

GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION



Congratulations on your recent acceptance to Grand Valley State University. Please read this brochure carefully for important information regarding deadlines and other events that you need to be aware of over the next several months.

If you have any questions regarding the information outlined in this brochure, please contact the Admissions and Recruitment Office at (800) 748-0246 or (616) 331-2025 or email gradadm@gvsu.edu.

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

✓ Sign up for New Graduate Student Orientation.

As a new graduate student at Grand Valley, you may have questions about the university. To provide you

with the information you need to get started, GVSU offers a New Graduate Student Orientation prior to the start of each semester. The orientation is open to all new graduate students and is not program-specific.

New Graduate Student Orientation provides important information in a concise yet comprehensive format. By attending, you will learn about services, resources, and activities to help you navigate, acclimate, and succeed at GVSU. You will receive an invitation to New Graduate Student Orientation approximately six weeks prior to the first semester you begin taking classes.

For those unable to attend New Graduate Student Orientation, a virtual orientation to the services and resources that you will need as a graduate student is available at gvsu.edu/gradorientation.

REGISTRATION

Graduate students register for classes using our online registration system, myBanner, which is available at gvsu.edu/banner. Detailed registration instructions are available at gvsu.edu/register.

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an online course management system that faculty members can use for distributing course materials, communicating with students, posting assignments and grades, and much more. Many courses require the use of Blackboard.

Please review the introduction and online tutorial for using Blackboard at gvsu.edu/elearn/help.

✓ YOUR NEXT STEPS

Depending on what time of year you're admitted to GVSU, these next steps may be available right away or in a few months.

- File FAFSA to be considered for financial aid by March 1
- Submit housing application (if needed)
- Meet with your graduate program advisor
- Attend New Graduate Student Orientation

ACADEMIC ADVISING

It is very important for graduate students to consult directly with their graduate program director regarding academic advising and registration. Contact information for each graduate program is available at gvsu.edu/gs/masters-and-doctoral-degree-programs-9.htm

HOUSING DEADLINE

New graduate students who want to live on campus should apply to the Office of Housing and Residence Life immediately upon acceptance for admission. Spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. You can visit our website at gvsu.edu/housing to apply online and view housing photos and room layouts. Please note that your housing application must be accompanied by your security deposit.

Graduate students are typically placed in on-campus apartments, which are available in Allendale and Grand Rapids.

CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT CENTER

The GVSU Children's Enrichment Center, located on the Allendale Campus, serves children ages 2.5 to 12, both from the campus community and the nearby community. Hours are from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday year-round. Please contact the Children's Enrichment Center at (616) 331-KIDS or visit gvsu.edu/child if you have any questions.

GVSU partners with YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids and offers evening childcare to students who need care due to evening academic courses. Care is provided at the David D. Hunting YMCA location.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

✓ Complete your FAFSA online at studentaid.gov/fafsa by March 1.

Graduate students interested in receiving financial aid at Grand Valley should file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The 2024-2025 FAFSA will be available at

studentaid.gov/fafsa. You must list Grand Valley as a school to receive your FAFSA information; our school code is 002268. **To assure maximum consideration for financial aid at Grand Valley, you should complete the FAFSA by March 1.** Late applications are considered for aid, but some funds may not be available.

Graduate assistantships are also available through the various academic departments. Visit The Graduate School website at gvsu.edu/gs for more details.

Additional information regarding financial aid is available at gvsu.edu/financialaid. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at (616) 331-3234 or (800) 748-0246 or via email at finaid@gvsu.edu if you have any questions.

ELECTRONIC BILLING

Electronic bill presentment is the official means of generating student account statements to all Grand Valley students. Students will be notified by email when new charges have been added to their account or when a monthly payment becomes due. The student and any authorized viewers need their Network ID and password to view any financial information. If the student set up proxy access for a third party, they will be able to review the bill and make payment with their email and PIN. Each registered student is automatically enrolled for electronic bill presentment.

For your convenience, a variety of payment options are available and are outlined on the student accounts website at gvsu.edu/studentaccounts. If you have additional questions regarding payment options, please contact the Student Accounts Office at (616) 331-2209 or (800) 789-1923.

COMPANY DEFERMENT PLAN

This plan is for students who qualify for their employer's tuition reimbursement program. The plan allows the amount of tuition and fees paid for by the employer to be deferred until the end of the semester. Any amount of tuition and fees not paid for by the employer must be received by the tuition deadline and included with an application. Please visit gvsu.edu/studentaccounts for more information.

GVSU STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNT

Grand Valley has contracted with Google to provide a GVSU Gmail account along with Google Apps for Education and Calendar for all GVSU students. This GVSU Gmail account is free and required for all students. Your GVSU Gmail account will be the official method of communication used by the university while you are enrolled at GVSU. Please visit gvsu.edu/it for additional information. Instructions to locate your GVSU Gmail address will be emailed to you.

VETERANS SERVICES

The Military and Veterans Resource Center provides support services and resources to active duty service members, military veterans, guards/reservists, spouses, and family members. With a single point of contact serving military-connected students, our goal is to ensure we connect student veterans and their families to relevant resources, address emerging issues, and provide the necessary information to help them succeed. Some of the services we offer include:

- Two dedicated veterans lounges (Allendale and downtown)
- Laker Vets, GVSU's award-winning chapter of the Student Veterans of America
- Deployment support
- Veteran-specific scholarships and financial aid counseling
- Housing, employment, and mental health services

To contact the Military and Veterans Resource Center director, email mvrctdirector@gvsu.edu.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Graduate School provides leadership, oversight, and support for graduate education, graduate students, and faculty members. It develops programming and provides advising to assist graduate students through transitions from prospective student, to enrolled, graduating, and finally, alumni. It oversees graduate assistantships, including appointments and orientations. The Graduate School administers university policies for graduate education and reviews requests for exceptions to those policies.

The Graduate School website at gvsu.edu/gs provides information and resources for graduate students, including financial support, health information, writing resources, and project, thesis, and dissertation information. Resources such as the Graduate Student Guidebook, Advising Handbook, and Online Learning Guide are available at gvsu.edu/gs/guides-for-graduate-students-70.htm.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

GVSU offers transportation services ranging from carpooling to transit services. GVSU provides daily bus service between the Allendale Campus, Robert C. Pew Grand Rapids Campus, Health Campus, and the surrounding area. All GVSU and The Rapid transit routes are free to current students, faculty, and staff with a valid Grand Valley ID card.

For more information on bus schedules, routes and transportation programs, visit gvsu.edu/bus. Please note that frequency of service is reduced during spring/summer semesters and university breaks. Questions or concerns? Contact GVSU Transportation Services at (616) 331-6700 or at bus@gvsu.edu.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is a student-run organization dedicated to improving the graduate student experience outside of the classroom and growing the graduate culture and voice at GVSU. This group helps students network and connect with other graduate students through programs and events. Follow GSA on Facebook [facebook.com/GVGrads](https://www.facebook.com/GVGrads) or visit the website for more information at gvsu.edu/gsa.

COMPUTER NETWORK LOGIN INFORMATION

✓ Visit gvsu.edu/it for specific computer information.

The GVSU housing network, wireless network, Blackboard, library, student email system, and computer labs use the same username and password. Your

username is set by Grand Valley and is usually the first few letters of your last name and your first and middle initials.

If you do not know your username or your current password or want to change your password, go to mail.gvsu.edu and click on Reset/Change Your Network Password. Next, the computer will ask for your user ID (G#) and your last name. Once you have given these, you will be prompted with an option to provide your cell phone carrier information or personal email address. This will send you a verification code. Lastly, you will be prompted to enter your “New Password” and “Retype New Password.”

If you have any additional computer questions, please check our knowledge base at services.gvsu.edu or contact IT Services at (616) 331-2101, it@gvsu.edu, or gvsu.edu/it.

STUDENT ID

Grand Valley’s free student ID card can be used to access specific buildings such as the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, to board The Rapid buses without charge, to purchase academically packaged and discounted software, for free admittance into athletic events, and for discounted student rates for other university and nonuniversity activities, including almost 70 area businesses and attractions.

Visit a Student Assistance Center to request your ID and to be photographed. Student Assistance Center offices are located on the first floor of the Arend and Nancy Lubbers Student Services Center (Allendale Campus) and the Richard M. DeVos Center Plaza (Pew Grand Rapids Campus). If you are not able to make it to a Student Assistance Center, please contact regdept@gvsu.edu to set up the submission of your photo.

PARKING PERMITS

✓ Parking your vehicle on campus requires a parking permit or using pay-to-park locations. Visit gvsu.edu/parking.

Parking your vehicle on the Allendale Campus, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, or Health Campus requires a parking permit. Permits are available to purchase at gvsu.edu/parking.

The permit costs \$150 per semester (fall and winter only) for students with six or less credit hours, and \$240 per semester (fall and winter only)

for students with seven or more credit hours. The cost of the permit will be billed to your student account.

Students with classes at the GVSU Health Campus now have a parking option in the 335 Michigan shared parking ramp located northeast of the Daniel and Pamella DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health. A commuter or resident permit is required. In addition, temporary day permits are available for purchase online at a cost of \$10 per day and will be billed to your student account.

Pay-to-park short-term options are available on each campus and can be found on the Parking Services website.

Please direct parking questions to Grand Valley Parking Services by phone at (616) 331-PARK (7275) or by visiting the website at gvsu.edu/parking.

LAKER STORE

Most graduate courses will require specific textbooks, which are available through the GVSU Laker Store. You may shop online or at one of our two Laker Store stores on the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses. Please visit lakerstore.gvsu.edu for more information.

DISABILITY SUPPORT RESOURCES

Disability Support Resources (DSR) in the Division of Inclusion and Equity strives to educate the campus community on disability issues to cultivate a more inclusive and equitable campus. DSR provides support services and accommodations that enhance the learning environment for students with documented disabilities.

DSR collaborates with students, faculty, and staff to promote equal access to the campus community that meets the needs of students with disabilities, fosters student independence, and recognizes students based on their abilities rather than their limitations. These practices help to identify innovative approaches and resources that support a diverse range of abilities and opportunities while maintaining compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. DSR encourages the university community to empower students, enhance equity, and provide a platform for innovation and inclusion.

Students should register with DSR as soon as possible after admission to the university to ensure the timely provision of accommodations. Advisors can also assist students with disabilities with questions regarding course selection, scheduling, and exploration of their areas of career interest. If a student requires more comprehensive services in these areas, advisors can refer students to other on-campus resources. Some available services include alternative format textbooks (if alternative books are unavailable), alternative testing, assistive technology, learning skills assistance, and transportation on the Allendale Campus. DSR also strives to educate the campus community on disability issues to cultivate a more inclusive and equitable campus for the benefit of all.

If you feel that you can benefit from these resources, please call us at (616) 331-2490, email at dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu, or visit our office at 215 The Blue Connection.

GRAND VALLEY CALENDAR 2024-2025

Fall Semester 2024

Convocation.....	August 23, 2024
Classes Begin.....	August 26, 2024
Labor Day Recess.....	September 1 – 2, 2024
Fall Break.....	October 20 – 22, 2024
Thanksgiving Day Recess.....	November 27 – December 1, 2024
Classes End.....	December 7, 2024
Commencement.....	December 7, 2024
Examinations.....	December 7 – 14, 2024
Semester Ends.....	December 14, 2024

Winter Semester 2025

Classes Begin.....	January 6, 2025
Martin Luther King Jr. Recess.....	January 20, 2025
Spring Break.....	March 2 – 9, 2025
Classes End.....	April 19, 2025
Examinations.....	April 19 – 26, 2025
Semester Ends.....	April 26, 2025
Commencement.....	April 25 and 26, 2025

Spring/Summer Session 2025

Classes Begin first 6 and 12 weeks.....	May 5, 2025
Memorial Day Recess.....	May 26, 2025
Classes End first 6 weeks.....	June 16, 2025
Examinations first 6 weeks.....	June 17 – 18, 2025
Classes Begin second 6 weeks.....	June 23, 2025
Independence Day Recess.....	July 4, 2025
Classes End second 6 and 12 weeks.....	August 1, 2025
Examinations second 6 and 12 weeks.....	August 4 – 5, 2025
Session Ends.....	August 5, 2025

Calendars are subject to change. Visit gvsu.edu/registrar for most current academic calendar.



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Admissions and Recruitment Office

1 Campus Drive
Allendale, MI 49401

Phone: (616) 331-2025
or (800) 748-0246

Fax: (616) 331-2000

gradadm@gvsu.edu

gvsu.edu

#GVSUbound



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Gerald R. Ford International Airport

grr.org

This is the primary air transportation facility serving Grand Rapids and the West Michigan region. Located within Michigan's second largest metropolitan area, the airport provides a full range of air transportation services. The airport is located on 44th Street near Patterson Avenue SE.

Amtrak

amtrak.com

Amtrak's Pere Marquette offers regular rail service between Grand Rapids and Chicago, providing fast and convenient rail connections to many destinations.

Greyhound Lines, Inc.

greyhound.com

Intercity bus transportation arrives and departs from the Greyhound Bus Terminal located in downtown Grand Rapids on Grandville Avenue near Wealthy Street. (616) 456-1700 or (800) 231-2222

The Rapid

ridetherapid.org

Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, and surrounding areas are served by The Rapid transit system. The Rapid buses run seven days a week and include evening hours. (616) 776-1100

TITLE IX

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution. It encourages diversity and provides equal opportunity in education, employment, all of its programs, and the use of its facilities. It is committed to protecting the constitutional and statutory civil rights of persons connected with the university. Grand Valley is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that none of its education programs and activities discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX may be referred to the Title IX coordinator, 4015 Zumberge Hall, titleix@gvsu.edu, (616) 331-9530.