

GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION



Congratulations on your recent acceptance to Grand Valley State University! Please read this brochure for important information, deadlines, and other resources that you need to be aware of as you begin your journey as a Laker.

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

- ✓ Sign up for New Graduate Student Orientation
- ✓ Meet with your graduate program director
- ✓ Register for courses
- ✓ File the FAFSA to be considered for financial aid
- ✓ Apply for Housing (if needed)
- ✓ Purchase a Parking Permit

For any questions or to schedule a campus visit, please contact:

Admissions and Recruitment Office
(800) 748-0246 or (616) 331-2025
gradadm@gvsu.edu
gvsu.edu/admissions

✓ **Sign up for New Graduate Student Orientation!**

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

gvsu.edu/gradorientation

GVSU offers a New Graduate Student Orientation prior to the start of each semester to provide all the information needed to get started as a Laker. Open to all new graduate students, it covers essential services, resources, and activities to help you succeed.

You will receive information and an invitation to attend Orientation approximately six weeks prior to the first semester you begin taking classes.

For those unable to attend New Graduate Student Orientation in person, a virtual orientation is available at gvsu.edu/gradorientation.

✓ **Meet with your graduate program director**

ACADEMIC ADVISING

gvsu.edu/graddirectors

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/graddirectors.

✓ **Register for courses**

REGISTRATION

gvsu.edu/register

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.

✓ **File your FAFSA to be considered for financial aid**

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

gvsu.edu/finaid

Graduate students interested in receiving financial aid at Grand Valley should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA is available online at studentaid.gov/fafsa. Be sure to include **GVSU school code 002268** to ensure we receive your information.

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at **(616) 331-3234** or **(800) 748-0246**, or finaid@gvsu.edu.

Graduate Assistantships

A graduate assistantship provides paid, supervised work experience in a student's field, allowing them to apply and expand their skills. It also supports faculty and staff with projects requiring advanced discipline-specific skills. Graduate assistantships are available through the various academic departments. gvsu.edu/gradresources

✓ **Apply for Housing (if needed)**

HOUSING

gvsu.edu/housing

New graduate students who want to live on campus should apply as soon as possible, as spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit gvsu.edu/housing to apply online, view housing photos, and see room layouts. Please note that your housing application must be accompanied by your security deposit.

✓ **Purchase a parking permit**

PARKING ON CAMPUS

gvsu.edu/parking

Parking your vehicle on a GVSU campus requires a parking permit.

Parking Permits

Permit costs:

- \$240 per semester for those commuting to campus and enrolled in seven or more credit hours.
- \$150 per semester for those commuting to campus and enrolled in six or fewer credit hours.
- \$210 per semester for students living on campus in GVSU housing.

Permits can be purchased online with the Citizen Connect portal, found at gvsu.edu/parking. The cost of the permit will be billed to your student account.

Other Parking Options

- **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.
- Parents and guests can get a free **visitor parking permit** at two locations: the Service Building on the north end of the Allendale Campus or the Pew Grand Rapids Campus at 102 Eberhard Center.

For parking questions, contact Grand Valley Parking Services at **(616) 332-PARK (7275)**, visit in person at the Service Building on the Allendale Campus or the Eberhard Center on the Pew Campus, or go to gvsu.edu/parking.

ELECTRONIC BILLING

gvsu.edu/studentaccounts

Student electronic billing information can be accessed at gvsu.edu/banner. Students will receive email notifications for new charges or upcoming payments. Accessing financial information requires the student's Network ID and password, issued upon admission to GVSU. Students can authorize third-party access through proxy setup to view and manage online bills and payments. Instructions for providing proxy access can be found at gvsu.edu/studentaccounts.

For billing questions and support, contact Student Accounts at **(616) 331-2209**, gvsu.edu/studentaccounts, or in person at **1049 Zumberge Hall** on the Allendale Campus.

Company Deferment Plan

This plan is designed for students eligible for employer tuition reimbursement. It defers payment of employer-covered tuition and fees until the semester's end. Any balance not covered must be paid by the tuition deadline. Visit gvsu.edu/studentaccounts for details.

STUDENT EMAIL AND NETWORK ACCOUNT

gvsu.edu/it

Network ID

As a GVSU student, you'll use a Network ID and password for access to computer labs, email, Banner, multifactor authentication, and more. Instructions to activate your username and password will be emailed to you.

GVSU Email

Grand Valley provides a free Gmail account through Google Apps for Education. This Gmail account will be the official communication method used by the university once you're enrolled in classes. You will be able to access your GVSU email by visiting mail.gvsu.edu once you set up your GVSU network account.

Internet Access

As a GVSU student, you have free access to the internet on campus, either through the wired ports or wireless access. You can find instructions to set up your computer to the wireless network on our website at gvsu.edu/it.

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.

Computer Purchase Discounts

If you are considering a computer purchase, please visit our website at gvsu.edu/it/software to find information on computer vendors who offer student discounts.

Resources and Frequently Asked Questions

Laker Dock – access university resources, events, announcements, services and technology in one, online hub. View on your desktop at dock.gvsu.edu or download the app from the Apple or Google Play online store.

Easily access all applications by visiting my.gvsu.edu.

Powered by Okta, this site links all apps, logins, and devices into a single account.

Find answers to common tech questions, like WIFI connection, printing and password help at gvsu.edu/studenttech.

Answers to top student questions:

gvsu.edu/studenttechhelp.

STUDENT ID

Grand Valley's free student ID card grants access to specific buildings, free bus rides, discounted software, free athletic event entry, and discounts at nearly 70 local businesses and attractions.

Visit a Student Assistance Center in one of the following locations to request your ID and to be photographed.

- Arend and Nancy Lubbers Student Services Center - Allendale Campus
- 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.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

gvsu.edu/bus

The Rapid Bus System

GVSU provides daily bus service between the Allendale Campus, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, Health Campus, and the surrounding area. GVSU as well as The Rapid transit routes are free to current students 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.

Rideshare and Carpooling

Sharing a ride or carpooling is a great way to save money on your commute and reduce traffic congestion. Several ride-sharing and carpool options are available to the GVSU community, facilitated by The Rapid. Current offerings can be found at gvsu.edu/rideshare.

LAKER STORE

lakerstore.gvsu.edu

Most graduate courses require specific textbooks, available at the GVSU Laker Store online or at locations on the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses. For more information, visit lakerstore.gvsu.edu.

CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT CENTER

gvsu.edu/child

The GVSU Children's Enrichment Center (CEC) is an on-campus facility offering early care and education for children aged 2.5 to 12. Dedicated to supporting GVSU student parents, the CEC provides high-quality, affordable care to enhance academic experiences and promote persistence.

For enrollment opportunities, information about the Student Parent Club, scholarships, and more, please contact the Children's Enrichment Center at **(616) 331-KIDS** or gvsu.edu/child.

VETERAN AND MILITARY SERVICES

gvsu.edu/veteran

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 lounges for student veterans (Allendale and Grand Rapids)
- 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

gvsu.edu/gs

The Graduate School provides leadership, support, and oversight for graduate education, students, and faculty. It offers programming and advising to help students from admission to alumni status, oversees graduate assistantships, and administers university policies for graduate education, including exception requests.

Visit gvsu.edu/gs for information on financial support, health services, writing resources, project guidelines, and access to the Graduate Student Guidebook, Advising Handbook, and Online Learning Guide.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

gvsu.edu/gsa

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) enhances the graduate student experience and culture at GVSU by facilitating networking and connections through various programs and events.

Follow GSA on Facebook @GVGrads or learn more at gvsu.edu/gsa.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

gvsu.edu/accessibility

Student Accessibility Resources promotes campus-wide inclusivity and equity by providing support services, accommodations, and educational initiatives that enhance the academic experience for students with disabilities at GVSU.

Upon admission, students should complete the online registration form at gvsu.edu/accommodate to register with Student Accessibility Resources, ensuring timely accommodations and connection with an advisor. Advisors help identify barriers, provide custom support, and facilitate personalized accommodations. Advisors can also assist students 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 them to other on-campus resources. Some available services include alternative format textbooks, alternative testing, assistive technology, learning skills assistance, and on-campus transportation.

Connect with Student Accessibility Resources in one of the following ways: **(616) 331-2490**, access@gvsu.edu, or visit the office at **215 The Blue Connection** on the Allendale Campus.

GRAND VALLEY CALENDAR 2025-2026

Fall Semester 2025

Convocation.....	August 22, 2025
Classes begin	August 25, 2025
Labor Day recess	August 31-September 1, 2025
Fall break.....	October 19-21, 2025
Thanksgiving Day recess	November 26-30, 2025
Classes end	December 6, 2025
Commencement	December 6, 2025
Examinations.....	December 6-13, 2025
Semester ends	December 13, 2025

Winter Semester 2026

Classes begin	January 12, 2026
Martin Luther King Jr. recess	January 19, 2026
Spring break.....	March 8-15, 2026
Classes end	April 25, 2026
Examinations.....	April 25-May 2, 2026
Semester ends	May 2, 2026
Commencement	May 1-2, 2026

Spring/Summer Sessions 2026

Classes begin first 6 and 12 weeks.....	May 11, 2026
Memorial Day recess	May 25, 2026
Classes end first 6 weeks.....	June 22, 2026
Examinations first 6 weeks	June 23-24, 2026
Classes begin second 6 weeks	June 29, 2026
Independence Day recess	July 3, 2026
Classes end second 6 and 12 weeks	August 7, 2026
Examinations second 6 and 12 weeks	August 10-11, 2026
Session ends	August 11, 2026

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

admissions@gvsu.edu

gvsu.edu

#GVSUbound

Follow Grand Valley on social media!



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Gerald R. Ford International Airport grr.org

This is the primary air transportation facility serving Grand Rapids and West Michigan. 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 (616) 456-1700 or (800) 231-2222

Intercity bus transportation arrives and departs from the Greyhound Bus Terminal located in downtown Grand Rapids on Grandville Avenue near Wealthy Street.

The Rapid ridetherapid.org (616) 776-1100

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.

HOTELS

For information on hotels with close proximity to GVSU campuses, visit gvsu.edu/hotels.

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, located at **4015 Zumberge Hall**, by emailing titleix@gvsu.edu, or by calling **(616) 331-9530**.