



University Life

**NEW STUDENT AND  
FAMILY PROGRAMS**

George Mason University®

# MASON EXPERIENCE ORIENTATION

WELCOME STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!



# UCS MISSION



To prepare and  
connect **career ready**  
students for post  
graduate success

# THE CAREER READINESS EQUATION



**EARN  
DEGREE**

+



**GAIN  
EXPERIENCES**

+



**MARKET  
YOUR SKILLS**

=



**CAREER  
READY**

## EARN DEGREE



**We help students think through the decision of how to choose and use their major.**

- 1:1 Appointments
- Assessments
- Career courses for academic credit (e.g., UNIV 220, 421)
- Online Resources

[careers.gmu.edu/choosing-major-or-career](https://careers.gmu.edu/choosing-major-or-career)

## **GAIN EXPERIENCES**



**We provide opportunities for students to connect with employers to gain hands-on experiences, particularly internships and jobs.**

- Career Fairs
- Employer networking events
- 1:1 job search appointments
- Handshake database (internship, part-time, on-campus/work-study postings)

**FIND YOUR JOB OR INTERNSHIP**

# ***Handshake***

**On campus/part-time jobs come up all throughout the school year!**

**[go.gmu.edu/careers-handshake](https://go.gmu.edu/careers-handshake)**

# FEDERAL WORK STUDY (FWS)

1. FWS is based on financial need/FAFSA. Check your financial aid package.
2. If awarded, you can apply to a special list of on campus jobs that accommodate your schedule.
3. Log into **HANDSHAKE** and use the keyword "***work study***" to search for these positions.
4. If you were not granted FWS and believe you are eligible, contact the Financial Aid Office.

# RECOMMENDED TIMELINE

## FRESHMAN YEAR

- Learn about George Mason's support resources and establish a strong GPA
- Make friends and get involved on campus
- Explore majors and related careers

## SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Secure first career-relevant position such as internship, part-time job, research, or study abroad
- Confirm major (by 60 credits) and begin building relevant skills needed for your careers of interest

## JUNIOR YEAR

- Secure second career-relevant position such as internship, part-time job, research, or study abroad
- Leverage your experience to further refine career goals and decide whether you will pursue graduate school or look for a job senior year

# INTERNSHIP SEARCH ACTION PLAN

**EAGER TO GET STARTED... HERE ARE 5 SIMPLE STEPS:**

1. Pick an interest you want to test out in a work-based setting
2. Schedule an appointment with Career Services to discuss your internship search and learn industry timelines and application deadlines
3. Create and update your resume and Handshake profile
4. Apply to internships advertised online and those you hear about through word of mouth , i.e.. faculty, staff, family, or peers
5. Attend career fairs, workshops, and networking events to connect with employers hiring interns

## SELECT MASON STUDENT INTERNSHIP SITES



U.S. Department of Defense



**Deloitte.**



KAISER  
PERMANENTE®



## **MARKET YOUR SKILLS**

**We coach students on how to effectively communicate what they know and what they can do.**

- Cover letter and resume reviews
- Practice interviews
- Handshake/LinkedIn profile workshops
- Salary negotiation tips
- On-campus interviews

## Students: It's Your Responsibility To...

- Speak with your professors and advisors for academic support
- Manage your assignments independently
- Test your academic and career interests through involvement in student organizations, internships, and part-time jobs
- Take advantage of the career support resources available to you at George Mason
- Have appropriate attire and required employment documents ready

Need Ideas ?



# Pack Professionally



## ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

After accepting a job offer, students must provide physical I.D., such as:

- U.S. passport
- Birth Certificate
- Military I.D.

**Note:** Missing documents may delay onboarding and your first paycheck

- Check here for full list: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/form-i-9-acceptable-documents>

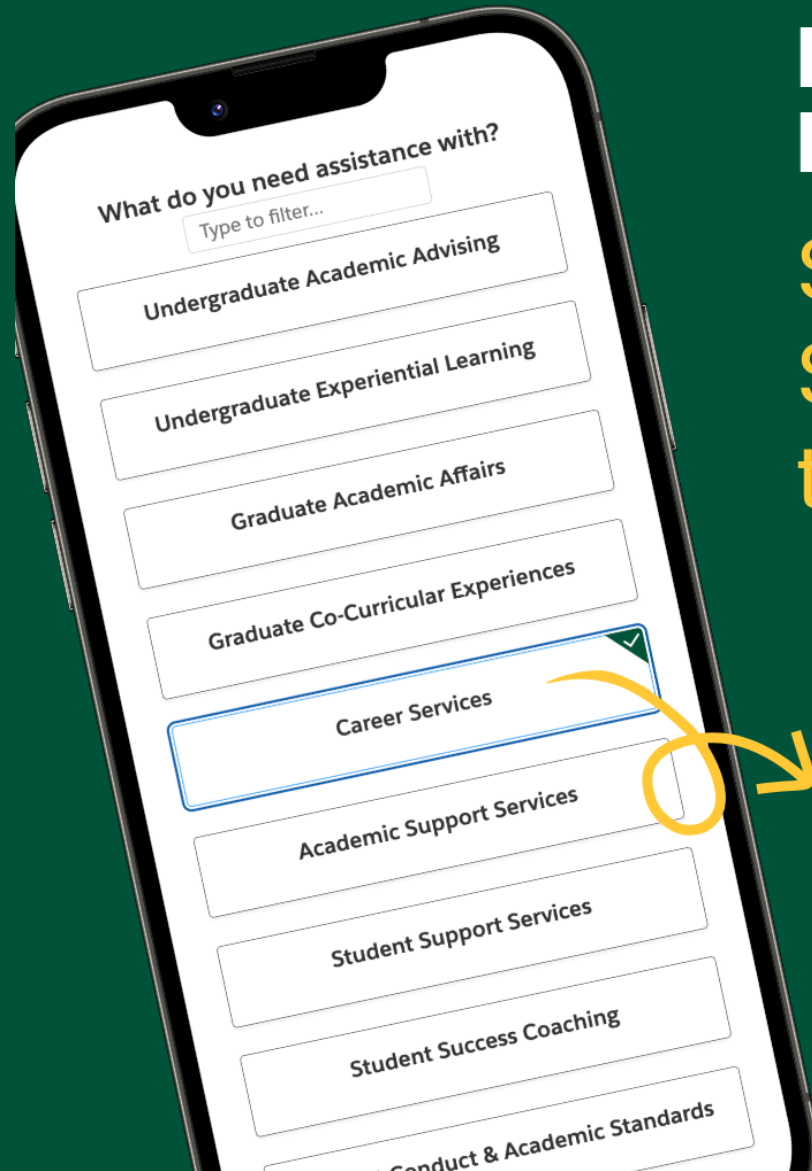
# CAREER SUPPORT AT GEORGE MASON



# MEET WITH US!



- Career Advisors available daily (except Saturday) and most evenings until 11pm!
- **Appointments:** in-person & virtual (Zoom)
- **Drop ins:** Monday through Friday from 1:00-3:00pm
- **Student Union Building I, Room 3400  
Fairfax Campus  
(703) 993-2370  
[careers@gmu.edu](mailto:careers@gmu.edu)**



# HEADS UP, MASON NATION

Schedule your Career  
Services appointments  
through **PATRIOT CONNECT!**

[connect.gmu.edu](https://connect.gmu.edu)

# THANK YOU!

We look forward to meeting you this upcoming Fall!

