

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

The goal of GW's Office of Undergraduate Admissions (<http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu>) is to create a community of students who will pursue academic excellence, thrive in our dynamic environment, and make lasting contributions to GW and the world. In order to identify these students, the admissions review process is holistic and thoughtful, taking many factors into consideration. GW receives applications from every state and nearly 100 countries, allowing us to enroll a bright, talented, and diverse student body.

Freshmen—Early Decision

The University offers two Early Decision options for students who have chosen GW as their first choice school. The deadline for submission of all required documents is November 1 for Early Decision I and January 1 for Early Decision II. Both Early Decision options are binding; if admitted, students agree to attend GW, submit a nonrefundable enrollment deposit by the deadline detailed in their acceptance packet, and withdraw all applications submitted to other colleges.

Freshmen—Regular Decision

The Regular Decision application deadline is January 1. A complete application file, including the Common Application with required essays, official secondary school transcript/academic record, counselor recommendation, teacher recommendation, and application fee must be submitted by that date. The secondary school transcript must be submitted to GW directly from the school in order to be considered official. Incoming freshmen must have their secondary school submit a final transcript that shows all final grades and certification of graduation before enrolling at GW in the fall semester.

Portfolio Requirement

Applicants for admission to a program in the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design (<http://corcoran.gwu.edu>) are required to submit a portfolio of 10 to 15 completed works of art as part of the application process.

Entrance Examinations

As a test-optional institution, GW allows most applicants to decide whether they will submit scores on either the College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (https://sat.collegeboard.org/SAT/next-steps-toward-college?s_kwcid=AL433013!70927704644!b!!g!!collegeboard&ef_id=VYB-rgAABKpqtRg9:20150831144404:s) (SAT) or on the American College Testing (<http://www.act.org>) (ACT) to be included in their application.

This test-optional policy does NOT apply to the following groups of applicants:

- Applicants to the accelerated seven-year B.A./M.D. program; such students also are required to submit SAT Subject Tests in mathematics and science.
- Applicants who are homeschooled.
- Applicants from secondary schools that provide only narrative evaluations rather than grades based on some form of grading scale.
- Recruited NCAA Division I athletes.

Students who choose to submit scores must have them sent by the testing agency directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. All entering students who have scores will be asked to submit them to GW prior to enrolling for their freshman year.

International Students

In addition to the Common Application and the supporting credentials listed above, international students must submit the following documents in order to be considered for admission:

Required Records

International students must have all previously attended educational attended send copies of official certificates and records listing subjects studied, examinations taken, grades received, and degrees received directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Certified copies of diplomas and certificates from all secondary schools, colleges, and universities attended as well as records of state examinations and certificates are also required. These records become the property of the University and cannot be returned. In addition, documents must be in the language in which the institution keeps its official records. If they are in a language other than English, the copies sent must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

Language Tests

Applicants who indicate on their Common Application that their first language is not English are required to submit scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic, regardless of citizenship or country of residence. The minimum required score is 90 on the Internet-based TOEFL or a 6.5 on the IELTS; strong applicants to GW typically score much higher than the minimum required scores. The TOEFL/IELTS/PTE Academic requirement may be waived for applicants who score 600 or above on the Critical Reading section of the SAT or who have spent their last four years of secondary school in a setting where English is the sole language of instruction in all academic subjects with the exception of foreign language and ESL/ELL courses.

Students should plan to take the test in question well in advance of the application deadline, in order for scores to be available on time, and should request to have the scores sent to the GW Office of Undergraduate Admissions directly from the

testing agency. TOEFL scores more than two years old will not be considered valid.

Some admitted students whose first language is not English may also be required to take an English for Academic Purposes (<http://eap.columbian.gwu.edu>) (EAP) course once they enroll at GW.

Financial Certification

A financial certificate and bank letter must be completed and submitted as part of the application process for all international students planning to study on either a student (F) visa or exchange visitor (J) visa. The completed and signed financial certificate and bank letter are required for the issuance of Form I-20 or DS-2019, one of which is needed to apply for the F or J visas.

Transfer Students

GW considers for transfer admission any student who has completed at least one college course since secondary school graduation. Transfer applicants must submit the Common Application and supporting credentials (including official college transcripts, the Transfer College Report for each institution attended, and a faculty recommendation) by March 1 for fall admission and October 1 for spring admission.

Transfer applicants must be in good standing in terms of academic record and conduct at all postsecondary institutions previously attended. Applicants who have attended one or more institutions of higher education must submit official transcripts from each institution even if credit was not sought or earned or if advanced standing is not desired. In addition, applicants must submit an official secondary school transcript if they have earned fewer than 30 transferrable credits at the time of application. Prior to enrolling at GW, incoming transfer students must submit final official transcripts with grades for all courses pursued from any college or university previously attended.

Assignment of Credit for Transfer Students

Provided there is no duplication involved through course work or examination, credit may be granted for course work successfully completed at other regionally accredited institutions of higher learning. Assignment of transfer credit will depend on the grade earned, the appropriateness of the courses completed, the standing of the institution at which the previous work was completed, and the regulations of the GW school to which the student is transferring.

GW's residence requirement limits the number of transfer credits that can be applied toward a degree. Students must complete at least 60 credits of the total credits required for their degree at or through the University. Credits earned through GW study abroad, GW satellite campuses, GW distance education courses, and Consortium courses are treated as "in residence."

Transfer credit must satisfy the requirements for the degree sought as stated in this Bulletin. Credit may be accepted provisionally or may require validation by examination or completion of higher-level courses in the same sequence. Transfer credit will not be assigned for course work completed in vocational/technical programs (e.g., secretarial studies) or sub-freshman level remedial work. Each GW school reserves the right to refuse credit for transfer in whole or in part. Although a grade of D in a course is not acceptable for transfer of credit, the course may satisfy a curriculum requirement. School-specific regulations on transfer credit appear in this Bulletin. .

Transfer credit that is accepted and applied to a student's GW academic record counts toward the number of credits completed only. The grades from these courses are not used in calculating a student's GW grade point average.

Application for Second Bachelor's Degree

Students who previously earned a bachelor's degree are not eligible for admission.

Advanced Standing and Advanced Placement

Assuming there is no duplication of course work, a maximum of 24 credits may be awarded upon admission to the University for any combination of Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) examinations. An incoming student also may be granted advanced placement in a sequence of courses or waiver of a course requirement based on additional college-level course work taken in secondary school or before matriculation; however, this will not affect the number of credits needed for the degree.

College Board Advanced Placement (<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home>) (AP) Tests

Credit may be awarded for Advanced Placement tests with certain score results, typically 4s and 5s. (Refer to the GW Undergraduate Admissions website for the AP credit assignment chart (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/bring-credits-gw>)). Students must have AP score reports sent directly from the College Board to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

International Baccalaureate (<http://www.ibo.org>) (IB)

GW typically awards 6 to 8 credits for scores of 6 or 7 on the higher-level examinations. (Refer to the GW Undergraduate Admissions website for the IB credit assignment chart (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/bring-credits-gw>)). Students must have IB score reports sent directly from International Baccalaureate to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Enrollment Deposit

After notification of admission, all new undergraduate students are required to submit a nonrefundable enrollment deposit.

This deposit is due May 1 for freshmen. For transfer students and full-time readmitted students, the deposit usually is due two to three weeks after notification of admission.

Readmission

Students who were previously registered at GW who wish to resume studies at the University after discontinuing enrollment for one or more semesters (summer sessions and leaves of absence excluded) must apply for readmission. Deadlines for applications for readmission from students in good academic standing are March 15 for the fall semester and October 31 for the spring semester. Students seeking readmission must have official transcripts sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions from all other institutions of higher education they attended in the interim. Students seeking readmission as degree candidates after previous enrollment in non-degree status at GW must submit the Common Application and all required credentials that were not submitted previously or required for non-degree admission.

Applicants for readmission are subject to the University regulations in effect at the time of readmission. The application fee is waived for students applying for readmission after previous enrollment as a degree candidate.