

Graduate Education at GVSU

Hello and welcome. My name is Kassie and I am a staff member in the Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. We hope you are considering Grand Valley for your graduate education, and to help you make your decision easier this podcast will outline the 40+ graduate programs, 8 graduate certificate programs, 29 digital badges, and 27 combined degree programs that Grand Valley offers. I will also highlight the benefits of attending GVSU and provide some general information about the application process.

Grand Valley offers over 35 Master and 6 Specialist and Doctoral degree programs as well as 8 graduate certificate programs. Our programs range from the health professions and physical sciences to education and business. We also have cutting edge programs such as Medical Dosimetry, School Psychology, and Engineering. Our 8 graduate certificates are in the areas of Applied Behavior Analysis, Bioinformatics, Education, Nursing, and Non-profit leadership.

Within Grand Valley's graduate programs are 29 graduate badges and 27 combined Bachelor/Master's degree programs. Graduate badges are digital microcredentials designed to be easily shared on LinkedIn and other media platforms. These badges have become increasingly popular in various fields and can help build your resume for future employers.

Combined Bachelor/Master's degree programs allow students to complete both degrees sooner by allowing graduate credits to count towards the undergraduate degree. Combined degree programs exist in Accounting, Applied Computer Science, Applied Statistics, Athletic Training, Biomedical Sciences, Biostatistics, Cell and Molecular Biology, Communication, Clinical Dietetics, Cybersecurity, Data Science and Analytics, Engineering, Occupational Therapy, Public Administration, Public Health, and Recreational Therapy.

If you are unsure about the graduate program in which you would like to enroll, you also have the option to be a non-degree seeking student and take up to 12 credit hours of coursework before applying to a graduate program. Grand Valley has roughly 3,000 degree and certificate seeking graduate students and non-degree seeking students. Our total student body is approximately 22,000 students.

So why should you choose Grand Valley for your graduate education over other schools? Grand Valley has benefits for every type of student. For working professionals, Grand Valley offers the option of online, evening, and weekend classes so you can tailor your education needs to your schedule. Some of our programs are offered through a hybrid format where students combine online education with face-to-face classes with professors. Grand Valley offers an affordable graduate education, and our tuition costs are very competitive. For students coming from out of the state of Michigan, Grand Valley offers the same tuition rates for non-resident graduate students as we do for resident graduate students. Lastly, all students benefit from small class sizes taught in outstanding facilities by exceptional faculty.

Another benefit of attending Grand Valley is being continually immersed within a thriving urban location. Grand Rapids holds the headquarters to Steelcase, Herman Miller, Haworth, Amway, Wolverine World Wide, Meijer, and numerous for-profit and non-profit organizations. The Medical Mile is located in downtown Grand Rapids in close proximity to the Grand Valley State University Center for Health Sciences. Local healthcare providers include Spectrum Health, University of Michigan Health-West, Trinity Health, Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital, the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, the GVSU College of Health Professions, and the GVSU Kirkhof College of Nursing. Coordinated activities among

these organizations provide abundant opportunities for students in the health professions. We are the home to sports teams such as the Grand Rapids Griffins, Grand Rapids Drive, and the West Michigan Whitecaps. Artprize, an annual fall event featuring local, state, national, and international artists draw over 400,000 visitors to the city each year. There is always something to do in Grand Rapids, whether it be academically related or simply for leisure. Students can also enjoy shopping at various local shops or indulge in delicious food at local cafes and restaurants.

Interested in applying to Grand Valley to pursue your graduate education? There are a few general requirements that apply to all individuals seeking admission to a graduate program at GVSU. Grand Valley requires a completed online application with a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include an official transcript from the institution that granted your undergraduate degree and if English is not your native language, you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. Individual programs have specific admission requirements that include letters of recommendation and a personal statement outlining your educational goals and what you hope to accomplish with your degree. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended or applied to Grand Valley previously or are currently attending Grand Valley.

Additional application requirements may depend upon your program of choice and can be found online. These may include required undergraduate coursework, scores from the GRE or GMAT, or volunteer or job shadowing hours in the applicable field. You can find all of this information and more at www.gvsu.edu/gs.

If you have any questions about this information or about anything related to your graduate education, please visit our website or contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for listening and we hope you choose Grand Valley for your graduate education.