



New Student Guide

Welcome to GSEHD! This guide contains helpful start up information to get you prepared to join our learning community. The frequently asked questions also contain information on course selection, books, tuition, funding, and billing.

Getting Started

Step One: Set up your GW Accounts

The **GWeb** Information System allows online access to GW student services, such as registering for classes, viewing student billing accounts, viewing grades and accepting financial aid. To set up your account:

1. Go to <http://my.gwu.edu/> and click on *GWeb Info System* in the upper left corner.
2. Enter the GWid that is given at the top of your offer of admission and on your Official Program Plan.
3. Enter your six-digit birthday (MMDDYY) as your PIN. *For security purposes please change your PIN.*

Your **GW NetID** gives you access to your student email account (GWMail), and Blackboard (online course software). To establish your NetID and email:

1. Go to <http://identity.gwu.edu/>
2. Click “Claim Your GW Email Address/NetID”
3. Enter your GWid, Last Name and Birth Date and follow the steps to create a NetID and password.
4. Finally, go to <http://my.gwu.edu/mod/email/> and sign on to your GW email with your NetID and password.

All official notifications (grades, bills, and important academic communication) will be sent to your GW email address, so please be sure to either check it regularly or have it forwarded to an account that you plan to check regularly. Instructions on how to forward your GW email account can be found [here](#) (you may need to log in with your NetID to view this content).

Note: It may take up to 48 hours from when you receive this email for you to be recognized in the GW system. If you are unable to access your accounts initially please try again at a later time.

If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the University Helpdesk at ithelp@gwu.edu or [202-994-4948](tel:202-994-4948). Other important information about GW technology services can be found here: <https://it.gwu.edu/resources>.

Step Two: Consult Your Official Program Plan

Attached to your welcome email is your Official Program Plan which will help you determine which courses are needed to complete your program at GSEHD.

Shortly before you begin your classes, you can consult DegreeMap which is an electronic reflection of your program plan and tracks which courses you have completed as well as those still needed. DegreeMAP is accessed through the [GWeb Information System](#): Student Records & Registration → Student Records Information Menu → DegreeMAP.

Step Three: Register for Classes

Before registering for classes please follow the registration sequence/guidance of your faculty advisor. Off-campus/distance students may also have a program support coordinator who can assist them with registration.

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To register for classes online, navigate to the [GWeb Info System](#) and log in with your GWid and PIN. Detailed instructions on how to register can be found on the website of the Office of the Registrar [here](#). Once you have completed the registration process please verify your course registration under “Student Detail Schedule” in the Registration Menu of the [GWeb Info System](#).

Step Four: Familiarize Yourself with GW Resources

- The Office of Student Services: <http://gsehd.gwu.edu/students>.
- Student Handbook – GSEHD Policies: [Student Handbook](#),
- GSEHD Career Services: <https://gsehd.gwu.edu/career-services>
- The GW Bulletin – University Policies: <http://bulletin.gwu.edu/>.
- The Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.gwu.edu/>
- The GW Academic Calendar: <http://www.gwu.edu/academic-calendar>.
- Schedule of Classes: <http://my.gwu.edu/mod/pws/>
- Gelman Library (available to all students, regardless of campus/distance status): <http://library.gwu.edu>. Dorinne Banks is a dedicated Education Liaison Librarian for GSEHD and you can access her library guides and resources at http://libguides.gwu.edu/prf.php?account_id=22603.
- University Writing Center - <https://writingcenter.gwu.edu/>
- Financial Aid: <https://financialaid.gwu.edu/>
- Disability Support Services: <https://disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/>
- The Store – A Student-Run Food Pantry: <https://students.gwu.edu/store>
- Colonial Health Center: <https://healthcenter.gwu.edu/>
- Center for Student Engagement: <https://studentengagement.gwu.edu/transfer-graduate-students>
- Office of Veteran & Military Services: <https://services.military.gwu.edu/>
- Multicultural Student Services Center: <http://mssc.gwu.edu/>
- Blackboard Guide: <https://itl.gwu.edu/student-blackboard-faqs>
- Parking at GW: <https://transportation.gwu.edu/welcome-parking-gw>

Frequently Asked Questions

What can I expect from the Office of Student Services?

The Office of Student Services oversees new student orientation programs, registration, comprehensive examinations, student appeals, dissertation defenses and degree clearance for graduation. We closely monitor student progress to ensure that students meet all academic standards and complete all degree requirements.

Each student has an assigned student services representative that is here to assist and guide you. We can guide you through the administrative aspects of your studies and help connect you with other university resources when necessary. We are also here to help you when you are feeling overwhelmed. Know that you have many options to help you succeed in your studies. Don't ever hesitate to reach out to your student representative. We are here to help!

How do I get my student ID card?

The GWorld card is the official ID card at GW. All active members of the GW community are eligible to receive a card. Your card serves as your university identification. You can add Colonial cash to pay for printing and copying on campus and your card also allows you to access facilities on campus. To get your GWORLD card please visit the [GWorld Card Office](#) at the Foggy Bottom campus.

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Where can I find information on tuition and fees?

The tuition schedule can be found online here: <https://studentaccounts.gwu.edu/graduate-tuition>.
 Information on fees can be found online here: <https://studentaccounts.gwu.edu/fees-charges>

How will I be billed?

The George Washington University does not issue paper statements. Students are **notified by email** (to your GW email account) when a new statement is available. More information on the eBill system is available here: <https://studentaccounts.gwu.edu/how-ebill-system-works>. **Please note:** Payment for the semester is due on the first day of the semester on the main campus, not the first day of your session or the first day of the semester for an off-campus course. Your billing statement will include the billing due date.

Who should I contact about....?

Academic issues and course selection: Please contact your faculty advisor, whose name and contact info can be found on your offer of admission and on your Official Program Plan. Off-campus/distance students should also ask their faculty advisor if there is a program support coordinator who can assist them with academic issues.

Administrative issues: Please contact your Student Services Representative, whose name and contact info can be found on the website of the [Office of Student Services](#). The Office of Student Services is located in a townhouse at 2136 G St NW, Washington, DC. Please feel free to stop by and see us in person!

Funding options: An overview of available funding is provided by the Office of Admissions on their "Funding Your Graduate Education" page: <https://gsehd.gwu.edu/admissions/funding-your-graduate-education>.

I received an Immunization Form in the mail, what is this?

All students under age 26, regardless of program of study, location of study, part-time or full-time status, degree or non-degree status, must comply with the immunization requirement as set forth by the Law of the District of Columbia. It is important that you comply as soon as possible so that your registration is not hindered. You can find more information about the immunization requirement on the website of GW Student Health: <https://healthcenter.gwu.edu/immunizations>.

What textbooks do I need? Where can I purchase them?

Please check with your program and/or course instructors about what textbooks or other course materials you will need. You are welcome to obtain your textbooks through whatever service is most convenient for you. All textbooks will also be available at the [GW Bookstore](#), which is located at the Foggy Bottom Campus Marvin Center, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052.

What should I do if I have a conditional admission based on official transcripts?

Official final transcripts are required from all colleges and universities where you earned a degree. An official final transcript is a transcript received directly from your previous institution that shows all grades received toward the earned degree. If you submitted an unofficial transcript for your application review and were admitted "conditionally", you will need to submit official final transcripts by the end of the first semester of enrollment. Make sure to do so as soon as possible so that your registration is not hindered. For information on how to submit your official final transcripts, please consult the admissions webpage: <https://gsehd.gwu.edu/admissions/faq>.