Buff & Blue Book

A Transfer Student's Guide to GW!
Personal information sheet:

My NetID __________________________

My GW email __________________________

My GWid __________________________

My residence hall and room number __________________________

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**Fall 2019: Important Dates for Your First Semester at GW**

- **Move-In:** August 22
- **Transfer Student & Family Orientation:** August 22-23
- **First Day of Classes:** August 26
- **Colonials Weekend:** September 19-22
- **Fall Break:** October 21-22
- **Thanksgiving Break:** November 27-30
- **Last Day of Classes:** December 9
- **Final Exams:** December 12-20

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**Connect With Us:**

- @GWAdmissions
- @HomeatGW
- go.gwu.edu/orientation

**Contact Us:**

- 202-994-6040
- orientation@gwu.edu

Accurate as of May 30, 2019. Any changes to office names or processes outlined in this book will be communicated by New Student Orientation via email and on our website at go.gwu.edu/orientation.
A Message from GW’s Orientation Staff

Congratulations on officially becoming a member of our GW family! This handbook serves as a guide to what will be going on over the summer, important dates, tasks for you to complete, and reminders for what’s to come. We encourage you to hang onto this and refer to it as needed. We cannot wait to meet you in August. Until then, take a moment to learn a little more about your new home!

The year was 1821...
GW was founded in 1821 as “Columbian College.” In 1904, the name changed to the George Washington University. At the same time, the university’s colors changed to “buff and blue” to commemorate George Washington. The colors matched the uniform he wore when he resigned his position as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army in 1783. The “fighting George” emblem with “Colonials” emblazoned beneath George Washington wearing a tri-cornered “GW” hat came into being in 1998.

History of the Hippo
Former University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg purchased a bronze statue of a hippo from an antique store while on a vacation in New England in 1996. As a gift to the class of 2000, the hippo statue was placed outside Lisner Auditorium. It was declared GW’s unofficial mascot in 2001. Students rub its head and put coins in its mouth for good luck.

GW Fight Song
Hail to the Buff!
Hail to the Blue!
Hail to the Buff and Blue!
All our lives we'll be proud to say,
"We hail from GW" (GO BIG BLUE!)
Oh, by George we're happy we can say,
"We're GW, here to show the way!"
So raised high the Buff (BUFF!)
Raise high the Blue (BLUE!)
Loyal to GW
You bet we're
Loyal to GW (FIGHT!)

Raise High!
-2019 Orientation Staff
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>GW Jargon</strong></th>
<th><strong>Definition</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>#OnlyatGW</strong></td>
<td>A phrase used by GW students, faculty, and staff to describe events that one can only experience at GW, such as attending an event with Joe Biden or Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4-Ride Program</strong></td>
<td>Provides a free and safe ride to/from locations on/near the Foggy Bottom campus during late night hours for students who prefer to not walk alone. Phone is 202-994-RIDE.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Advisor</strong></td>
<td>An advisor assigned by an academic school who can answer questions and provide guidance about academic requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Add/Drop</strong></td>
<td>A period of time after registration when students can change their course schedules online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BanWeb or GWeb</strong></td>
<td>GW’s online system that holds students’ academic, financial, and employment records.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Blackboard</strong></td>
<td>GW’s online software used by professors to organize classes, syllabi, assignments, grades, and discussions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Blue Light</strong></td>
<td>There are 39 blue light phones across campus, which enable people to reach the GW police in case of an emergency.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Buff &amp; Blue</strong></td>
<td>GW’s official colors.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAPS</strong></td>
<td>Counseling and Psychological Services; part of the Colonial Health Center that offers free, short-term mental health services.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CCAS or Columbian</strong></td>
<td>Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHC</strong></td>
<td>Colonial Health Center, GW’s on-campus medical facility.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Colonials</strong></td>
<td>GW’s official mascot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Colonial Student Services or Colonial Central</strong></td>
<td>A hub for student financial assistance, student accounts, and registration services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CSAD or Corcoran</strong></td>
<td>Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, which is housed within the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td>The amount of course credits that a student is enrolled in. To be full-time, students must register for at least 12 and a maximum of 18* (exceptions do exist).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CRN</strong></td>
<td>Course Registration Number; A six-digit number used to register for a class online.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dean’s Seminar</strong></td>
<td>A small seminar course offered exclusively to first-year students in Columbian on topics of interest to professors.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discussion/Reflection</strong></td>
<td>Usually a 50-minute class meeting run by the class TA(s) to help reinforce the material discussed during lecture that week.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>District</strong></td>
<td>District House; Residence hall for upperclassmen that is located above a food court. It also houses The Store.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DSS</strong></td>
<td>Disability Support Services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eckles</strong></td>
<td>Eckles Library, located on GW’s Mount Vernon campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMeRG</strong></td>
<td>GW Emergency Medical Response Group is a student run and operated volunteer EMS agency providing quality, professional care when you need it most around the greater Foggy Bottom community and GW Mount Vernon campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elliott or ESIA</strong></td>
<td>Elliott School of International Affairs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FAFSA</strong></td>
<td>Free Application for Federal Student Aid; Application filled out by students to apply for financial aid.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fight Song</strong></td>
<td>The official song of GW that is sung at every major sporting event.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First-Gen</strong></td>
<td>First-generation students; students who are the first members of their family to attend a higher education institution.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FixIt</strong></td>
<td>GW’s online maintenance portal where students, staff, and faculty members can submit maintenance issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FWS</strong></td>
<td>Federal Work Study; on- and off-campus student jobs part of a financial aid package to help students pay for their education.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gelbucks</strong></td>
<td>Starbucks located underneath Gelman Library.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gelman</strong></td>
<td>Gelman Library, located on GW’s Foggy Bottom campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Short</strong></td>
<td><strong>Long</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GPAC</strong></td>
<td>General education requirements for Columbian (CCAS) students</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GWID</strong></td>
<td>8-digit student ID number</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GWorld</strong></td>
<td>GWorld Card; student ID that is used to tap into residence halls and pay for meals, laundry, printing, and other items</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GWSB</strong></td>
<td>GW School of Business</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HeiWell</strong></td>
<td>Lerner Health and Wellness Center; GW's on-campus gym with recreational sports courts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hiltern</strong></td>
<td>A student with an internship on Capitol Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hippo</strong></td>
<td>GW's unofficial mascot</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hybrid Class</strong></td>
<td>Classes with both an in-person lecture and online component</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kogan Plaza</strong></td>
<td>GW's center of campus</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marvin Center</strong></td>
<td>Student center that contains student organization meeting space, the CHC, the Campus Store, study rooms, and dining options</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Milken or GWSPH or Public Health</strong></td>
<td>Milken Institute School of Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MWF and TR</strong></td>
<td>Indicate when a class meets during the week: MWF = Monday, Wednesday, Friday TR = Tuesday, Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>netID</strong></td>
<td>First part of your GW email (<a href="mailto:netID@gwu.edu">netID@gwu.edu</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Office Hours</strong></td>
<td>Times when professors are free for students to come in and discuss materials in class that were unclear or to talk. A great time to build connections with professors</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite</strong></td>
<td>Classes required to be taken before you can take a corresponding upper-level class</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Provost</strong></td>
<td>The senior academic officer of a university who oversees all academic policies and curriculum-related matters</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Registrar</strong></td>
<td>The university official responsible for registering students and keeping their academic records</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RTF-EZ form</strong></td>
<td>Registration Transaction Form; A form that students can fill and have signed by a professor and an advisor to register for a class that is full</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SA</strong></td>
<td>Student Association; GW's student government</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SEAS</strong></td>
<td>School of Engineering and Applied Science</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SEH</strong></td>
<td>Science and Engineering Hall; Contains labs, offices for STEM departments and professors, and study spaces</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP</strong></td>
<td>Student Health Insurance Plan; required for students on campus unless they have comparable health insurance and waive out of the program</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SMPA</strong></td>
<td>School of Media and Public Affairs, which is housed within CCAS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Store</strong></td>
<td>A student-run food pantry at GW managed by the Store student organization and the Student Experience, providing resources and support for students living with food insecurity</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Syllabus</strong></td>
<td>A packet given to students during the first week of classes that contains general expectations, important dates, required materials, grading criteria, office hours, contact information, and other important information</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TA/ULA</strong></td>
<td>Teaching Assistant or Undergraduate Learning Assistant; Graduate or undergraduate students who help professors with grading and teaching and hold their own office hours to help answer student questions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U-Yard</strong></td>
<td>University Yard; GW's quad on Foggy Bottom</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UW</strong></td>
<td>University Writing; Introductory writing course required for all first-year students on the Mount Vernon campus</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Vern</strong></td>
<td>The Mount Vernon campus; GW's second campus located in D.C.'s Foxhall neighborhood. The Vern houses about 1/3 of the first-year population.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Vex</strong></td>
<td>The Mount Vernon Express; the shuttle that goes between the Mount Vernon and Foggy Bottom campuses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Waitlist</strong></td>
<td>A virtual list offered at a professor's discretion of students waiting to register for a full class. If a spot becomes available, students have 24 hours to accept the spot before it's offered to the next person on the list.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dates and Deadlines

IMMEDIATELY

- Bookmark your student portal (go.gwu.edu/portal) to access important and relevant information before classes start
- Claim your netID and password (GW email)
- Submit final transcripts
- Register for New Student Orientation via your student portal
- Register for classes once your deposit is processed.
- If you are a student with a documented disability, register with Disability Support Services at disabilitysupport.gwu.edu. It is best to provide documentation as soon as possible to avoid delays in the availability of accommodations. **Accommodations are not retroactive.**

**June 3** - GW 101 Transfer Student Module available in Blackboard  
**June 11** - Transfer student housing application opens  
**August 7** - Add/drop period begins  
**August 19** - International transfer student move-in  
**August 20** - Mandatory immigration orientation session for undergraduate and graduate international students (hosted by the International Services Office)  
**August 22** - Domestic transfer student move-in and transfer orientation begins  
**August 26** - Fall 2019 payments due  
**August 26** - First day of classes  
**September 30** - Deadline to waive Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)

*Get in the habit of checking your GW email—this is where we will be sending you information!*
Orientation

New Student Orientation aims to aid in the academic, personal, social, and cultural transition of new undergraduate students and their families to the GW and D.C. communities. The programming you participate in is designed to introduce you to the academic culture and class registration process, community expectations and resources, and involvement opportunities on-campus and in the city. We hope you take advantage of all that GW has to offer and utilize the people around you for support and guidance as you begin your journey.

For the latest, go to your student portal or our orientation site (go.gwu.edu/orientation).

Orientation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Move-In</th>
<th>Programming</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-year students</td>
<td>August 21*</td>
<td>August 21-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer students</td>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>August 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International first-year students**</td>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>August 21-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International transfer students**</td>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>August 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Move-in time frames (including early move-in for pre-orientation programs) will be assigned and communicated to students prior to orientation. **International students can move-in on August 19. There will be a mandatory immigration session hosted by the International Services Office on August 20. There will be informal programming offered between August 19 and August 21.

Class Registration

Transfer students can register for classes after their deposit is processed. Consult the GW 101 Transfer Student Module in Blackboard for preparation materials and guidance on class registration, school advising structures, and academic resources.

Schedule Snapshot

- Opportunities for engagement with fellow students, staff, and faculty in a variety of different settings
- Drop-in advising options, campus open houses, and tours
- Breakout sessions about getting involved in campus life, campus resources, study abroad, and Career Services

Getting to Campus

GW is conveniently located near three major airports (DCA: Ronald Reagan Washington National, IAD: Washington Dulles International, and BWI: Baltimore Washington International) and D.C.’s Union Station. Public transit is available from each airport and train station. The Foggy Bottom/GWU Metro Stop is located right on campus, with service to the Orange, Blue, and Silver Metro lines.
Navigating GW Systems

Transitioning to college is an exciting time, but it also comes with a lot of new processes, concepts, and systems. While you're here, you will be using a variety of different platforms to do business, like checking your email, paying your bill online, and completing assignments for class. We want to introduce you to these commonly used systems so you'll be familiar with them come August.

myGW - The George Washington University Web Portal (my.gwu.edu)

myGW provides you with a landing page to navigate other systems at the university, namely email, Blackboard, and GWeb Information System. Log in using your netID (first part of your GW email) and password.

GW Email and Calendar (www.gwu.edu/email)

Access your GW email and calendar by logging in with your GW email address (netID@gwu.edu).
GWeb Information System (banweb.gwu.edu)

GWeb Information System (also referred to as BanWeb) enables access to important information related to your role within the university. Log in using your GWID number (GXXXXXXX) and PIN. If you have need-based financial aid, you may have already created a PIN. As a first-time user, your PIN will be your birth date in either MMDDYY or MMYY99 format. Once you log in, you will be required to choose a new PIN, set a security question, and answer and agree to Terms of Use.

Once you are logged in, you will see tabs for the following information:
- **Registration Menu** brings you to the registration portal and your schedule
- **Student Records Information Menu** brings you to transcripts, grades, and DegreeMap
- **Student Accounts Menu** brings you to the eBill Portal
- **Financial Aid Menu** brings you to your financial aid package, cost of attendance, and Federal Work Study information
Blackboard (blackboard.gwu.edu)

Blackboard is a learning management system that faculty and staff use to share information and post class materials. As a student, you will use Blackboard to complete GW 101 prior to arriving to campus in August, as well as for classes throughout your time at GW. Log in with your NetID (NetID@gwu.edu) and password.

FixIt (go.gwu.edu/fixit)

FixIt is GW's facilities request portal, which you can use to submit facilities issues in your residence hall. A facilities issue can be anything from an overflowing sink to a large pile of trash in a common space. You'll be prompted to provide your GW NetID and password. Check the webpage icons and choose the service area that best fits your need. If you have questions or need to update your request, use the Comment Stream and a GW Facilities representative will get back to you.
A Different Approach to Dining

We’re embedded in the heart of D.C. and the food options in our city are boundless. Whether you want to explore the D.C. food scene with friends on a Saturday night, shop for your own seasonal ingredients and cook with friends, order delivery through the GET mobile app, or grab a quick bite to eat between classes, our open dining plan has you covered no matter your tastes or dietary needs. View dining options at dining.gwu.edu/where-eat.

DOWNLOAD THE GET APP at go.gwu.edu/dining.

GWorld Dining and Grocery Partners

With so many grocery and dining partners located on, or close to, our Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses, you have the freedom to choose what you want to eat and when.

Our partner list (gworld.gwu.edu/gworld-merchants) includes restaurants and grocery stores that accept Dining Cash and Colonial Cash. Remember, Dining Cash (required for all undergraduate students in GW residence halls) can only be used at dining and grocery partners and cannot be used for retail or service purchases. Colonial Cash is accepted at all dining locations as well as at partner retail stores, vending machines, laundry machines, and more. Colonial Cash may be purchased at any time and is not required.

Don’t see your favorite pizza place? Want to use GWorld at your favorite Chinese restaurant? We are always looking to expand our dining options to best meet the needs and taste buds of all GW Students. Suggest new dining partners at dining.gwu.edu/suggest-dining-partner.

Dining Cash v. Colonial Cash

**Dining Cash** is the primary fund for the meal plan and is required for all on-campus students. The amount of dining cash added each year depends on whether you live in a residence hall with or without a kitchen.

- Residents With a Kitchen: $3,050 Dining Cash ($1,525 per semester)
- Residents Without a Kitchen: $4,750 Dining Cash ($2,375 per semester)

Our dining partner network includes more than 105 food and grocery locations. With options including table service, delivery, food trucks, regional cuisines, and grocery stores, you’ll have easy access to food that meets your tastes and needs. Our open plan offers variety and freedom of choice to meet student’s dietary preferences, including vegan, vegetarian, nut-free, kosher, Halal, gluten-free options, and more. *Dining funds roll over semester-to-semester and year-to-year.*

**Colonial Cash** is a voluntary account that can be used in addition to Dining Cash, and can be used with GWorld dining and retail partners on-campus and off-campus, as well as laundry and printing. Money can be added to Colonial Cash through the GWeb system.
Residential Living @ GW

GW aims to promote residential experiences rooted in strong communities where students develop meaningful healthy relationships, support one another, and are empowered to make decisions that advance their personal, academic, and career goals.

The majority of upperclass students reside on the Foggy Bottom campus, but students do have the option of living on the Mount Vernon campus.

All first-, second-, and third-year students are required to reside on campus unless they have been approved for a residency exemption.

Students will apply for housing by visiting GW Housing e-Services. This application asks you to answer questions about your lifestyle preferences (bedtime, study hours, cleanliness, etc.), and indicate any roommate preferences.

Students are not able to make building preferences.

Students who have a need for a housing accommodation should review the Disability Support Services Housing Accommodation Policy and register with DSS prior to applying for housing.

Transfer students are able to make roommate requests and are also able to participate in gender-inclusive housing, should they wish to do so. Roommate requests are granted when space is available and the requests are mutual. GW Housing will do its best to accommodate any roommate requests; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to do so.

Assignments are made on a rolling basis based on interests, lifestyle preferences, and availability. Once they have been notified of an assignment, students will be able to log onto GW Housing e-Services to view housing assignment and roommate(s) information. Assignments typically begin to be emailed to students by early July and continue on a rolling basis.

If you have any questions regarding the Transfer Housing assignment process, please contact gwhouse@gwu.edu.

Move-In

**What to Bring:**

- Toiletries, prescription medication, first aid kit, cleaning supplies, fan, desk lamps
- Full-length mirror, posters, throw rugs, calendar, message board
- Sheets (Twin XL), towels, pillows, blankets, mattress pad, mattress cover, and laundry bag
- Detergent, dryer Sheets, drying rack
- Reusable utensils, dishes, and food containers, reusable grocery bags, reusable water bottle
- Computer, cell phone, headphones, power strip w/ surge protector, printer

**What is included:**

- Twin XL (80”) mattress
- Microwave and refrigerator
- Wireless internet
- Adjustable height bed frame, desk, desk chair, two chests with two drawers each
- One trash bin per student

**What Not to Bring:**

- Candles, halogen lamps, lanterns/oil lamps, and flammable liquids
- Non-surge protected extension cords
- Weapons, chemical mace, pepper spray, fireworks
- Hazardous material
- Live animals
- Cooking appliances in non-cooking areas, microwaves, refrigerators
- Alcohol
Who’s Who? In Residential Life

Resident Advisor (RA): student leaders assigned to a floor to support and advise residents and promote a residential community

Residence Director (RD): graduate students who live in a residence hall, plan activities for each residence hall, and support RAs

Community Directors (CD): full-time professional staff who live in a residence hall, plan activities, provide crisis response, and supervise RAs

Area Coordinator (AC): full-time professional staff who live in a residence hall, provide planning and oversight of students’ residential experience, advise hall councils, provide crisis response, and supervise RAs, CDs, and RDs

Faculty in Residence (FiR): GW faculty who live in a residence hall, mentor students, and provide intellectual experiences for residents

Faculty Guides (FG): GW faculty assigned to a residence hall who mentor students and provide intellectual experiences for residents

Hall Council: Student-led hall government that advocates on behalf of a configuration of buildings and provides social experiences. All Hall Councils together form GW’s Residence Hall Association (RHA)

Mailing & Packages

You may use a vendor of your choosing to ship belongings directly to campus. Items must be clearly labelled and sent to the appropriate mailing address for your residence hall.

Belongings should be shipped to arrive no earlier than 1 week prior to your move-in date. Packages may be picked up during move-in at designated hub sites or at Mail & Package Services (living.gwu.edu/mail-package-services). More details will be provided in the Next Stop GW: Move-In Guide, arriving in early August.

Colonial Bellhop is an optional move-in service in which members of GW Spirit meet you curbside at your residence hall and carry everything up to your room in under 20 minutes! Available for move-ins beginning August 17. All proceeds benefit the GW Spirit teams and any participating Club Sport teams. To register, visit GWsports.com/Spirit.

For additional information, contact our Bellhop Coordinator at bellhop@gwu.edu.
The George Washington University’s academic life is defined not only by the ability of faculty and students to put knowledge in action, but also by the ability to take full advantage of GW’s vast access to world-class partnerships, policy-research initiatives, and one-of-a-kind learning opportunities.

Refer to GW 101 in Blackboard to learn more about your academic school, advising structure, curriculum requirements, guidance for course registration, and more!

**Undergraduate Academic Schools: Snapshot**

**Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (CCAS)** – Our oldest and largest college, Columbian is home to both generalists and specialists. At Columbian, we emphasize perspective, analysis, and communication; encourage collaboration with external partners; and inspire lasting change.

**Corcoran School of the Arts and Design (CSAD)** – The Corcoran School embodies what Columbian has defined as the “engaged liberal arts” by providing a platform for engagement, bridging creative expression and practical application, linking disparate fields, and preparing students for rich and multi-dimensional careers. We challenge students to investigate how art functions as a form of creative and intellectual inquiry. CSAD is a school within the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.

**School of Media and Public Affairs (SMPA)** – SMPA is a trailblazer in the study of political communication, journalism, and media. Graduates of the SMPA program are leaders in advocacy, politics, business, and journalism. Students engage with the world around them through internships and access to decision-makers, community leaders, and power brokers. SMPA is a school within the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.

**Elliott School of International Affairs (ESIA)** – When you study international affairs at Elliott, you won’t just study it, you’ll experience it. You’ll understand and engage with the world, building knowledge of economics, history, political science, and relevant areas of anthropology and geography.

**School of Business (GWSB)** - This school offers a distinctive educational experience to prepare global business leaders through a portfolio of niche programs that emphasize academic rigor, learning outcomes, and teaching excellence in both delivery and content.

**School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS)** – SEAS strongly supports co-curricular activities to broaden and deepen its students’ overall educational programs. The school also offers a highly collaborative approach that enables students to cultivate expertise in laboratories and influence in government.

**Milken Institute School of Public Health (GWSPH)** – We advance population health, wellbeing, and social justice locally, nationally, and globally by applying public health knowledge to enhance policy, practice, and management; conducting rigorous, basic, applied, and translational research; and educating the next generation of public health leaders, policy makers, practitioners, scientists, advocates, and managers.
**GW Libraries and Academic Innovation**

**GW Libraries**
GW Libraries serves the research and learning goals of all undergraduate and graduate students and faculty of the university, regardless of department or major. GW Libraries’ wide range of services include workshops, 24-hour study spaces, and research help. With Top Textbooks you can access required textbooks for a select group of undergraduate, high-enrollment courses with traditionally expensive textbooks. Within Gelman Library, the University Writing Center provides consultations for dedicated attention to your writing and research projects at all stages of the writing process.

GW Libraries provides access to online resources, including databases and e-books, as well as physical resources. Services can be accessed at library.gwu.edu, Gelman Library on the Foggy Bottom campus, Eckles Library at the Mount Vernon campus, and the Virginia Science and Technology Campus Library at VSTC. The university’s specialized libraries, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, Jacob Burns Law Library, and Arthur D. Jenkins Library, offer services tailored to specific disciplines.

**Academic Commons**

Academic Commons is a one-stop shop for all academic services and resources available at GW. Visit academiccommons.gwu.edu or see us in person at the Ask Us Desk on the entrance floor of Gelman Library. Some academic services include:

**Peer Tutoring**

There is a wide variety of peer-assisted learning across campus, including working with a learning assistant, meeting with a peer tutor, or attending drop-in hours and review sessions. These change each semester. Discover the options offered for your course at go.gwu.edu/tutoring.

**Writing and Research Help**

Meet with a librarian for personalized help to strategize and find the resources you need for any project, paper, presentation, or article. You may also book appointments with consultants for help with coding, programming, data organization and management, statistical analysis, and geographic information systems. Get started at go.gwu.edu/consultations.

**Study Spaces**

There are an enormous variety of reservable and non-reservable spaces for individual and group study throughout GW. Filter for your favorite spot based on features and characteristics at studyspaces.gwu.edu.

**Fellowships and Research Opportunities**

It’s never too early to think about getting hands-on experience through fellowships and undergraduate research. The Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships is ready to answer your questions and provide guidance. Find your fellowship or research opportunity at academiccommons.gwu.edu/fellowships.

Be sure to check out academiccommons.gwu.edu to learn about academic services and resources available throughout the university.
**Important Information from the Colonial Health Center**

**Mandatory Health Immunization Form: DUE AUGUST 1**

ALL new students under the age of 26 must submit proof of immunizations as required by DC Code. Details are available at [healthcenter.gwu.edu/immunizations](http://healthcenter.gwu.edu/immunizations). Visit the Colonial Health Center (CHC) patient portal at [mychc.gwu.edu](http://mychc.gwu.edu) and follow the instructions below:

1. Access the patient portal and sign in with your GW Email Address (NetID@gwu.edu) and password.
2. Click on the “Medical Clearances” tab on the left side of the screen.
3. Under “Medical Clearances” click on the green “Update” button to upload a photo or scan of your immunization record. Please ensure that all documents are legible.
4. Click on each green “Update” button next to each type of immunization and enter in the dates of immunization. You must enter in all of your dates for the required immunizations in order for us to verify your record.
5. Once you have updated all of your immunization dates, a staff member at CHC will review your record. Please check back to see if your immunization clearance was satisfied or not.

For questions, please email [immunreq@gwu.edu](mailto:immunreq@gwu.edu) or call **202-994-5300** (option #3).

**Student Health Insurance Plan**

The Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) is a comprehensive plan offered through Aetna Student Health. In alignment with the Affordable Care Act, SHIP guarantees that you can obtain necessary treatment if you develop a serious illness or injury. It also guarantees that you can obtain preventative medical services like immunizations and physical exams. All undergraduate students will be automatically enrolled in SHIP. It is estimated that all undergraduate students will be charged $2,690 to their accounts for the 2019-2020 academic year (August to August).

Waive SHIP at [aetnastudenthealth.com](http://aetnastudenthealth.com). Those interested in the waiver must have proof of insurance and be registered for classes for the fall 2019 semester.

The waiver period for SHIP runs August 1-September 30, 2019. For questions about SHIP, email [ship@gwu.edu](mailto:ship@gwu.edu).

ALL undergraduate students, medical, on-campus nursing, on-campus Health Science, and ALL international students holding a J1 or F1 visa are required to carry student health insurance while they study at GW. These students will be automatically enrolled in the GW SHIP and must submit an opt-out waiver if they have another insurance plan that meets the required criteria listed below.

When the following services are provided at CHC, they are covered at 100% with no copay or deductible: medical office visits, prescription medications routinely dispensed at CHC, routine STD screenings (once annually), physical examinations, immunizations, and a yearly influenza vaccination when provided at the CHC only.
**Technology at GW**

**Internet Access:** Wireless internet access is available through a GW student’s NetID and password. Networks are also available for certain guests. Find out more at [it.gwu.edu/internet-access](http://it.gwu.edu/internet-access).

Equipment is available for wired internet in residence halls. Sign out the equipment through the IT Support Center at [it.gwu.edu/support](http://it.gwu.edu/support). Streaming devices (Apple TV, Playstation 4s, Roku devices, Nintendo Switches, and Xbox Ones) may connect to GW’s wireless entertainment network.

**Email:** GW uses Google Mail for student email accounts. GWMail features enhanced storage capabilities and access to GWCalendar. Learn more at [it.gwu.edu/email-calendar](http://it.gwu.edu/email-calendar).

**Printing:** Colonial Printing is a wireless printing service with over 60 kiosks available at GW’s campus and education centers. Visit [printing.gwu.edu](http://printing.gwu.edu) to learn how to print from your students’ computer, mobile device, cloud account, and more.

**Support:** GW Information Technology (GW IT) offers several options for technology support, making it easy to get the help your student needs. Visit [it.gwu.edu/support](http://it.gwu.edu/support) for walk-up hours, phone number, and email contact. Submit an online ticket at [go.gwu.edu/itrequest](http://go.gwu.edu/itrequest).

**Academic Software and Technology:** Software packages like Microsoft Office 365, SAS (Statistical Analysis System), and communications apps are available to all GW students through GW IT. Some software is made available by your student’s school. Learn where to access these applications at [go.gwu.edu/academicsoftware](http://go.gwu.edu/academicsoftware). Digital media equipment, including digital video and audio recorders, is available to all GW students, regardless of school affiliation. Learn more at [acadtech.gwu.edu/equipment](http://acadtech.gwu.edu/equipment).

**Computer Labs and Workstations:** Computers, often with specialized software and higher computing power, are available to GW students with their NetID and password. Locations include Gelman Library, Eckles Library, and some academic halls. Learn more at [go.gwu.edu/academicsoftware](http://go.gwu.edu/academicsoftware).

GW students in need of a laptop can request one for up to one full semester. A limited number of laptops are available to students on a first-come, first-served basis. Learn more at [go.gwu.edu/laptops](http://go.gwu.edu/laptops).

**Streaming Cable TV and HBO Go:** GW students living in on-campus housing can watch and record live high-definition TV. Your student can access streaming services from a variety of devices. Learn more at [it.gwu.edu/tv](http://it.gwu.edu/tv).

**Technology Purchase Recommendations**

GW provides minimum hardware specifications as suggestions when you are considering purchasing a device for your student’s time at the university. Learn more at [go.gwu.edu/GWtech](http://go.gwu.edu/GWtech).
Did you know in college that it is on YOU (the student) to disclose a disability in order to receive accommodations? Don’t worry—we’ve broken it down for you below.

What do you mean by disability?

Maybe you had a Section 504 plan or IEP in high school? While that is usually indicative of a need to register with us, it is not a pre-requisite. You could be someone with a physical, cognitive, mental, or chronic health impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. We must have documentation of an impairment to determine accommodations. Check our website for documentation guidelines - disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/document-your-disability.

The determination of whether a student has a physical, cognitive, medical, or mental health impairment that substantially limits a major life activity (and therefore has a disability) must be made on a case-by-case basis. How do we do that? By examining the documentation you provide! Check the instructions below on the relevant documentation we need.

Okay, that’s me... Now what? I want to register with DSS.

1. Submit a DSS Online Registration Form, which includes your supporting disability documentation, at disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/register-disability-support-services. Eligibility criteria for disability-related support services include the below. Please do not send us your Section 504 or IEP plan, as these do not count as verified documentation.
   a. Recent verification of diagnosis prepared by a qualified professional that includes recommendations for reasonable accommodations.
   b. Documentation that is current and relevant, substantiates how the condition impacts the student in a postsecondary academic environment, and illustrates a connection between the impact of the disability and the requested accommodation.

2. You will be notified of your eligibility status and will receive a plan of approved accommodations by email (at your GW email address).

3. Once your registration is established, you must attend a session during Orientation to review DSS policies and procedures. You can even schedule a meeting with us before arriving at Orientation!

What does DSS do?

- Assistive Technology
- Alternative Format Text Materials
- Classroom Access
- Housing Accommodations
- Interpreting Services
- Letters to Professors
- Note-Taking Technology
- Strategic Skills Services (coursework planning and organization, time management, writing management, career counseling)
- Test Accommodations

CONTACT DSS: Rome Hall, Suite 102 | 801 22nd St., NW | Washington, DC 20052
Telephone: 202-994-8250 | Fax: 202-994-7610 | Email: dss@gwu.edu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office or Resource Name</th>
<th>Website and Email</th>
<th>Reasons You Might Use This Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment and the Student Experience</td>
<td>students.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:students@gwu.edu">students@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>Enrollment and the Student Experience (ESE) provides a cohesive experience throughout all phases of the student lifecycle, from the admissions and enrollment process, through graduation and beyond. This is a good place to start if you don’t know where to go!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Support and Family Engagement</td>
<td>families.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:gwfamilies@gwu.edu">gwfamilies@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>Engagement and involvement opportunities for family members. Get connected with additional support and resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The CARE Network</td>
<td>students.gwu.edu/care <a href="mailto:students@gwu.edu">students@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>Are you or someone you know in need of some support? The CARE Network is an online form submission that takes a cross-departmental approach. Students are connected to resources through inter-departmental collaboration to provide them with appropriate and personalized outreach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Services Office</td>
<td>internationalservices.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:iso@gwu.edu">iso@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>Serves both incoming and current undergraduate and graduate students. -Questions about documents and forms (I-20, F and J Visas, etc.) -Programming opportunities to connect with other international students -Overall, primary point of contact for administrative and programming for the GW international community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Student Financial Assistance</td>
<td>financialaid.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:finaid@gwu.edu">finaid@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Financial aid packaging -Information about types of financial assistance available -Financial literacy resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Registrar</td>
<td>registrar.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:registrar@gwu.edu">registrar@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Scheduling -DegreeMap -Registration -Transcripts and certifications -Transfer credits, internal transfer -Graduation -Resources and forms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Accounts</td>
<td>studentaccounts.gwu.edu/understanding-your-bill <a href="mailto:sao@gwu.edu">sao@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Tuition and fees -Understanding and paying your bill -Payment plans and methods -Awards and benefits -Refunds -Forms and resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Central</td>
<td>colonialcentral.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:ccentral@gwu.edu">ccentral@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Hub for student financial and registration services -Questions about financial aid, registration, and billing Located in Marvin Center, Ground Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GW Residential Life and Housing</td>
<td>living.gwu.edu Residential Engagement: <a href="mailto:ret@gwu.edu">ret@gwu.edu</a> Mail and Package Services: <a href="mailto:gwmails@gwu.edu">gwmails@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Residence halls -Move-in and out -Housing on- and off-campus (fall, spring, and summer) -Policies (such as housing exemptions or housing accommodations) -Residential engagement opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GW Dining</td>
<td>dining.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:dining@gwu.edu">dining@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Locations to eat on or around campus with a GWWorld card -Special events or discounts -Contact for assistance if you have special dietary restrictions or needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWorld Card Office</td>
<td>gworld.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:gworld@gwu.edu">gworld@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Replace a lost GWWorld card -Questions about reloading money, accessing funds, and general card use -Trouble with tap access to academic or other campus buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Health Center</td>
<td>healthcenter.gwu.edu</td>
<td>-Medical, counseling, and psychological services -24/7 Counselor On Call -Student health insurance -Required immunizations -Self-help resource library -Health promotion and education Phone: 202-994-5300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Advisories</td>
<td>campusadvisories.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:oem@gwu.edu">oem@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Incident-related and non-incident-related information to the GW community -Real-time information on current GW alerts, weather, and Metro status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Support Services</td>
<td>disabilitiesupport.gwu.edu <a href="mailto:dss@gwu.edu">dss@gwu.edu</a></td>
<td>-Register for accommodations -Learn more about types of accommodations available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Campus Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office or Resource Name</th>
<th>Website and Email</th>
<th>Reasons You Might Use This Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Division of Safety and Security | safety.gwu.edu | - Residence hall safety and security  
- Health and emergency management  
- GW Police  
- Victim Services  
Emergency number: 202-994-6111  
Non-emergency number: 202-994-6110 |
| Title IX - Haven | haven.gwu.edu/gw-policies-title-ix | - GW policies and Title IX  
- Prevention and training  
- Reporting and resources  
24/7 Sexual Assault Response and Consultation (SARC): 202-994-7222 |
| Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities | studentconduct.gwu.edu rights@gwu.edu | - Become familiar with the Code of Student Conduct and Code of Academic Integrity  
- Also supports the alcohol medical amnesty program and good Samaritan policy |
| Division of IT | it.gwu.edu ithelp@gwu.edu | - Email and calendar  
- Software  
- Internet connectivity  
- IT security |
| Office for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement | diversity.gwu.edu diverse@gwu.edu | - Education and learning opportunities  
- Campus climate  
- Diversity Summit  
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Online Educational Module |
| Multicultural Student Services Center | mssc.gwu.edu mssc@gwu.edu | - Learn more about communities and identities  
- Signature events  
- Training  
- LGBTQIA resource center |
| GW Libraries | library.gwu.edu gelman@gwu.edu eckles@gwu.edu | - Gelman (Foggy Bottom), Eckles (Mount Vernon Campus)  
- Research and databases  
- Workshops  
- Study spaces  
- Library services |
| Academic Commons | academiccommons.gwu.edu academiccommons@gwu.edu | - Academic support  
- Personalized assistance  
- Peer mentoring and tutoring  
- Writing and research help  
- Fellowships  
- Language support  
- Academic software and technology |
| GW Campus Store | gwshops.com | - Books  
- Apparel and accessories  
- Gifts and collectibles  
- Supplies  
- Technology |

### Make a Plan to Vote

Make your voice heard by creating a plan for voting during your time at GW. If you are an out-of-state student, decide if you plan to register in your home state or in the District of Columbia. If registering in your home state, consider registering in person before move-in day. GW students can sign up to receive election reminders, register to vote, and apply for their absentee ballot at [gwu.turbovote.org](http://gwu.turbovote.org). TurboVote makes sure students always know when elections are happening and have the information they need to vote with confidence.
This is your guide to your years at GW. Raise High the buff and blue!