



George Mason University Is Providing Access to Excellence

KEY FACTS FOR 2022

ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, AND RETENTION

- Mason is the top-ranked young university in the United States, and celebrates its 50th anniversary on April 7, 2022.
- Mason is the largest public research university in the Commonwealth of Virginia with 39,134 students from all 50 states and 130 countries.
- The entering freshman class for fall 2021 was the largest in university history, with 4,016 first-time freshmen, and 57 percent of the class identifying as racial or ethnic minorities.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Mason as Virginia's most diverse and innovative public university in its 2022 Best Colleges list.
- Nearly 3,000 of Mason's new students each fall are transfer students, with nearly 700 students currently in Mason's award-winning ADVANCE transfer pathway program. More than 2,020 students have enrolled in the ADVANCE program since it began.
- The Mason Virginia Promise will extend the ADVANCE partnership to other community colleges around Virginia, providing guaranteed admission to students who meet milestones and earn their associate degrees.
- 24 percent of Mason undergraduate students are first generation; 29 percent are eligible for federal need-based Pell Grants, which is greater than the state average.
- Mason's Early Identification Program, which provides access to educational resources for middle and high school students who will be the first in their families to attend a college or university, boasts more than 1,600 graduates and has 600 students currently enrolled.
- 80 percent of Mason students in fall 2021 were in-state students.
- Mason's six-year graduation rate is more than 70 percent, with no disparity based on ethnicity or economic status.
- Mason offers many paths to degree completion for working adults, including online education and the Online Virginia Network partnership with Old Dominion University, James Madison University, and the Virginia Community College System.
- 87 percent of 2020 graduates were employed in positions related to their career goals.

Mason Is a Partner in the Region and the State

ECONOMIC IMPACT, RESEARCH, AND VALUE

- 93 percent of Mason's 2020 bachelor's degree graduates are employed in Virginia, Maryland, or Washington, D.C.
- Mason has more than 215,900 living alumni, and two-thirds of them live in Virginia.
- The Emergent Ventures Fast Grants program has awarded 247 grants totaling \$50 million to incentivize and fund COVID-19 research.
- Mason is the largest producer of tech talent in Virginia.
- Almost 40 percent of Mason students major in STEM fields.
- Mason graduates earn among the highest starting salaries of graduates from Virginia public universities, and the university's student loan default rate of approximately 2.1 percent is among the lowest in Virginia and the nation.
- Mason is a globally ranked R1 research university that has increased research expenditures by more than 50 percent in the past two years.
- Mason has had the second-highest research growth in the past 10 years among Virginia institutions.
- Mason's network of 27 Small Business Development Centers served more than 10,100 customers in fiscal year 2021, providing no-cost counseling and training services to local entrepreneurs.
- By hosting 800 events for more than 17,000 entrepreneurs, Mason has had an estimated economic impact in Virginia of more than \$1 billion.
- In partnership with Virginia's Tech Talent Initiative, Mason will expand its programs in computer science and related fields by a third at the undergraduate level and by threefold at the graduate level.



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