IT’S YOUR TIME
TAKE YOUR PLACE AT GSU
Congratulations on Your Acceptance!

Georgia State University

{ Atlanta • Georgia }
CHECKLIST

FOR ALL ACCEPTED STUDENTS

› Set up PAWS Account and PantherMail (page 5)
› Satisfy citizenship verification requirements (page 5)
› Apply and submit deposit for on-campus housing (if desired) (application available starting in January)
› Research placement tests in PAWS and register, if required
› Sign up for Incept: New Student Orientation
› Have all final transcripts sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions
› Have all AP, IB or CLEP scores sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (if applicable)
› Apply for Financial Aid by completing the FAFSA before April 1 (page 8) (application available starting in January)
› Fill out our Intent to Enroll form (www.gsu.edu/intenttoenroll)
› If needed, review our policy for changing/updating a term of entry at: www.gsu.edu/admissions/update_application.html
› Continue to check PantherMail e-mail account for important messages from Georgia State

ADDITIONAL CHECKLIST ITEMS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

› Have final transcripts sent for completed coursework that was in progress at the time you applied
› Complete mandatory online orientation
› Register for Transfer (or Combination) Incept session, if applicable

ADDITIONAL CHECKLIST ITEMS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

› Review Pre-Arrival information on the International Student & Scholar Services website: www.gsu.edu/isss/international_next_steps.html
› Transfer Notification Form for F-1 Visa Holders (for international students currently studying in the United States)
You’ve taken the **first step.**

Just **keep going...**

You’ll reach your goals before you know it.

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**CAMPUS VISITS**

If you haven’t visited Georgia State already, we invite you to do so now. Our Welcome Center offers information sessions and campus tours on weekday mornings and afternoons. Complimentary parking is available if you sign up in advance.

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**Information Sessions**

*Monday – Friday • 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.*

Each 40-minute session, conducted by an admissions counselor, includes information about degree programs, financial aid options and student life. Sessions end in time for you to take a tour of the campus.

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**Welcome Center**

134 Dahlberg Hall
30 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Phone: 404/413-2063
E-mail: tourguide@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/campusvisits

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**Campus Atlanta Tours**

*Monday – Friday • 10:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m.*

A 90-minute bus and walking tour highlights the advantages and excitement of living and learning in downtown Atlanta. With a Georgia State student as your tour guide, you’ll visit a residence hall, dining facilities, and classroom buildings and see how we fit into the neighborhood.
Georgia State is one of the nation’s premier urban research universities, and our location puts you in the heart of what’s happening in Atlanta – whether it’s in business, sports, entertainment, the arts, media, health care or government.

**Area Attractions**

*Fun and meaningful things to see and do*
- Carter Presidential Library and Museum
- Centennial Olympic Park
- CNN Center
- Georgia Aquarium
- High Museum of Art
- The King Center
- World of Coca-Cola
- Zoo Atlanta

**Major Corporations & Nonprofits**

*Atlanta is home to dozens of Fortune 500 and 1000 companies and is a magnet for national nonprofits*
- The Home Depot
- UPS
- The Coca-Cola Company
- Coca-Cola Enterprises
- Delta Air Lines
- Southern Company
- SunTrust Banks
- Genuine Parts
- Newell Rubbermaid
- American Cancer Society
- Habitat for Humanity
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America
- Arthritis Foundation
- CARE headquarters

**Shopping, Sports & Entertainment Scene**

*These venues are all within walking distance of Georgia State*
- Balzer Theater
- Georgia Dome – home of the Falcons and the Georgia State Panthers football team!
- Peachtree Center
- Philips Arena – home of the Hawks and a major concert venue
- The Tabernacle
- Turner Field – home of the Braves
- Underground Atlanta
- Too many clubs and restaurants to mention!

**Internships**

*Here’s a sampling of places – many right here in Atlanta – where our students have had internships*

- State Farm Insurance
- CNN
- Turner Broadcasting System
- Coca-Cola Enterprises
- SunTrust Banks
- Merrill Lynch
- Comcast
- Sony Inc.
- Georgia General Assembly
- Department of Homeland Security
- Scott Trade
- Gospel Music Channel
- Arch Chemicals
- United Way
- Carenet Pregnancy Center
- Camp Twin Lakes
- Rainbow Push Coalition
- Walt Disney World
More and more Georgia State students are choosing to live right here on campus. It’s compact and walkable. It’s affordable and convenient. Also, there’s nothing like on-campus living for a traditional college experience, and studies show that residential students typically have higher GPAs and are more likely to graduate.

On-Campus Housing

Built for the 21st century student
Georgia State’s transition to a residential school is fairly recent, so our housing is both modern and comfortable. Our five facilities – the Commons, Lofts, Freshman Hall, Greek Housing and Piedmont North – feature a variety of floor plans and on-site amenities and are just blocks from classrooms, the library, the Student and Rec centers, and our Sports Arena – not to mention job opportunities and public transportation.

On-campus housing is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your space, please submit your housing application and deposit as soon as possible. The housing application process opens on January 25, 2012.

To apply or take a virtual tour, visit www.gsu.edu/housing. For additional information, call 404/413-1800 or e-mail housing@gsu.edu.

Living-Learning Communities

Themed living for like-minded students
GSU Housing features Living-Learning Communities, where students who share an interest also share a floor. Each community is supported by planned programs and faculty participation, but the most significant interaction involves students themselves. Our 2011 Living-Learning Communities include:

- Exploring Leadership
- Exploring Life in the Big City
- Honors
- Navigating Your College Career
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)
- Pre-Nursing
- SAIL
- Outdoor Adventure

For details, visit www.gsu.edu/housing/living_learning_communities.html.

Parking & Transportation

Three options to choose from
Georgia State strives to provide parking and transportation options that fit your budget and schedule, as well as support cleaner air and reduced traffic congestion.

- **Car:** We provide parking lots around campus for commuting students and covered parking for our residents. Freshmen may have cars on campus.
- **Mass Transit:** With three MARTA rail stops nearby, we offer discounted MARTA cards.
- **PantherExpress:** Shuttles get you to and from off-campus parking lots and around campus.

Vehicles must display a valid GSU parking permit. For information, visit www.gsu.edu/parking or call 404/413-9500.

Meal Plans

Flexible and convenient
The PantherMeals plan offers unlimited access to “all you care to eat” menu selections Monday – Friday in our Freshman Hall and Piedmont North dining facilities, plus 75 PantherPoints (valued at $75) that can be used at any campus dining location.

PantherMeals and PantherPoints make it easy to get healthy, delicious food at a great value; in fact, you would pay about 48 percent more to purchase the same food at retail prices.

Campus dining locations include:

- Freshman Hall & Piedmont North
- Panthers Den
- Einstein Bros. Bagels
- Burger King
- Panther Pizza
- Pounce Garden
- Waffle House
- Freshens Smoothie
- Plaza Café
- Chick-fil-A
- Starbucks Coffee
- State Place Grill
- Pasta Creations
- The Carving Board – and more!

For complete details, visit www.gsu.edu/pantherdining.
As a leading research institution, Georgia State offers innovative services and programs, along with state-of-the-art resources and facilities, to supplement and enhance classroom instruction. You'll want to take advantage of these opportunities to get the most from your Georgia State education.

**Tools and support for your success**

Our knowledgeable, caring staff will help you take advantage of these services and resources so you can get extra help when you need it.

- **Mathematics Assistance Complex** provides tutoring for first- and second-year mathematics and statistics classes.
- **The Writing Studio** pairs writers with experienced readers who engage them in conversation about their writing assignments and clarify audience expectations and academic conventions.
- **Language Acquisition and Resource Center (LARC)** offers free tutoring as well as print, DVD and computer resources for foreign language students.
- **Digital Aquarium** provides high-end workstations with 3D, video, audio, graphic design and animation tools that allow students to develop music, movies, interactive media, websites and virtual worlds.
- **Supplemental Instruction** offers free, out-of-class study sessions, led by trained students, for traditionally difficult courses.
- **Office of Disability Services** provides services for students, faculty and staff with permanent disabilities.
- **Undergraduate Economics Tutoring** provides free tutoring to students enrolled in either ECON 2105 or ECON 2106.

For more details and information on Academic Resources, go to [www.gsu.edu/success/support.html](http://www.gsu.edu/success/support.html).
Now that you’ve been accepted, here are the steps you need to take to complete the enrollment process.

www.gsu.edu/admissions/next_steps.html

1. **Set up your student e-mail**

   PantherMail is how the university will communicate important information to you. PantherMail is also an online community for GSU students with these features:
   - 10GB of e-mail space, 20MB attachments
   - 5GB of online storage space with Windows Live SkyDrive
   - Document sharing through Office Live Workspace
   - Spaces to create blogs, share photos, etc.
   - Instant Messaging

   To activate your account, go to www.student.gsu.edu.

2. **Set up online access at PAWS**

   PAWS is your GSU online information portal. Here you can sign up for orientation, apply for housing, check your enrollment status, etc. Transfer credits, if any, can be accessed here, also. Just go to http://paws.gsu.edu and log on using the Campus ID included in your acceptance letter. (Activate your Campus ID at http://campusid.gsu.edu.) Please be sure to review the Welcome, New Panthers channel. Click on the One Stop Shop tab for all of your student records, and housing information is available on the Essentials tab.

3. **Send final transcripts**

   For a smooth transition to GSU, you must submit all final transcripts (high school and college, if applicable) in a timely manner. If you are still in high school, you must complete all College Prep Curriculum (CPC) courses in progress; then, upon graduation, send a final high school transcript verifying graduation and CPC completion.

   **Please note:** Failure to complete CPC requirements will invalidate your acceptance.

   **Please mail final transcripts to:**
   The Office of Undergraduate Admissions
   Georgia State University
   P. O. Box 4009, Atlanta, GA 30302

4. **Sign up for math and/or chemistry placement exams, if necessary**

   The math placement exam is required for students who must take a math course higher than Math 1101 for their major and must be taken before attending Incept. The chemistry placement exam is required to take Chem 1211K, the prerequisite course for all GSU chemistry and biology courses. You may take the Chemistry exam at Incept but you **must** register for the exam in advance.

   To register for these placement exams, visit www.gsu.edu/success/testing.html.

5. **Sign up for Incept: New Student Orientation**

   All freshmen must attend Georgia State’s orientation program – Incept – led by friendly, knowledgeable GSU students. Incept includes academic advisement and registration, a campus tour and an introduction to the resources and services you’ll need to get started and succeed at Georgia State. As an accepted student, you will receive an invitation to Incept. If you have any questions in the meantime, visit www.gsu.edu/incept.

6. **Verify citizenship**

   The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia requires that students provide verification of their lawful presence in the United States before their admissions can be finalized. Students may be verified through either:
   - The Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA)
   - Submission of one of the following:
     - U.S. Certificate of Naturalization
     - U.S. Certificate of Citizenship
     - U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad
     - Current U.S. Passport
     - Current Georgia driver’s license issued after January 1, 2008
     - Current Georgia ID card issued after January 1, 2008
     - Permanent Resident Card
     - Certified U.S. Birth certificate (submitted in person)
     - Military I.D.

   Copies of these documents are acceptable. Documents should be submitted directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Students may submit these documents in person, by fax (404/413-2002), or via e-mail admissions@gsu.edu.
As a transfer student, you’ve been through a lot of this before, but here’s some information just for you.

Transfer Student Online Orientation
All transfer students must complete a 20-minute online orientation program before registering for courses. Log on to: https://webdb.gsu.edu/preorientation/login.cfm to complete the orientation.

Transfer Express Orientation
Incept is not required for transfer students, but it is strongly encouraged. During this abbreviated four-hour session, you will tour the campus and surrounding area, learn need-to-know basics about various departments and divisions, review policies and procedures, get academic advisement and register for classes. You may also elect to attend a “Combination” Incept session, for both transfer and freshman students, if it fits your schedule. www.gsu.edu/incept

Transfer Credit
To find out if your courses transferred to Georgia State, log on to your PAWS account, go to the One Stop Shop tab, then the Student Records block, then select “View Transfer Credit.” AP and/or IB credit should also show up here. If you have any questions about your transfer credit, please call the Office of Academic Assistance in the college of your major or the Student Advisement Center if you have less than 42 credit hours. www.gsu.edu/admissions/transfer_credit.html

Housing for Transfer Students
Living on campus is not just for freshmen. With on-campus housing, you can live inside the perimeter, you won’t have to spend as much on gas, and you’ll be near classes and activities, employment opportunities and more. The application process is the same as for freshmen, but there is limited availability for upper-class students, so apply early to improve your chances. Just go to www.gsu.edu/housing.
International students from more than 150 countries come to Georgia State University to study a range of subjects and enjoy Atlanta’s moderate climate, thriving economy, reasonable cost of living and diverse population. As an accepted international student, you will receive more information from our International Student & Scholar Services. In the meantime, here is some helpful information.

International Student Orientation

New International Student Orientation is required of all international students in F-1 or J-1 status, and students who intend to change their status to F-1. Orientation will provide you with necessary information, give you an opportunity to meet other students, and guide you through testing, advisement and registration.

You should bring your passport, I-20 or DS-2019, I-94 card, insurance documents if applicable, and any other immigration documents (including dependents’ documents) you may have. It is advisable that you arrive and find housing prior to orientation; however, bear in mind that U.S. immigration regulations do not allow international students to enter the country more than 30 days prior to the start date on your I-20 (item #5) or DS-2019 (item #3). If you are unable to arrive in Atlanta for orientation, you must notify International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS).

www.gsu.edu/isss/international_next_steps.html

Intensive English Program (IEP)

Georgia State’s IEP program offers academic English courses from beginning to advanced. Courses cover the essential skill areas of academic writing; process writing and grammar; intensive and extensive reading; oral communication; and fluency. IEP students at Georgia State have access to all university facilities and events. Many students complete the IEP and move directly to graduate or undergraduate studies at GSU.

www2.gsu.edu/~wwwiep/index.html

Housing for International Students

Housing is available on campus, but spaces are limited and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so please apply as soon as possible. To apply or take a virtual tour of on-campus housing, visit www.gsu.edu/housing.

Many students live off campus and access the university by public bus or train. For assistance in finding off-campus housing, go to http://ochousing.gsu.edu.

Organizations

The International Student Associations Council consists of 18 international student associations. The Council meets regularly and plans events of interest for international students. As your representatives on campus, they are here to help you. Please contact them through the ISSS office to get involved or to learn more about their activities and events.

- African Student Association
- Arab Society of GSU
- Caribbean Student Association
- Chinese Student Union
- Ethiopian Student Association
- Filipino Student Association
- Haitian Student Association
- Hong Kong Student Association
- Indian Cultural Exchange
- Indian Student Association
- Japanese Student Association
- Latin American Student Association
- Pakistani Student Association
- Persian Student Association
- Progressive Org. of Liberian Students
- Russian Speaking Club
- Taiwan Student Association
- Vietnamese Student Association

For more information about ISSS programs, orientation and visa eligibility documents, go to www.gsu.edu/es/international_services.html or call 404/413-2070.
FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

College is expensive, but financial assistance is available to students who make good grades, know where to look and – most of all – apply.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The first step in the financial aid process (even for HOPE)
Whether you want to apply for HOPE, a grant, work study, a loan or a scholarship, the FAFSA must be submitted along with your application and required verification documents. The FAFSA will determine your eligibility for a range of financing options. Deadlines are crucial, so don’t delay. To apply online, go to the FAFSA website at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The FAFSA priority deadline for Georgia State is April 1. You may complete the FAFSA starting in January of each year.

Through the FAFSA review process you may be eligible for the following:

Pell Grants
Available only to students working toward their first bachelor’s degree. Eligibility and the amount awarded are determined by the student’s Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and enrollment status each semester.

Loans
There are three types of loans to choose from: Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, and Federal Direct Plus Loan. For information, go to www.gsu.edu/financialaid/loans.html.

Federal Work-Study Program
The Federal Work-Study Program provides jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student’s course of study. For more information, visit www.gsu.edu/financialaid/fwsp.html.

HOPE Scholarship

For eligible Georgia high school students
The HOPE Scholarship is available to students who have graduated from a Georgia high school as a HOPE scholar and are seeking their first undergraduate degree. HOPE pays 87.4% of tuition for students who have a 3.0 core high school GPA and maintain a 3.0 college GPA. The Zell Miller HOPE Scholarship pays 100% tuition for students who have a 3.7 core high school GPA plus a minimum 1200 SAT or 26 ACT score and maintain a 3.3 college GPA. Fees and books are not covered.

For more about the HOPE Scholarship, go to www.gacollege411.org.

Other Financing Options

Scholarships
You may be eligible for one or more scholarships from the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Georgia State University Foundation, various academic departments and colleges, and athletics. Be sure to start looking as soon as possible. Be sure to also research scholarship opportunities from outside sources. For more information, visit www.gsu.edu/scholarships.

Financial Aid Process

• Submit FAFSA
• Submit verification documents if requested
• Receive award notice through PAWS
• Check PAWS and e-mail account
• Complete Master Promissory Note
• Complete Entrance Loan Counseling

Please note: Financial aid is disbursed one week after classes start. Excess aid is refunded to student’s account two weeks after classes start.

PantherPay

You can pay fees not covered by your aid package via PantherPay, Georgia State’s web-based billing and payment system for viewing and paying your student account eBill, which includes charges like tuition, mandatory fees, mandatory insurance, housing and meal plan charges, if applicable. You can also set up parents and others as Authorized Payers through PantherPay. For more information, visit www.gsu.edu/studentaccounts.
{CONTACTS}

Admissions
P.O. Box 4009
Atlanta, GA 30302-4009
Phone: 404/413-2500
Fax: 404/413-2002
E-mail: admissions@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/admissions

University Career Services
260 University Center
66 Courtland Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-1820
Fax: 404/413-1825
www.gsu.edu/career

Financial Aid
Sparks Hall, Rooms 227/228 or
Kell Hall, Room 292
33 Gilmer Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-2400
TTY: 404/413-2281
(Hearing Impaired Students Only)
Fax: 404/413-2102
E-mail: financialaid@langate.gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/financialaid

University Housing
Suite 250 Student Center
44 Courtland Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-1800
Fax: 404/463-9055
E-mail: housing@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/housing

International Student & Scholar Services
252 Sparks Hall
33 Gilmer Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-2070
Fax: 404/413-2072
E-mail: isss@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/isss

One Stop Shop
Sparks Hall, Rooms 227/228 or
Kell Hall, Room 292
33 Gilmer Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-2600
TTY: 404/413-2281
(Hearing Impaired Students Only)
E-mail: onestopshop@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/onestopshop

Student Advisement Center
(transfers with less than 42 hours)
234 Sparks Hall
33 Gilmer Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/413-2300
Fax: 404/413-2282
E-mail: acadvise@gsu.edu
www.gsu.edu/advisement

First Day of classes
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2012

Fall semester
AUGUST 20 - DECEMBER 3, 2012

Labor Day holiday
SEPTEMBER 3, 2012

Thanksgiving break
NOVEMBER 19 - 24, 2012

Examination week
DECEMBER 4 - 11, 2012
mailing address
P.O. Box 4009
Atlanta, GA 30302-4009

in person
200 Sparks Hall

phone 404/413-2500
fax 404/413-2002

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m.gsu.edu

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