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**Governors State University
Admitted Student Packet**



1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484 • www.govst.edu • 708.534.4490

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Message from the President

Welcome to Governors State University.



You have already distinguished yourself as someone who is ready for success and good luck. You are smart enough to see the special opportunities waiting for you as you continue your education at GSU.

- You will make life-long friends, as you participate in group projects, clubs and campus organizations.
- You will be inspired as you study with dedicated faculty — leaders in their field.
- You will see the world in new ways, as you discover and create Big Ideas.

Remember that a full college experience means more than just taking classes. Make a resolution to try something new this year: audition for a play, join a team, lead a club, understand what it means to live in the midst of art, take Metra to Millennium Park—the possibilities are endless.

I hope to meet each one of you during this academic year in your classes, at Prairie Place, at campus activities and in the bleachers at athletic events. Have a remarkably successful year.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaine P. Maimon".

Elaine P. Maimon, Ph.D.
President, Governors State University

Congratulations from the Provost



We are very excited to welcome you to Governors State University and into our lively, engaging and challenging community.

As a student at GSU, you will have the opportunity to explore your interests, discover your passions

and hone your skills. You will be inspired by what you are learning to delve deeper and reach further as you grow to meet each new challenge. Your academic success will lead you to new dreams and goals as your horizon broadens and your world view expands.

I know that you will not shirk from the rigors of your academic pursuits. Take advantage of all that your courses and professors have to offer. The end result will be the acquisition of the knowledge and skills you will need to meet the challenges of the future.

And while you are working hard in your degree program, take time to enjoy the rich social and cultural life that is also part of the GSU community. We like to say we live in art because art is everywhere — from the world renowned Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park that surrounds the campus, to the Center for the Performing Arts cultural and entertainment programming, to our art galleries and television production studios. There are also many vibrant student organizations and growing competitive athletics which welcome your interest and involvement.

Congratulations on being admitted to Governors State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah E. Bordelon".

Deborah E. Bordelon, Ph.D.
Provost, Governors State University



Welcome to GSU, Home of the Jaguars

Students just like you and students very different from you are at GSU. Our students come from 25 different countries, practice different religions, speak different languages and have different dreams and goals – but they all share the same passion and commitment to their education.

Whether you are a traditional age, incoming freshman or an adult returning to complete a degree begun years ago, whether you are a transfer student focusing on degree completion or a graduate student focusing on enhancing your qualifications, GSU welcomes you.

From now on, you will benefit from and grow with our vibrant student life, supportive student services and enlightening academics.

As you complete the following checklist, please note the indicated deadlines. Make copies of all materials before you submit them. Remember to call us if you have any questions or concerns.

If you have not already done so, we strongly encourage you to visit our campus. See why GSU is the best higher education choice for you. Call 708.534.4490 or visit www.govst.edu/tour to arrange a campus tour.

This information packet contains forms that must be completed and returned to secure your place at GSU. Read this material carefully. It has the answers to many of your questions and will direct you to people who can help.

Join the Conversation:



facebook.com/govstate



twitter.com/Governors_State



instagram.com/governors_state



youtube.com/GovernorsStateUniv

FRESHMAN CHECK LIST

Only 270 students will be enrolled. Early submission of your enrollment deposit secures your spot in the Freshman class.



Confirm Your Enrollment

Return the completed form, included in this packet, with your \$50 non-refundable enrollment deposit (applicable to your tuition for your first semester of enrollment) to reserve your space in our freshman class. **(Deposit due by May 1.)**

You can also complete the online enrollment confirmation form at www.govst.edu/admitted. Then pay your \$50 enrollment confirmation fee in your myGSU portal at <https://mygsu.govst.edu>. You will need to login using your username and password found in your letter of admission. The non-refundable enrollment deposit can also be made by calling or visiting the Cashier's Office, 708.534.4055, with credit card information.

Be sure to include your seven-digit university ID-number on your check or money order. Your ID-number can be found on your admission letter.



Attend Admitted Student Conference

Visit www.govst.edu/admitted to schedule an appointment for your Admitted Student Conference. Learn more about your admission status, orientation, and Smart Start (if applicable). Representatives from Financial Aid will meet with all prospective students to discuss plans for financing your education. Housing representatives will be available to provide information about living in Prairie Place.



Apply for Financial Aid

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov. Be sure to add Governors State University (**school code: 009145**) as a university that should receive your financial aid information. The FAFSA can be submitted after January 1 each year.

To be eligible for full consideration for financial aid and scholarships, we recommend you submit your FAFSA in January.

Login to your myGSU portal for updates on your financial aid status and to ensure that all requested documents have been received. Visit www.govst.edu/finaid.



Housing

Live on campus at Prairie Place. We expect Prairie Place to fill quickly. Confirm your enrollment and apply online early at www.govst.edu/housing (see page 15.)



Submit Health Records/ Immunizations

Submit Student Health Records/Immunizations to:

Fax: 708.235.3961

Email: immunizations@govst.edu
(scanned and attached as pdf)

Drop off: Academic Resource Center, Room B1215

Address: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484



Finalize Your Admission

Your admission is conditional until your final high school transcript (which includes your graduation date) and official ACT scores have been received by the GSU Office of Admission.

After you graduate high school, submit your final, official transcript to the Office of Admission by July 30. Your transcript must reflect your high school graduation date. If you have completed any college courses, submit the official college transcript to the Office of Admission.

ACT/SAT official score reports should be sent to the Office of Admission by July 1.

- The GSU ACT code is 1028. Your ACT scores can be requested at actstudent.org/scores.

- The GSU SAT code is 0807. Your SAT scores can be requested at sat.collegeboard.org/scores.



Attend First Year Student Orientation

See page 7 for more information.

Register at www.govst.edu/fye.



Move into Student Housing



Start Classes on August 29

(Smart Start admits begin August 15)

TRANSFER AND GRADUATE STUDENT CHECK LIST



Log into your myGSU Portal

(<https://mygsu.govst.edu>) The myGSU portal is where you will find important information about registration, financial aid, Blackboard, news and events and your GSU student email account. Log in using your user name and password found in your letter of admission.

GSU will communicate with you through your GSU student email account. You can access your GSU student email account through your myGSU portal. Use the user name and password found in your letter of admission. See the GSU student email information sheet for more information.



Apply for Financial Aid

First, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov. Be sure to add Governors State University (**school code: 009145**) as a university that should receive your financial aid information. The FAFSA can be submitted after January 1 each year.

To be eligible for full consideration for financial aid and scholarships, we recommend you submit your FAFSA in January.

Login to your myGSU portal for updates on your financial aid status and to ensure that all requested documents have been received. Visit www.govst.edu/finaid for more information.



Housing

Join other transfer and graduate students in Prairie Place. We expect Prairie Place to fill quickly. Apply for housing early online at www.govst.edu/housing (see page 15.)



Submit Health Records/ Immunizations

Submit Student Health Records/Immunizations to

Fax: 708.235.3961

Email: immunizations@govst.edu

(scanned and attached as pdf)

Drop off: Academic Resource Center, Room B1215

Address: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484



Finalize Your Admission

Your admission is conditional until your final college transcript(s) have been received and reviewed by the GSU Office of Admission. Conditions of admission can be found in your admission letter.

If you are earning an Associate or Bachelor's degree from a previous institution, submit a final transcript reflecting the degree earned.

If you have completed any additional college courses at other institutions, submit up-to-date official college transcripts to the Office of Admission.



Schedule an Appointment with Your Faculty/Academic Advisor

The name of your faculty/academic advisor can be found in your myGSU portal under Academic Profile. Your advisor will help you create a Plan of Study.



Attend Student Orientation

See page 7 for more information. Register at www.govst.edu/orientation.



Move into Student Housing



Start Classes

Spring 2016 — January 19

Summer 2016 — May 16

Fall 2016 — August 29



Get Involved & Have Fun!

Participate in Welcome Week Activities.

New Student Orientation



Register today for New Student Orientation.

Freshmen go to www.govst.edu/fye.

Transfer and graduate students go to
www.govst.edu/orientation.

Freshman Students

Our day-long, mandatory orientation program will allow you to talk with our talented and energetic Orientation Leaders, who will guide you in your transition to GSU. You will also have an opportunity to interact with other new first-year students, faculty members and administrators, meet with your academic advisor and register for classes. In addition, this will be a great chance for you to discover the various opportunities provided at Governors State including involvement in student organizations, volunteer opportunities, support services, and many other aspects of being a GSU student.

“Save-these-dates” for First Year Summer Orientations

- Wednesday, June 22
- Thursday, July 14
- Tuesday, July 26
- Wednesday, August 3

Participation in one of the dates is required for first-year students and registration to attend opens no later than May 1, 2016.

For more information, visit: www.govst.edu/fye

For Families

Our students’ success is a goal shared by all of us. Parents are urged to be a part of this important effort. New Student Programs at Governors State University offers a Family Orientation program on each day of the student orientation program and connects you to people and programs that are here to help you and your student to be successful.

Transfer and Graduate Students

Our half-day transfer orientation will allow you to talk with our talented and energetic Orientation Leaders, who will guide you in your transition to GSU. You’ll also have an opportunity to interact with other transfer students, academic advisors, faculty members and administrators. This will also be a great chance for you to discover exciting opportunities to become involved in student organizations, consider volunteer opportunities, support services and discover many enriching activities offered to GSU students.

“Save-these-dates” for Transfer and Graduate Student Orientations

- Thursday, January 14
- Friday, May 3
- Thursday, July 7
- Thursday, August 18

For more information, visit: www.govst.edu/orientation



Smart Start: First Year Success at GSU!

What is Smart Start?

Smart Start is an admission requirement for many first year students. If you are required to participate in Smart Start, this information will be included in your admission letter. Smart Start is a highly individualized program providing you with personal attention of faculty and peer mentors in an intensive and nurturing environment. The program begins two weeks ahead of the fall semester. Smart Start students have an excellent opportunity to strengthen their academic skills, develop a peer support network and to familiarize themselves with GSU and its resources. Smart Start students are enrolled in an English and/or a mathematics program, as well as the first-year student seminar. The English and mathematics programs are designed to provide essential academic preparation in support of coursework that will begin in the first year at GSU.

When does Smart Start begin?

Smart Start begins at 8:00 a.m. Monday, August 15, 2016 and will conclude on Friday, August 29, 2016 with the annual GSU University Convocation program. Smart Start is a full time commitment. 100 percent participation in Smart Start classes and activities are required. Students are advised that working during this time is strongly discouraged – and may not be possible depending on your specific requirements.

How was I selected for participation in Smart Start?

Smart Start is determined by many factors, including overall high school grade point average, attendance patterns shown on the high school transcript, essays, grades in specific English and mathematics courses, and scores on standardized tests. The student's letter of admission will state if participation is required.

Can I live in Prairie Place (GSU's residence hall) during Smart Start?

Yes. Students interested in extending their contract to move into their residence hall room for Smart Start should contact University Housing at housing@govst.edu or 708.235.7110.

Is there a fee for Smart Start?

The math and writing classes that are part of Smart Start are offered at no cost to students. The Mastering College course is 1-credit hour and part of the first semester schedule. Therefore, tuition and fees for the Fall include this 1-credit hour class. Student cost for Smart Start is limited to the optional extension of the Prairie Place (residence hall) contract, incidental expenses for being on campus such as meals and course materials for the Mastering College course.

Is it possible to change my admission status so that I am not required to participate in Smart Start?

We encourage participation in Smart Start – so much so that we invite all first year students to participate even if not specifically required to do so. However, if you are admitted to GSU well in advance of the deadline for direct admission (July 29, 2016) you may visit www.govst.edu/cas/placement to learn more about math and writing placement assessments. Students may “place out” of Smart Start through their performance on these placement activities. Placement assessment is available between February 1, 2016 and July 29, 2016. Students admitted after July 29, 2016 are required to participate in Smart Start. All placement activity must be completed by the close of business on July 29, 2016 for consideration in the admission decision.

Interested but not required to participate?

Contact the First Year Advising Office at 708.235.6819 or email fye@govst.edu for information on how to participate in this program designed to give you a jump start on your college experience!

GSU PORTAL



Your first action as a GSU student is to get acquainted with the GSU Portal and access your GSU email account.

Your GSU Portal

Log into your myGSU portal (<https://mygsu.govst.edu>) with the user name and password found in your letter of admission.

Check out all the other great self-service options available on your Portal. Under the menu titled “Online Services,” click on “Students.” Here you will find information about your student account, financial aid, registration and your academic record. Tutorials for all Online Services options are found in the drop down menu titled “How do I...?” located in the top middle section of your myGSU Portal.

In the student portal, you will find information that will help make your student experience at GSU more convenient, including campus news updates, events and announcements. You can register for classes through the myGSU portal. New freshman students should note that all registration, including adding and dropping courses, must be done in collaboration with your academic advisor.

Your GSU Email

Your GSU student email is your line of communication with GSU. The university community, from your professors and advisors to student clubs and other students, will communicate with you through your GSU student email. You can access your student email account through myGSU portal.

Log into your myGSU portal (<https://mygsu.govst.edu>) with the user name and password found in your letter of admission. On the portal, find the drop down menu titled “How do I...?” In this menu, select the option for “Set up my email account” and follow the prompts. Check your GSU email three to five times per week to make sure you don’t miss important requests and announcements from the university. You can also forward your student email account to another email account. Instructions are found under the gear icon in the upper-right hand corner of the myGSU Portal. Select “Options,” select “Forward your email” and follow the prompts.

Blackboard

Blackboard is the classroom support technology used by GSU faculty. Blackboard may be used by your professors for assignments, discussions or to share information with you. Blackboard and the myGSU Portal are different resources. These differences will be discussed at orientation.

Student Immunization Requirement



Stay Healthy,
Don't Delay -
It's the Law

For your good health and the health of others, the State of Illinois requires that all students born after January 1, 1957 and enrolled in on-campus classes submit proof of immunity for tetanus/diphtheria (DT), measles, mumps and rubella. Students not in compliance by the specified deadline dates will have a registration hold placed on their record and will not be able to register for classes until they have fulfilled the requirement. Students who remain non-compliant will have a \$25 charge applied to their student account.

The form is available in this packet of information and at www.govst.edu/immunizations.

Mail or fax your **COMPLETED**
immunization history form to:

Governors State University
Academic Resource Center, B1215
1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484-0975
Phone: 708.235.7154 • **Fax:** 708.235.3961
Email: immunizations@govst.edu

Required Documentation

- Tetanus/Diphtheria: provide three dates of the primary series and booster within the last ten (10) years of attendance at GSU; Tetanus Toxoid is NOT acceptable.
- MMR* (Measles, Mumps, Rubella): two doses after 12 months of age AND at least one month apart AND after January 1, 1968. **If measles, mumps, or rubella vaccines were given separately: two measles doses given after 12 months of age AND at least one month apart AND after January 1, 1968; one mumps dose after 12 months of age; one rubella dose after 12 months of age.*
- The GSU immunization history form must be legible including the month, day and year. A healthcare provider must certify all dates by signature and must include an address and phone number for verification. Electronic signatures or signature stamps are NOT acceptable.
- High school OR a prior college or university immunization record are acceptable, provided these records are properly certified (signed by an appropriate healthcare provider) and contain all the information on GSU's immunization history form. Military records or verification from your primary physician's records are acceptable.
- All laboratory evidence of immunity must have an attached lab report with your name, test date(s) and results. History of Rubella disease is NOT acceptable as proof of immunity.

Students who are NOT US citizens or permanent residents

- Students born outside of the United States must provide proof of three (3) DTs and two (2) MMRs
- Must have had a Tuberculosis (TB) skin test within the last year in the United States.
- Any immunization/health records not in English must be legible and accompanied by a certified translation.

Exemptions

- You were born on or before January 1, 1957.
- You are enrolled in a program that is offered 100 percent online.
- You have a recent medical exemption (submit physician's written statement indicating the nature and probable duration of the condition, identifying the vaccine(s) that could be detrimental).
- Religious exemption (submit written statement detailing the objection and specific religious belief that conflicts with the immunization). General philosophical or moral reluctance to immunizations will not be sufficient for an exemption.

Notice about the Meningococcal Meningitis Vaccination:

Governors State University, consistent with the American College Health Association (ACHA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices, recommends that students consider the meningococcal meningitis vaccination to reduce their risk for potentially fatal meningococcal disease. For additional information, please refer to the index of the ACHA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This statement is intended to promote public health awareness and practices, and is in compliance with the Illinois Meningitis Information Law (110 ILCS 690/35-120).

For more information,
contact the Academic Resource Center,
B1215; 708.235.7154.

Your good health and the health of every
GSU student is important.

Remember to submit your
completed immunization form

Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid is committed to helping students access all available financial assistance and provides quality customer service

Need Based Aid

- Illinois Monetary Award Program {MAP} (undergraduate Illinois residents)
- Federal Pell Grant (undergraduate only)
- Federal SEOG Grant (PELL eligible undergraduate only limited funding)
- Federal Work-Study (limited funding)
- Federal Perkins Loan (limited funding)
- Federal Direct Subsidized Loan (undergraduates only)

Non-Need Based Aid

- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (undergraduate and graduate)
- Federal PLUS Loans (for parents of dependent students)

First Step: FAFSA

Your first step to Financial Aid: Complete Your FAFSA

To determine eligibility for all types of aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If you attended another college or university during the academic year and already completed the FAFSA, do not complete another FAFSA form. Contact the federal processor at 800.433.3243 or at www.fafsa.gov to add GSU. **GSU's school code: 009145.**

The federal processor will electronically transmit your FAFSA information to Governors State University. GSU priority processing date is March 1. However, to maximize your Financial Aid eligibility, the FAFSA should be submitted before February 15. You must complete a FAFSA or renewal FAFSA every academic year to be considered for financial aid (including loans). The academic year includes Fall, Spring and Summer.

Scholarship Information

Governors State University is committed to your success. Scholarships help support students' academic achievements. Scholarship information is available at www.govst.edu/scholarships. Eligibility requirements vary. Review the terms of eligibility to determine which scholarships are right for you. Consider applying for scholarships outside GSU, as well, at: www.fastweb.com; www.finaid.org/scholarships; and www.scholarships.com.

Financial Need and Cost of Attendance

Financial aid is awarded based on the FAFSA. The information reported is used in a formula established by the U.S. Congress. The formula determines your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), an amount you and your family are expected to contribute toward your education.

Costs of Attendance/Budgets are estimates of the educational expenses incurred by students during the academic year. These budgets include direct university charges (tuition and fees) and estimates of indirect expenses (transportation, books, supplies, housing, food and miscellaneous living expenses.) Once your EFC is established, we subtract it from your Cost of Attendance/Budget, which enables us to determine your financial need and provide you with a financial aid package.

Financial Aid Disbursement

Funds will be applied to your student account after the census date for each semester. The census date typically marks the end of the add/drop period for the semester. Refund checks are direct deposited into your designated bank account. To sign up for direct deposit, provide your bank information using the myGSU portal (<http://mygovst.govst.edu>). If you have funds remaining from your financial aid awards after all current university charges are paid, your financial aid refund will be deposited into your bank account.

All enrollment actions, including adding or dropping classes prior to the official GSU census date (usually 10 days after the start of the term) may result in a change to your amount due or refund. GSU will debit or credit your account and Financial Aid award accordingly. This may result in a balance due to the University.

Financial Aid for Undergraduate, Graduate, and Doctoral Students

To receive financial assistance at GSU you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident;
- Be admitted to a degree program; and
- Be enrolled at least half-time for loan eligibility
(6 hours-Undergraduate; 6 hours-Graduate; 3 hours-Doctoral)

Using Financial Aid in the Bookstore

Should you choose, you can use your GSU ID to purchase books, supplies, and more as long as you:

- Have submitted your FAFSA and completed the financial aid process.
- Have received a Financial Aid Award Letter. This can be viewed in your myGSU portal.
- Have received enough financial aid above and beyond the amount that covers your tuition, fees, and housing (if applicable).
- Have registered for classes for the term for which you wish to purchase books.
- Meet all other financial aid requirements including Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), have no prior balances on your student account, and have no other registration holds that would prohibit you from receiving financial aid.

Undocumented Students/DREAMers

While undocumented students are unable to receive Federal or State of Illinois assistance, eligible undocumented students can receive in-state tuition. Additionally, GSU has developed an online resource and a listing of private scholarships and assistance available to undocumented students. For more information, visit www.govst.edu/dreamer.



Contact Information

Office Hours

8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Friday

Location

Student Central, D1413

Phone and Fax Numbers

Main: 708.534.4480
Fax: 708.534.1172

Mailing Address

Governors State University
Office of Financial Aid
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484

Email

faid@govst.edu

Online www.govst.edu/finaid • Scholarships www.govst.edu/scholarships • Email faid@govst.edu

Most Affordable Undergraduate Tuition in the State of Illinois

2015-2016 Undergraduate Tuition

	Illinois/ Indiana Resident	Non-Illinois Resident/ International Student
Per Credit Hour	\$272	\$544
Tuition and Fees	\$10,246	\$18,406

Indiana Resident Undergraduate Tuition:

Indiana undergrads pay Illinois tuition rates.

Guaranteed Tuition Plan: New, undergraduate Illinois resident students who register for the first time at GSU during the Academic Year 2015-2016 will be assessed the 2015-2016 tuition rate for that term and the following 11 terms.

Submit your FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov.
Use GSU Code 009145.

(Tuition and fees are subject to change.)
Visit www.govst.edu/tuition for the tuition estimator.

2015-2016 Costs and Financial Aid

Direct Costs (annual)

Tuition (based on 15 hr/semester)	\$8,160
Mandatory Fees	\$2,086
On-Campus Housing*	\$5,396
Total Estimated Direct Cost	\$15,642

Other Costs (annual)

Books and Supplies	\$900
Personal Expenses/Food Costs	\$4,000
Transportation**	\$3,000
Computer or Laptop†	\$0

* Suite-style housing option

** Estimated for commuter students

† All Freshman students receive a new HP Stream 13 laptop

Possible Financial Aid Sources

Federal Pell Grant	Up to \$5,730
Supplemental Grant	\$700
State of IL MAP Grant	Up to \$3,998
Federal Student Loans	\$5,500
Federal Work Study	\$3,000

For a graduate tuition estimate, go to www.govst.edu/tuition.

Student Accounts

You can view your student account information, make a payment, set up a payment plan, and review and accept Financial Aid packages through your myGSU Portal. For more information, see the FAQ on Student Account Self-Service in the myGSU student portal.

Payment Plans

Students and families who would like an extended payment option have two payment plans to consider. Payment plans spread the balance due to the university into either four installments (25 percent each) or three installments (33 percent each) over the length of a semester (Fall and/or Spring). Information about payment plans and fees can be found in the menu located at www.govst.edu/cashier.

myONECARD



Life is a whole lot easier with the GSU MyONECARD.

www.govst.edu/myonecard

The GSU myONECARD is much more than an ID card – it's your access card to GSU. With it, you can make meal plan purchases, work out at the Athletic and Recreation Center, check books and materials out of the Library and prove eligibility for student ticket rates at the Center for Performing Arts. It's also your pass to Student Only events and activities.

The myONECARD also serves as an access card permitting Prairie Place residents to enter the hall through exterior doors that are locked 24-hours a day.

Additionally, once you load funds on the card, you can use your myONECARD to make purchases at the GSU Café, the Prairie Place C-Store (Convenience Mart) and use it to print papers and make copies, and do laundry at the Prairie Place laundry facilities. It can also be used to purchase books and GSU gear at the GSU Follett Bookstore.

Load funds on your myONECARD either online at www.govst.edu/myonecard, or at the cash loading station located adjacent to the First Midwest ATM in the Hall of Governors. You can pick up your myONECARD at the Office of Auxiliary Services & University Housing (C1330) or at the Welcome Center (D Building, Main Entrance).



Meal Plan Options

The GSU Meal Plan offers you maximum flexibility, value and convenience while ensuring you have money specifically available for food and beverage purchases at the GSU Café and Prairie Place C-store, and for purchases made via your GSU Eat Well on Campus App.

Choose from:

- \$500/semester
- \$1000/semester
- \$1500/semester

The Meal Plan is open to all GSU students, whether you are a resident of Prairie Place or commuter student. Go to www.govst.edu/housing/mealplan

Eat Well ON CAMPUS App There's an app for that!

With the GSU Eat Well ON CAMPUS app, you can place an order for pizza, something from the Grill or the Starbucks station. Use your myONECARD to pay, then come to the Café to pick up your order at the time you designate. You can also use the GSU Eat Well app to pre-order your groceries from the Café, pick them up on your way home from class and you're ready with what you need to make for dinner.

Your home at GSU University Housing

Student housing is now available on campus. GSU's first residence hall boasts all the amenities you'd expect and much more. On campus living options are available for all GSU students, from freshmen to graduate students, in both suites or apartments.

There are great benefits to living on campus. You will enjoy the convenience, the opportunities to develop life-long friendships and a living environment that fosters your educational and personal growth. As a member of this vibrant living and learning community, you will participate in learning activities and experiences that will connect you with other students who share a similar academic program or interests. Community space at Prairie Place is ideal for social activities, study sessions and enrichment programs.

To see a complete list of housing options, amenities and costs, visit www.govst.edu/housing.

Applications for student housing are available online. A \$25 non-refundable application fee and \$100 housing pre-payment (refundable, conditions apply) is required to process the application. You must use your GSU email username and password to access the GSU online student housing application.



housing@govst.edu
708.235.7110

Applications (contracts) are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and admission to Governors State University is not a guarantee of housing.

For information and application dates, visit www.govst.edu/housing



University Housing

FAQ

Can I take a tour of Prairie Place?

Of course. Contact the Office of Admission at 708.534.4490 or visit www.govst.edu/tour.

How do I apply for housing?

Apply for student housing online at www.govst.edu/housing. You need to use your GSU email username and password to access the GSU online student housing application. A \$25 non-refundable application fee and \$100 housing pre-payment (refundable, conditions apply) is required to process the application.

When can I apply to live in Prairie Place?

Students admitted for the Fall 2016 can apply for housing beginning February 8, 2016. Students admitted for all other terms will find housing contract dates at www.govst.edu/housing in the FAQ and Answers section of the website.

Can I apply before I pay my fee?

You can fill out the application online but the application will not be considered complete until the application fee and pre-payment is made. Once payment is received the application is considered complete.

How do I make payments?

You will be asked to submit your \$25 housing application fee and \$100 housing pre-payment within your housing application/contract channel on the Housing application portal. A Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit or debit card is needed to pay your housing application charge and make your initial housing payment.



Can Financial Aid be applied to housing costs?

Yes, your financial aid award can be used toward paying for on-campus housing. The cost for housing is posted to your student account each semester. Your financial aid will apply to the balance of your account. Students must pay for the balance above the available financial aid.

Can I pick my roommate?

Both you and your chosen roommate must indicate that you wish to live with each other by name. If you know someone you want to live with, you will be able to identify them as a roommate preference through the assignment website.

When will I be notified of my room and roommate assignment?

Housing assignments for NEW Fall students will begin the second week of June. Students who apply during and after the second week of June will receive their housing assignment as soon as we process their submitted application and payment.

Once an assignment has been made, the student will receive an email at his/her GSU address with information about the assignment and assigned roommate(s).

The Housing website contains the dates assignments will be made for students who are beginning housing contracts starting in the spring semester or summer term.

When can I move in?

Move-in dates are determined by the housing contract you sign and if you have requested early arrival housing accommodations. For move-in dates, visit www.govst.edu/housing or send an email to housing@govst.edu.

Campus Safety

On Campus Emergency

Dial 911 or 708.534.4900

Campus Safety Zone

Governors State University ranks as the safest public university campus in Illinois and Northwest Indiana. In the event of an emergency, notify the GSU Department of Public Safety immediately.

For your safety, the campus is patrolled 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by State of Illinois certified police officers.

After dark, officers provide escorts to cars or Prairie Place upon request.

Across campus, emergency phones, either red or yellow, automatically connect you to the campus police department 24 hours a day. Blue lights indicate phone locations on campus grounds.

GSU's Emergency Response Team reviews emergency preparedness plans and procedures and implements new plans to promote a safe and secure campus.

Campus Emergency Alert Procedures

In case of emergencies, such as severe weather or campus closure, an automated system notifies students, faculty and staff via campus phones, cell phones, text messages and the GSU website. For more information, visit www.govst.edu/campus-safety.



Student Support Services



At GSU, we provide support services to help you achieve and enjoy your success. Services are provided through the Academic Resource Center, www.govst.edu/arc, 708.534.4090

Academic Advising

There is no need to navigate your Jaguar Journey alone — at GSU, you will have an academic advisor to whom you can ask for help on your academic journey. Your advisor will work with you to develop your study plan, which will serve as your academic road map at GSU. Your advisor will also be your guide and mentor as you progress through your program, minor or certificate.

For Freshmen

New Student Programs and Cohort Advising provides all first year students with the tools needed to succeed. With one-on-one advising, you join the cohort that excites your interests and choose the freshman classes that fulfill requirements while leading you on a journey of academic exploration. Peer mentoring offers the friendly assistance and guidance you need to navigate college life and access any support services you might need.

Tutoring Services

Tutoring services are offered to all students free of charge. The following subjects are tutored: math, accounting, economics, finance, statistics, and some science courses; depending on tutor availability. Both onsite and online formats are offered. Contact: Daniel Ferry, 708.235.3962 or dferry@govst.edu.

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides assistance with one-on-one tutoring sessions and beginning research and documentation help in the library. The Writing Center also offers online services. Contact: 708.235.7337.

Access Services for Students with Disabilities (ASSD)

ASSD provides academic and technical assistance to students and works closely with faculty to facilitate access in the learning environment. Students with disabilities are encouraged to seek reasonable accommodations and services in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Contact: Robin Sweeney, 708.235.3968 or rsweeney@govst.edu.

Counseling Services

Counselors offer career, academic, and personal counseling services to all students. The counselors at GSU facilitate academic progress and help students achieve their personal and career goals. A counseling relationship allows students to confidentially discuss their personal thoughts and feelings in order to improve problematic life situations and enhance personal potential. Contact: Emily Petkus, 708.235.7334.

For more information regarding services offered by GSU's Academic Resource Center, please call 708.534.4090.

Finding the Right Career



— follow the road to a bright future —
Freshman Exploration, Sophomore
Discovery, Junior Experience and
Senior Presentation

Your success after graduation is important to us. We recognize that today's college students are graduating into one of the most competitive job markets that we have seen in recent decades. The Office of Career Services is here to help you define your career goals and get the job you want. Career planning begins with the 4-Year Career Compass. It will help you discover your direction, decide upon the right major, choose the best career and land the job of your dreams. To explore the 4-Year Career Compass, go to www.govst.edu/careerservices.

Contact the Office of Career Services at 708.235.3974 or career@govst.edu.

Student Employment Opportunities

There are a number of student employment opportunities, both on and off campus, that can help you achieve your goals. The Office of Career Services will assist you in your search for an on-campus graduate assistantship, federal work-study, or a regular student employment position.

All on-campus student employment jobs are posted online. Once you complete a student profile, you will have access to apply to Federal Work-Study and Regular Student Employment job postings.

There is also a listing of off-campus employment opportunities. You are allowed to upload your resume, cover letter and other documents, search for off-campus full-time and/or part-time employment or off-campus internships through the Jobs for Jaguars website.

You must be logged on to your student portal to utilize the system. The Office of Career Services can help you with this process. Contact a representative at 708.235.3974 or career@govst.edu or visit www.govst.edu/careerservices.



Serving our Veterans

As a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or family member of a veteran, you have earned education benefits. The Veterans Resource Center is dedicated to helping ease the transition into academia, secure your benefits and find success at GSU.

As an affiliate chapter of Student Veterans of America, the VRC will assist you in accessing resources, discovering job opportunities and scholarships and enjoying events and initiatives geared specifically for our student veteran community.

Get in touch with the Veterans Resource Center. Visit room A2109, email veterans@govst.edu, or call 708.235.7597.



Serving our Students with Children

Family Development Center

The FDC cares for your children. With Early Head Start, full and half day pre-kindergarten programs, before and after school childcare services and extensive summer programs, your children receive quality care while you earn your degree. Visit www.govst.edu/children or call 708.235.7300.

Study Abroad

The Office of International Services is committed to promoting the growth of the international community at GSU and the international experience of our students. OIS helps international students meet their academic goals and have a successful and enjoyable experience while attending GSU. The office also assists GSU students wishing to enhance their education by studying abroad.

OIS

Please visit our office to speak with an OIS advisor about the possibility of participating in an education abroad experience.

For more information, call 708.235.7611, email ois@govst.edu, or visit room GMT168.



Student Life at GSU



No matter what your interest, there is a club, student organization, or activity to get you involved at GSU. Each new semester begins with Welcome Week activities and continues with educational, social, and entertainment events scheduled throughout the term. You can participate in a service learning project, attend a show at the Center for Performing Arts, see a movie on campus, act in a play, or just relax in the Lakeside Lounge. There is always something to do.



Clubs and Organizations

We have more than 70 clubs and organizations providing you with options for community service, engagement, and enjoyment. Why not try out something new? Exercise your leadership skills and start something new at GSU. Your innovative idea could become the next big student club at GSU.

Recreation

GSU has the facilities, equipment and programs to provide you with all you need to build your strength and tone your body while you have fun and make friends. The Athletic and Recreation Center is equipped with free weights, exercise machines and cardiovascular equipment, a 167,000-gallon Olympic-style lap pool, racquetball court, and a fully renovated gymnasium. Classes in aerobics, water-aerobics, yoga, and Zumba® as well as swim lessons and the services of a personal trainer are all available.

Golf

University students also enjoy access to the 18-hole University Golf Club, adjacent to the campus, on weekdays and available tee times on weekends and holidays after 11 a.m.





Jax, GSU's mascot, leads the school's competitive spirit with a roar! Join Jax and the GSU Cheer Squad and cheer GSU to victory!

Go Jaguars!

Athletics at GSU

GSU may be new to intercollegiate competition but our Athletics Program is ready to compete with experienced coaches and trainers, exceptional facilities, and sports programs that offer an exciting athletic experience to our students.

As a member of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference, the GSU Jaguars compete in Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Women's Volleyball, Men's and Womens' Golf, Men's and Women's Cross Country, and Table Tennis.

Recreational/Club Teams include Bowling, Softball, Cricket, and Soccer. *Everyone is welcome!*



“Athletics are essential to the transformation of GSU. Over the next two years, we plan to recruit student athletes from all over the Chicagoland area and Northwest Indiana. I encourage you to consider GSU.”

Tony Bates, Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach

Questions/information, please contact:

athletics@govst.edu

708.534.4456

Winning Academics

Student athletes at GSU are, first and foremost, students. Their degree completion is our shared goal. With 30 undergraduate degree programs, every student can find the right academic program to excite their interests and fulfill their goals.



Quick Reference Guide to Campus Services

Admissions

708.534.4490
gsunow@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/admissions
D Building - front entrance

Academic Resource Center

708.534.4090
www.govst.edu/arc
B1215

Athletics and Recreation Center

708.534.4556
recfit@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/recfit

Business Office

708.235.3990

Career Services

708.235.3974
career@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/careerservices
A1120

Cashier

708.534.4055
cashier@govst.edu

Computer Labs

Library, Hall of Governors
Academic Computing Center

Counseling Services

Academic Resource Center
708.534.4090
B1215

Dean of Students

708.235.7595
deanofstudents@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/dos
A2134

Disability Services

708.235.3968
rsweeney@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/disabilities
B1215

Family Development Center

708.235.7300
www.govst.edu/children

Financial Aid

708.534.4480
faid@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/finaid
D Building – front entrance

GSU Follett Bookstore

708.534.4558
governors@bkstr.com
www.govst.edu/bookstore
E Building

Immunization Records

Academic Resource Center
708.534.4090
B1215

International Student Services/Study Abroad

708.235.7611
www.govst.edu/ois
C3370

Library

2nd Floor
708.534.4111
library@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/library
2nd Floor

New Student Programs/ Cohort Advising

708.235.6819
fye@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/nsp
A2120

Public Safety/Police

Emergency 911
708.534.4900
dps@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/campus_safety
C1375

Student Life

708.235.7362
SLCO@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/studentlife
A2100

University Housing

708.235.7110
housing@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/housing
C1330

Writing Center

708.235.7337
gsgrowl@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/writingcenter
C1321

Governors State University is accredited
by The Higher Learning Commission
of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.





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University Park, IL 60484

www.govst.edu • 708.534.5000

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