EMPOWERING YOUR FUTURE

GRANTS
SCHOLARSHIPS
FEDERAL WORK-STUDY
LOANS

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Office of Student Financial Aid
financialaid.gmu.edu
Financial Assistance

Finances should not be a barrier to investing in your future. Our mission is to make it financially possible for all admitted students to attend George Mason University. The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) provides financial aid advising services to prospective and current students and their families.

During the 2012 academic year, those who were eligible for financial aid received some form of financial assistance, totaling approximately $250 million. A variety of federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs helped students at all economic levels pay for their education.

A College Education is an Inves

Various grants, part-time work, and loan opportunities are available to students attending Mason. Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year to determine eligibility. For the most current information, please visit Mason’s Office of Student Financial Aid website at financialaid.gmu.edu.

FEDERAL GRANTS

Pell — The Federal Pell Grant provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Grant amounts are based on the student’s Expected Family Contribution (EFC), cost of attendance, and enrollment status. Pell Grants do not need to be repaid.

SEOG — The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) program is for undergraduates with exceptional financial need. Pell Grant recipients with the lowest EFC will be considered for SEOG funds. SEOG funds do not need to be repaid.

STATE GRANTS

VGAP — The purpose of the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program (VGAP) is to provide an incentive to financially needy students who graduated from a Virginia high school. VGAP awards do not need to be repaid.

Virginia Commonwealth Award — The Virginia Commonwealth Award provides assistance to needy undergraduate Virginia residents. Virginia Commonwealth awards do not need to be repaid.
SCHOLARSHIPS
Many different resources are available for students to use when searching for scholarship opportunities. Mason’s Office of Student Financial Aid website posts a list of Mason scholarships (internal) and outside scholarships (external) for undergraduate and graduate students as the scholarships become available.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY
Mason offers Federal Work-Study (FWS) for eligible students to help pay for college expenses. This program allows students to work in a variety of part-time positions while building their résumés, time-management skills, and job abilities. FWS also offers other advantages:
- Work experience
- Flexible work schedule with classes
- Creating connections across campus

LOANS
Several types of loans are available to help finance a student’s education. Mason offers Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Direct PLUS Loans, and the Perkins Loan.

DETERMINING FINANCIAL AID
Students needing financial assistance must apply each year by submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The primary factor for determining eligibility is financial need. Financial need is calculated by determining the educational cost (tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and a personal allowance) less the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) [as determined by the FAFSA]. The difference between these is a student’s unmet need. Whether a school is able to meet a students’ full need is determined by the timing of your financial aid application, availability of funds, and eligibility requirements for the individual financial aid programs.
ESTIMATED COST TO ATTEND GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
To estimate your expenses for the 2013–2014 academic year follow these steps:

**Box A**
Add tuition, fees, and, if living on-campus, room and board in the chart below to calculate your total estimated charges.

**Box B**
Add all your financial aid, without including Federal Work-Study, to determine your total estimated financial aid.

**Box C**
Subtract your total estimated financial aid from your total estimated charges. This is your estimated amount owed.

### CHARGES FOR 2013–14

For tuition and fees, please visit studentaccounts.gmu.edu/tuition.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition Undergraduate*</th>
<th>Tuition Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-State</td>
<td>In-State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-State</td>
<td>Out-of-State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Room and Board
For room and board, please visit housing.gmu.edu/general/rates/

Books and Supplies
Estimated average $1,200

Personal Expenses

*Based on full-time enrollment, 12 to 16 credits per semester. If taking additional credits, please check website.

A. Total Estimated Charges = $

### FINANCIAL AID FOR 2013–14

**Federal, State, and Institutional Grant Aid**
Add together all scholarship and grant aid in your award offer. DO NOT include Federal Work-Study.

Enter on Line 1.

**Federal Stafford Loans**
Add together all your Stafford Loans (Subsidized and Unsubsidized).

Enter on Line 2.

**Federal Parent/Grad PLUS Loan**
Enter on Line 3.

*All loan application processes must be completed before the loans will credit to your student account.

B. Total Estimated Financial Aid = $

### ESTIMATED BALANCE FOR 2013–14***

Total Estimated Charges (Box A) minus Total Estimated Financial Aid (Box B), enter in Box C.

***Your actual charges and balance owed will be sent to you by the Student Accounts Office. This worksheet is only an estimate.

C. Total Estimated Balance = $

### OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR BALANCE OWED

- Sign up for a payment plan and divide your balance into smaller payments through the Office of Student Accounts.
- Apply for an Alternative/Private Education Loan; a list of lenders is available at financialaid.gmu.edu.
- Apply for outside scholarships. Mason lists scholarships and links to additional online resources at financialaid.gmu.edu.
- For more detailed options on paying your balance, visit studentaccounts.gmu.edu.
IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

January 1  FAFSA is available online at fafsa.ed.gov
March 1  Financial aid/FAFSA priority deadline for Mason
May 15  Date by which all requested documentation needs to be submitted to the OSFA to determine the student’s eligibility for state and institutional grant aid.

WHAT ALL STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW

- Each year, students who want to apply for financial aid need to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.gov. George Mason University’s school code is 003749.
- Your George Mason University e-mail address is the primary form of communication to all financial aid applicants. If this e-mail has not yet been activated, the OSFA will use the preferred e-mail listed on your Mason student record.
- Students who wish to authorize parent(s) to have access to obtain limited financial aid information need to complete a Financial Aid Information Release Form, which can be downloaded from the OSFA website: financialaid.gmu.edu.
- After you have applied for financial aid, if additional information is required from you, you will be provided with instructions via e-mail on what documents or forms need to be submitted to the OSFA.
- Once your financial aid award(s) has been determined, you will receive an e-mail instructing you how to view your award offer online via PatriotWeb (a self-service website for students).
- If you choose to borrow a Federal Stafford Loan, you must complete both Loan Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note online at www.studentloans.gov.
- If your parent(s) wishes to borrow a Federal Parent PLUS Loan, he or she must complete a loan application, which requires a credit check online at www.studentloans.gov. If your parent’s credit is approved, your parent must complete a Master Promissory Note online at www.studentloans.gov.

The OSFA is here to assist you in financing your educational plans and goals. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need additional assistance.

FEDERAL STAFFORD UNDERGRADUATE LOAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year in School</th>
<th>Base Amount</th>
<th>Additional Unsubsidized</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate Limit
$31,000 with a maximum of $23,000 in subsidized Stafford loans.

FEDERAL STAFFORD GRADUATE LOAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year in School</th>
<th>Base Amount</th>
<th>Additional Unsubsidized</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>$20,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$20,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate Limit
$138,500

INDEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

(AND DEPENDENT STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS ARE DENIED A PLUS LOAN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year in School</th>
<th>Base Amount</th>
<th>Additional Unsubsidized</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate Limit
$57,500 with a maximum of $23,000 in subsidized Stafford loans.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Federal and state financial aid is not available for international students; however, there are other resources that students may investigate: financialaid.gmu.edu/financial-aid-for-international-students
TOP REASONS TO CHOOSE MASON

1. Location
   Mason is located just minutes from Washington, D.C. It allows for innovative opportunities for our students, academically and recreationally.

2. Academics
   Mason offers more than 100 different degrees in a variety of subjects.

3. Diversity
   Mason is one of the nation’s most diverse college campuses, with students from more than 130 countries.

4. Up-and-Coming University
   Mason was ranked number one in the top five Up-and-Coming Institutions in an annual survey conducted by U.S. News & World Report 2012.

5. Top 200 World Universities
   Mason has been ranked in the top 200 by the Academic Ranking of World Universities. The ranking was conducted by China’s Shanghai Jiao Tong University’s Institute of Higher Education.

6. Research
   Mason offers many research opportunities for its students, including everything from environmental conservation to nanotechnology.

7. Events
   There is never a dull moment at Mason. The Patriot Center, the Center for the Arts, Harris Theater, and the Hylton Performing Arts Center offer events all year to students and the community.

8. Study Abroad
   Mason offers a large number of study-abroad programs. We also partner with other universities to allow our students to have the best opportunities to travel and study.

Empowering Your Future

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