care to eat dining spaces: in Thurston, Shenkman and West residence halls. District House dining offers four 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 80 people. dining.gwu.edu/where-eat

GWorld'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 DC.

GW's "GET" mobile app:

Add dining dollars to your GWorld card at any time during the semester. gworld.gwu.edu/online-account-management

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Student Health Center

Website: healthcenter.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-5300** (24/7)

For Life-Threatening Emergencies

Emergencies On Campus: Call GW Emergency Services at **(202) 994-6111**.

Off Campus: Call **911** or go to the nearest emergency room.

Email: shcadmin@gwu.edu

The Student Health Center (SHC) at the George Washington University is a multidisciplinary, integrated, student healthcare service that provides confidential, student-centered care in an accessible, safe, culturally sensitive, and supportive environment. The SHC seeks to promote healthy lifestyle choices and to holistically support the physical and emotional well-being of students to achieve academic success.

The SHC offers:

Medical Services - The SHC Medical Services team offers primary and preventive care services, management of acute/non-emergent medical needs, ongoing care for chronic medical issues and referrals for specialty services. We offer point of care testing as well as phlebotomy services provided by Quest Diagnostics on site.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) - GW CAPS works collaboratively with students to provide compassionate, comprehensive, and inclusive mental health services that foster emotional and personal development. Through counseling, outreach, campus partnerships, and education and training, we engage with the entire GW community to promote a campus culture of holistic well-being.

Psychiatric Services - Assessment, diagnostic and treatment recommendations are provided by staff psychiatrists with short-term treatment and referrals for ongoing psychiatric management.

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

Health Promotion and Education - The assessment, outreach, and education branch of the SHC, equips GW students with the resources they need to establish and maintain a well-balanced life with healthy habits that contribute to their physical, emotional, and behavioral well-being. More information about Health Promotion & Education can be found at healthcenter.gwu.edu.

Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)

The university mandates that all students have medical health insurance coverage while enrolled at GW. Every student is automatically enrolled in GW's comprehensive Student Health Insurance Plan (GW SHIP) through Aetna Student Health. It also guarantees that your student can obtain preventative medical services like immunizations and physical exams. In accordance with the Affordable Care Act, some of the benefits that are offered by the GW SHIP include:

- An unlimited lifetime maximum benefit
- Prescription coverage after \$100 deductible
- Preventative services covered at 100% (at preferred providers)
- Contraception covered 100% (at preferred providers)

Students who wish to opt out of GW SHIP must have health insurance coverage that meets certain domestic or international coverage requirements. More information is available from University Health Plans.

Please note, your student must complete a waiver every academic year they remain enrolled at GW. The waiver is open from August 1 - September 12 and can be accessed at universityhealthplans.com/letters/letter.cgi?group_id=476. There are several waiver requirements for undergraduate domestic students, international students, and graduate domestic students enrolled at GW. For waiver, enrollment, eligibility, general benefit questions or plan issues, please contact University Health Plans at **1-833-251-1721**.

For specific benefit or claims questions, contact Aetna Student Health at **1-877-480-4161**. For all other questions or concerns, check out healthcenter.gwu.edu, or email ship@gwu.edu.

Center for Assessment, Referral and Education (CARE)

At GW, we aim to create a community that cares for one another. From the moment students arrive on campus, they begin to find their place at the university. The college experience can often be challenging, and asking for help can be difficult. The CARE Network reaches out to offer support so that students can be as successful as possible through graduation.

Students, parents, faculty, and staff can identify students that may need additional support through the CARE Team's online form. The CARE Team is a cross-departmental support system that recognizes that student concerns are often multi-faceted. Students are connected to resources through inter-departmental collaboration to provide them with appropriate and personalized outreach.

Challenges are part of the college experience; through the CARE Network, students are given the support they need to persist and succeed at GW and beyond. More information about the CARE Network can be found at studentlife.gwu.edu/care-team.

Communication & Understanding- The Keys to a Healthy and Helping Relationship

College is a time of excitement and unknown for parents and students. During this time, establishing and maintaining healthy relationships is important to help your student navigate through various challenges and difficulties. Families play an important role in their student's success by encouraging a healthy lifestyle, supporting development of healthy peer and social relationships, and being open to talk about difficult experiences. As a helpful family member, here are some things to consider:

What can I do if I am concerned about my student?

The CARE Team is a program in place to ensure that students who experience any sort of challenge during their time at GW are connected proactively to a staff member or resource that can help them through and maintain their success.

We encourage parents/guardians to be involved through this process through supporting their plan of action and active listening. This may vary across students as each student presents a different set of needs. We encourage you to openly communicate with your students about their needs and how you can provide support for those needs.

The CARE Team is not an emergency system. Reports are monitored Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. If a report requires immediate outreach or follow-up or is an emergency, please contact GW Emergency Services at 202-994-6111.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, feel free to contact the GW Care Team at gwcares@gwu.edu or call us at **202-994-6555**.

What can I expect from my student?

Your student will very likely be experiencing a range of emotions as they leave for college. Remember that these emotions, such as joy, anxiety, excitement, and sadness are perfectly normal. During the college years, your student will be continuing a process of independence yet also establishing new and intimate connections with friends, faculty, and other mentors. They will be exposed to many new ideas and may experiment with new ways of being with friends and with you. Remember that many of these changes are a normal part of growing up. Also, remember that every student is different and has their own experiences of adjusting to and dealing with the challenges and rewards of college life.

What can I expect as a parent/family member?

Like your student, you can expect to experience a wide range of emotions when your student leaves for college. You may experience the joy of new freedom as your student leaves home, as well as sadness at his or her departure. You may experience a great deal of pride and joy about your student’s achievements. You also may worry about whether they will be able to adjust well to a new life, and you may worry about “losing” your student as they experiment with new ideas, behaviors, and relationships. These are normal feelings and ones that are often good to share with other family members and friends.

What can I do to help my student with this adjustment?

Listen: One of the most important roles of a parent is that of listener and supporter. You cannot overestimate how important this role is. Be an active listener. Work hard at understanding what your student tells you about their feelings or experiences. Be sure to listen before making suggestions or giving advice. Listening is always necessary and often sufficient.

Support Independence. Offer suggestions when appropriate but also allow your student to make up their own mind. Resist rescuing your student from a problem but rather let your student know how confident

you are in their ability to resolve things independently. Help your student find the appropriate resources on campus. Remember that while it may be difficult for some parents not to talk to their children every day, developing autonomy is an important aspect of emerging into adulthood.

Communicate: Stay in touch with your student. Let them know what is going on at home, when appropriate. Remind your student that they are still part of the family. Seek your student’s input on how to use his or her old bedroom!

Address Problems Effectively: If there are problems at home, a divorce or illness, for example, work hard to resolve them effectively. Just as you want to know that your student will be able to take care of themselves, your student needs to know that you can deal with these situations effectively on your own. In the case of a divorce, work especially hard to keep your student out of the marital argument.

Know Warning Signs: College students are not always direct about letting parents know when they are experiencing serious problems. Some warning signs are a drop in academic performance, an increase in sadness or anxiety, calling home more or less frequently than usual, physical complaints, depression, eating problems, alcohol/drug-related problems, and a lack of social support. If you see these signals do not hesitate to ask your student how they are doing or call the Counseling Center to find out how you might get your student needed help.

Identify Resources: This is particularly important if your student has a previously identified physical or mental health-related condition or requires ongoing treatment or medication. Find out where important resources are for your student. Do not be shy about calling these resources if you or your student needs help.

Your role as parents and family members is a key element in enhancing and enriching the experience of your student throughout their years at GW. For more information about the Counseling Center or to consult with one of our staff about how you can develop and maintain your own healthy and helpful relationships with your student, visit studentlife.gwu.edu/care-team or feel free call **202-994-6555** and consult with our staff.

GW Campus Recreation

Website: campusrecreation.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-1532

Email: fit4life@gwu.edu

GW Campus Recreation strives to create a space and environment for students in Lerner Health and Wellness Center 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. GW Campus Recreation will provide sound programming for the university's diverse community in the areas of intramural and sport clubs, fitness and wellness instruction and informal recreational opportunities. Most importantly, students will have fun and build sustainable and positive health habits that will stay with them for a lifetime.

The Lerner Health and Wellness Center (Lerner) – located at 23rd & G Streets, is available to faculty, staff, students, and community affiliates. Lerner features a 10,000 sq. foot fitness center with a variety of cardio and strength training equipment, featuring an expansive bank of flat panel TV's. The upper levels include two large gymnasiums with a suspended track and four courts for drop-in recreation and scheduled events including basketball, volleyball, badminton, and intramural sports. A large multipurpose room for group fitness, dance, and sports conditioning is located on the 2nd level. On the lower levels there is a three-lane lap pool, four racquetball courts, massage therapy space, full locker rooms, and equipment issue.

Intramural sports enable students to reap the health and wellness benefits of athletic competition (not to mention the fun), while remaining focused on academics and other aspects of life at GW.

- **Club Sports:** Registered student organizations established by students who are motivated by a common interest to participate in a specific sport. campusrecreation.gwu.edu/club-sports
- **Group Fitness:** Each class is first-come, first-serve for the first 30 participants. Class types, days and times will vary. campusrecreation.gwu.edu/group-fitness

- **Intramural Sports:** Offers opportunities to meet new people with similar interests as well as compete against each other in a fun, safe environment. campusrecreation.gwu.edu/intramural-sports

campusrecreation.gwu.edu/lerner-health-and-wellness-center

Student Outreach & Support

Website: studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-support

Phone Number: 202-994-6555

Email: students@gwu.edu

The Student Outreach & Support team aims to help students succeed by connecting them to support 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 works with any student going through a challenging time to help them navigate long-term illness, family emergencies or other issues.

Raise Up GW is our initiative dedicated to helping students engage in a comprehensive well-being experience across campus. We empower our students to actively engage in well-being activities that are supportive of holistic lifestyles. Through this initiative, students will gain an understanding of resources and learn how to help others in need.

How We Define Well-Being:

Health - The state of being free from illness or injury; ability to participate in activities of daily life. **Wellness** - The state of physical health in which people have the ability and energy to do what we want in life, without chronic suffering. **Well-Being** - Encompasses the broader holistic dimensions of mental, physical, and social well-being.

Dimensions of Well-being:

To be well at the George Washington University is to honor the dynamic process of change and growth that involves building resilience, persistence, and positivity in the face of challenges. We are dedicated to helping you prioritize your well-being. Browse through the eight dimensions of well-being to find campus services and other resources to aid you in finding a healthy balance.

For more information, visit studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-initiatives.

- **CARE Referral Network:** This team manages an online form that allows for any individual to submit a concern on behalf of any active GW undergraduate student. This referral allows the team to fully assess the concerns reported and connect them to the most appropriate resource. studentlife.gwu.edu/care-team
- **First-Gen Support:** First-generation college students are those whose parents did not complete a four-year, baccalaureate degree, however, recognize that there are many definitions for what it means to be a first-gen college student. studentlife.gwu.edu/first-generation-students
- **Health Promotion and Education:** Offering peer-health education through Raise Up GW, an initiative dedicated to helping students engage in comprehensive well-being experiences across campus through programming such as GW Late Night, Final Lap, Chalk-In, Therapy Dog Visits and more. studentlife.gwu.edu/well-being-initiatives
- **Military and Veteran Services:** Assists student veterans, dependents and military personnel with timely and accurate benefit processing and supportive community-building activities. military.gwu.edu
- **The Store:** A student-run food pantry, The Store provides dry goods, meats, fresh produce, dairy, vegan options, and more including lightly used business attire, household items, toiletries, and menstrual hygiene products. studentlife.gwu.edu/store
- **GW Veterans (GW Vets)** is the official student organization for military-affiliated and veteran students. gwu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/gw-veterans
- **First-Gen United** is a student organization for first-generation college students. The group offers a mentorship program that pairs first-year students with upperclass students. studentlife.gwu.edu/first-gen-united
- **Capital Peers** is a student organization that educates, promotes, and inspires students to live healthy lives. instagram.com/gwcapitalpeers

CAMPUS SAFETY & SECURITY

George Washington University Police Department (GWPD)

Website: police.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-6110** (non emergency)
202-994-6111 (On-Campus emergency)
202-994-6111 (EMeRG)

Email: gwpd@gwu.edu

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. The safety and security of our students, faculty, and staff has long been a critical priority. In recent years the university has made considerable progress in strengthening public safety through improvements to areas such as access control, emergency notifications, and the continuing evolution of the GW Police Department.

Safety Tips for your GW Students

- Always be aware of your surroundings and environment.
- Be familiar with locations of the Blue Light Emergency Phones on campus.
- Know the locations and phone numbers of emergency responders.
- Learn about the neighborhoods where you live, work, volunteer, and have fun.
- Don't text or look down at the ground. Watch the cars and people around you. Only wear headphones in one ear so that you can remain aware of your surroundings and environment. Keep your phone charged, secure, and out of sight. Always carry identification. ALWAYS lock the door when you leave your residence hall room.
- Keep your items secured and out of sight at all times.
- Do not allow strangers to piggyback, or follow you, into your building. If someone suspicious does follow you into the building, try to make a mental note of what the person looks like and what time it is. Go immediately to a place where you feel safe, lock the door, and call GW Emergency Services at **(202)-994-6111**. If you are off-campus, call **911** or alert your building's security personnel.

- Remember that GW visitors and guests should be escorted at all times. Residents must walk down to let their guests into the building.
- If you lose your GWorld card, deactivate it. If you lose your keys, borrow the loaner keys from the Key Depot and replace yours. It's better to pay the key replacement fee than to leave your room unsecured.
- Never open your door to strangers. Check the ID of service people before letting them in. Don't be embarrassed to call for verification.
- If you come home and see a door or window open or broken or notice other indicators of a break-in, do not enter your house. If you have already done so, leave immediately and call the police.

Office of Emergency Management

Website: safety.gwu.edu/emergency-management

Phone Number: 202-994-4936

Email: oem@gwu.edu Instagram: [@gwsafety](https://www.instagram.com/gwsafety)

The Office of Emergency Management works with the GW community to lead GW in mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from all hazards. The mission of Emergency Management is to ensure that the George Washington University works together to prepare for, respond to and recover from all hazards; and complies with occupational and environmental health.

EMeRG (GW EMS): is a student-run and operated volunteer EMS agency serving the greater Foggy Bottom Community and the GW Mount Vernon campus. For more information, refer to the website at gwemerg.com

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

safety.gwu.edu/emergency-response-handbook

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

GW Guardian App: GW Guardian is a free, personal safety app designed specifically for members of the GW community. It offers an additional layer of security to the University's emergency mass notification services and enables users both on- and off-campus to:

- Receive targeted emergency notifications, alerts, and advisories;
- Directly access important Safety & Support Services contacts and resources;
- Set Safety Timers and assign virtual Guardians to monitor users' safety late at night or while traveling;
- Connect directly with emergency services, such as GW Police, EMeRG, and 911.

To learn more, visit our GW Guardian Website and download the app for iPhone or Android.

GW SafeRide

GW SafeRide provides a free and safe ride to/from Foggy Bottom residence halls and academic buildings during late-night hours for students, faculty, and staff who prefer not to walk alone. This SafeRide service operates seven days a week from 7pm until 4am. GW SafeRide operates during the academic year except on designated university holidays.

Stay Informed

The George Washington University uses a number of tools to notify students, staff, faculty, and community members of emergency situations and safety-related information. Environmental Health & Safety partners with internal and external units, including Office of Communications and Marketing and the Division of IT to communicate emergency information.

Office of Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)

Email: safety@gwu.edu/environmental-health-safety

Phone: 202-994-6111

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety works with the GW community to reduce workplace risks, avoid incidents, ensure compliance with regulations and limit environmental harm.

Services

- Safety training
- Fire and life safety education; inspections
- Indoor air quality assessments

Campus Emergency Notification System

GW Emergency Alerts

All registered students are automatically signed up to receive GW Emergency Alerts via their GW email. Students manage their own account, and in order to receive GW text alerts to their mobile device, they must add their mobile number to the GW Alert System. In addition to adding their own mobile number, a student can add multiple email addresses and phone numbers so that their relatives and friends may also receive GW emergency alerts. **We encourage our families to talk to your student about adding your mobile number into the system as you may find GW alerts useful.** For students who use mobile apps, the GW Guardian App will push GW emergency alerts directly to the app, as well as other safety functions. safety.gwu.edu/gw-alert-instructions

GW Campus Advisories

Campus Advisories is the university's primary website used for communicating emergency preparedness and incident-related information to the GW community. You can visit this site for updates and changes in university status, adverse weather conditions, important issues concerning safety, and anything else that may disrupt normal operations. campusadvisories.gwu.edu

Office of Advocacy and Support

Website: advocacy.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-0443 Email: oas@gwu.edu

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 include:

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

Title IX Office

Website: titleix.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-7434

Email: titleix@gwu.edu Instagram: [@gwttitleix](https://www.instagram.com/gwttitleix)

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 include:

- **GW Title IX Policies:** GW policies explicitly prohibit sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. They also explain the university's resolution process when a formal complaint is filed with the Title IX coordinator. titleix.gwu.edu/gw-policies-title-ix
- **Title IX Office's Prevention Training Calendar:** Prevention education training is offered each semester including topics such as healthy relationships, bystander intervention, how to respond to disclosures and designated reporter responsibilities. titleix.gwu.edu/training-calendar
- **Mandatory Title IX Training:** All new, first-time students are required to complete an online and in-person training. titleix.gwu.edu/mandatory-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. titleix.gwu.edu/get-help
- **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. titleix.gwu.edu/report-incident

MONEY MATTERS

Planning Ahead

The Student Account eBill displays pending and applied financial aid; in addition, the Student Account eBill displays applied 529 plans, as well as Employee Benefits and Veterans Administration Benefits. Your student’s statement will have a separate line item specifying the type of credit and the amount.

Students should ensure that all anticipated credits, including financial aid, benefits, and payments, cover the semester balance due by the first day of the term unless enrolled in our Monthly Payment Plan option. We strongly encourage regular review of the Student Account eBill, as it is a useful tool in tracking both pending and applied aid, awards and benefits. More information can be found at studentaccounts.gwu.edu.

Office of Student Financial Assistance

Website: financialaid.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-6620 Fax: 202-994-0906

Email: finaid@gwu.edu

Document submission: finaid_docs@gwu.edu

(Note: Please include your student GWID in all correspondence).

The Office of Student Financial Assistance administers financial aid to both our undergraduate and graduate students. What is Financial Aid? Traditionally, the financing of a college education is the responsibility of students and/or their families. The George Washington University realizes that the cost of a GW education may exceed what a family can contribute. In such cases, GW provides a wide range of financial aid programs to assist students and families with financing the total cost of attending our institution. Our goal is to provide every student with the best possible aid package.

The financial aid offer letter includes a listing of the funds you are eligible for. The types of financial aid included are merit awards (if selected), need-based grants, student loans and federal work study. The amount of financial assistance offered is calculated, based on the data provided in your FAFSA and CSS Profile. Eligibility for financial assistance is re-evaluated annually. To receive assistance or get more information visit financialaid.gwu.edu.

Tuition and Fees

For tuition and fee information, visit the Finance Division website at studentaccounts.gwu.edu. The site includes the following topics plus many more:

- ___ Final Fee Payment Deadlines
- ___ Understanding Your Student’s Account
- ___ Payment Options

Invoice and Payment Information

There are a variety of ways to pay your student’s account bill in full; families can select those method(s) that best meet their needs. Some of these payment options include:

- Online payments, checks, wire transfers, etc.
- International payments
- Financial aid
- Monthly Payment Plan
- 529 Plans
- Veteran’s Benefits
- Employee Benefits
- Third Party Authorizations
- Departmental Awards

Students should coordinate their payment options to ensure that the balance is paid in full by the first day of the semester. If the bill is not paid in full by the first day of the semester, the student will be assessed late payment fees, as well as a financial hold. Your Student Account eBill allows you to make payments 24 hours a day via electronic check or credit card. Electronic check payments carry no fee; credit card payments carry a nonrefundable 2.95% fee (\$3.00 minimum) that is charged by our processor. Visit studentaccounts.gwu.edu for more information and payment instructions.

If your student is receiving an outside scholarship, please complete a Verification of Outside Resources form and submit it to our Financial Aid department. GW requests that outside scholarship and award remittances be made through ACH Transfers directly to our bank. Please complete an Outside Scholarship & Award ACH Form for each outside scholarship, and provide a copy of the form to GW and the scholarship foundation. If a scholarship cannot be transferred via ACH, please ensure that all outside scholarship check payments include the student's full name and GWID. Payments from outside scholarships should be sent to:

**Office of Student Financial Assistance
The George Washington University
44983 Knoll Square, Suite 260
Ashburn, VA 20147**

Monthly Payment Plan

The monthly payment plan enables students or their authorized users to pay current fall, spring, and summer semester tuition and fees in four equal payments per semester. Payments must be scheduled via ACH or credit card on the **10th of each month** in August through November for the Fall semester, December through March for the Spring semester, and April through July for the Summer semester. Enrollment is required for each semester in which you participate in the plan. Only one plan may be set up for the student per semester. The monthly payment plan option is interest-free as long as monthly payments are made on time and in full. Failure to make payment for two consecutive months will result in the cancellation of the plan and the application of a late fee. Enrollment in a payment plan is restricted to students registered or planning to register for courses in the specified semester.

For more information regarding billing, your student's account, payment options, etc. Please visit studentaccounts.gwu.edu or contact the Student Accounts Office by e-mail at sao@gwu.edu or by phone at **202-994-7350** during normal business hours.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Student Involvement

Website: studentlife.gwu.edu/get-involved

Phone Number: **202-994-6555**

Email: studentlife@gwu.edu Instagram: [@studentlifeatGW](https://www.instagram.com/studentlifeatGW)

The Student Involvement 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.

Fraternity and Sorority Life:

More than 1,300 students participate in 34 chapters and four councils.
studentlife.gwu.edu/fraternity-and-sorority-life

GW Engage:

Student portal to access a calendar of activities and events for students. Most events are free, and all are fun! gwu.campuslabs.com/engage

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.
studentlife.gwu.edu/student-organizations

CAREER SERVICES

Website: careerservices.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-6495**

Email: gwcareercenter@gwu.edu

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

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 fairs and professional networking events.

Career Coaching Appointments:

Students can 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:

Students can sign up for online newsletters produced by the industry career coaches and stay informed of the latest events, resources, internships and jobs in their 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.

GLOBAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Office for Study Abroad

Website: studyabroad.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-1649

Email for GW students, families, and partners: studyabr@gwu.edu

The Office for Study Abroad (OSA) provides and facilitates quality international educational opportunities at the George Washington University. As educators, we promote students' academic, personal, professional, and intercultural development before, during, and after their study abroad experiences. We respond effectively to individual student needs, while fostering cultural understanding and self-awareness throughout the student body, contributing to an increasingly internationalized campus. The OSA primarily works with undergraduate students seeking semester or year-long study abroad experiences both outbound from and inbound to GW. As international educators, we also celebrate the diversity of GW's student body as one of its greatest assets. We recognize the tremendous value of learning from each other's

differences and are committed to promoting this diversity in study abroad. We are particularly focused on working to improve participation of students from groups that are typically underrepresented in study abroad.

International Students and Scholars

Website: internationalservices.gwu.edu

Phone Number: 202-994-4477

Email: iso@gwu.edu

The International Services Office (ISO) at the George Washington University facilitates international educational exchange through its services and programs. It serves as the primary administrative, programming, and advising office for the GW international community. Our diversity is our strength and GW is proud to host over 4,000 students, faculty, and staff from over 130 countries. The International Services Office is the first stop for the GW international community and will help eliminate administrative challenges when studying in the US. ISO Advisors host a variety of special events that highlight our diverse international student population. At GW, we are finding new ways to build an inclusive culture!



Finding Global Opportunities

Use these resources to discover international internship and job opportunities, sign up for the Jobs Abroad Newsletter, and find general/regional programs. For more information visit, careerservices.gwu.edu/global-job-internship-resources

Here are select resources to get started:

- GW Study Abroad & Internships: Resources for Finding International Internships
- Find Jobs in China (exclusively for GW Chinese students; access thru Handshake)
- Global Jobs
- GoinGlobal
- GW Career Connect: student-to-alumni networking platform
- GW Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships
- GW Jobs Abroad Newsletter

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION AT GW

Office for Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement (ODECE)

Website: diversity.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-7434**

Email: diverse@gwu.edu Instagram: [@InclusionatGW](https://www.instagram.com/InclusionatGW)

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.

- Supports students from historically marginalized populations.
- Provides 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.

Multicultural Student Services Center (MSSC)

Website: mssc.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-6772**

Email: mssc@gwu.edu

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.

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

Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service

Website: serve.gwu.edu

Phone Number: **202-994-9900**

Email: gwserves@gwu.edu

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.

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. serve.gwu.edu/annual-events

Civic Leadership Certificate: An opportunity to design an engagement experience as a way to develop knowledge and skills. serve.gwu.edu/civic-leadership-certificate

Community Service and Engagement: Long-term service opportunities with off-campus partners. serve.gwu.edu/community-service-and-engagement

Record Your Service Hours: Each hour of service signifies an area where our community made a sustainable and ethical impact. serve.gwu.edu/service-hours

GW JARGON

#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.

CEAs/CEAds - Community Engagement Assistants and Advisors - CEAs and CEAds provide essential programming and community-building support in the residence 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 campus.

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

SGA | Student Government 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 DC's Foxhall neighborhood. The Vern as it is affectionately known houses about a third of the first-year population.

UPass is a partnership the university has with WMATA to give students unlimited Metro Rail and Bus rides during the fall and spring semester. Undergraduate students enrolled in on-campus classes (eg: not study abroad or traditional online only programs) within the Columbian College of Arts & Sciences, Elliott School of International Affairs, GW's Business School, Milken Institute School of Public Health and School

of Engineering & Applied Science are included in this mandatory UPass public transit program. Eligible undergraduate students will automatically be assessed the subsidized mandatory student fee on their eBill each fall and spring enrolled.

USC | University Student Center- The student-centric building that houses student club and organization meeting space, the Student Health Center, GWorld Office, Student Services Hub, the Crossroads, study 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.

Vex | 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.

MAIL CALL

The goal of GW Mail and Package Services (MPS) is to provide the university community with timely and accurate handling, distribution and processing of all mail and packages. MPS' main location is located in the lower level of the GW Support Building (2025 F Street, NW).

To ensure timely and accurate delivery, please ask anyone sending you mail or packages to use your complete campus address and the 20052 ZIP Code for the Foggy Bottom campus and the 20007 ZIP Code for the Mount Vernon campus. When addressing mail and packages, do not forget to include the resident's full name and room number. Always use the complete mailing address. Mail and packages received with missing or incorrect name or address information will be subject to delivery delays.

When you receive notifications from your purchasing agents it will likely indicate "delivered" or "delivered to agent". This notification does not necessarily mean that Mail Services has your package in our possession. When you receive a notification from MPS then your package is available for pickup.

Foggy Bottom Mail

Foggy Bottom Mail and packages going to residents should be addressed like this:

Student's Full Name (as it appears on university ID)
Residence Hall Name, Room Number
2025 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20052

Example:

Martha Washington
 Thurston Hall #603
 2025 F Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20052

Mount Vernon Mail

Mount Vernon (*Campus Halls: Cole, Clark, Hensley, Merriweather, West Hall, & Somers Hall*) Mail and packages going to residents should be addressed like this:

Student's Full Name (as it appears on university ID)
The George Washington University
2100 Foxhall Road, NW
Residence Hall, Room Number
Washington, DC 20007

Note: On-campus residence halls cannot accept deliveries. For more information about mailing a letter or package to your student, visit business-services.gwu.edu



IMPORTANT DATES

2024-2025 Academic Calendar Dates

Fall 2024 Semester

First Day of Classes Thursday, Aug. 22
 Labor Day (no classes). Monday, Sept. 2
 Fall Break (no classes) Thursday - Friday, Oct. 10-11
 Election Day (no classes). Tuesday, Nov. 5
 Thanksgiving Break (no classes). Monday - Saturday, Nov. 25-30
 Last Day of Classes Tuesday, Dec. 10
 Make-up/Reading Day Wednesday, Dec. 11
 Final Exams Thursday, Dec. 12 - Tuesday, Dec. 17

Spring 2025 Semester

First Day of Classes Tuesday, Jan. 13
 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no classes). Monday, Jan. 20
 Inauguration Day (no classes) Monday, Jan. 20
 President's Day (no classes) Monday, Feb. 17
 Spring Break (no classes) Monday - Saturday, March 10-15
 Last Day of Classes Monday, April 28
 Make-Up Day Tuesday, April 29
 Designated Monday Wednesday, April 30
 Reading Days Thursday-Friday, May 1-2
 Final Exams Monday, May 3 - Tuesday, May 9
 Commencement Weekend Thursday, May 15 - Sunday, May 18

Remember to...





WARM COOKIES DELIVERED

Open really, reaally late.



See the full menu
and order online.

Order online or visit one
of our **five locations in DC**



insomniacookies.com



IKEA now offers Buy Back & Resell



Do you have IKEA furniture that's an oldie, but it's still a goodie and looking to retire it? The Buy Back & Resell service gives IKEA Family members the opportunity to sell their gently used IKEA furniture back in exchange for store credit. Scan the QR code above for more details.

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Check out all of our local activities at IKEA College Park

Scan this QR code to see what's in store.





Democracy
is in **DNA**

**What does democracy
mean to you?**


Democracy
is in **DNA**

This university initiative seeks to strengthen our community through civic engagement and dynamic experiences that inspire curiosity and exploration. Our commitment is to cultivate a campus environment where each member can engage with opportunities and programs that foster student development, wellbeing and belonging at GW and beyond.



Student Affairs

students.gwu.edu/democracy-dna



You belong here.

The Division for Student Affairs cultivates an inclusive community that supports connection, growth, and well-being for every student throughout their GW journey.



Student Affairs

students.gwu.edu