



CLASS OF

Congratulations!
 Details about Commencement • May 15, 2010



Congratulations! Class of 2010

Please read **all** information contained in this brochure.

All **January 2010 graduates** are eligible to participate in Commencement ceremonies and do not need to refile a Graduation Intent Form (GIF). See George Mason University Commencement information below.

May and August 2010 Graduates

Your first stop is the Registrar's graduation web site.

There you will find timelines, along with general and detailed information regarding the entire graduation process. The Degree Compliance (Graduation) web site is located at registrar.gmu.edu/gif.

If you are graduating in **May**, you should have already filed your intent to graduate. If you have not done so, you should file immediately. If you are graduating in **August**, your deadline to file is **March 12**. You must file a Graduation Intent Form (GIF) even if you do not plan to attend the Commencement ceremonies. Prospective **August graduates are eligible to participate in the May ceremonies**. **Note:** Because diplomas for **PhD** graduates are given out at the Commencement ceremony, **August 2010 PhD** graduates attend the May 2011 ceremony.

Deadlines: May and August Graduation 2010

As stated above, if you are graduating in **May**, you should have already filed your GIF. If you have not done so, please do this immediately by going to the **Patriot Web** at patriotweb.gmu.edu, logging in, and clicking on **Student Services**. Click on **Graduation Intent** and follow the prompts. If you will be graduating in **August**, your deadline to file is **March 12**.

Please remember that for both May and August graduates, your name will not appear in the Commencement program if your GIF is not filed with the Registrar's Office by March 12.

- Thesis and dissertation deadlines are posted at thesis.gmu.edu.
- If you **do not** wish to have your name published in the Commencement program, visit registrar.gmu.edu/gif/forms.html to fill out the form to exclude your name. Submit it with a copy of your photo ID to the Registrar's Office no later than March 12, 2010.

George Mason University Commencement

The 43rd annual George Mason University Spring Commencement is Saturday, May 15, 2010, at 10 a.m. in the Patriot Center. The complete schedule of all graduation ceremonies is inside.

Degree candidates eligible to participate in Commencement exercises are the following:

August 2009	Doctoral candidates
January 2010	All degrees
May 2010	All degrees
August 2010	Bachelor's and master's candidates

Graduates are requested to arrive promptly at 9 a.m. at the North Plaza, near the George Mason statue, for assembly on May 15. The Patriot Center doors open for guests at 9 a.m. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. and lasts approximately two hours.

Information on the Commencement ceremony; guest tickets; college, school, and institute convocations; caps and gowns; and guest parking is contained in this brochure and at events.gmu.edu. In addition, a 24-hour Commencement hotline at 703-993-GRAD will be available to assist you after February 28, 2010. All phone numbers including the Registrar's Office, Events Management, and the University Bookstore are listed on the back page of this brochure.

Again, our sincere congratulations and wishes for success on your new beginnings.

Sincerely,

Toni-Michelle C. Travis *Barbara Lubar* *Iris Robinson*

Toni-Michelle Travis
 University Marshal

Barbara Lubar
 Events Management

Iris Robinson
 Office of the Registrar,
 Graduation Section

Guest Parking

All parking lots on campus are available for guest parking. Handicapped and special-assistance parking is available in Lot A adjacent to the Patriot Center, South Entrance.

Diploma Information

Most diplomas will be mailed to the student's "diploma address," which is specified when the GIF is filed, within five to seven weeks after degree conferral.

Call the Commencement Hotline at 703-993-GRAD

The hotline provides up-to-date information on Commencement arrangements. If your question is not answered by the hotline, you may call the following offices:

- ▶ Events Management, 703-993-2853/8844
Ceremonies and guest arrangements
- ▶ Office of the Registrar, 703-993-2441
Diploma mailing, degree compliance
- ▶ School of Law, 703-993-8043
- ▶ Mason Bookstore, 703-993-2666, gmubkstore.com
Caps and gowns, announcements, Commencement Fair

Commencement Web Site events.gmu.edu

Check this web site for all event information and updates, including information on the competition to represent the Class of 2010 as Commencement student speaker.

Hotel Accommodations for Out-of-Town Guests

Although there are many hotels in the area, the following are close to the university and regularly serve its guests. Most have special Mason rates.

- ▶ The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner
 1700 Tysons Boulevard
 McLean, VA 22102
 703-506-4300
- ▶ Best Western (Fairfax City)
 3535 Chain Bridge Road
 Route 123 at I-66
 Fairfax, VA 22030
 703-591-5500
- ▶ Comfort Inn
 11180 Main Street
 Fairfax, VA 22030
 703-591-5900

- ▶ Courtyard by Marriott-Fairfax
 11220 Lee Highway
 Fairfax, VA 22030
 703-273-6161

- ▶ Marriott Fairfax at Fair Oaks
 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway
 Fairfax, VA 22033
 703-352-2525

- ▶ Hyatt Fair Lakes
 12777 Fair Lakes Circle
 Fairfax, VA 22030
 703-818-1234/800-233-1234

- ▶ Holiday Inn Express
 10327 Lee Highway
 Fairfax, VA 22030
 703-359-2888

Commencement Videos

Order Commencement videos online at gmtv.gmu.edu/commencement.

2009-10 Combination DVD and Print Yearbooks

Order yearbooks online at www.gmu.edu/org/gmview.

Please plan to attend **both** the official university Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 15, at 10 a.m. in the Patriot Center **and** your specific college or school convocation ceremony at the time and location indicated below.

Schedule of College/School/Institute Convocations/Receptions and Commencement

College/School	Date	Time	Place
<i>*Student Commencement Rehearsal</i>	<i>Wednesday, May 12</i>	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Patriot Center</i>
College of Health and Human Services	Thursday, May 13	10 a.m.	Patriot Center
College of Science	Thursday, May 13	10:30 a.m.	RAC
New Century College (CHSS)	Thursday, May 13	11 a.m.	Concert Hall
The Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering	Thursday, May 13	2:30 p.m.	Patriot Center
College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Master's/Doctoral)	Thursday, May 13	7 p.m.	Concert Hall
College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Bachelor's)	Friday, May 14	10 a.m.	Patriot Center
Recreation, Health, and Tourism (CEHD)	Friday, May 14	Noon	Hylton Performing Arts Center, Prince William Campus
College of Visual and Performing Arts	Friday, May 14	2 p.m.	Concert Hall
School of Management	Friday, May 14	4 p.m.	Patriot Center
School of Public Policy	Friday, May 14	7 p.m.	Concert Hall
Commencement 2010 (Lineup starts at 8:45 a.m., Johnson Center North Plaza)	Saturday, May 15	10 a.m.	Patriot Center
Graduate School of Education (CEHD)	Saturday, May 15	2 p.m.	Patriot Center
School of Law	Saturday, May 15	2 p.m.	Concert Hall
Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution	Saturday, May 15	2 p.m.	Dewberry Hall

**Rehearsal is recommended; however, it is not required.*

Attention graduates! Representatives of Mason's Alumni Association will be on hand at Commencement to welcome you with tokens in honor of your new alumni status.

All Graduating Patriots

Represent your Class of 2010 and be part of Mason history as this year's Commencement student speaker. Go to events.gmu.edu or call 703-993-8844 for details. Complete guidelines will be available at the Commencement Fair.

What's the difference between Commencement and Convocation?

Commencement—Saturday, May 15, 10 a.m., Patriot Center

The entire university community is invited to this formal event at which your degree is ceremoniously conferred by the university president:

- Ceremony begins with graduates processing through campus.
- Official university guest speaker delivers Commencement address.
- Selected student speaker representing the Class of 2010 delivers address. Go to events.gmu.edu/speaker.html for entry details.
- Event is televised.
- **Tickets are required for guests. Each graduate may obtain four guest tickets.**
- PhD graduates are individually recognized and photographed on stage receiving their degrees. All graduates are acknowledged by deans or directors and the university president.
- Caps and gowns are worn.

Convocation Ceremonies— See schedule on opposite page.

Convocations are celebrations of graduation sponsored by individual units:

- Individual school, college, and institute graduates only.
- **All guests are welcome; tickets are not required.**
- All graduates are individually recognized and photographed on stage.
- Each school, college, and institute selects speakers.
- Caps and gowns are worn.

Graduates are encouraged to attend both the official university Commencement ceremony and their specific convocation ceremony.

Ticket Information for Commencement Ceremony, May 15, 10 a.m.

Because more than 7,000 students will graduate this year, seating at Commencement is limited and guest tickets are required. All graduates except doctoral candidates may pick up four guest tickets at the Patriot Center box office starting April 13 as specified below. **Doctoral candidates will receive reserved ticket information by mail.**

Each graduate is permitted a maximum of **four** guest tickets—each guest must have a ticket. Graduating students do not need a ticket. Please pick up only the number of tickets you require. All tickets are free and general admission. Special assistance and handicapped seating will be available for the ceremony; please ask any Patriot Center usher at the portal entrances when you arrive for Commencement. Guests requiring special assistance may be seated with one other guest in their party in an easy-access section of the Patriot Center.

Please note: Graduates who do not file their GIF by March 12, 2010, are not guaranteed four guest tickets nor that their names will appear in the Commencement program.

Ticket Pickup

Tickets and detailed instructions may be picked up at the Patriot Center box office, with a Mason ID or valid driver's license on the following dates and times:

Tuesday, April 13, through Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday–Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

THE FINAL DAY TO PICK UP TICKETS IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 10 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

If you find that you do not need all the tickets you originally picked up, please return the extras to the box office at the times listed above.

Tickets that are not picked up by 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, will be distributed to other graduates on rehearsal evening.

Additional Tickets

Neither Events Management nor the Office of the Registrar has additional tickets. Additional tickets will be available only if students turn in unneeded tickets.

Tickets that are turned in or not picked up will be redistributed as follows:

Patriot Center Box Office, first come, first served, Wednesday, May 12, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., with Mason ID. If tickets are still available, on Saturday, May 15, 9 a.m. until the ceremony. No ID required.

Caps and Gowns

Commencement at Mason is a traditional ceremony where graduates and faculty wear caps and gowns. Master's candidates must also wear a master's hood. Please state your field of study when purchasing your hood because different colors denote different fields of study (for example, economics, copper; sciences, golden yellow; arts and humanities, white). Please see information in this packet regarding the purchase of bachelor's and master's caps and gowns at the **Commencement Fair on March 2–4, 2010**. School of Law graduates should order caps, gowns, tassels, and announcements through the Arlington Campus Bookstore at 703-993-8170.

Commencement Fair

For your convenience, the University Bookstore will sponsor a Commencement Fair Tuesday through Thursday, March 2–4, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Dewberry Hall in the Johnson Center, Fairfax Campus. Purchase caps, gowns, announcements, rings, and other items; have photo taken in regalia; and pick up Commencement tickets all in one location. Remember, announcements are not invitations and do not serve as tickets to the Commencement ceremony.

The Prince William Campus will have a similar event. Prince William Bookstore: March 5, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Arlington Campus Bookstore: February 15–16, noon to 7 p.m.

Photo Opportunities

A photographer will be on hand for cap and gown photos prior to Commencement rehearsal, May 12, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Patriot Center, and before Commencement, May 15, from 8 to 9 a.m. on the Johnson Center North Plaza.

Photographers will be present at all convocation events to photograph the ceremonies.