Winter 2015 Graduates

Your first step is the Office of the University Registrar's Graduation website.

There you will find timelines, along with general and detailed information regarding the entire graduation process. The Degree Compliance (Graduation) website is at registrar.gmu.edu/graduation.

Please remember that your name will not appear in the printed graduation program if you have not applied to graduate before October 4, 2015.

If you miss the application deadline, you must submit a Late Graduation Application, as described on the Graduation website. Remember, you must apply to graduate even if you do not plan to attend the graduation ceremony.

- Thesis and dissertation deadlines are posted at thesis.gmu.edu.
- If you do not wish to have your name published in the graduation program, visit registrar.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/PER.pdf to fill out the form to exclude your name. Submit the form with a copy of your photo ID to the Office of the University Registrar no later than October 4, 2015.

Ticket Information for the Winter Graduation Ceremonies

Because of the large number of winter degree graduates, seating at the ceremonies is limited and guest tickets are required. All degree candidates may pick up six guest tickets at the EagleBank Arena box office starting Thursday, November 12, as specified below.

Each graduate is permitted a maximum of six guest tickets; each guest must have a ticket. Graduating students do not need a ticket. All tickets are free and general admission. Special assistance and handicapped seating will be available for the ceremony; please ask any EagleBank Arena usher at the portal entrances for directions when you arrive for graduation. Guests requiring special assistance may be seated with one other guest from their party in an easy-access section of the EagleBank Arena.

George Mason University Winter Graduation

The Winter Graduation Ceremonies are Saturday, December 19, 2015, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the EagleBank Arena. Guest tickets are required.

Degree candidates eligible to participate in the winter graduation exercises are the following:

- August 2015 — Doctoral degrees and any other graduates who did not participate in the May 2015 ceremonies
- December 2015 — All degree candidates

Graduates are requested to arrive 45 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony at the EagleBank Arena, Lower East Side, Graduates Entrance on December 19.

The EagleBank Arena concourse doors open for guests one hour prior to the ceremony. The ceremonies will last approximately two hours.

Information on the graduation ceremonies, guest tickets, caps and gowns, and guest parking is contained in this brochure and at events.gmu.edu. All email addresses and phone numbers including the Registrar's Office, Events Management, and the University Bookstore are listed in this email.

On Friday, December 18, the George Mason Alumni Association will host its third annual champagne toast. Registration will be available starting November 1, at alumni.gmu.edu/Dec15toast. Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 703-993-8696 for more information.

Again, our sincere congratulations and wishes for success on your new beginnings.

Sincerely,

Star Muir
University Marshal

Barbara Lubar
Events Management

Meghan Arias
Office of the University Registrar, Graduation Section

Please note: Graduates who do not apply to graduate by October 4, 2015, will not be guaranteed six guest tickets nor will their names appear in the graduation program.

Ticket Pickup for Ceremonies

The first opportunity to pick up graduation tickets will be at the Graduation Fair, November 3, 4, and 5, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the George Mason Bookstore on the Fairfax Campus.

The next opportunity to obtain tickets will be at the EagleBank Arena box office, with a Mason ID or valid driver’s license on the following dates and times:

- Thursday, November 12, through Monday, December 14, 2015
- Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Friday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

THE FINAL DAY TO PICK UP TICKETS FOR THE CEREMONIES IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 10 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

If you find that you do not need all the tickets you originally picked up, please return the extras to the box office at the times listed previously.

Tickets that are not picked up by 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2015, will be distributed to other graduates on Monday evening, starting at 6 p.m. at the EagleBank Arena box office, west side.

events.gmu.edu/commencement/winter-graduation
Additional Tickets
Neither Events Management, the bookstore nor the Office of the University Registrar has additional tickets. Any extra tickets will be redistributed as follows: EagleBank Arena box office, first come, first served, Monday, December 14, 6 to 7 p.m., with graduate's Mason ID or valid driver's license. If tickets are still available, on Saturday, December 19, at 8 a.m. with no ID required.

Caps and Gowns
Graduation at Mason is a traditional ceremony where graduates and faculty wear caps and gowns. It is required that you wear the appropriate academic regalia. Regalia must be obtained from the George Mason Bookstore. Master’s candidates must also wear a master’s hood. Please state your field of study when purchasing your hood because different colors denote different fields.

Master’s Degree Recipients
Be sure to verify your correct hood color against your specific field of study listed below.
- Arts—White
- Education—Light Blue
- Music—Pink
- Public Health—Salmon
- Business—Drab
- Social Work—Citron
- Fine Arts—Brown
- Nursing—Apricot
- Engineering—Orange
- Science—Gold
- Health/Physical Education—Sage Green
- Public Administration/Policy—Peacock Blue

Please see information in this packet regarding the purchase of bachelor's and master's caps and gowns at the Winter Graduation Fair, Tuesday through Thursday, November 3,4, and 5, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day. The Prince William and Arlington Campus bookstores will also begin selling caps and gowns at this time.

Winter Graduation Fair
For your convenience, the George Mason Bookstore will sponsor a Winter Graduation Fair November 3-5, 2015, in the George Mason Bookstore in the Johnson Center, Fairfax Campus. Purchase caps, gowns, announcements, rings, diploma frames, and other items. Have a photo taken in regalia and pick up graduation tickets all in one location. Remember, announcements are not invitations and do not serve as tickets to the graduation ceremony.

2015 Cap and Gown Prices (plus tax)
- Bachelor Keeper Outfit (cap, gown, and tassel) $59.98
- Master Keeper Outfit (cap, gown, tassel, and hood) $105.98
- Doctoral Rental Outfit (cap, gown, tassel, and hood) $154.98

For those who will be unable to attend the Graduation Fair or decide to participate in graduation after the fair on November 3-5, you will be able to purchase your regalia at any Mason bookstore on a first-come, first-served basis.

Doctoral Candidates Only
Order your rental regalia at the bookstore by phone or in person. PhD candidates must wear the approved George Mason custom regalia. Please place your order by Friday, November 20, 2015! After this time you will have to pay a $25 late fee in addition to the $154.98 rental cost.

All PhD rental regalia will be available for pickup from the bookstore starting December 7. If you have to cancel your rental order, you can receive a refund if the bookstore is notified prior to December 11. No refund will be given after that time.

You must return your regalia immediately following the graduation outside the Hospitality Suite located in the lower level of the EagleBank Arena at the bookstore collection table. Candidates who do not return their regalia will be charged the purchase price of $754.

If you are unable to attend the Graduation Fair, the websites listed below are for your convenience.

Personalized Announcements—
Herff Jones
They may be ordered at the Graduation Fair (four-week delivery) or online at www.herffjones.com/college/gmu (two-week delivery) payable to Herff Jones.

Diploma Frames/Framing Success/
Churchill Classics
Diploma frames will be available for purchase. We will be having a Graduation Fair only special. Save $25 shipping and handling fee plus 10 percent off the frame price. Payable to the George Mason Bookstore: gmu.bncollege.com.

Herff Jones College Rings
Here is your golden opportunity to save big on your Mason class ring! Special payment plans are available. Payable to Herff Jones. Discount is not available online: herffjones.com/college/gmu.

Balfour College Rings
Come to the Balfour table and take advantage of a special offer for Mason grads. Payable to Balfour. Special offer is not available online: www.balfour.com.

Photo Opportunities
A photographer will be on hand for cap and gown photos before graduation, December 19, starting at 8 a.m. and again at noon, at the EagleBank Arena. Photographers will be present at the graduation ceremonies to photograph the graduates.

Guest Parking
All parking lots on campus will be available for guest parking. Handicapped and special-assistance parking is available in Lot A, adjacent to the EagleBank Arena, South Entrance.

Diploma Information
Most diplomas will be mailed to the student’s “diploma address,” which is specified during the online graduation application process. Diplomas are mailed within six to eight weeks following degree conferral.

Graduation Contacts
- Events Management, 703-993-2853/8844
- Ceremonies and guest arrangements
  Office of the University Registrar, 703-993-2441
- Diploma mailing, degree compliance
  George Mason Bookstore, 703-993-2666, gmu.bncollege.com Caps and gowns, announcements, Graduation Fair

Winter Graduation Website
events.gmu.edu
Check this website for all event information and updates.

Accommodations for Guests
OFF-CAMPUS AREA HOTELS
Some offer special Mason rates.

- Best Western (Fairfax City) 3535 Chain Bridge Road Route 123 at I-66 Fairfax, VA 22030 703-591-5500
- Comfort Inn 11180 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 703-591-5900
- Marriott Fairfax at Fair Oaks 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway Fairfax, VA 22033 703-352-2525
- Hyatt Fair Lakes 12777 Fair Lakes Circle Fairfax, VA 22030 703-818-1234/800-233-1234
- Holiday Inn Express 10327 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22031 703-359-2888
- Residence Inn Marriott 3565 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 703-251-3276
- SpringHill Suites by Marriott 11191 Waples Mill Road Fairfax, VA 22030 703-691-7800