



GW Pre-College Program: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General Programmatic Questions

- 1. What is FERPA? How does that apply to me as a Pre-College Parent?** FERPA is a federal protecting the privacy of student records. Your student will have to sign a FERPA waiver before or upon arrival to our program to grant you access to their student records.
- 2. Is there a dress code?** Students must follow their high school standardized dress codes. Students are encouraged to bring one, business casual outfit for site visits
- 3. If I participate in this program, am I more likely to be admitted as an undergraduate to GW?** There is no explicit connection between participation in the GW Pre College Program and admission to GW for a Degree program. In other words, Admissions will make their own criteria for selection of the undergraduate class independent of participation in our Pre College Program.
- 4. Where are classes held?** The majority of Pre-College program courses are held on the Mount Vernon Campus of GW. STEM-based and engineering courses are held on the Foggy Bottom Campus. Transportation is provided to and from the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses
- 5. What is the weather like in DC?** The temperature is hot and humid during the summer months. Students are encouraged to drink lots of water and dress in light layers!
- 6. Do I need to bring a computer?** College Intensive students are required to bring a laptop. Summer Immersion and Summer Exposure students are suggested to bring a form of electronic device (e.g. laptop, tablet, and/or smartphone). Students are responsible for their electronics.
- 7. Will I receive a grade at the end of the course?** For College Intensive courses, students will be assigned grading and will be held to the same academic standards of GW students. Summer Immersion and Summer Exposure students do not receive a letter grade, but a certificate of completion.
- 8. Can Pre-College students visit with family friends and/or relatives during the Pre-College Program?** Visits from family/friends/relatives are highly discouraged due to the short span of the program. All visits must be pre-approved by the Pre College Director with 72 hours' notice. Forms are available on our [website](#).
- 9. Will there be planned events during the evenings and weekend?** Our residential staff plan engaging activities for students on evenings and weekends. Students are required to participate in mandatory programming, unless pre-approved for absence. Sunday events are not mandatory and students have free time for free-travels (with appropriate leave forms) and rest.
- 10. Are students allowed to leave campus unaccompanied?** Yes, but students must fill out a leave form detailing where they are, when they will leave/return, and a contact number by 4pm on the day they wish to depart campus. Students are not allowed to leave Washington D.C.



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Admissions and Application Process

1. **How do I apply?** Through our online application. You can access the application at summer.gwu.edu/apply-precollege. To expedite your application being reviewed, please upload your academic transcript directly to your application.
2. **Are international students allowed to apply?** All international are eligible to apply, fitting our age and academic requirements. [Please visit our website](#) to see our academic requirements for International Students.
3. **Who is eligible to apply?** Anyone who is a rising sophomore, junior, or senior in high school (and/or equivalent) and in good academic standing with their home institution.
4. **When is the application deadline?** May 15th. For scholarship considerations, the application deadline is March 1st. Applications are reviewed on a rolling-basis, therefore capacity is based on first-come-first-serve basis.
5. **What is required for the application?** A personal statement, transcripts, and your application. College Intensive applicants must also have a letter of recommendation. Please [review our "Apply" page](#) for more details.
6. **What are you looking for in an applicant?** Student applications undergo a holistic review. Decisions are made based on academic and extracurricular merits and strengths, students' backgrounds, and good fit to GW's standards.
7. **When will I be notified of an admissions decision?** Typically, 2-3 weeks after application submission.
8. **How many students are admitted?** Until we reach our full capacity.
9. **I got in! What are my Next Steps?** Once admitted, a program deposit is must be paid, then Enrollment forms will need to be completed. For more details on your next steps as an Admitted Student, please [review our "Admitted Students" page](#).



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Arrival and Departure Details

- 1. When should I arrive to campus?** Check-in and Student Orientation are both held the Sunday (day) before your classes begin. **Check in will run from 3-6pm.** For additional details, refer to our [Arrival Details](#) page. See below for your check in date:
 - **ALL College Intensive Programs:** June 30
 - **Summer Immersion Session 1:** June 30
 - **Summer Immersion Session 2 :** July 14
 - **One-Week Summer Exposure:** July 14
 - **Summer Immersion Session 3:** July 28
- 2. When must I check out?** All students must check out with a residential staff member **by 11am** on the last day of their program. See below for your check out dates:
 - **College Intensive 2 week + Summer Immersion Session 1:** July 12
 - **College Intensive 3 week+ 1 week Summer Exposure:** July 19
 - **Summer Immersion Session 2:** July 26
 - **College Intensive 6 week + Summer Immersion Session 3:** Aug. 9
- 3. Am I able to arrive to campus early?** Yes- Arriving to campus early states you are arriving to campus **ONE DAY** before your scheduled arrival date.
 - In the student enrollment documents, you must specify "Early Arrival" and list the date/time of arrival. There is a \$135.46 cost for Early Arrival.
- 4. Can I depart campus later than the scheduled departure?** Yes- Late departure states you are departing **AFTER 11am** on the final date of your program.
 - In the student enrollment documents, you must specify you plan for Late Departure and list the date/time of your departure. There is a \$122.46 cost for Late Departure.
- 5. Will airport shuttles be provided?** Unfortunately not. The Pre college program is not responsible for any transportation to and from the airport. For alternative methods of transportation, see our [Arrival Details](#) page.



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Cost/Financial Aid/Scholarships

1. **What is the cost of each program?** Each program has a different cost based on the length of the program and if the courses are credit-bearing. To find the cost of your program, please see our [Tuition & Fees](#) page.
2. **Are there any scholarships available?** A select number of scholarships are available for DC Public school students in STEM fields. We also have two, fully funded cohort programs, *Caminos al Futuro* and the *INSPIRE* programs. **Applications for all scholarship programs is due March 1.** Additional details on these programs can be found under our [Scholarship Opportunities](#) page.
3. **Do you offer financial aid?** No, only scholarships. Please [contact our office](#) if there are further questions or concerns.
4. **As a parent, can I access my Student's financial records?** Parents can only receive access to a student's financial records (e.g. Deposits and Bills) by becoming an "Authorized User" through the GW Student Accounts Office. Please see our Parent Resource page for instructions to become an Authorized user.
5. **How much is the deposit?** \$500 dollars. This amount is non-refundable.
6. **Are meals included in the program cost?** Yes - For residential students, all meals are covered once the program starts until the last day of the program. Additional meals outside of those provided are the responsibility of the student. For commuter students, lunch is provided by the program. All other meals (Breakfast and Dinner) are the responsibility of the student.
7. **Is transportation included?** Transportation to and from the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon Campuses is provided by [the Vern Express Shuttle](#). Students are responsible for transportation to/from the airport. In addition, students are responsible for purchasing their own SmarTrip Metro card. For more information, please see our [Additional Costs](#) page.
8. **How much spending money do I need?** We suggest allotting some additional funds for students to use for Metro transportation, printing, excursions, toiletries, and souvenirs. For more information about incidental fees, please see our [Additional Costs Page](#).
9. **What is the refund policy?** Refunds are issued only issued on the remaining balance (**excluding the deposit**). Students who are dismissed from the program forfeit the right to a refund. For Refund deadlines and Program Specific refund policies, please see our [Tuition & Fees Page](#).
10. **How do I pay for the program?** All payments, deposit and final payment, must be made online through the online [Student Ebill Portal](#). For instructions on making deposit or final payments, please review our [Make Your Payments](#) page on our website.



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Residence Life

1. **Where do students live?** Students will stay in West Hall on GW's Mount Vernon Campus.
2. **What are the dining options on campus?** Meals are provided on campus in Pelham Commons, located in West Hall. Meals are buffet style. Students will also be given funds on their GWORLD (student ID card) to purchase food off campus with GW contracted vendors on selected weekend dates.
3. **What amenities are available in the residence halls?** Students will have access to a gym, community kitchen, game and media room, TV lounge, dining hall, laundry room, and soccer field. Students will have access to the gym and soccer field only on select program dates.
4. **Are the residence halls air-conditioned?** Yes
5. **When and where do I check in?** See above "Arrival" section of this FAQ or our [Arrival Details](#) page for more information.
6. **Is there a curfew in the residence halls?** Yes. All students must be in West Hall by 10pm and in their rooms by 11pm. Violations of curfew guidelines will result in disciplinary action.
7. **Will there be sheets, towels, pillows, and other necessary item provided?** Yes - sheets, pillows, and a thin blanket will be provided. In addition, toilet paper is provided by the program. Students are responsible for their own toiletry items and are encouraged to bring a thicker blanket, should students need them.
8. **Do I need to bring money for food?** For Residential students, all meals are provided and included in the cost from the date of start of the program to the check-out time. Extra meals and snacks are at the discretion and at responsibility of the students.
9. **Can I choose my roommate?** For the full college experience, we recommend not requesting a roommate. If there are special circumstances, please contact precollege@gwu.edu and we will attempt our best to honor the request; however, it is not a guarantee.
10. **Is there a gym?** Yes. Students will have access to the gym only during supervised program times.
11. **What is the student/RA ratio?** The RA to student ratio is 1 to 10. At peak program times, the ratio may be raised to 1 to 15. In addition, 3 senior residential staff members also live in residence throughout the program.



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Safety/Security

1. **Is there security in the residence halls?** West Hall is secured by tap access. Only students who are residential have access to the building through their designated key card. In addition, GW Police officers regularly perform walk-throughs of all GW buildings.
2. **Am I free to leave campus without a chaperone?** Yes, but students must fill out a leave form with detailing their location when they plan to leave/return and a contact number. Students are not allowed to leave Washington D.C. Access to this form is available through your Resident Advisor (RA) once on campus.
3. **As a parent, who should I call if there is an emergency?** Parents can contact the student program coordinator. Due to FERPA, we cannot give out any information about the student. If there is an emergency with your student, we will contact parents (as listed in the emergency form) directly to inform them of their child's well-being.
4. **What do I do if I get locked out of my room?** There is a procedure which students will be made aware during their orientation.