

GW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' WELCOME GUIDE



Welcome to GW! This Welcome Guide will help you familiarize yourself with GW, the Foggy Bottom Campus, and Washington, D.C. area. Raise High!



NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECKLIST

- Get your **GWID** (log on to go.gwu.edu/myGWid for more information)
- Register for **Classes** (banweb.gwu.edu)
- Get your **U.S. Phone Number**
- Open a **Bank Account**
- Complete your **eCheck-in** on **ISOGateWay** (go.gwu.edu/GWISO)
- Update your **Contact Information** (*Address and Phone Number*) on **GWeb**
- Attend the **New International Student Orientation**
- Check out the **ISO Events & Programming** (go.gwu.edu/gwisoevents) to learn important first year tips that will help you get settled into GW
- Get connected and join a **Student Organization** (gwu.campuslabs.com/engage)
- Get your **U•Pass** (business-services.gwu.edu/upass)
- Don't stress! You are in for a treat!

WELCOME TO GW

SAFETY TIPS

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

CALL **911** or
GWPD/EMeRG
(**202-994-6111**)

NON EMERGENCY

D.C. Fire Services Non-Emergency Line
(**202-994-6111**)
GWPD Non-Emergency Line (**202-994-6110**)
GW Safe Ride (**202**) **994-RIDE (7433)**

Stay Informed

Campus Advisories
(campusadvisories.gwu.edu)

GW Guardian App
(safety.gwu.edu/gw-guardian-app)

GW Alert (safety.gwu.edu)

Alert DC
(hsema.dc.gov/page/alertdc)

GW Information Line
(**202-994-5050**)

Crisis Hotlines

GW SHC Suicide Help
(**202-994-5300** and press option 2)

GW Sexual Assault & Intimate Violence (SAIV) Helpline (**202-994-7222**)

Sign up for SMS alerts

Visit website for alerts

Take self-defense classes offered by the GW Police Department for free!

PHONE PLANS AND SERVICES

Phone Services	Price/Month	Plan	International/Additional Services
Verizon	\$40 - \$70	Unlimited Welcome, Unlimited Plus, Unlimited Ultimate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10 off/month on Unlimited plans for students • Unlimited calls, text, and 10GB/mo data for 210+ countries when traveling • Free calls/texts to Mexico and Canada • Free Disney+, Discovery+, Apple Arcade, Google Play Pass, and Apple Music for 6 months
Mint Mobile	\$15 - \$30	Unlimited Talk, Text, and 5G-Unlimited Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepaid • Free unlimited calls to Mexico and Canada
T-Mobile	\$50 - \$100	Unlimited Talk, Text, and Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2G data in Mexico & Canada • Free roaming in 210+ countries • Free Apple TV+ and Netflix with ads
AT&T	\$35 - \$70	Unlimited Talk, Text, and Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited talk, text, & data in Mexico & Canada

Note: Prices may vary based on your specific plan. Please contact individual service providers for more information.

Family plans available without SSN Student discount available Coverage



International Services Office

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FOOD: GLOBAL CUISINE

Asian

Bansari (\$\$) 🚗
 Bindaas (\$\$) 🚗
 Himalayan Heritage (\$\$) 🚗
 Indigo (\$\$) 🚗
 Jinya Ramen (\$\$) 🚗
 One Fish Two Fish (\$\$) 🚗
 Rice (\$\$) 🚗
 Sichuan Pavilion (\$\$) 🚗

European

Alta Strada (\$\$) 🚗
 Ambar (\$\$) 🚗
 Bistrot du Coin (\$\$) 🚗
 Boqueria (\$\$) 🚗
 Il Canale (\$\$) 🚗

African

Bukom Café (\$) 🚗
 Chercher Ethiopian Restaurant (\$\$) 🚗
 Das Ethiopian (\$\$) 🚗
 Keren Café and Restaurant (\$) 🚗

Various Cuisines

Immigrant Food (\$) 🚗
 Western Market (\$-\$) 🚗

Middle-Eastern

Amsterdam Falafel Shop (\$) 🚗
 Falafel Inc. (\$) 🚗
 Fava Pot (\$\$) 🚗
 George's King of Falafel (\$) 🚗
 Lebanese Taverna (\$\$) 🚗
 Roti (\$) 🚗 GW

American

Busboys and Poets (\$\$) 🚗
 Duke's Grocery (\$\$) 🚗 GW
 Founding Farmers (\$\$) 🚗
 Sweetgreen (\$\$) 🚗
 TED's Bulletin (\$\$) 🚗

All Vegetarian/Vegan

Chaia (\$) 🚗
 Equinox Restaurant (\$\$\$) 🚗
 Toki Underground (\$) 🚗
 Vegz (\$\$) 🚗

Latin American

El Tamarindo (\$\$) 🚗
 Los Hermanos (\$\$) 🚗
 Mi Cuba Café (\$) 🚗

FOOD: AFFORDABLE OPTIONS

A. Litteri (\$\$) 🚗
 Bullfrog Bagels (\$) 🚗
 CopyCat Co. (\$\$) 🚗
 Dunkin Donuts (\$) 🚗
 KoChix Chicken (\$) 🚗
 Panera Bread (\$) 🚗 GW
 Poppa Box (\$) 🚗 GW
 The Pretzel Bakery (\$) 🚗
 Tatte Bakery (\$\$) 🚗
 &Pizza (\$) 🚗 GW

All Vegetarian/Vegan

Elife Restaurant (\$\$) 🚗
 Fruitive (\$\$) 🚗
 HipCityVeg (\$\$) 🚗
 Shouk (\$\$) 🚗
 Sticky Fingers Diner (\$\$) 🚗

* Call and check in with restaurants regarding dining options, allergy information, pricing, or contactless delivery

Meal Delivery Services

DoorDash
 GrubHub
 Uber Eats

Meal Deals and Discounts

For more details, visit go.gwu.edu/mealdeals

For a full list of GW Dining Partners who accept GWorld, visit: dining.gwu.edu/where-eat

🚗 Less than 2 miles from GW
 🚗 More than 2 miles from GW
 🚗 GWWorld accepted

BANKING OPTIONS

Bank	Benefits	Credit Card Options
Bank of America (Core Checking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$12 monthly fee can be waived for college students under age 25. Students are protected by \$0 liability guarantee. No overdraft fees 	Discover Bank Capital One Bank of America Petal (no annual fee) Deserve EDU (no SSN required)
Citibank (Basic Banking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No minimum checking deposit and no overdraft or ATM fees. \$10 - \$30 monthly fee. Monthly fee can be waived if balance is above \$1500. 	
PNC Bank (Virtual Wallet Student)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No monthly service charge (up to 6 years). One incoming domestic or international wire transfer per statement period at no charge. 	
Truist (One Checking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No monthly fee for students under age 25. Can transfer money using Zelle. 	Please contact individual banks for more information.

For information on international payment options, please visit go.gwu.edu/gwuintlpayments.



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COLLEGE TEXTBOOK RESOURCES

Step 1:

Check your **class syllabus** on GW Blackboard

Step 2:

You can choose to **rent** or **buy** books

Step 3:

Check out these useful resources:

- Gelman Library, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, Jacob Burns Law Library and Eckles Library (Mount Vernon Campus)
- Amazon Prime Student
- GW Campus Store
- Chegg.com
- Abebooks.com
- GetTextbooks.com

FUN THINGS TO DO IN D.C.

- **Smithsonian Museums and Galleries.** Check go.gwu.edu/smuseums for opening dates & plans.
- **Spend the day exploring Georgetown!** We recommend a 20 minute walk while you admire the scenic waterfront, the beautiful architecture, and the mesmerizing cobbled pathways of Georgetown.
- **Need a relaxing escape from the city?** Great Falls, Rock Creek Park, Theodore Roosevelt Island, National Harbor, DC Wharf
- **Explore the different memorials in the course of your daily walk or run!** Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, National Mall, Capitol, National Monument, Tidal Basin
- **Take a bus tour of the city and stop at different tourist attractions.** Check bigbustours.com/en/washington-dc/washington-dc-bus-tours/.

SELECT SERVICES

Office	Services	Website
International Services Office (ISO)	Immigration, adjustment, and advocacy support for all international students	internationalservices.gwu.edu
Career Services	Career and professional development support and resources	careerservices.gwu.edu
Multicultural Student Services Center	Hosts international events, cross-cultural communication, and community building for all ethnicities and backgrounds	mssc.gwu.edu
Student Health Center	Primary health care services, vaccinations, counseling, mental health support, and student health insurance.	healthcenter.gwu.edu
Disability Support Services	Assistance and support to students with disabilities	disabilitysupport.gwu.edu
Title IX Office	Resources related to sexual or gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence and stalking	titleix.gwu.edu
Student Services Hub	Offices of Student Financial Assistance, Student Accounts and Registrar	studentserviceshub.gwu.edu
Tax Department	Resource for tax issues	taxdepartment.gwu.edu
IT Support Center	In-person technology assistance	it.gwu.edu
Academic Commons	One-stop shop for academic services and support across campus	academiccommons.gwu.edu
Writing Center	Free tutoring and support to help you become a better writer	writingcenter.gwu.edu
Language Center	Facilitates and promotes foreign language studies	languagecenter.columbian.gwu.edu
Lost and Found	2145 G Street, NW	facilities.gwu.edu/lost-found
Campus Recreation	Campus recreation center	campusrecreation.gwu.edu
GW Police Department	Provides residential hall security and patrol services to the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses and oversees security at the VSTC campus	police.gwu.edu



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HOME ESSENTIALS

Amazon (\$) 🛒
Bed, Bath & Beyond (\$\$) 🛒 🛒
Best Buy (\$\$) 🛒 🛒
CVS Pharmacy (\$) 🏪 GW 🛒
Ikea (\$) 🛒 🛒
Target (\$\$) 🛒
Walmart Supercenter (\$) 🛒 🛒
TJ Maxx (\$) 🏪 🛒

📍 Less than 2 miles from GW
🚗 More than 2 miles from GW
GW GWorld accepted
🛒 Online Shopping Available

CLOTHING

Downtown D.C. (City Center)

Macy's (\$\$) 🏪 🛒
Nordstrom Rack (\$\$) 🏪 🛒
Zara (\$\$) 🏪 🛒

Georgetown

Banana Republic (\$\$\$) 🏪 🛒
H&M (\$) 🏪 🛒
Loft (\$\$) 🏪 🛒
The North Face (\$\$\$) 🏪 🛒
TJ-Maxx (\$) 🏪 🛒

Malls

DC USA (\$\$) 🛒
Fashion Centre at Pentagon City (\$\$) 🛒
Mall in Columbia (\$\$) 🛒
Potomac Mills (\$\$) 🛒
Tysons Corner Center (\$\$) 🛒
Union Station (\$\$) 🛒

Outlet Malls

Arundel Mills (\$\$) 🛒
Clarksburg Premium Outlet (\$\$) 🛒
Leesburg Corner Premium Outlets (\$\$) 🛒
Tanger Outlets National Harbor (\$\$) 🛒

GROCERY

ALDI (\$) 🛒
Giant Food (\$\$) 🏪 🛒
Lidl (\$\$) 🛒
Safeway (\$\$) 🛒
Trader Joe's (\$\$) 🏪 🛒
Wegmans (\$\$) 🛒
Whole Foods (\$\$\$) 🏪 🛒 GW
7-Eleven (\$) 🏪 🛒

International Market

Euro Foods International (\$\$) 🛒
Good Fortune Supermarket (\$\$) 🛒
H Mart (\$\$) 🛒
India A1 Grocery (\$) 🛒
Lotte Plaza Market (\$) 🛒
Megamart (\$) 🛒
Patel Brothers (\$\$) 🛒

Time is of the essence

Plan your trip to the grocery store:

- Make a shopping list to speed up the shopping process
- Visit the store website and make a note of the items you wish to purchase and their location at the store

Online Shopping

Instacart 🛒

WHAT DO WE HAVE PLANNED FOR YOU?

Immigration Workshops:

Learn about important topics such as work authorization processes and filing taxes as an international student.

Career Support:

Join the **ISCAs** to level up your networking, job search skills, and interview skills as an international student!

Social and Cultural Events:

Explore diverse cultures and socialize with international students from all over the world. **Hint:** join us for delicious treats!

Connect with the ISO!

🌐 internationalservices.gwu.edu
📘 /isoGW
📷 @gwuiso
📧 @GW_ISO

To learn more about ISO events and to register, visit go.gwu.edu/gwisoevents.

CONNECT WITH THE ISCA's

The International Student Community Ambassadors (ISCAs) are international students (just like you!) who are committed to helping you make the most of your time here at GW! We serve as peer mentors to newly admitted students and are here to answer any questions you have about GW, living in D.C., and many more. You can ask us anything! We also provide advising (on career and general issues) and host events (professional, cultural, and social) specifically designed for all international students.

Meet with an ISCA

Want to review your résumé or practice for an interview? Interested in learning about how to get involved at GW? Just need someone to talk to about anything? Schedule an appointment to meet with an ISCA on **Handshake!** We are here to help you! **You can also send in urgent concerns or queries via email and an ISCA will get back to you as soon as possible.**

Connect with US!

✉ gwisca@gwu.edu
📷 /GWUISCA

📷 @gw_isca
📧 @GW_ISCA

To schedule an appointment with the ISCA's, visit go.gwu.edu/iscaadvising.



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MAP OF D.C. AND GW

Dupont Circle

Georgetown

ISCAs are here

Georgetown Waterfront

The White House

National Mall



Visit
explore.gwu.edu
to experience our
interactive campus map.



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TRANSPORTATION

Cab Services

Uber
Lyft
Via

Metro and Bus

WMATA
Transit
Moovit
DC Circulator

Other Options

Capital Bikeshare (\$25 annual membership for students)
*Electric Scooter (Lime, Bird, Lyft, Spin)

Car Rental Services

*Zipcar
*Free2Move
*U-Haul (trucks for moving)

GW Services

Safe Ride (free rides around campus from 8pm - 4am. For more information, visit transportation.gwu.edu/safe-ride)

*Driver's license required

For more details about how to get your license, visit the International Student Resource Library.



 Metro is accessible.

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY © 2022



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All information is accurate as of June 2024, please check individual websites for up-to-date information.

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