ON CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

General rules
• Students are limited to 20 hours of work per week during the semester and 40 hours a week during breaks
• Students can find on campus jobs using Handshake
• International students can work in any position, but some jobs may require specific skills
• Pay scale is based on the current minimum wage in Michigan – current minimum wage is $10.10. Typical pay for international students ranges from $10 to $12 per hour
• Campus Dining hires the largest number of international students, but international students work in a variety of departments on campus
General rules

- You are able to work off campus as long as it is approved by your department and your international advisor.

- Off campus work during your program of study is CPT.
  - [https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/cpt-%7C-curricular-practical-training-107.htm](https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/cpt-%7C-curricular-practical-training-107.htm)

- Off campus work after your program of study is OPT.
  - [https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/opt-%7C-optional-practical-training-112.htm](https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/opt-%7C-optional-practical-training-112.htm)

- Grand Valley hosts several OPT fairs every year to help students with OPT processing.
The Career Center has multiple resources to help with the internship and job search

- Students can get help with:
  - Writing a resume: [https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/resume-guide-178.htm](https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/resume-guide-178.htm)
  - Interviewing skills: [https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/interviewing-162.htm](https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/interviewing-162.htm)
  - Job Postings: [https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/internship-and-job-search-144.htm](https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/internship-and-job-search-144.htm)

- Career Center Employer Showcase
- Career Lab
STUDENT LIFE AT GVSU

FIND YOUR COMMUNITY - https://www.gvsu.edu/studentlife/
STUDENT LIFE

• There are over 400 different clubs and organizations for students to join
• Full range of organizations
• Many free and low-cost activities available to students during the week
• Athletic events are free!
• Very easy to start a new organization
Organizations of interest to international students

- Bringing Together the World
- Asian Student Union
- Indian Student Organization
- Nepali Student Association
- African Student Council
- Chinese Language and Culture Club
Why get involved in Student Life?

- Make friends
- Develop new skills
- Boost your resume
- Expand your network
- Have fun
VISA INTERVIEW TIPS

You must be prepared to answer questions relating to the following topics:

• Family background - your parents, your work and your previous studies
• Academic background and future academic goals
• Financial matters
• Grand Valley – why you chose Grand Valley, where we are located and what you plan to study
• You must be prepared to discuss and prove your intent to return home
VISA INTERVIEW TIPS

• Prepare in advance. Make sure all of your original documents are in order.
• Dress well. If it looks like you don't care, the officer will notice.
• Speak clearly to the officer, look them in the eye, and answer all questions precisely.
The two primary reasons that students are denied a student visa are:

• **Lack of sufficient and continuing financial support.** You need to make sure you have an ORIGINAL bank statement that shows more than enough financial support.

• **The consular officer feels you are an intending immigrant to the U.S.** You need to have ties to your home country, giving you reason to return after graduation.
You can access your student portal here - https://apply.gvsu.edu/portal/international

You will complete the financial verification form and upload your bank statement and passport scan in the portal.

Acceptable Financial Documents

- Bank Statement
  - Less than three months old
  - Personal support only, bank statements from business not accepted
- Loan Support
- GVSU Funding/Scholarships

Estimated cost of attendance:

- Undergraduate – $32,806
- Graduate – $26,806

Health insurance is required for international students

I-20s will be loaded to your international student portal and you will receive an email notification.
Course Registration opens on March 20

Your faculty advisor/program director will advise you on course registration

Some graduate programs may require you to submit additional information in order to begin course registration

Graduate students are responsible for their own course selection

You will use your myBanner account to select your courses

You will need to take 9 credits per semester for full time status
• Undergraduate students can only register with the help of an academic advisor
• Undergraduate students need to take 12 credits for full time status
• Transfer students course registration begins in April
• Freshman/J1 exchange students course registration begins in May
Your first tuition payment will be made in August, not when you register.

Tuition payment plans are available - https://www.gvsu.edu/studentaccounts/payment-options-52.htm

Orientation registration link (undergraduate only) - https://www.gvsu.edu/admissions/orientation/

Course information - https://www.gvsu.edu/catalog/search.htm?source=program

MyBanner - https://www.gvsu.edu/banner/

GVSU Network Login - https://apply.gvsu.edu/apply/status (look under GVSU Credentials)

Registration overview - https://www.gvsu.edu/registrar/banner-registration-113.htm
THANK YOU!

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Virtual Tour – https://grandvalleystate.university-tour.com/