



Grand Canyon University  
University Policy Handbook  
2016-2017

Spring 2017

# University Policy Handbook Version Record

The following is a record of the major changes made to the Grand Canyon University Policy Handbook. This is not a comprehensive itemization of all of the changes made in this revision cycle, but rather an overview of the more significant updates incorporated into the current version of the handbook.

Version	Updated	Changes Made
1	12/26/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initial Update to Spring 2017</li><li>• Updated University Technology Requirements</li><li>• Updated Master Programmatic Progression Requirements</li><li>• Updated Tuition and Fees</li></ul>

## Right to Change Requirements

The University reserves the right to make changes of any nature to the calendar, admission requirements, degree requirements, fees, regulations, course offerings, programs, or academic schedules whenever they are deemed necessary or desirable, including changes or modification of course content, class scheduling, offering patterns, canceling of scheduled classes, or other academic activities.

The Grand Canyon University Policy Handbook does not establish a contractual relationship; rather, it sets forth academic and other requirements that students must meet to be granted a degree and, in some circumstances, to continue to be enrolled at the institution. While advisors and other Grand Canyon University personnel are available to guide students with respect to the requirements, students ultimately bear the responsibility of following the requirements.

Students should view the Academic Catalog for college and program specific information.

## Notice of Non-Discrimination

Grand Canyon University prohibits discrimination, including any form of harassment, by employees, faculty, students, contractors, or agents of the University and by anyone participating in a University sponsored activity against an individual based on race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or any other classification protected by applicable law in its programs or activities. Title IX regulations require non-discrimination on the basis of sex or gender.

Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX discrimination or the application of Title IX harassment policies may be submitted to the Title IX coordinator and/or to the Office of Civil Rights for the United States Department of Education:

Title IX Coordinator  
Dr. Jennifer Lech  
Senior Vice President and University Registrar  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-6389  
[TitleIX@gcu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@gcu.edu)

U.S. Department of Education  
Office for Civil Rights  
Lyndon Baines Johnson, Department of Education Building  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-1100  
Telephone: 800-421-3481  
FAX: 202-453-6012; TDD: 800-877-8339  
[OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov)

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# Contact Information

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## General Contact Information

### Web Site

<http://www.gcu.edu/>

### Main Switchboard

Phone: 1-602-639-7500  
Toll-free: 1-800-800-9776

### Main Campus Mailing Address

Grand Canyon University  
PO Box 11097  
Phoenix, AZ 85061-1097

### Main Campus Street Address

Grand Canyon University – Main Campus  
3300 West Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017-3030

### Locations

Grand Canyon University – Banner Boswell  
10484 W Thunderbird Blvd. Ste. 102  
Sun City, AZ 85351

Grand Canyon University – Mesa  
A.T. Still 5845 E Still Circle, Ste. 206  
Mesa, AZ 85206

Grand Canyon University – Scottsdale  
Scottsdale Healthcare - 9201 E. Mountain View, Ste. 100  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Grand Canyon University – Tempe  
1150 West Grove Parkway, Suite 101  
Tempe, AZ 85283

Grand Canyon University – Tucson  
Tucson Medical Center, 5099 E. Grant Rd.; Ste. 350  
Tucson, AZ 85712

## Student Contacts

### Admissions Representatives

Responsibility: Assists students with their initial enrollment into a program of study.

Phone: 1-800-800-9776

### Campus Operations

Responsibility: Provide parking passes for campus students, faculty and staff along with issue campus ID cards

Phone: 602-639-7739

### Canyon Health and Wellness Clinic

Responsibility: Assists campus students with health needs.

Phone: 602-639-6215

Fax: 602-639-7830

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Campus-Resources/Health-and-Wellness-Center.php>

### Career Services

Responsibility: GCU's Career Services team provides students and alumni with the resources, professional knowledge and support they need to successfully transition from academics into purposeful and satisfying employment.

Phone: 602-639-6606

E-mail: [careerservices@gcu.edu](mailto:careerservices@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Career-Services.php>

### Center for Learning and Advancement

Responsibility: Provides learning resources for students through free face-to-face and online tutoring in writing, math (algebra, trigonometry, calculus), accounting, finance, statistics, APA, as well as workshops in test-taking techniques, reading strategies, time management, study skills, and note-taking techniques. The Center also oversees the First Year Experience (FYE) program, Study Abroad, Peer Mentoring, Lifelong Learning Assessment, and the Honors College.

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Phone: 1-602-639-8901

Email: [centerforlearning@gcu.edu](mailto:centerforlearning@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Learning-Resources/Center-for-Learning-and-Advancement.php>

### GCU Bookstore

Responsibility: Carries materials required in GCU courses along with University-branded apparel and gifts.

Phone: 1-800-866-8917

### GCU Library

Responsibility: Provides learning resources through physical and online libraries.

Phone: 602-639-6641 or 1-800-800-9776 ext. 639-6641

Website: <http://library.gcu.edu>

Ask A Librarian: <http://library.gcu.edu/AskALibrarian>

Webinars/Workshops: <http://www.gcu.edu/Student-Affairs/Library/Webinar-Sign-Up.php>

### GCU Today

Responsibility: Provides the news and events source for Grand Canyon University students, updated daily.

Phone: 602-639-8011

Email: [doug.carroll@gcu.edu](mailto:doug.carroll@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://news.gcu.edu/>  
<http://www.gcu.edu/News.php>

### International Students Office

Responsibility: Assists university students and staff in support of F-1 students during their stay in the United States

Phone: 602-639-8105

Fax: 602-343-3771

E-mail: [ISO@gcu.edu](mailto:ISO@gcu.edu)

## **Mail and Copy Center**

Responsibility: Provide many services to the traditional campus students and staff, which includes mailing out letter and packages along with photocopying services

Phone: 602-639-7905

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Campus-Resources/Mail-and-Copy-Center.php>

## **Office of Academic Records**

Responsibility: Tracks student progress to degree completion, evaluates transcripts, and admits students to the University.

Phone: 1-800-800-9776

E-mail: [academicrecords@gcu.edu](mailto:academicrecords@gcu.edu)

## **Office of Residence Life**

Responsibility: Assists students with campus housing

Phone: 602-639-6244

Email: [residencelife@gcu.edu](mailto:residencelife@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Housing/Residence-Life-Information.php>

## **Office of Spiritual Life**

Responsibility: Provides spiritual needs of the campus, coordinates Chapel programming and outreach ministry

Phone: 602-639-6750

Email: [spirituallife@gcu.edu](mailto:spirituallife@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Spiritual-Life.php>

## **Office of Student Engagement**

Responsibility: Assists students with campus clubs, intramurals, Associated Students of GCU, and campus programming.

Phone: 602-639-7250

Email: [Student.Engagement@gcu.edu](mailto:Student.Engagement@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Events-and-Activities.php>

## **Public Safety**

Responsibility: Assists students, faculty and staff with issues relating to campus and public safety.

Phone: 602-639-8100

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Campus-Resources/Public-Safety.php>

## **Student Disability Services**

Responsibility: Assists students with obtaining reasonable accommodations, based on student self-disclosure of disability.

Phone: 602-639-6342 or 1-800-800-9776 ext. 639-6342

Email: [disabilityoffice@gcu.edu](mailto:disabilityoffice@gcu.edu)

## **Student Services Counselors**

Responsibility: Assists students with planning financial resources needed to fund their education along with planning and maintaining their program of study.

Phone: 1-800-800-9776

## **Technical Support**

Responsibility: Assists students with technical issues regarding the University systems.

Phone: 1-877-428-8447

Email: [techsupport@gcu.edu](mailto:techsupport@gcu.edu)

Website: <http://www.gcu.edu/Learning-Resources/Tutorial-Videos/Technical-Support.php>

# Accreditation and Authorizations

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## Accreditation

Grand Canyon University holds many accreditations, some college-specific and others program-specific. Accreditation is desirable as it speaks to the quality of the college or university, acknowledged by peer institutions. In choosing a university, parents and students should ensure their university of choice is regionally accredited.

Regional accreditation in higher education originated almost a century ago as an American process conferred by a nongovernmental agency. It provides quality assurance and ensures institutional program improvement. The agency's expert and trained peers have visited and reviewed Grand Canyon University. During the visit, Grand Canyon University is reviewed from a variety of facets, including: educational activities, administration, financial stability, admissions and student personnel services, resources, student academic achievement, organizational effectiveness, and relationships with outside constituencies.

Six regional agencies provide institutional accreditation on a geographical basis — Middle States, New England, North Central, Northwest, Southern, and Western. While independent of one another, the six regional associations cooperate extensively and recognize one another's accreditation.

The Higher Learning Commission and its predecessor have accredited Grand Canyon University continually since 1968, obtaining its most recent ten-year reaccreditation in 2007. The Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education licenses GCU in Arizona.

### Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission accredits Grand Canyon University.

The Higher Learning Commission  
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400  
Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504  
Phone: 312-263-0456  
Toll-free: 800-621-7440  
<http://www.ncahlc.org/>

### Arizona State Private Post-Secondary Education

Grand Canyon University is licensed in Arizona by the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education.

Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education  
1400 West Washington, Room 260  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Phone: 602-542-5709  
<http://azppse.state.az.us>

### Veteran's Administration

Grand Canyon University is approved for the education and training of veterans under the provisions of Title 10 and 38, United States Code. We accept Chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 1606 and 1607 recipients. Veterans are approved for benefits for numerous programs. For more information regarding using your VA benefits at Grand Canyon University, email [VaBenefits@gcu.edu](mailto:VaBenefits@gcu.edu).

### Other Accreditations/Approvals

In addition, the University has obtained the following specialized accreditations and approvals for our core program offerings: Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, Arizona State Board of Education, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, and Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education.

### Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)

Grand Canyon University has applied for and received certification to enroll F nonimmigrant students per the Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) under 8 CFR 214.3. The International Students Office has access to SEVIS and may issue Forms I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Student Status, to prospective students. For more information see the International Students Office [website](#).

### Colangelo College of Business

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 7007 College Boulevard, Suite 420, Overland Park, KS 66211, 913-339-9356, accredits the following programs of the Colangelo College of Business: Bachelor of Science in Accounting, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurial Studies, Bachelor of Finance and Economics, Bachelor of Science in Marketing, Bachelor of Science in Sports Management, Master of Business Administration and Executive Master of Business Administration. The ACBSP requires each school to submit a periodic Quality Assurance Report that summarizes recent activity regarding compliance with ACBSP standards. [View our most recent ACBSP Quality Assurance Report](#). View the results of the [Undergraduate Business Field Test](#).

Grand Canyon University's Colangelo College of Business is approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to offer institutional recommendations (credentials) for the certification of Bachelor of Science in Business for Secondary Education.



## **College of Education**

Grand Canyon University's College of Education is approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to offer institutional recommendations (credentials) for the certification of early childhood, elementary, secondary and special education teachers, as well as administrators.

The College of Education is a candidate for accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), [www.ncate.org](http://www.ncate.org). Candidacy status means that the College of Education has met preconditions for accreditation but is not accredited. The list of teacher preparation programs and advanced educator preparation programs can be found under the Notification of NCATE Candidacy section in the Academic Catalog.

## **College of Fine Arts and Production**

Grand Canyon University's College of Fine Arts and Production is approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to offer institutional recommendations (credentials) for the certification of Bachelor of Arts in Dance Education, Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Education.

## **College of Nursing and Health Care Professions**

The baccalaureate degree in nursing, master's degree in nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice at GCU are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>).

GCU's College of Nursing and Health Care Professions is approved by the Arizona State Board of Nursing. The nursing program is approved by the New Mexico Board of Nursing. The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) accredits the Athletic Training Education Program (<http://caate.net>).

## **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Grand Canyon University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences is approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to offer institutional recommendations (credentials) for the certification of Bachelor of Arts in History for Secondary Education, Bachelor of Arts in English for Secondary Education and Bachelor of Science in Math for Secondary Education.

The Master of Science in Addiction Counseling program has been approved for accreditation through the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC), 1001 N. Fairfax St. Suite 201, Alexandria, VA 22314. NASAC accreditation is a new accreditation body as a result from a combined effort of The International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education (INCASE) and the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) to create a single higher education addiction studies accreditation.

## **College of Science, Engineering and Technology**

Grand Canyon University's College of Science, Engineering and Technology is approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to offer institutional recommendations (credentials) for the certification of Bachelor of Science in Biology for Secondary Education and Bachelor of Science in Chemistry for Secondary Education.

## **College of Theology**

Grand Canyon Theological Seminary at Grand Canyon University is an Associate Member of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS). While associate membership is a non-accredited status, the school is in the process of seeking accreditation by Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools.

## **Intercollegiate Athletics**

Intercollegiate athletics function under the guidelines of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I, 700 W. Washington Street, P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, IN 46202, regarding eligibility to participate in intercollegiate sports. In the 2013-14 season, Grand Canyon University began the process of reclassifying from Division II to Division I as a member of the Western Athletic Conference.

## **State Authorizations**

### **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA) Participant**

Grand Canyon University is an institutional participant in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) initiative. SARA is an agreement among member states, districts and territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based in another state. SARA is overseen by a National Council and administered by four regional education compacts. For more information and a list of member states, please visit <http://nc-sara.org/>.

### **Florida**

Residents of Florida should direct questions, complaints, or concerns to:  
Florida Commission for Independent Education  
<http://fldoe.org/policy/cie/file-a-complaint.stml>  
Commission for Independent Education 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1414  
Tallahassee, FL. 32399-0400

## **Iowa**

Students seeking an Iowa license are advised that successful completion of Grand Canyon University's programs of educator preparation do not qualify you for initial educator licensure by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. Candidates seeking licensure in the state of Iowa must first be licensed/certified as educators in Arizona. Grand Canyon University will assist you in understanding the licensure requirements of the Arizona Department of Education prior to completion of your educational preparation program. Arizona Department of Education can be contacted at 800-352-4558 or <http://www.azed.gov/>. Candidates seeking subsequent licensure from the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners must contact that Board (515-281-5849; <http://www.boee.iowa.gov/>) for licensure requirements in Iowa.

## **New Mexico**

Any New Mexico residents who have a complaint can file a complaint with the New Mexico Higher Education Department, 2048 Galisteo, Santa Fe, NM 87505, 505-476-8400 or visit <http://hed.state.nm.us/institutions/complaints.aspx>.

## **Pennsylvania**

Teacher education programs have not been reviewed or approved by Pennsylvania. Candidates will have to apply for certification and meet requirements for certification as out-of-state candidates.

Residents of Pennsylvania should direct questions, complaints, or concerns to:

Pennsylvania Department of Education

<http://www.education.pa.gov/Postsecondary-Adult/College%20and%20Career%20Education/Pages/Students-Complaints.aspx#tab-1>

Pennsylvania Department of Education - Postsecondary and Adult Education

333 Market Street, 12th Fl | Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

## **South Carolina**

Grand Canyon University is licensed to recruit SC residents by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, 1122 Lady Street, Suite 300, Columbia, SC 29201; 803-737-2260; [www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov). Licensure indicates only that minimum standards have been met; it is not an endorsement or guarantee of quality.

Grand Canyon University makes no guarantee that other institutions will accept credits earned at Grand Canyon University. The transfer of course/degree credit is determined by the receiving institution.

Applicant students must consult with their academic advisors concerning eligibility for employment in discipline-related fields.

## **Utah**

The school has met the requirements of Utah Code Ann. §13-34a-04 to be a registered postsecondary school required under 34 C.F.R 600.9 to be legally authorized by the State of Utah.

Residents of Utah should direct questions, complaints, or concerns to:

Utah Division of Consumer Protection

<http://consumerprotection.utah.gov/registrations/state-authorization.html>

160 East 300 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

## **Wisconsin**

GCU has been approved and is legally authorized to do business in the state of Wisconsin as a private postsecondary school, subject to the provisions of §38.50 Wisconsin Statutes, and all administrative rules adopted pursuant to the statutes. Approval includes on l y those programs and those locations specifically approved by the Board.

Residents of Wisconsin should direct questions, complaints, or concerns to:

Wisconsin Educational Approval Board

<http://eab.state.wi.us/resources/complaint.asp>

Wisconsin Educational Approval Board

431 Charmany Drive, Suite 102 Madison, WI 53719

# About Grand Canyon University

## Vision

Grand Canyon University is a premier Christian University educating people to lead and serve.

## Mission Statement

Grand Canyon University prepares learners to become global citizens, critical thinkers, effective communicators, and responsible leaders by providing an academically challenging, values-based curriculum from the context of our Christian heritage.

## Mission Based Student Learning Competencies

Tied to the mission statement of GCU are mission-based competencies that faculty and administration believe are imperative for students to learn. GCU strives to ensure students who progress through their program at different times exit the program with the same foundational knowledge and demonstrable skills, and that graduates bring commensurate knowledge and practical skills to the workforce. Consistent competencies and objectives, regardless of the modality, are the foundation of every program design. All GCU courses provide foundational knowledge and then apply or synthesize the learning. Thus, all graduates of the same program will have developed comparable skill sets.

### Mission-based Bachelor's Competencies

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Leadership</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University's bachelor's program will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the reality of the world, examine the consequences of choice, and provide unselfishly to help others meet their highest potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to apply leadership models and demonstrate the capacity for leadership.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to develop a clear vision that informs, inspires, and motivates others to achieve goals.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to determine various leadership styles and rationale for differences.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University's bachelor's program will be able to develop and apply intrapersonal and professional communication behaviors essential to servant leadership and rooted in Christian ethical belief.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to recognize the power, ethical ramifications, and consequences of communication style as it relates to personal and professional success in a diverse society.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to design and disseminate compelling messages that create understanding and desired results using a variety of traditional and innovative modalities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Global Citizenship</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University's bachelor's program will be able to apply empathy, identify ethnocentrism, and defend the reality that people are different with different perspectives on history, religion, value-systems, and many other aspects of life and living.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to develop long-term relationships across cultures through effective communication.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to perform service initiatives from a tradition of servant leadership in an effort to foster positive interpersonal relationships and a dynamic global community.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to apply the necessary skills to work effectively with individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Thinking</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University's bachelor's program will be able to show clarity and logic in thought by asking questions and pursuing knowledge to avoid delusion and blind acceptance of ideas, to reduce vulnerability, and to work to find solutions rather than dwell on problems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to use personal skill sets of critical thinking, risk assessment, decision-making, analytical skills, and creativity that promote effective judgment and actions.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to apply social judgment skills and knowledge gained through gathering, sorting, analyzing, applying, and evaluating information to solve problems in applied learning settings.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor's program will be able to make informed decisions based on historical, current, reliable, and valid information.</li> </ul>

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Christian Heritage</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s bachelor’s program will be able to identify and express aspects of a Christian heritage which affect their relationships with others and the community, as well as their decision-making processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to articulate an awareness of a Christian heritage and its effects on Western society.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to identify and comprehend the moral and ethical foundations of Judeo-Christian thought, and analyze situations and problems from this basis.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to demonstrate the ability to make values-based decisions from the perspective of a Christian heritage.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Technology</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s bachelor’s program will be able to demonstrate efficient and effective use of technological tools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to retrieve, organize, assess, process, and safely secure information.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to demonstrate proficiency and adaptability in commonly accepted applications and devices.</li> <li>• Graduates of the bachelor’s program will be able to demonstrate competence in mediated communication, connect globally to present an “e-self” that is sensitive to audience and context, and analyze and interpret visual rhetoric.</li> </ul>

### Mission-based Master’s Competencies

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Leadership</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will be able to establish effective leadership by being grounded in the reality of the world, accepting the consequences of choice, and striving unselfishly to help others meet their highest potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to utilize responsible leadership through the application of leadership models.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to integrate leadership skills that inform, inspire, and motivate others to achieve their goals.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to select effective leadership styles appropriate to the situation.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to improve their leadership by applying initiative, political sensitivity, self-discipline, and perseverance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will be able to identify and cultivate interpersonal and professional communication behaviors essential to servant leadership and rooted in Christian ethical belief.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to operate in a pluralistic society developing authentic relationships and contributing to their discipline, while serving and promoting community.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to formulate clear and compelling arguments, rationally constructed, prefaced by critical analysis, and composed with a conscious awareness of the power, ethical ramifications, and consequences of communication style.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to design and execute clear communication, which creates understanding and achieves desired results through a variety of communication modalities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Global Citizenship</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will be able to propose empathy, refute ethnocentrism, and champion the reality that people are different with different perspectives on history, religion, value-systems, and many other aspects of life and living.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to guide and manage global organizations, applying business knowledge within cross-cultural contexts.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to support a global mindset that is sensitive to cultural differences and tolerant of differing perspectives, practices, and values.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to value cultural diversity in order to build more innovative and competitive organizations.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to construct responsible plans and decisions that balance the creation of economic wealth with the promotion of human welfare worldwide.</li> </ul>

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Critical Thinking</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will be able to champion clarity and logic in thought by asking questions and pursuing knowledge to avoid delusion and blind acceptance of ideas, to reduce vulnerability, and to work to find solutions rather than dwell on problems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to evaluate and synthesize personal skill sets of critical thinking, risk assessment, decision-making, analytical skills, and creativity to promote effective judgment and actions.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to utilize social judgment skills and research through gathering, sorting, analyzing, applying, and evaluating information to solve problems.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to evaluate information based on historical, current, reliable, and valid information and to utilize applications of research to impact decision-making.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Values &amp; Ethics</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will be able to model and communicate the values and ethics formulated within the context of a global perspective by critically integrating them into their decision-making.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to demonstrate cultural competence by synthesizing a variety of views and perspectives on values and ethics.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to integrate course work, professional life, life experience, and educational experience into a coherent values-based worldview.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to investigate the historical foundations of critical thought through the context of values and ethics to find meaning, construct knowledge, and deconstruct faulty thinking.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to demonstrate the ability to communicate and model a holistic ethical system.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Technology</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s master’s program will demonstrate the use of technological tools as well as efficient and effective use of the tools themselves, including retrieving, organizing, and assessing information; securing information; and analyzing information as the basis for evidence-driven action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to judge the quality of information to determine how it can be best used for problem solving, through development and application of data models, both quantitative and qualitative, to identify and project patterns and trends.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to develop proficiency in practices that assure the confidentiality, quality, and continuing existence of information.</li> <li>• Graduates of the master’s program will be able to demonstrate efficiency in strategies, which will ensure efficient and effective analysis and use of information.</li> </ul>

### Mission-based Doctoral Competencies

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Leadership</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will be able to achieve effective leadership in their organization and discipline by making discoveries, contributing knowledge founded and rooted in proven theory through research, and making effective use of leadership to manage change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to act as leaders in their discipline through the active application of knowledge in an intelligent and effective way to lead and construct an inventive, original, and creative vision.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to employ meta-thinking and self-evaluation to assess their current leadership style and leadership potential in order to develop clarity of vision, purpose, and action in the leading of self and others.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to utilize compelling leadership styles and models to manage change, exercise influence, empower others, create interest, motivate followers, and have a greater impact in their field of study.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will be able to communicate effectively the results of their research in an academic environment, demonstrate a strong link between behaviors, beliefs and ethical values, and be good stewards of their words.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to combine effective oral and written communication to disseminate clear and compelling research to the academic community through multiple modalities in a way that promotes excellence in their discipline.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to design and execute succinct synthesis of ideas and data while guiding followers through skilled use of verbal imagery, active listening skill, and audience assessment.</li> </ul>

Domains	Competencies
<p><b>Global Citizenship</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will be able to build practices and a culture which honor diversity, demonstrate cultural sensitivity, engage in globally focused leadership, and value international perspectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to apply and analyze cultural implications rooted in diverse ethical and global systems to transcend geographical and cultural paradigms, allowing them to think in interconnected and important ways that expand beyond the organization’s boundaries and into the global community.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to become participants in the global academic community, view their scholarly area from a global perspective, approach scholarly activity from a global mindset, and pursue research beyond the academic traditions of a single culture.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Thinking</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will be able to understand the history of ideas, employ empirical examples in order to provide relevance and validity to ideas, and judge their capacity to act based upon various scales of intelligence to create change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to use critical thinking skills to sustain research and analysis for the purpose of attaining new cognitive processes, critique opinions and assumptions using intellectual reasoning free of egocentrism, and research patterns and relationships in order to promote change.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to create new knowledge through critical thinking by combining and integrating different opinions to further understanding in their field.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Values &amp; Ethics</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will be able to model and communicate at the organizational level the values and ethics formulated within the context of a global perspective by critically integrating into their decision-making and other professional actions as leaders those values and ethics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to integrate a multiplicity of views and perspectives to develop cultural competence through values and ethics, while having the capacity to understand and synthesize other worldviews into their actions.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to formulate leadership strategies through the context of the highest ethical standards to inform behavior.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to effect change and align belief systems in their respective organizations relative to the highest values and ethical standards.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to investigate the historical foundations of critical thought through the context of values and ethics to find meaning, construct knowledge, and deconstruct faulty thinking.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Technology</b></p> <p>Graduates of Grand Canyon University’s doctoral program will demonstrate the leadership practices that guide the use of technological tools as well as efficient and effective use of the tools themselves, including retrieving, organizing, and assessing information; securing information; and analyzing information as the basis for evidence-driven action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to direct the formulation of policies and implementation strategies for efficient and effective retrieval and organization of information.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to judge the quality of information to determine how it can be best used for organizational problem solving, through development and application of data models, both quantitative and qualitative, to identify and project patterns and trends.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to develop and implement at the organizational level practices that assure the confidentiality, quality, and continuing existence of information.</li> <li>• Graduates of the doctoral program will be able to demonstrate leadership dedicated to evidence-driven action by formulating policies and implement strategies at the organizational level which will ensure efficient and effective analysis and use of information.</li> </ul>

## Historical Sketch

Grand Canyon College was born in the wake of World War II as the realization of a dream long held dear by the tiny congregations of Southern Baptists that called the Arizona mission frontier their home. In the fall of 1946, the Baptist General Convention of Arizona voted to organize a college. A few months later, the Convention selected the first trustees for the college, who soon secured an abandoned armory building in Prescott, Arizona, as Grand Canyon’s first campus.

The College was chartered on August 1, 1949, with 16 faculty and approximately 100 students, many of them veterans. In 1951 the College put up its first permanent buildings on a 90-acre tract in west Phoenix. Grand Canyon College was fully accredited in 1968 by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504, 312-263-0456, 800-621-7440.

The College was first considered primarily a school for preachers, but its reputation expanded rapidly. Grand Canyon College became famous early on for its teacher education program and soon developed outstanding programs in the sciences, nursing, business, music, and the arts, while maintaining its excellence in Christian studies.

During planning for the change in institutional organization and status from Grand Canyon College to Grand Canyon University, the institution identified several landmark events that had been and would be pivotal during this transition. These included, but were not limited to, the organization of programs and departments into multiple colleges, the offering of graduate degree programs, the formation of the Grand Canyon University Foundation, and the generosity of several individuals who pledged or gave unrestricted gifts valued at one million dollars or more to launch the University into the next decade and century. In May of 1984, the College trustees voted to prepare for transition to University status on the school's 40th anniversary in 1989. Another landmark event occurred at the turn of the century that moved the University away from being owned and operated by the Arizona Southern Baptists Convention to being self-owned by the Board of Trustees.

Four years later, in 2004, the University was struggling financially and facing the prospect of having to close its doors. Unfortunately, the University did not have a large endowment or donor base to rely upon to help solve its financial crisis. In order to preserve the University, the University was sold to a small group of investors and converted to an investment funded model. The years 2004 – 2008 were difficult for the University as its traditional campus deteriorated while the University focused primarily on online education and financial solvency. Then, in 2008, a management team with experience in Christian education, led by President Brian Mueller and Chief Operating Officer Dr. Stan Meyer, was installed and a new vision was imparted for reinvigorating the campus. In May 2008, the University raised additional funds for campus expansion through an initial public offering. Today, Grand Canyon Education, Inc., d/b/a Grand Canyon University, is a publicly traded company listed under the symbol LOPE on the NASDAQ National Market. Today, the painstaking re-engineering of Arizona's premier private Christian university is making a college education possible – and affordable – for many who could only dream of such an opportunity.

## Board of Trustees

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- Brian Mueller; President/Chief Executive Officer
- Bradley Casper; Director
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## Contributors

- Dave Brazell Stadium: David and Mildred Brazell
- The Cooke Health Center: Alumni Association
- Ethington Memorial Theatre: Peter and Anna Ethington
- Fleming Classroom Building and Library: Mr. and Mrs. William Fleming
- College of Nursing and Health Care Professions: Samaritan Foundation
- Tim Salmon Baseball Clubhouse: Tim and Marci Salmon
- Smith Arts Complex: C. J. and Thelma Smith
- Smithey-Parker Building: Jerry and Sarah Smithey along with Bill and Joyce Parker
- Tell Science Building: Mr. and Mrs. Andrew P. Tell
- Williams Building: Dr. Bill and Shirley Williams

- Hegel Hall: Dr. Joni Hegel

## University Seal

When the Grand Canyon College seal was adopted in 1950, two of its major components were the cross and the cactus. The saguaro cactus rises from its desert setting to signify the intellectual opportunity for Grand Canyon University students, counteracting the arid mental state of uneducated man. The cross stands prominently on the horizon as a guide for spiritual enlightenment. Between the outer circle representing the earth and the inner circle representing the wheel of progress, the name of the University and its location are inscribed. The use of the seal is permitted only with approval of the Chief Executive Officer of the University.



## University Mascot and Colors

The University mascot is the antelope. Antelope are native to the region surrounding Prescott, Arizona, near the college's first campus. The mascot reminds us of our heritage and humble beginnings. School colors are purple, black, and white. Students, employees, or contractors of the University shall not use the Grand Canyon University name, logo, or mascot in connection with any commercial venture without written approval of the Chief Executive Officer.



## Statement of Principle

The words of the Alma Mater summarize the attitude and spirit of Grand Canyon University:

### ALMA MATER

*Hail to thee, Grand Can-yon Col-lege*

*Al-ma Ma-ter True.*

*Set a-midst the des-ert's glo-ry,*

*High-est praise to you.*

*So to God our hopes as-pir-ing,*

*This our pledge di-vine,*

*Striv-ing, seek-ing, find-ing, serv-ing*

*God and all man-kind.*

Words and music composed by Dr. Chester S. Bagg



# Academic Calendar

## Traditional Campus Students

### Spring 2017: 1/9/17– 4/30/17

#### Instruction/Grade Calendars (15-Week Classes)

Move in Date.....	January 7–8, 2017
Instruction begins .....	January 9, 2017
Spring Break .....	March 20 – March 26, 2017
Face-to-face Instruction ends .....	April 26, 2017
Move out Date.....	
Non-Graduates .....	3 p.m., April 27, 2017
Graduates.....	12 p.m., April 28, 2017
End of Term .....	April 30, 2017
Final Course Grades Due .....	May 7, 2017
Summer Break.....	May 1 – May 7, 2017
See Policy Handbook <a href="#">Refund Policy</a> .....	Variable Dates

#### Spring Traditional Campus Commencement\*

Traditional Campus Commencement..... April 27, 2017

### Summer 2017: 5/8/17– 8/20/17

#### Instruction/Grade Calendars

##### 15-Week Classes

Move in Date.....	May 5, 2017
Instruction begins .....	May 8, 2017
Session A.....	May 15 – July 2, 2017
Session B.....	July 3 – August 20, 2017
Summer Residents Move to Fall Housing .....	July 28, 2017
Face-to-face Instruction ends .....	August 18, 2017
Move out Date for Non-Fall Residents... 12 p.m.,	August 18, 2017
End of Term .....	August 20, 2017
Final Course Grades Due .....	August 27, 2017
Fall Break.....	August 21 – August 27, 2017

See Policy Handbook [Refund Policy](#)..... Variable Dates

### Fall 2017: 8/28/17 – 12/17/17

#### Instruction/Grade Calendars (15-Week Classes)

Move in Date.....	August 21-25, 2017
Instruction begins .....	August 28, 2017
Thanksgiving Break .....	November 20 – November 26, 2017
Face-to-face Instruction ends .....	December 13, 2017
Move out Date for Fall-only Students .....	
Non-Graduates.....	3 p.m., December 14, 2017
Graduates.....	12 p.m., December 16, 2017
Living Areas Closed for Christmas .....	3 p.m., December 14, 2017
End of Term .....	December 17, 2017
Final Course Grades Due .....	December 24, 2017
Christmas Break.....	December 18, 2017 – January 7, 2018

#### 2017 Online Christmas Break Schedule

Undergraduates .....	December 25, 2017 – January 7, 2018
Graduates .....	December 21, 2017 – January 3, 2018

See Policy Handbook [Refund Policy](#)..... Variable Dates

## Nontraditional Campus Students (Online, Evening-Satellite, and Evening-Campus)

Please note that online, onsite and offsite cohort students have classes that begin frequently. Therefore, students are encouraged to contact their University Counselor or Student Services Counselor for more information on class starts.

#### Fall Nontraditional Campus Commencements\*

Online College Commencements .....

October 13-14, 2017  
\* Dates and times of commencement ceremonies may be subject to change.

#### Spring Nontraditional Campus Commencements\*

Online College Commencements .....

#### 2016 Christmas Break Schedule

Undergraduates .....	December 19, 2016 – January 1, 2017
Graduates .....	December 22, 2016 – January 4, 2017

## Holiday Schedule

Holiday	Campus Offices Closed	Evening Classes Meet	Online Classes Meet	Traditional students on campus <i>do not</i> meet
New Year's Day	X		X	X
Martin Luther King Day	X	X	X	X
President's Day	X	X	X	X
Good Friday	X		X	X
Memorial Day	X	X	X	X
Independence Day	X	X	X	X
Labor Day	X	X	X	X
Veteran's Day		X	X	X
Thanksgiving and the following Friday	X		X	X
Christmas Day	X		X	X

Note: Online students are encouraged to submit work early if an assignment due date falls directly on a holiday. Students are still responsible for timely submission of work.

# Degrees Offered

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The University offers curricula leading to the degrees of Doctor of Business Administration, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Divinity, Master of Education, Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Science, Bachelor of Arts, and Bachelor of Science, as well as offering graduate and undergraduate certificates. Please refer to the university website ([www.gcu.edu](http://www.gcu.edu)) for the locations/modalities in for each program. Students should be advised that some degree programs at GCU have competitive admissions or require college-specific admission requirements beyond the University level admission requirements.

## Doctoral Programs

### Doctor of Business Administration

The Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) is designed for those who desire a deeper understanding of business theory and its application to their area of professional interest. Grand Canyon University offers the following emphases for this degree:

- Data Analytics
- Management
- Marketing

### Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Organizational Leadership program is delivered through a combination of online courses and face-to-face residencies. Aspects of the program's curriculum and instruction are shared by the College of Education, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Care Professions, College of Theology and the Colangelo College of Business, meeting the needs of master's-prepared professionals seeking a terminal degree in leadership. Grand Canyon University offers the following emphases for this degree:

- Behavioral Health
- Christian Ministry
- Education and Effective Schools
- Instructional Leadership
- Higher Education Leadership
- Organizational Development
- Special Education

### Doctor of Nursing Practice

The Doctor Nursing Practice Degree (DNP) encompasses a mixture of didactic courses and mentored practicum experiences. Each course allows for the demonstration and achievement of programmatic competencies and objectives through real-world health care systems application. The curriculum and instruction meet the needs of master's-prepared nurses seeking a terminal-practice degree.

### Doctor of Philosophy in General Psychology

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in General Psychology program offers a broad array of courses that increase the understanding of human actions in the past and present. Grand Canyon University offers the following emphases for this degree:

- Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Integrating Technology, Learning, and Psychology
- Cognition and Instruction
- Performance Psychology

## Professional Programs

### Education Specialist in K-12 Leadership

The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in K-12 Leadership program develops and enhances the learner's ability to grasp, process, and apply doctoral-level constructs that positions them for organizational governance, capacity building, and vision casting.

### Post-Master of Arts in Theology Certificates

The Post-Master of Arts in Theology Certificate provides experienced professionals with fundamental understandings and skills that prepare them to properly interpret and communicate the biblical text for the sake of ministry within a local church.

- Theology: Introductory Biblical Languages

### Post-Master of Science in Counseling Certificates

- Counseling: Addiction Counseling Certificate
- Counseling: Childhood and Adolescence Disorders Certificate
- Counseling: Marriage and Family Therapy Certificate
- Counseling: Trauma Certificate

### Post-Master of Science in Nursing Certificates

The Post-Master of Science in Nursing Certificates prepare experienced registered nurses to provide competent advanced practice nursing care through an evidence-based program of study.

- Acute Care Nurse Practitioner with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Education

## Master Programs

### Master of Arts

The Master of Arts is granted to those students who have completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution and are seeking a Master of Arts degree.

- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Christian Leadership
- Christian Ministry
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Gifted Education
- Reading
  - Emphasis in Elementary Education
  - Emphasis in Secondary Education
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Urban Ministry
- Youth and Family Ministry

## Master of Business Administration

The Master of Business Administration is designed for those students who have previously completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution.

- Emphases in:
  - Accounting
  - Finance
  - Health Systems Management
  - Leadership
  - Marketing
  - Project Management
  - Sports Business
  - Strategic Human Resource Management
- MBA/MS in Leadership
- MBA/MS in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems

## Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity is the standard degree for professional ministry preparation and is designed for students who intend to serve in local churches, Christian organizations, and other ministerial roles. The Master of Divinity program offers comprehensive biblical and theological knowledge while developing skills necessary for effective Christian ministry. This degree features a foundational, pastorally oriented program of study that emphasizes the centrality of the gospel, the significance of the church, and the pressing need to advance the Kingdom of God through missions.

- Emphasis in:
  - Global Ministry
  - Worship Leadership

## Master of Education

The Master of Education degree is designed for students who have previously completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution and may be seeking certification at the elementary or secondary level. An advanced Program of Study is included in that preparation or can be obtained after certification requirements are completed. This degree is available in the following specialized areas:

- Early Childhood Education\*
- Educational Administration\*
- Educational Leadershipç
- Elementary Education\*ç
- Secondary Education\*ç
- Special Education\*ç

\* Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure

ç Initial Program – Does Not Lead to Teacher Licensure

## Master of Public Administration

The Master of Public Administration is designed for those students who have previously completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution.

- Emphases in:
  - Government and Policy
  - Health Care Management

## Master of Public Health

The Master of Public Health is designed for those students who have previously completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution.

## Master of Science

The Master of Science is granted to those students who have completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited, GCU-approved institution and are seeking a Master of Science degree.

- Accounting
- Addiction Counseling
- Business Analytics
- Christian Counseling
  - Emphasis in Substance Use and Addictive Disorders
- Criminal Justice
  - Emphasis in Law Enforcement
  - Emphasis in Legal Studies
- Health Care Administration
- Health Care Informatics
- Information Technology Management
- Instructional Technology
- Leadership
  - Emphasis in Disaster Preparedness and Executive Fire Leadership
- Mental Health and Wellness
  - Emphasis in Christian Ministry
  - Emphasis in Community Mental Health Administration
  - Emphasis in Family Dynamics
  - Emphasis in Grief and Bereavement
  - Emphasis in Prevention
- Nursing
  - Acute Care Nurse Practitioner with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology
  - Family Nurse Practitioner
  - Emphasis in Nursing Education
  - Emphasis in Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems
  - Emphasis in Public Health
  - Emphasis in Health Care Informatics
- Organizational Leadership and Entrepreneurship
- Professional Counseling
  - Emphasis in Childhood and Adolescence Disorders
  - Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy
  - Emphasis in Trauma
- Psychology
  - Emphasis in Forensic Psychology
  - Emphasis in General Psychology
  - Emphasis in GeroPsychology
  - Emphasis in Health Psychology
  - Emphasis in Human Factors Psychology
  - Emphasis in Industrial and Organizational Psychology
  - Emphasis in Life Coaching

## Graduate Certificates of Completion

Graduate certificates of completion are designed for working professionals who hold a bachelor's and/or master's degree. These programs provide the opportunity for students to gain credits in master's-level coursework without having to enroll in and complete a graduate program of study. Coursework is designed to give students advanced knowledge and skills in a particular area of study that is pertinent to their career and life goals.

- Biblical Foundations
- Christian Theology

- Elementary Education Teacher Preparation
- Forensic Psychology
- GeroPsychology
- Global Ministry
- Health Psychology
- Human Factors Psychology
- Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Life Coaching
- Reading for Elementary Educators
- Reading for Secondary Educators
- Secondary Education Teacher Preparation
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Worship Leadership

## Baccalaureate Programs

### Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts degree is granted to majors who complete all requirements in one the following areas:

- Advertising and Public Relations
  - Emphasis in Advertising Design
- Christian Studies
  - Emphasis in Biblical Studies
  - Emphasis in Global Ministry
  - Emphasis in Philosophy
  - Emphasis in Worship Leadership
  - Emphasis in Youth Ministry
- Communication
- Dance
- Dance Education\*
- Digital Design
  - Emphasis in Animation
  - Emphasis in Web Design
- Digital Film
  - Emphasis in Production
  - Emphasis in Screenwriting
- English
  - Emphasis in Professional Writing
- English for Secondary Education\*
- Government
  - Emphasis in Legal Studies
  - Emphasis in State and Local Public Policy
- History
  - Emphasis in Public History
- History for Secondary Education\*
- Music
  - Emphasis in Piano Performance
  - Emphasis in Instrumental Performance
  - Emphasis in Voice Performance
- Music Education\*
  - Choir: Piano\*
  - Choir: Voice\*
  - Instrumental: Brass, Woodwind, Percussion or String\*
  - Instrumental: Piano\*
- Theatre and Drama
- Theatre Education\*
- Worship Arts
  - Emphasis in Digital Media
  - Emphasis in Worship Management
  - Emphasis in Worship Ministry
  - Emphasis in Worship Production

\* Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure

### Bachelor of Science

The Bachelor of Science degree is granted to majors who complete all requirements in one the following areas:

- Accounting
- Applied Business Analytics
- Applied Business Information Systems
- Applied Management
- Athletic Training
- Behavioral Health Science
  - Emphasis in Childhood and Adolescence Disorders
  - Emphasis in Family Dynamics
  - Emphasis in Trauma
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Biology
  - Emphasis in Pre-Medicine
  - Emphasis in Pre-Pharmacy
  - Emphasis in Pre-Physician Assistant
  - Emphasis in Pre-Physical Therapy
- Biology for Secondary Education\*
- Biomedical Engineering
- Business Administration
  - Emphasis in Business Intelligence
- Business Information Systems
- Business Management
  - Emphasis in Golf Management
  - Emphasis in Tennis Management
- Business for Secondary Education\*
- Chemistry for Secondary Education\*
- Computer Programming
- Computer Science
  - Emphasis in Big Data & Analytics
  - Emphasis in Business Entrepreneurship
  - Emphasis in Game Simulation Development
- Counseling
  - Emphasis in Addiction, Chemical Dependency, and Substance Abuse
- Early Childhood Education\*
- Educational Studies
- Electrical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering Technology
- Elementary Education
  - Emphasis in English as a Second Language
- Elementary Education and Special Education\*
- Engineering
  - Emphasis in Robotics
- Entrepreneurial Studies
- Environmental Science
- Exercise Science
  - Emphasis in Health Education
  - Emphasis in Physical Education
  - Emphasis in Sports Performance
- Finance and Economics
- Forensic Science
- Health Care Administration
- Health Sciences: Professional Development and Advanced Patient Care
- Hospitality Management
- Information Technology
  - Emphasis in Cyber Security
- Justice Studies
- Marketing

- Mathematics for Secondary Education\*
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Mechanical Engineering Technology
  - Nursing
    - Pre-licensure
    - RN to BSN
  - Psychology
    - Emphasis in Performance and Sport Psychology
  - Public Safety and Emergency Management
  - Secondary Education
    - Emphasis in Physical Education\*
  - Sociology
    - Emphasis in Social Work
  - Sports Management
- \* Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure

### **Minors**

- Accounting
- Air Force (ROTC)
- Army (ROTC)
- Athletic Coaching
- Biblical Studies
- Business Administration
- Business Management
- Christian Studies
- Communication

- Counseling
- Dance Education
- Database-Driven Web-Based Applications Development
- Digital Design
- Digital Film
- E-Business Applications Development
- Enterprise Applications Development
- Entrepreneurial Studies
- Finance and Economics
- General Business
- Literature
- Marketing
- Music – Instrumental
- Music – Piano
- Music – Vocal
- Philosophy
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine
- Sports Management
- Spanish
- Theatre
- Worship Arts

Note: Students should contact a University Counselor or Student Services Counselor for more information about program availability.

# Admission Policies and Application Procedures

## Overview

Applications for admission to Grand Canyon University are considered primarily in light of the applicants' academic qualifications. Qualified applicants willing to uphold the University's vision and mission, and open to the possibility of spiritual as well as intellectual development are encouraged to apply. Although the University seeks to integrate Christian faith and practice into all aspects of campus life, no statement of faith or religious affiliation is required of prospective students with the exception of majors in the College of Theology. Theology majors are required to affirm the University's Doctrinal and Ethical Positions Statements, the College's Covenant, and the Dispositional and Behavioral Standards. Grand Canyon University does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or any other classification protected by law in its programs and activities.

## Baccalaureate Admission Requirements

All students must submit either acceptable high school or college transcripts to be considered for full admission into the University. Additionally, if students cannot meet the GPA requirements with their transcripts, but have test scores or a college-GPA that meets admissions requirements, students will be eligible for full admission. If both the degree-bearing transcript and the test scores do not meet admission requirements, students may be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

### 1. Degree-bearing, secondary (high school) transcript:

- An unweighted GPA of 3.00 or above
  - Home school transcripts from a state that recognizes home schooling as a valid secondary school option.
  - Students who reside in a state without home schooling as a valid secondary school option will be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

### 2. General Education Development (GED) and transcripts of all credit-bearing course work:

- 2014 Series and later: Cumulative score of 680 or above
- 2002-2013 Series: Cumulative score of 3000 or above
- 2002 Series and prior: Cumulative score of 258 or above

### 3. High School Equivalency Test (HiSET):

- Traditional and Nontraditional campus: Cumulative score of 80 or above; and transcripts of all credit-bearing course work

### 4. State Equivalency Diploma:

- Traditional and Nontraditional campus: Students will be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

### 5. Self-Certification (Nontraditional campus only):

- Per HEA Sec. 484(d), 34 CFR 668.32(e), students are allowed to self-certify that they received a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate. If students self-certify, they will not be required to submit a copy of their high school diploma/transcripts to Grand Canyon University, unless specifically required to do so. Students who self-certify will be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

## Acceptance

If students cannot meet the GPA requirements with their transcripts, but have test scores or a college-GPA that meets admissions requirements, students will be eligible for full admission. Otherwise students will be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

### 1. Test Scores:

- Composite score of 19 or above on the ACT. GCU ACT code is 0092
- Composite score from one of the tests listed below on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). GCU SAT code is 4331.

Effective Dates	Point Scale	Composite Score
Prior to 2005	1600 point scale	920 or above
January 1, 2005-February 29, 2016	2400 point scale	1380 or above
March 1, 2016 and forward	1600 point scale	1000 or above

### 2. College GPA:

- Post-secondary (college) transcript(s) showing 6 to 24 transferable credits with an unweighted GPA of 2.75 or above
- Post-secondary (college) transcript(s) showing 25 to 90 transferable credits with an unweighted GPA of 2.25 or above.
- Post-secondary (college) transcript(s) indicating an earned bachelor degree with an unweighted GPA of 2.00 or above.

Applicants who do not meet one of the above criteria may be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

## Placement Exams for Mathematics

### Traditional Campus Students

All incoming, traditional freshmen must complete either the GCU Algebra Placement Exam or the GCU College Mathematics Placement Exam before enrolling in a math course higher than MAT-110. Additionally, if a transfer student wants to place higher than MAT-110, the student is required to take the appropriate math placement exam unless they have transferred in a grade of C or better for an approved prerequisite, from a regionally accredited or GCU approved institution. The appropriate placement exam is dependent on the math requirement of each program of study. Students need to work with their advisor to determine the correct exam to complete.

Students who complete the GCU College Mathematics Placement Exam will be placed according to the following guidelines:

Score	Course
100 – 70	Placement into MAT-144
69 – 0	Placement into MAT-110

Students who complete the GCU Algebra Placement Exam will be placed according to the following guidelines:

Score	Course
100 – 90	Placement into MAT-252/MAT-262/MAT-351
89 – 70	Placement into MAT-250/MAT-261
69 – 40	Placement into MAT-134/MAT-154
39 – 0	Placement into MAT-110

## Placement Exams for English

### Traditional Campus Students

Traditional campus students who have not met the appropriate competencies for English are required to take UNV-100. Students wishing to waive this prerequisite course can select one of the following options which will allow them to register directly into ENG-105.

Course	Prerequisite Requirement Options
<b>ENG-105 Prerequisites</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Passing grade in AP English Coursework on the student's HS transcript.</li> <li>2. Passing grade for UNV-100.</li> <li>3. Receive a score of 550 or higher on the critical reading section of the College Board SAT™ Reasoning Test taken March 2005 to June 2011.</li> <li>4. Receive a score of 500 or higher on the critical reading section of the College Board SAT™ Reasoning Test effective Summer/Fall 2011.</li> <li>5. Receive a score of 680 or higher on the writing section of the SAT Reasoning Test taken March 2005 or later.</li> <li>6. Receive a score of 550 or higher on the verbal section of the College Board SAT I: Reasoning Test taken between April 1995 and January 2005.</li> <li>7. Receive a score of 680 or higher on the College Board SAT II: Writing Test taken between May 1998 and January 2005.</li> <li>8. Receive a score of 22 or higher on the enhanced ACT® English Test taken October 1989 or later.</li> <li>9. Receive a score of 70% on the GCU English Placement Exam.</li> </ol>

## Baccalaureate Programmatic Admission Requirements

Grand Canyon University recommends a certain level of academic preparation to provide a solid foundation for undergraduate success. To promote success, admission to the University does not necessarily guarantee admission to some programs of study for which the standards are more rigorous. Students desiring to be admitted into these programs should review the additional program requirements listed below.

### Colangelo College of Business

#### Bridge to the Master of Science in Accounting

All entering students must have an Undergraduate degree in a business discipline or Graduate degree in business administration. Students need to meet the following Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) fundamental courses: ACC-250, ACC-350, ACC-370, ACC-371, ACC-460, and ACC-491. Students who have taken courses with equivalent content may be able to waive

one or more of these MSA fundamental courses into the program of study upon evaluation of their official transcripts. Only courses with equivalent content and grades earned of C or better will be accepted to waive the MSA fundamental courses.

### College of Fine Arts and Production

#### Bachelor of Arts in Music

#### Bachelor of Arts in Music Education

Prospective students seeking admission to Grand Canyon University as music majors should have a background in reading and performing music. To gain admission into the program, a student must meet the general admission requirement of the university along with the requirements below.

1. The successful completion of a music theory assessment exam, which can be completed at the traditional campus or online.
2. An audition in the primary area of study (keyboard, voice or instrumental), which can be completed at the traditional campus or by recorded audition.

The candidate must demonstrate musical performance strength and skills that can be developed to enable the student to successfully complete the degree requirements of music major as stated in the curriculum. The student must demonstrate musical ability that can be developed through his/her undergraduate music studies to successfully serve as a professional in his major area of emphasis. Any student interested in auditioning must contact the office of the Assistant Dean of Music or designee in order to arrange an audition.

### College of Nursing and Health Care Professions

#### Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

Students can enroll into the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training. However, admission into the clinical portion of the Athletic Training Education program is competitive. Not all applicants will be admitted and able to progress forward in the program. Students need to review the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training Clinical Requirements and understand the application deadlines to participate in the clinical portion of the program. Students can also view the clinical requirements on <http://www.gcu.edu/College-of-Nursing-and-Health-Care-Professions/Athletic-Training-Program.php>.

Acceptance is determined by the Athletic Training Education Clinical Requirements and availability of clinical spaces.

#### Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences: Professional Development and Advanced Patient Care

Applicants to the program must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Possess an Associate degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program that prepares students to acquire the necessary state, local, or national credentials required of allied health professionals involved in direct patient care.
2. Submit a state, local, or national credential/certificate/license issued by a sanctioned licensure/credentialing body, certifying that they are approved to practice as one of the following allied health professionals involved in patient health assessment or treatment:
  - Medical Technician/Patient Care Technician
  - Diagnostic Technician (Sonography, Radiology, Nuclear)
  - Lab / Phlebotomy Technician
  - Physical Therapy Assistant/Technician
  - Occupational Therapy Assistant/Technician
  - Cardiovascular Technician
  - Respiratory Technician

- Surgical (OR) Assistant
  - Emergency Technician
  - Pharmacy Technician
  - Nursing Assistant (CNA)
  - Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
  - Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)
3. Health care work experience in which applicants have demonstrated requisite knowledge and skills required of allied health professional to provide direct patient care. Competencies for allied health care providers are listed below:
- Performing basic diagnostic and therapeutic health care services
  - Preparing patients for procedures
  - Assisting nursing and medical personnel with examinations
  - Carrying out Pre-operative and post-operative duties
  - Collecting and processing laboratory specimens
  - Preparing and maintaining medical records
  - Scheduling and receiving patients
  - Maintaining asepsis and infection control
  - Maintaining medical equipment and supplies
  - Providing therapeutic care related to nutrition, ambulation, rehabilitation and activities of daily living
  - Performing first aid and CPR

OR

4. Submit military documentation demonstrating satisfactory completion of Medical Military Occupational Specialty Training.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN)**

##### ***Degree-Bearing Candidates:***

- Possess an associate’s degree in nursing from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program.
- Submit official transcripts bearing evidence of a cumulative GPA of 2.8.
- Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN).
  - Canadian providence (excluding Quebec) candidates must also possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) where they are employed as a RN.
    - Complete the RN-BSN Canadian Nurse Verification Form.
    - Meet the International Student Application Procedures.

##### ***Non Degree-Bearing/Nursing Diploma Candidates:***

- Submit proof of successful completion of a state board approved nursing program.
- Submit official transcripts bearing evidence of a cumulative GPA of 2.8.
- Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN).
  - Canadian providence (excluding Quebec) candidates must also possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) where they are employed as a RN.
    - Complete the RN-BSN Canadian Nurse Verification Form.
    - Meet the International Student Application Procedures.
- Be prepared to transfer or complete the following general education competencies that are not integrated into the program core with a minimum grade of “C” (2.00).
  - 6 credits in Effective Communication (Recommended GCU course: ENG 105: English Composition I)
  - 5 credits of Critical Thinking (Recommended GCU course: MAT 144:College Mathematics )

##### ***Non Degree-Bearing/Vocational Nursing Candidates:***

- Submit documentation of official evaluation of vocational nurse training by University-approved transcript evaluation service.
- Submit official transcripts bearing evidence of a cumulative GPA of 2.8.
- Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN).
- Vocational nurse training with RN licensure will be awarded 30 block credits.
- Complete the coursework listed below. Coursework can be fulfilled by transfer courses if the content is comparable.
  - 40 credits of General Education coursework
  - AND
  - ENG-135: Life Learning Assessment
  - UNV-104: Century Skills: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
  - HLT-205: Health Care Systems and Transcultural Healthcare
  - MAT-144: College Mathematics
- Healthcare preparatory coursework is required however; transfer will be accepted for exact course match.

Coursework	Credits
Vocational Nursing Block Credit	30
General Education	40
Healthcare Preparatory	14
RN-BSN Program	36
Total program requirements	120

##### **Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing**

1. All MSN bridge program candidates must meet the [Master Admission Requirements](#) and provide evidence of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university or program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above.
2. Candidates must provide evidence of a current, [unencumbered license](#) in the:
  - State of residence upon admission to the program and for the duration of their study or
  - Canadian province (excluding Quebec) where they are employed as an RN.
  - Complete the MSN Canadian Nurse Verification Form.
  - Meet the International Student Application Procedures.

#### **College of Science, Engineering, and Technology**

##### **Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering**

##### **Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering**

##### **Bachelor of Science in Engineering**

##### **Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering**

Students must place into MAT-154, Applications of College Algebra, by meeting the minimum score requirement on the Placement Exam or fulfilling the course prerequisites.

#### **College of Theology**

##### **All Programs**

Theology majors are required to affirm the University’s Doctrinal Statement and the College’s Covenant. Students must complete this by signing the Enrollment Agreement for their program of study.



### **Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts with an Emphasis in Worship Ministry**

Prospective students seeking admission into the Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts with an Emphasis in Worship Ministry should possess a measure of musical skill as well as an aptitude for musical performance. To gain admission into the program, a student must meet the general admission requirement of the University along with an audition in the primary area of study (voice or instrumental), which can be completed by submitting a recorded audition.

The candidate must demonstrate musical performance strength and skills that can be developed to enable the student to successfully complete the degree requirements of the Worship Ministry emphasis as stated in the curriculum. The student must demonstrate musical ability that can be developed through his/her undergraduate studies to successfully serve as a worship leader in his or her field. In order to demonstrate this ability, students must submit a recorded audition to the office of the Worship Arts Coordinator or a designee before admission to the program may be approved.

### **Honors College**

Admission into the Honors College is competitive and determined by the criteria listed below and availability of spaces.

Incoming freshman students are eligible for acceptance into the Honors College if they meet the following criteria:

1. Be admitted into the University
2. Possess 23 college level credits or fewer AND
  - Possess a minimum weighted or unweighted, cumulative high school GPA of 3.9
  - OR
  - ACT composite score of 31 or above
  - OR
  - SAT score (combined critical reading and math) of 1350 or above
3. Students must formally accept their seat through the Student Checklist housed in the GCU Student Portal, or by emailing [GCUHonors@gcu.edu](mailto:GCUHonors@gcu.edu)

All other students must apply. To be eligible for acceptance into the Honors College, students must meet all of the following:

1. Be admitted into the University
2. Complete the Honors College application
3. Complete a written essay demonstrating passion for community service and leadership
4. Submit at least two (2) professional letters of recommendation (i.e., faculty/teacher or employer, non-family members)
5. Submit copy of current resume to include both employment and community service

In addition, students must meet one of the following:

1. Incoming freshman student
  - Possess 23 college level credits or fewer AND
  - Possess a minimum weighted or unweighted, cumulative high school GPA of 3.6
  - OR
  - ACT composite score of 27 or above
  - OR
  - SAT score (combined critical reading and math) of 1225 or above
2. External Transfer student
  - Possess 24 college level credits or more AND
  - Possess a minimum unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.5
3. Internal Transfer student

- Possess less than 36 completed college credits, AND
- Possess a minimum unweighted, cumulative GCU GPA of 3.5

All applications are subject to review and consideration by the Honors College Department.

## **Master Degree and Graduate Certificate Admission Requirements**

All students must submit baccalaureate bearing college transcripts to meet the admission requirements of the University. Additionally, if students cannot meet the GPA requirements with their transcripts, but have a test score that meets admissions requirements, students will be eligible for full admission. If both the degree-bearing transcript and the test scores do not meet admissions requirements, students may be eligible to be admitted based on the [Standards for Admission with Specification](#).

### **Transcripts (Required):**

- Undergraduate degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program with a grade point average of 2.8 or better on the degree-bearing transcript
- Graduate degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program

### **Test Scores (Optional):**

Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT):

- Score of 500.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE):

- Prior to 8/1/11: Combined score of 1,000 for the verbal and quantitative sections.
- After 8/1/11: Combined score of 300 for the verbal and quantitative sections.

## **Master Degree and Graduate Certificate Programmatic Admission Requirements**

Some programs of study at Grand Canyon University require a higher GPA and/or other criteria to qualify for admission.

### **Colangelo College of Business**

#### **Master of Science in Accounting**

All entering students must have completed one of the following:

- Undergraduate degree in accounting
- GCU's Bridge to Master of Science in Accounting

#### **Master of Science in Information Technology Management**

All entering students must have completed one of the following:

- Undergraduate or graduate degree in a technology related field
- Undergraduate or graduate degree in a non-technology field and a minimum of 3 years of industry experience. Applicants are required to submit a formal academic appeal for consideration.
- GCU's Bridge to Master of Science in Information Technology Management

## **Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Leadership**

### **Master of Business Administration**

#### **Master of Science in Organizational Leadership and Entrepreneurship**

The programs listed above begin with fundamental courses that prepare students for the curricular content that they will encounter within their programs of study. All students undergo transcript evaluations. If they have earned grades of C or better in equivalent course content, students with non-business undergraduate degrees may have the option to waive one or more of the following fundamental courses associated with their programs of study: ACC-502, FIN-504, and SYM-506. Upon evaluation of their transcripts, students with business-oriented undergraduate degrees may waive all MBA fundamental courses. In those cases when students have been registered for the 600-level courses before their transcript evaluations have been completed, the University reserves the right to retroactively enroll students in the 500-level fundamental courses as needed.

#### **Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Leadership**

The programs listed above contain fundamental courses that prepare students for the curricular content that they will encounter within their programs of study. All students undergo transcript evaluations. If they have earned grades of C or better in equivalent course content, students with non-business undergraduate degrees may have the option to waive one or both of the following fundamental courses associated with their programs of study: ACC-502 and FIN-504. Upon evaluation of their transcripts, students with a business discipline undergraduate degrees may waive both MBA fundamental courses. In those cases when students have been registered for the 600-level courses before their transcript evaluations have been completed, the University reserves the right to retroactively enroll students in the 500-level fundamental courses as needed.

#### **Master of Science in Business Analytics**

Upon evaluation of their official transcripts, students who have taken courses with equivalent content at the undergraduate level may be able to waive SYM-506. Only courses with equivalent content and earned grades of C or better will be allowed to waive SYM-506.

## **College of Education**

### **Graduate Certificate of Completion in Elementary Education Teacher Preparation**

### **Graduate Certificate of Completion in Secondary Education Teacher Preparation**

#### **Master of Science in Instructional Technology**

A copy of a current K-12 teaching certificate or 1 year of verified, full-time teaching (teacher of record) experience (Teacher Verification Form).

#### **Master of Education in Educational Administration**

Two (2) years of verified, full-time PK-12 teaching (teacher of record) experience (Teacher Verification Form).

#### **Master of Education in Educational Leadership**

A copy of a current PK-12 teaching certificate or verified, full-time teaching (teacher of record) experience (Teacher Verification Form).

#### **Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction**

#### **Master of Arts in Gifted Education**

#### **Master of Arts in Reading**

#### **Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)**

#### **Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction: Technology**

#### **Graduate Certificate of Completion in Reading for Elementary Educators**

#### **Graduate Certificate of Completion in Reading for Secondary Educators**

#### **Graduate Certificate of Completion in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)**

A copy of a current teaching certificate or evidence of 1 year of full-time teaching (teacher of record) experience (Teacher Verification Form).

#### **Master of Arts in Autism Spectrum Disorders**

1. A copy of a current special education teaching certificate.

OR

2. Documentation of 1 year of full-time, special education teaching (teacher of record) experience (Teacher Verification Form).

## **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

### **Post-Master of Science in Counseling: Addiction Counseling Certificate**

### **Post-Master of Science in Counseling: Childhood and Adolescence Disorders Certificate**

### **Post-Master of Science in Counseling: Marriage and Family Therapy Certificate**

### **Post-Master of Science in Counseling: Trauma Certificate**

Students must possess a master's or doctorate degree in counseling, substance abuse counseling, clinical or counseling psychology, marriage and family therapy, behavioral health, mental health, clinical social work, nursing, and/or psychiatry medicine.

## **College of Nursing and Health Care Professions**

### **Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology (ACNP)**

### **Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**

1. Students must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from a CCNE/NLNAC or ACEN accredited program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) on a degree bearing transcript.

OR

Candidates who possess a bachelor's degree in a related field may apply if they have completed the bridge to MSN (excluding Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program [NCEP] students).

2. Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) or ARNP certification in states where the ARNP is an upgrade of the RN license resulting in only one license that is both an RN and an ARNP license.

3. Students must submit a recent curriculum vitae (CV) listing all professional experience showing a minimum of two years full-time work experience as a Registered Nurse (RN) within the last two years, related to the area of specialization.

4. Students must submit a Letter of Intent

Final acceptance into the program will be determined by the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions Admissions Committee. An offer of admission will be valid for 12 months from the start date of the program. Applicants denied admission may reapply after 180 days.

#### **Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Public Health**

#### **Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Health Care Informatics**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Education**

1. Students must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from a CCNE/NLNAC or ACEN accredited program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) on a degree bearing transcript.

OR

Candidates who possess a bachelor's degree in a related field may apply if they have completed the bridge to MSN (including Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program [NCEP] students).

2. Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) or ARNP certification in states where the ARNP is an upgrade of the RN license resulting in only one license that is both an RN and an ARNP license. .

- Canadian province (excluding Quebec) where they are employed as an RN.
  - Complete the MSN Canadian Nurse Verification Form
  - Meet the [International Student Application Procedures](#)

#### **Post-Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Education Certificate**

1. Students must hold a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree from a CCNE/NLNAC or ACEN accredited program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) on a degree bearing transcript.

2. Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) or ARNP certification in states where the ARNP is an upgrade of the RN license resulting in only one license that is both an RN and an ARNP license. .

- Canadian province (excluding Quebec) where they are employed as an RN.
  - Complete the MSN Canadian Nurse Verification Form
  - Meet the [International Student Application Procedures](#)

#### **Master of Science in Health Care Administration**

Upon evaluation of their official transcripts, students who have taken courses with equivalent content at the undergraduate level may waive one or more of the following MSHCA Foundational courses in the program of study: HCA-515, HLT-520, and HCA-530. Only courses with equivalent content and grades earned of B- or better will be accepted to waive the MSHCA Foundational courses.

#### **Master of Science in Health Care Informatics**

Upon evaluation of their official transcripts, students who have taken courses with equivalent content at the undergraduate level may waive one or more of the following MHCI foundational

courses in their program of study: HLT-520, HCA-515, and HCA-530. Only courses with equivalent content and grades earned of B- or better will be accepted to waive the MHCI foundational courses.

#### **Post-Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate**

#### **Post-Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology Certificate**

1. Students must hold a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree from a CCNE/NLNAC or ACEN accredited program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) on a degree bearing transcript.
2. Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN).
3. Students must submit a recent curriculum vitae (CV) listing all professional experience showing a minimum of one year full-time work experience as a Registered Nurse (RN), related to the area of specialization.
4. Students must submit a Letter of Intent.

Final acceptance into the program will be determined by the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions Admissions Committee. An offer of admission will be valid for 12 months from the start date of the program. Applicants denied admission may reapply after 180 days.

### **College of Theology**

#### **All Programs**

Theology majors are required to affirm the University's Doctrinal Statement and the College's Covenant. Students must complete this by signing the Enrollment Agreement for their program of study.

#### **Post-Master of Arts in Theology: Introductory Biblical Languages Certificate**

In order to be eligible for admission to the program, students must possess a Master of Arts degree in Christian Studies, Biblical Studies, Theological Studies or Christian Ministry or a Master of Divinity from an approved academic institution. Students will be admitted only on the basis of a completed degree in a designated area of theology (i.e. an acceptable and appropriate theological background at the graduate level).

Students who have completed a graduate or baccalaureate degree in Christian Studies, Biblical Studies, Theological Studies, Christian Ministry, or some other GCU-approved, theologically based program are able to waive the fundamental courses: BIB-501 and BIB-502.

#### **Master of Divinity**

Students who have completed a graduate or baccalaureate degree in Christian Studies, Biblical Studies, Theological Studies, Christian Ministry, or some other GCU-approved, theologically based program are able to waive the Master of Divinity fundamental courses: BIB-501, BIB-502 and MIN-510. This includes graduates from GCU's Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts program.

#### **Master of Arts in Christian Leadership**

#### **Master of Arts in Christian Ministry**

#### **Master of Arts in Youth and Family Ministry**

#### **Master of Arts in Urban Ministry**

Students who have completed a graduate or baccalaureate degree in Christian Studies, Biblical Studies, Theological Studies,

Christian Ministry, or some other GCU-approved, theologically based program are able to waive the fundamental courses: BIB-501 and BIB-502. This includes graduates from GCU's Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts program.

## Doctoral Admission Requirements

Applicants to the doctoral programs may be accepted for admission by meeting the full range of criteria for one of the options specified below.

Have earned a doctoral degree or GCU-approved post-master's program from a regionally accredited institution with a GPA of 3.4 or higher on the degree-bearing transcript. Applicants with a GPA less than 3.4 will be [Accepted with Specifications](#).

OR

Have earned a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a GPA of 3.4 or higher in the degree on the degree-bearing transcript. Applicants with a GPA of 3.0 – 3.39 will be [Accepted with Specifications](#). Applicants with a GPA below a 3.0 will not be accepted into the University.

AND

Submit a Letter of Intent of approximately 250 – 400 words. The Letter of Intent is designed to help learners begin their Doctoral Journey in a reflective and purposeful manner.

## Doctoral Programmatic Admission Requirements

Some programs of study at Grand Canyon University require a higher GPA and/or other criteria to qualify for admission.

### Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

All entering DBA learners must have either:

1. MBA
2. Non-MBA masters' or doctoral degree including fundamental courses with a minimum 3.0 GPA, or a passing grade if the institution does not use a traditional A-F grading systems, in accounting, finance, marketing and statistics. At GCU these graduate level business fundamentals may be met by taking ACC-502, FIN-504, MKT-607, and SYM-506. Students must earn a minimum 3.0 GPA in each course. Students have the option to take an exam to fulfill this requirement. More information can be obtained through a Doctoral University Counselor. The business fundamental courses must be met prior to starting doctoral level courses.

Additionally, learners enrolling into the Data Analytics emphasis must also have a course on relational databases (such as SQL, MySQL, etc.) or an introductory course on database structures. This course can be graduate or undergraduate level. At GCU this may be met by taking MIS-605.

### Doctor of Education in Organization Leadership with an Emphasis in Special Education

All students entering into the Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Special Education must have an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degree in education to be admitted into the program.

### Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

1. Must hold a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree from a CCNE/NLNAC or ACEN accredited program. For

international students, the Master of Arts in Nursing (MAN) degree may substitute for the MSN requirement.

2. Possess a current unencumbered, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) or ARNP certification in states where the ARNP is an upgrade of the RN license resulting in only one license that is both an RN and an ARNP license:
  - Canadian province (excluding Quebec), where they are employed as a RN.
    - Meet the [International Student Application Procedures](#).
3. Must complete a statistics or data analysis course earning a minimum 2.0 GPA or a passing grade if the institution does not use traditional A-F grading systems. Courses must be shown on official transcripts. Students may need to identify which courses contained the content and submit a course description for review. Students also have the option to take an exam to fulfill this requirement. More information can be obtained through a College of Nursing and Health Care Professions (CONHCP) University Counselor.

### Doctor of Philosophy in General Psychology (Ph.D.)

All entering Ph.D. learners must complete a statistics course or research course containing key statistics fundamentals, earning a minimum 2.0 GPA or a passing grade if the institution does not use traditional A-F grading systems, prior to starting doctoral level courses. Students have the option to take an exam to fulfill this requirement. More information can be obtained through a Doctoral University Counselor.

## Non-Degree Program Admission Requirements

### HS Dual Enrollment

High school students may enroll if they are in their Junior or Senior year of high school, and have a current, minimum un-weighted cumulative high-school GPA of 3.0.

High school sophomore students may be admitted if they demonstrate their readiness to participate in college level coursework. To do so, they need to have a current, minimum un-weighted cumulative high-school GPA of 3.25 and meet all course prerequisites.

Grand Canyon University may waive the class status for up to 25% of the students enrolled for dual enrollment program.

High school students may take a maximum of 32 credits (up to 8 courses). Exceptions to this policy require approval from the Provost or designee. High school students are required to meet the Prerequisites for all courses. College-level credit earned at GCU may later be applied toward a degree program at Grand Canyon University. High school students need to meet the [Baccalaureate Admission Requirements](#) listed within the University Policy Handbook.

### Continuing Education

The University offers Continuing Education courses designed specifically for teachers in a 6-week, 3-graduate credit format. These courses can be used for a variety of purposes; re-certification, salary scales, professional development, etc. but the student must check with their state and/or district to ensure transferability. Applications who wish to enroll in these courses must complete the Non-Degree Application. Non-degree seeking students may enroll in multiple courses. These courses will not transfer into a GCU degree program and will not be accepted for regular matriculation to the University.

## Single Course

The University offers single-course registration to applicants who are not interested in enrolling in and completing a specific Program of Study.

1. Applicants who wish to enroll in either undergraduate or graduate courses must complete the Non-Degree Application.
2. Non-Degree seeking students may take a maximum of 24 credits (up to 6 courses). Exceptions to this policy require approval from the President, Provost or designee.
3. If additional credits are needed, students must enroll in a degree program.
4. Non-Degree seeking students may take up to two courses simultaneously.

College-level credit earned may later be applied toward a degree program, except CEU courses, at Grand Canyon University, provided the student applies for admission and is accepted to the University. Applications for admission will be evaluated on an individual basis. If non-degree seeking students wish to complete a specific program of study, they must complete the standard Application for Admission and fulfill, as appropriate, the Baccalaureate Admission Requirements or the Master Admission Requirements. Applications for admission will be evaluated on an individual basis. Students who reach 16 credits in a non-degree seeking status may be contacted and encouraged to apply for University matriculation and to enter a specified degree program.

## General Application Procedures

Although applicants may be conditionally accepted for admission based on incomplete records, final records are required in order to complete the admission file. In order to be considered for admission, all prospective students will need to remit the following:

1. Application for Admission: Prospective students must complete and sign the Application for Admission, and submit all requested information. Incomplete applications may be returned. Information and application forms are available on campus and on the Grand Canyon University Web site.
2. Official Transcript(s): Based on the degree level admission requirements. If applicants have completed coursework at an institution outside of the United States, they must have the work evaluated by an approved evaluation service selected by the University (see the section entitled Evaluation of Transfer Credit). If accepted, prospective students will need to submit a final transcript showing their graduation date.
3. Official Standardized Test Scores: If applicable

## Admission Statuses

### Conditionally Accepted

All applicants are conditionally accepted until proof of admissions eligibility is met, including applicable documentation. All applicants will remain in this status until they have attended their first course at GCU.

### Accepted

Students have demonstrated their admissions eligibility and are fully accepted into the University.

### Accepted with Specifications

Students who do not meet the standards for admission may be admitted to Grand Canyon University programs with

specification. Admission with specification requires nontraditional baccalaureate students to limit coursework to no more than 12 attempted credits or one semester for traditional baccalaureate student (no more than 16 credits). Master's and Graduate Certificate students are limited to 8 attempted credits (nontraditional) or one semester according to the program course-walk (traditional). Doctoral students are limited to 6 attempted credits. Traditional campus students may be required to fulfill additional requirements. Traditional campus students will be able to enroll for Chapel credit during their probationary term. The University will remove the specification for those who achieve the minimum standards below:

Degree Level	Minimum Standards
<b>Undergraduate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First-Year Students will be enrolled into GCU's Foundational General Education Sequence (Nontraditional: 3 courses/12 credits; Traditional: one semester [max 16 credits]).</li> <li>• Transfer students enroll in UNV 103 or UNV 303, as one of their first 12 credits/semester courses.</li> <li>• Complete their coursework with a minimum institutional GPA of 2.0</li> <li>• Review of academic record occurs after attempting 12 credits for nontraditional students, or one semester for traditional campus students.</li> </ul> <p>Academically Withdrawn occurs after failing to achieve the minimum-standard GPA</p> <p>Acceptance occurs after achieving the minimum-standard GPA</p>
<b>Graduate Degree and Graduate Certificate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete their coursework with a minimum institutional GPA of 3.0.</li> <li>• Review of academic record occurs after attempting 8 credits for nontraditional campus students, or one semester according to the program course-walk for traditional campus students.</li> </ul> <p>Administrative Withdrawal occurs after failing to achieve the minimum-standard GPA.</p> <p>Acceptance occurs after achieving the minimum-standard GPA.</p>
<b>Doctoral</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete their coursework with a minimum unweighted institutional GPA of 3.0.</li> <li>• Review of academic record occurs after attempting 6 credits.</li> </ul> <p>Administrative Withdrawal occurs after failing to achieve the minimum-standard GPA.</p> <p>Acceptance occurs after achieving the minimum-standard GPA.</p>

Students who are withdrawn from the University will be neither academically nor financially responsible for any future courses for which they may have been pre-registered and may reapply in 12 months for reconsideration.

### Deferred Admissions

Students who cannot provide sufficient admissions documentation will be deferred until complete and acceptable documentation is provided. Students currently attending a course

will be permitted to complete the course but will not be registered for any additional coursework until officially admitted.

## Denied

Students who do not meet the admission requirements of the University will not be accepted.

## International Student Admission

International students may be citizens of the United States with foreign academic credentials or have entered the country on a lawful immigrant or nonimmigrant visa. The following details the requirements for international student admission.

### International Student Application Procedures

In order to be considered for admission, international students must complete the Application for Admissions, which includes submitting the following:

#### 1. Official Transcript(s)

- a. Secondary School: All international students must have completed, or be in the process of completing, a secondary school program that is equivalent to the 12th grade (high school) in the United States. An official evaluation of students' secondary school work, written in English, must be sent directly from a University-approved transcript evaluation service to the University. If an original document is not available, a certified copy will be accepted. Students who have not completed secondary school at the time of application must submit their official transcript evaluations upon graduation from the 12th-grade equivalent.
- b. College and/or University: Official transcripts (written in English or translation, if not in English) of students' college or university work must be sent directly from the college or university to Grand Canyon University. If original documents are not available, certified copies will be accepted.

GCU will consider three year international bachelor degrees for admission into graduate level programs. The acceptance of three year international bachelor degrees is contingent upon the students foreign credential evaluation (from a GCU approved evaluation agency). The evaluation must indicate: "That the degree prepares the student for graduate level studies" OR "Given the relatively high proportion of coursework completed in the major field of study, the foreign degree program has prepared this student to meet minimum graduate admission eligibility standards".

If the evaluation indicates that the three year bachelor degree does not prepare the student for graduate level studies, the student must complete a degree equivalent to a US bachelor degree prior to entering a graduate program. The following countries will be considered for three year bachelor degrees: Bologna Process participating countries, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and India (Bachelor in Commerce ONLY).

- c. University-approved Transcript Evaluations: In order to evaluate foreign credentials accurately and consistently, Grand Canyon University requires all international college or university transcripts to be evaluated by a University-approved evaluation service. Among others, University-approved evaluation services include those agencies that are

members of or affiliated with the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) and the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers (AACRAO). If the evaluation agency is unable to translate the transcripts into English, applicants may be able to obtain official translations at many consulates, embassies, or university language departments. Grand Canyon University will not award any transfer credit from foreign credentials without an evaluation from an approved evaluation service. The fee for evaluation is the responsibility of the student. All evaluations must have been evaluated by an approved agency within one year of the student's application date.

The following is a list of approved agencies:

- Arizona International Credential Evaluators (AZICE)
- Academic and Professional International Evaluations, Inc. (APIE)
- Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc. (ACEI)
- American Education Research Corporation (AERC)
- Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE)
- Educational Records Evaluations Service, Inc. (ERES)
- Evaluation Service, Inc.
- Foundation for International Services (FIS)
- Foreign Credentials Services of America (FCSA)
- Global Credential Evaluators (GCE)
- Institute for International Credentials Evaluation at CSU Fresno (IICE)
- International Consultants of Delaware, Inc. (ICD)
- International Education Research Foundation, Inc. (IERF)
- Lisano International: Foreign Educational Credential Evaluation (LI)
- Joseph A. Silny Associates (JS&A)
- World Education Services, Inc. (WES)

#### 2. English Language Proficiency Documentation:

- a. Students who completed secondary school and/or received a diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution from the countries listed satisfy the English Language Proficiency admission requirement: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, \*Canada, Cayman Islands, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, \*\*India, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts, and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, \*South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Vanuatu, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

\*If French is noted on Canadian credentials or Afrikaans on South African credentials, the student must prove proficiency through testing.

\*\* Healthcare programs in India are instructed with English as the sole medium of instruction.

\*\*\* If a student submits multiple documents to satisfy the English Proficiency requirement, the English Proficiency Test Scores will supersede all other documents in making the admission decision.

b. Students who have completed secondary school and/or received a diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution in a non-exemption country may obtain a letter on official letterhead indicating that “English was the sole medium of instruction in their program”. The letter must be signed and dated by a recognized school official. If, on the international transcript evaluation performed for application, it is specified that the sole medium of instruction is English, a letter from the school is not necessary.

c. Students who have not completed secondary school and/or received a diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution must have completed a minimum of 24 semester college level credits at a regionally accredited or GCU-approved institution and/or an international institution recognized by the Ministry of Education or other acceptable government agency and have a minimum GPA of 2.75 from an institution whose sole medium of instruction is English. The language-proficiency requirement cannot be satisfied through experience in English learning programs at other schools.

3. English Language Proficiency Scores: If English is not the native language of prospective students, their score reports for a language proficiency test must be sent directly to Grand Canyon University from the testing center. The table below specifies minimum scores to be considered for admission to various programs.

GCU accepts the following forms of language assessment:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
- Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC)
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
- Berlitz Language Evaluation

Minimum Scores			
Scores Required by Program	General Undergrad Programs	Undergrad Education, Nursing & General Graduate Programs	Graduate Education, Business & Nursing Programs
Test Type	I	II	III
TOEFL Paper-based	500	550	575
TOEFL Computer-based	173	213	233
TOEFL Internet-based	61	79	90
TOEIC	625	750	815
IELTS	6	6	7
Berlitz Computer-based	74	81	85

ACT and SAT Scores: GCU does not require scores from these tests for international students; however, international athletes may be required to submit scores.

## F-1 Student Application Procedure

F-1 student applicants are required to submit additional documentation to the International Student Coordinator in order to obtain the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status – For Academic and Language Students, also known as an I-20. These international students are attending courses on the traditional campus or courses at an off-site location.

Documents required for the I-20 include:

- Copy of Passport (valid within 6 months)
- International Student Application
- Confidential Financial Statement
- Affidavit of Sponsor (if applicable)
- Evidence of financial responsibility, not older than 6 months, such as official award letters for scholarships and fellowships and for personal or family funds evidence, which should be on bank letterhead stationery, or in the form of a legally binding affidavit.
- GCU reserves the right to ask for a \$6,000 refundable deposit from applicants before an I-20 will be issued. A refund will be granted only if the visa is denied and evidence of denial is provided to the CIE.
- Application for campus housing is a separate procedure from admission. If prospective students plan to live on campus, they should contact the [Office of Residence Life](#).

## Limitation on attempts for an F-1 Visa

The I-20 is used to apply for an F-1 visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate. The decision to award a visa is up to the consulate officer. Should a GCU applicant be denied a visa, the applicant may re-apply with a new I-20 for a second attempt. However, if the second application is denied and the applicant wishes to apply for a third time, eligibility for a third I-20 will require a personally written letter explaining the circumstances of the previous denials. GCU will not support any more than three total attempts for an F-1 visa. Each attempt will require the applicant to repeat the F-1 Student Application Procedure.

## Citizenship/Visas/Permanent Residents

Neither United States citizenship nor residence within the United States is a requirement for admission to Grand Canyon University. In addition to U.S. Citizenship Grand Canyon University accepts the following students as “eligible non-citizens.”

- Permanent Resident: United States lawful permanent residency refers to a person's immigration status: the person is authorized to live and work in the United States of America on a permanent basis. A United States Permanent Resident Card is an identification card attesting to the permanent resident status of an alien in the United States. It is known informally as a green card because it had been green in color from 1946 until 1964, and it has reverted to that color since May 2010. Green card also refers to an immigration process of becoming a permanent resident. The green card serves as proof that its holder, a Lawful Permanent Resident, has been officially granted immigration benefits, which include permission to reside and take employment in the USA. The holder must maintain permanent resident status, and can be removed from the United States if certain conditions of this status are not met.
- Eligible Visa Status: Students with any of the following valid United States Visas are eligible for entry.

Valid United States Visas				
Asylee/Refugee	G-4	K-4	Q-3	U-3
A-1	G-5	L-1A	R-1	U-4
A-2	H-1B	L-1B	R-2	U-5
B-1 (Non-Degree Bearing Candidates)	H-1B1	L-2	S-5	V-1
B-2 (Non-Degree Bearing Candidates)	H-1C	N	S-6	V-2
DACA - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals	H-2A	O-1	S-7	V-3
E-1	H-2B	O-2	TPS- Temporary Protected Status	
E-2	H-3	O-3	T-1	
E-3	H-4	P-1	T-2	

Valid United States Visas				
EAC - Employment Authorization Card	I	P-2	T-3	
F-1 (Ground Only)	J-1	P-3	T-4	
F-2 (Non-Degree Bearing Candidates)	J-2	P-4	TD	
G-1	K-1	Parole	TN	
G-2	K-2	Q-1	U-1	
G-3	K-3	Q-2	U-2	

\*N/A is reserved for undocumented persons residing in the USA who are seeking to attend our ground modality or non-U.S. Citizens residing outside of the USA and attending GCU via the online modality.

### Licensure Programs

#### *Online Students*

Programs which contain practicum, internship or student teaching that lead to licensure are not eligible for enrollment outside of the USA.



# General Academic Regulations

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This section of the Grand Canyon University Policy Handbook contains general academic policies intended to assure a consistent, high quality educational environment for GCU students and to reflect that quality to accrediting agencies, state licensing/certifying agencies, individuals and groups who provide scholarships or otherwise support the University, graduate schools, and potential employers of GCU graduates. The University has no right to change policies or procedures of another organization for which it is merely acting as an agent.

Students are responsible for following all applicable University policies and procedures. Students should note some Programs of Study have specific policies in addition to general University policy. A careful review of policies and other requirements for a given program is strongly recommended. All policies and procedures herein apply to undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students unless explicitly stated otherwise. Please contact your University Counselor or Student Services Counselor for clarification and details. Oral or written inquires and requests are accepted, but a written message takes precedence over any oral message in the event of conflicting information.

## Official Student Communication

Upon enrollment, all students receive a Grand Canyon University e-mail address. This e-mail address is used for all official communication with students including, but not limited to, student specific information, policy updates, notification of changes in University procedures, and general announcements. It is the student's responsibility to check this e-mail on a regular basis and be informed about published University policy.

## Official Name Change

Students who would like to change their legal name need to submit two forms of government-issued identification to their Student Services Counselor (SSA).

## Preferred First Name

When possible, the University may provide students the ability to use a preferred first name in University systems. While GCU will try to respect the first name the student prefers, GCU reserves the right to approve the preferred first name. Students trying to use a preferred first name that is inappropriate in an educational environment will revert to using the legal name on file.

## Change of Address Notification

If a student is considering a move, or has moved to another state while enrolled, the student must contact a Student Services Counselor immediately to determine whether the student's current Program of Study is available in that state. Additionally, if the student is enrolled in a program leading to licensure, it must be determined whether it is possible for the student to complete the program in the new state, before incurring any/additional course charges. It is expected that students will conduct all field placements, practicum, or student teaching within the state in which they reside at the time of enrollment. Students who plan to conduct field placements, practicum, or student teaching outside of their home state must disclose this to their Student Services Counselor.

## Academic Calendar

### *Nontraditional (Online, Evening-Satellite and Evening-Campus) Students*

Grand Canyon University offers online and offsite courses in a sequential, non-term modality. Courses start on a regular basis, with undergraduate courses starting on Monday, graduate/doctoral courses starting on Thursday.

The academic calendar year is defined as a minimum of 24 earned credits and 30 instructional weeks for undergraduate programs; 16 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks; 12 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks for doctoral programs.

Students are required to adhere to the classroom posting required and complete assignments within the required timeframe. Please see the [Class Attendance and Participation](#) section of the University Policy Handbook.

Students must maintain continuous enrollment in their programs. If students have a need to interrupt their course enrollment, they must contact their Student Services Counselor for options available to them.

### *Traditional Campus Students*

Students attending Grand Canyon University's main campus attend school in three semesters; with traditional semesters of May (summer), September (fall), and January (spring) semester starts. Refer to the [Academic Calendar](#) for specific semester dates.

## Classification of Students and Courses

Grand Canyon University complies with Department of Education credit hour definitions when designing and designating credits to courses per Federal Register 75 FR 66832 final regulations:

Credit hour: Except as provided in 34 CFR 668.8(k) and (1) a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than one of the following-

- One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks or one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time  
OR
- At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practicums, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

### **Student Classification Based on Credits**

- Freshmen are students who have not yet completed 24 credit hours.
- Sophomores are students who have completed 24 to 47 credit hours.
- Juniors and seniors are students who have completed a minimum of 48 credit hours.
- Fifth Year Students are students who have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program and are accepted for a program of

- specified upper division courses to secure standard teacher certification.
- Second Degree Students are students who have completed a bachelor's degree from a regionally or nationally accredited institution and are completing the requirements for a second bachelor's degree.
- Graduate Students are students who have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited, GCU-approved institution and have been admitted into the graduate program.
- Non-Degree Seeking Students are students who are not working toward a degree and/or are not placed in a classification.

## Academic Definition of Full-Time Status

### *Nontraditional Students*

Nontraditional undergraduate students must complete 24 credits during their academic year to be considered full-time.

Nontraditional graduate students who started their program prior to July 5, 2012 and all doctoral students must complete 12 credits during the academic year to be considered full-time. All nontraditional graduate students who start their program on or after July 5, 2012, must complete 16 credits during the academic year to be considered full-time. Students are also subject to the [Program of Study, Course Availability, and Cancellation Policy](#).

### *Traditional Campus Students*

Undergraduate students must enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours in the Fall and Spring semesters. Undergraduate students will be considered full-time if they enroll in 6 credits in the Summer Session A or B, or 12 credits over the entire Summer semester. Graduate students who are enrolled in 16 or more credits during an academic year are considered full-time. Academic status may differ from financial aid status eligibility for funding. Please see the [Financial Aid](#) section of the University Policy Handbook for details.

Per federal regulations, International (F-1) students are required to pursue a full course of study. During the Fall and Spring semester, the minimum for an undergraduate is 12 credits per semester and one online class may be taken to satisfy the 12 credit minimum. If the Summer semester is your first semester at GCU and a summer start date is on your I-20, then you must enroll for 6 credits in Session A or B, or 12 credits over the entire Summer semester to be considered a full-time student. The minimum for a graduate student's full course of study follows general campus policy noted above and is verified by the International Student Coordinator.

To enroll in courses, a student must contact their University Counselor (new students) or their Student Services Counselor (current students).

## Overload Policy

### *Nontraditional Students*

Students may request to take more than one course concurrently, if they meet the following criteria:

Baccalaureate students:

- Completed at least 12 credits at Grand Canyon within their current Program of Study, AND
- Cumulative GPA is 3.0 or better.
- OR
- Earned associate degree or 60 applied transfer credits with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better evidenced by received and applied transcripts BEFORE starting a program.
- OR

- GCU Alumni student with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better in graduated enrollment.

Master students:

- Completed at least 6 credits at Grand Canyon within their current Program of Study, AND
- Cumulative GPA is 3.5 or better.
- OR
- GCU Alumni undergraduate student with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better in graduated enrollment.
- OR
- Earned master's or doctoral degree.

Doctoral students:

- Doctoral learners excluding Doctor of Nursing Practice learners may not take more than one course at a time. Concurrent enrollment at Residency with one online course is the exception.

Taking concurrent courses can change a student's academic year, and thus, payment periods. To enroll in concurrent courses, students must be financially cleared by their Student Services Counselor prior to starting those courses. A secondary payment method may be required.

### *Overload Policy Exemptions*

- Students cannot take courses concurrently with student teaching, PCN-622, or PCN-662A-D.
- Undergraduate students in the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions must take theory and clinical coursework concurrently in the sequence indicated for their program of study. Graduate students in the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions enrolled in APRN programs must take theory and clinical coursework concurrently as prescribed by the plan of study. Students in Non-APRN or non-Nursing programs enrolled in clinical coursework or courses with field experiences may not take more than one course during these placements.
- Master of Divinity seminary students participating in the evening course option will may be exempt from this policy.
- Master of Divinity students may be concurrently enrolled at Residency with one online course.

### *Traditional Campus Students*

To enroll in more than 20 credits per semester, undergraduate students must possess a GPA of 3.0 and file an official appeal that is approved by the Office of Academic Compliance.

## Course Classification Based on Course Number

Courses are numbered from 000 to 999. The course numbering system is as follows:

- 000-099 are remedial courses designed for students with deficiencies in specific content areas. Credits earned for these courses cannot be applied toward a degree program.
- 100-299 are lower division, undergraduate courses.
- 300-499 are upper division undergraduate courses.
- 500-699 are graduate level courses.
- 700-999 are doctoral level courses.
- 5000-5999 are continuing education courses.

## Course Length

The University offers courses that are typically 4 to 15 weeks in length. The course length is determined by the Program of Study and/or format in which the course is taken.

- Online courses are typically 5, 7, or 8 weeks in length.

- Traditional Campus courses are typically 15 weeks in length.

## Program of Study, Course Availability, and Cancellation

A Program of Study (POS) defines the courses required for a particular degree. If the University cancels a POS and/or courses, the University will use the following guidelines for program completion.

If a major or degree is fully retired, and if a student had no breaks in enrollment except those defined/documented by the [Leave of Absence Policy and Procedure](#), Baccalaureate and Masters students will have 2 years to complete the Program of Study under the Catalog of Record, defined as the Academic Catalog published in the academic year and edition (Fall, Spring, or Summer) under which the student enrolled. Doctoral students will have 3 years to reach the 900 course series in their Program of Study. This applies unless state or federal law and/or accrediting bodies mandate POS and/or course changes.

In all cases that a course is retired, students will enroll in the course equivalency or a substituted course. In all cases where a student chooses to change the program of study, the student will always be required to enroll in the most current version of that program, which may change the student's catalog of record.

### *Nontraditional Students*

- If a student has been out of attendance less than 180 days, students return to their current program of study if the program version is active. If a program of study revised during the student's absence, the student may be able to update to the current version. If they choose to remain in their current version of the program, they may be required to take substituted courses from the new program version. Students must speak to their Student Services Counselor prior to program changes.
- If the student is out of attendance between 180 days and a year\*, and the program of study revised, returning students must update to the current version of the program if one is available, or they must choose a different active program in which to transfer.
- Students out of attendance longer than a year must complete a new enrollment agreement and select either the newest version of a program, or another active program.

\*For students in any non-licensure program of study, an exception will be made for students with 2 or fewer courses remaining in their current program of study. Course substitutions may be made. Students with 3 or more courses must follow the above policy.

\*Students out of attendance for 180 days or less, and are changing their emphasis only are not subject to this policy. Doctoral Students who have started RES-885, RES-871, PSY-825, or the 900 course series will be allowed to remain in their current program of study.

### *Traditional Campus Students*

In order to remain in the current program of study, students must remain continuously enrolled. If students are out longer than one traditional term (either Fall or Spring) then the student will be required to enroll in the newest version of the program of study, if one is available.

## Course and Program Availability

Students transferring to GCU from another educational institution, and GCU students transferring programs within the

institution, are subject to course and section availability. GCU believes that sufficient interaction between students and faculty is an important part of the learning experience. Therefore, if a course section has too few students to support student learning, it may be cancelled. Additionally, if a student has a large number of transfer credits and enrolls in a new program and courses are not available, students may be required to take a different course needed in the program of study or will be subject to breaks in attendance until the course is available. Nontraditional students should reference the Leave of Absence – Nontraditional policy for additional information.

## Program Exceptions

Students enrolled in an Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure (IP/TL) program within the College of Education, who cannot complete student teaching, may transfer to the equivalent Initial Program – Does Not Lead to Teacher Licensure (IP/Non-TL) program, provided the courses are the same and the student has completed the entire program of study at the time of transfer.

## Military Reenrollment

Grand Canyon University complies with the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 requirements for readmission of service members. Students who are out of attendance greater than 180 days for qualified military service reasons may be able to return to their degree program without updating to the most current Academic Catalog. Students need to contact their military Enrollment, Academic or Student Services Counselor if they discontinued enrollment due to military service.

## Registration Policy

### Continuous Registration

Upon application to the University, all applicants sign an Enrollment Agreement in which they attest to understanding the Program of Study requirements. This document acknowledges that most programs follow a course sequence and the student will be continuously enrolled and scheduled through the duration of their program unless they formally request to change their enrollment status. With the submission of this signed document, applicants are then registered into their chosen Program of Study.

Students are granted 8 weeks from the program's start date to provide their official transcripts from the prior degree-granting institution (whether high school, associate, or baccalaureate degree) to gain admittance into the University. If this official documentation is not provided prior to the end of the 8-week period, students may not be allowed to continue forward into subsequent courses. Once the Office of Academic Records can confirm admissibility the student will be officially accepted to the University and will be allowed to continue registration.

Students remain continuously enrolled throughout their program. If a student needs to make an adjustment to their course schedule or modify their enrollment status, the student will need to contact their Student Services Counselor. Those using Federal Financial Aid (Title IV) must speak to their Student Services Counselor prior to making the change and if the change is made, will need to adhere to the Leave of Absence policies as outlined in this handbook.

## First Course Completion Policy

### *Nontraditional Students*

Grand Canyon University believes the foundational skills and experiences learned in the first course of the undergraduate, graduate or doctoral program is imperative to student success.

Therefore, if a student fails or withdraws from one of these courses, the student will be withdrawn from any currently enrolled course and re-enrolled into this course.

If a student fails or withdraws this course after the second attempt, the student will be dismissed from the University. Additionally, if the student fails or withdraws from their first course, then passes this course and subsequently fails the next course taken, the student will also be dismissed from the University for not meeting the academic requirements for progression.

Students who are withdrawn from the University will be neither academically nor financially responsible for any future courses for which they may have been pre-registered and may reapply in 12 months for reconsideration.

## Class Presence

Grand Canyon University believes that students are primarily responsible for their attendance in the classroom.

### Traditional Campus Classrooms

All traditional campus students must post at least one message in the learning management system within the first week of the class start date in addition to being present at all face to face class meetings.

### Online Classrooms

Grand Canyon University requires all students enrolled in an online course to attend every week. This attendance is marked by activity in the online classroom. An online week for undergraduate students is Monday through Sunday and for graduate students is Thursday through Wednesday. Students are not permitted to be out of attendance more than two consecutive, online weeks. An administrative withdrawal will be processed should a student be out of attendance for more than two consecutive, online weeks.

### Cohort Classrooms (Campus and Satellite Locations)

Courses offered in the face-to-face, evening cohort programs for undergraduate and graduate students are designed as concentrated seminars with attendance being a prerequisite for student learning. Students are expected to act professionally and regular class attendance is one reflection of that commitment.

Recognizing that occasional unavoidable absences may occur, students must notify the instructor in advance. If a face-to-face class absence (or partial absence) is necessary, the following guidelines apply:

- Partial Absence: At the course instructor’s discretion, partial attendance may result in a deduction of participation points.
- One Absence: One class absence will result in the loss of participation points and, in-class activity points if applicable.

Multiple Absences: Absences from two or more consecutive or non-consecutive classes in a course will result in being withdrawn from the course and a grade of “W” if they occur in any week prior to the last two weeks of a 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 12 week course or prior to the last four weeks of a 15 or 16 week course. Students in a 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 12 week course who stop attending during the last two weeks of the course or students in a 15 or 16 week course who stop attending during the last four weeks of the course will earn the grade based on their academic performance for the entirety of the course. Faculty will assign a letter grade of A through F. Students are required to follow the [Course Drop Policy](#).

- An absence (or partial absence) does not preclude students from completing assignments as expected or according to completion timelines.

## Class Participation

Participating in classroom discussion is paramount to the learning experience. Participating in the weekly discussions allows students and instructors to share experiences, investigate complicated subject matter, share expertise, and examine the content from new perspectives. The qualitative participation requirements are:

- Follow-up responses to classmates’ initial answers or responses that integrate course theories with a practical application of the subject, offering a personal observation or experience, or referencing real-world examples, current events, or presenting current research on the topic.
- Classroom interaction demonstrating deeper or broader thoughts beyond rephrasing what the textbook has presented on the topic.
- Responses encouraging further discussion and ongoing dialogue with other students and the instructor in the class.
- Asking additional, relevant questions about the week’s topic.
- Communications that are presented in a professional and supportive manner, and with respectful tone.

### Traditional Campus Classrooms

In addition to the qualitative requirements, each instructor will provide the specific, in-class, quantitative participation requirements.

### Online Classrooms (Undergraduate and Graduate)

Participation can be earned only by posting substantive, quality messages to fellow classmates and the instructor in the main forum of the classroom. Certain courses may have alternative participation requirements. Students are encouraged to review the course syllabus and consult with the faculty member prior to the course start.

Courses	# Required Days	# Required Substantive Posts Each Day
UNV-103, UNV-108, UNV-104, PHI-105, ENG-105, PSY-100, CWV-101	4	2
All Other Undergrad	3	2
Graduate and Doctoral	3	1

### Cohort Classrooms

Students participating in face-to-face classes in a cohort format are enrolled in a hybrid program that requires students to be active in both the physical classroom, as well as the online classroom.

#### *All programs (Except RN-BSN): Campus and Satellite Locations*

Students must post their initial response to the 1st discussion question by Day 3, and to the 2nd discussion question by Day 5 of each week. The post must also meet already established DQ requirements as stated in the course syllabus. In addition to the

qualitative requirements, each instructor will provide the specific, in-class, quantitative participation requirements.

### ***Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN) Program***

Students must post their initial response to the 1st discussion question by Day 3, and to the 2nd discussion question by Day 5 of each week. In order to earn full participation points students must post 1 substantial message on 3 different days of each course week in addition to actively engaging in the face to face classroom meetings.

### **Online Classrooms (Doctoral)**

Full participation in the discussion is a key component of the learning experience. It enriches group interaction and enhances the doctoral learning environment. To be considered substantive, a participation post (the initial and the on-going) should average 150 - 250 words in length. The post should include appropriate foundation knowledge, be factual, enhance the ongoing dialogue, and include support from scholarly literature. It is for this reason that a majority of a learners' substantive participant posts should include at least one citation. Rather than just reporting what someone else has stated, the doctoral learner should demonstrate application and/or reflection of knowledge such that the learner enhances the meaning of the referenced material. Contributing to the discussion should promote an exciting, vibrant, shared learning community that accomplishes two or more of the following:

- Expands on a classmate's comments in a value-adding, topic-related way
- Promotes a collaborative, supportive doctoral community
- Advances the dialogue through follow-up questions
- One-liners, off-topic posts, vague statements, unsupported opinions, inadequate explanations or posts do not meet the substantive participation requirements listed above.

### **Assignment Submissions**

All assignments should be submitted through the drop box in the learning management system as Word documents with extensions of .doc or .docx unless otherwise indicated in the assignment description. Written assignments of 500 words or more are required to be submitted to the TurnItIn drop box before submitting to the Assignments drop box in the learning management system, thus allowing students to make adjustments prior to submitting the final version for grading.

### **Late Policy**

All assignments are due before midnight Arizona time on the due dates indicated. Assignments posted after the indicated due dates will be subject to a deduction of 10% of the available points for each day late. No assignment can be accepted for grading after midnight on the final day of class. Technical issues are not valid excuses for late work unless the problem stems from GCU servers. Exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Learning Management System Availability**

Grand Canyon University's online learning management systems are specifically intended to host classrooms for current and recently completed classes. Student access to classes will be removed five (5) weeks following the course end date. It is the responsibility of each student and faculty member to keep copies of all files uploaded to the online learning management system. The University is not responsible to make course content or files submitted to the online learning management system available to students or faculty members once the class has been removed.

### **Missed Class Time for University-Sponsored Activities**

The University recognizes the importance of participation in University-sponsored activities such as musical and theatrical performances, athletic competition, and debate. It also recognizes that such participation may result in conflict with scheduled class times, including examinations, homework, quizzes, presentations, activities, participation, etc. It is the responsibility of participating students to ensure that official documentation is submitted to their faculty members by the sponsoring organization/college in advance of the excused absences.

The University defines an excused absence as a University-sponsored activity that requires students to miss class. Students requiring excused absences will be afforded a reasonable opportunity to make up the affected assignments(s) within two weeks of the due date. All classwork must be submitted by the last day of the term. Faculty will provide students with discussion questions to complete to address missed participation. Students must complete exams and group assignments on time. Arrangements for proctoring assignments must be made by the sponsoring organization/college, in conjunction with the faculty of the course. Allowing the missed assignment or exam to be dropped does not constitute a reasonable opportunity.

Specific courses including student teaching, internships, clinical sessions, or practicums cannot be missed even for University sanctioned events.

If students fail to provide advanced documentation, instructors have the discretion to treat the absence as unexcused and to decline any missed work that was due during that absence. Any students found to have misrepresented themselves regarding their participation in University-sponsored activities will be referred to the University Code of Conduct Committee for possible disciplinary action.

### **Participation in NCAA Division 1 Athletics**

To be eligible for participation in NCAA Division 1 athletics, a student must meet one of the following requirements:

- Student is enrolled full-time and matriculated as a degree seeking undergraduate student taking courses on the Phoenix campus;
- Student is enrolled as a non-traditional graduate cohort or graduate online student and lives in the locale of the institution.

### **Grade Point Average (GPA) Progression**

#### ***Nontraditional Students***

When a student earns a grade that drops the overall cumulative GPA below the undergraduate requirement of 2.0, undergraduate nursing requirement of 2.5, or the graduate and doctoral requirement of 3.0, he/she will be placed On Notice. The student has up to three course attempts to raise the GPA to the respective requirements. If the student is able to increase the GPA within three courses, the student will no longer be On Notice. If the student is unable to raise the GPA after the third course, the student will be Academically Disqualified for a period of 15 weeks. If this occurs within the first 12 credits of the student's program, the [First Course Completion](#) and/or the [Accepted with Specifications](#) policy (if applicable) supersede this policy.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is defined as a student's progress toward successful completion of their degree requirements, as measured by cumulative GPA, completion rate of at least 67% of the cumulative credit hours attempted, and maximum timeframe, at each review time period.

### Warning

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) calculations for nontraditional students are performed at the completion of the intervals listed below and is calculated using both the GCU enrollment cumulative GPA and cumulative earned credits at each review time period.

- Nontraditional Undergraduate Students: Every 12 earned credit intervals
- Nontraditional Doctoral and Graduate Students who began their program prior to July 5, 2012: Every 6 earned credit intervals (as these students are on a 12 credit academic year)
- Nontraditional Graduate Students who began their program on or after July 5, 2012 or out of attendance for more than 180 days: Every 8 earned credit intervals (as these students are on a 16 credit academic year)
- Traditional Undergraduate and Graduate Students: After each semester

Failed grades (F), incompletes, and withdrawals will be counted as attempted credits but will not count as earned credits. Credits earned for repeated coursework, in addition to the original credits, will be counted as both attempted and earned credits.

- Undergraduate students are placed on warning if their enrollment cumulative GPA drops below 2.0 or if they have not completed and earned at least 67% of the cumulative credit hours attempted at each review time period as stated above.
- Graduate students are placed on warning if their enrollment cumulative GPA drops below 3.0 or if they have not completed and earned at least 67% of the cumulative credit hours attempted at each review time period as stated above.

Warning status is removed when the minimum enrollment cumulative GPA specified above is regained, and/or students earn 67% of the credits attempted. The warning period provides for an additional credit interval described above. If the student fails to meet the minimum GPA or 67% earned versus attempted credit, the student will be placed on suspension.

### Suspension

Students who are placed on suspension are not permitted to enroll in courses for a 15-week suspension period, due to the inability to meet the minimum enrollment cumulative GPA of 2.0 for undergraduate students or 3.0 for graduate students, and/or not completing at least 67% of the credit hours attempted.

Nontraditional students will begin their suspension period on the last day of attendance. Traditional campus students will begin their suspension period on the last day of the semester.

After fulfilling the terms of the suspension, students may apply for reinstatement by submitting a [Request for Reinstatement](#). Students may or may not be granted re-admittance based on their academic record that includes participation in previous courses. If readmission is granted, an Academic Plan will be created which may require students to first repeat any course (or its equivalencies) for which they did not earn a C or better (undergraduate) or a B or better (graduate). Students granted re-admittance will need to follow their Academic Plan specifying courses to repeat, grades required to be earned, or any other activities students must complete. The student's progress under

the terms of the Academic Plan is monitored. Failure to adhere to the terms of the Academic Plan, and for all repeated courses, if any course grade is considered failing, the student will not have the opportunity to continue under the reinstatement plan and will be expelled. Additionally, students will be placed on probation until their enrollment cumulative GPA to the required 2.0 for undergraduates, or the required 3.0 for graduates, and/or raising the credit completion percentage to 67% within the next credit interval described above. Students who do not meet this requirement are subject to expulsion. Students whose GPA fall below minimum allowances at any time after the suspension period will not be granted additional probationary time and will be expelled.

Students may have financial aid reinstated if the student is reinstated academically.

It is important to note that students may also be suspended, for other reasons, such as violations of the [Code of Conduct and Academic Standards](#) policy.

### Expulsion

Expulsion is reserved for students who have continually failed to meet the University's expected performance requirements, measured by enrollment cumulative GPA and/or credit completion percentage. After a suspended student is permitted reinstatement, a student must raise his GPA to the required minimum and/or raise his credit completion percentage to 67% by the completion of the credit interval described above. If the student fails to meet this requirement, they will be expelled from the University and cannot register for any additional courses for two academic years. Students may reapply after that time period. If readmission is granted, students will be required to first repeat any course (or its equivalencies) for which they did not earn a C or better in their program major or minor (undergraduate) or a B or better (graduate). Additionally, the student's progress under the terms of the Academic Plan is monitored. Failure to adhere to the terms of the Academic Plan, and for all repeated courses, if any course grade is considered failing, the student will not have the opportunity to continue under the reinstatement plan and will be expelled. Nontraditional students will begin their expulsion period on the last day of attendance. Traditional campus students will begin their expulsion period on the last day of the semester.

It is important to note that students may also be expelled for other reasons, such as violations of the [Code of Conduct and Academic Standards](#) policy.

## Baccalaureate Programmatic Progression Requirements

### Honors College

Upon acceptance into the Honors College, students may remain enrolled as long as they adhere to the following, which will be reviewed by the Honors Committee annually:

1. Maintain an enrollment cumulative GPA of 3.25.
  - Students who fail to maintain the enrollment cumulative GPA requirement will be placed on honors probation for two consecutive semesters in order to remediate the deficiency. The student's case will be reviewed at the end of the probationary period by the Honors Committee to determine if the student will be removed from the Honors College.
  - Students must be off probation and in good academic standing at the time of graduation to be recognized as an Honors College graduate.

- Students removed from the Honors College for failure to meet the GPA progression requirement, and are currently between a 3.0 and 3.24 GPA can appeal for reinstatement into the Honors College. Appeals for reinstatement are reviewed on a case by case basis, and must be approved by the dean.
2. Complete the Annual Symposium each year with a “Pass” grade. Students that fail to meet the minimum expectations for the Annual Spring Symposium will not be granted a probationary period, and will be removed from the Honors College.
  3. Refrain from committing Student Code of Conduct violations.

#### *Honors Course Withdrawal*

Students wishing to withdraw from their honors course must follow the [Course Drop Policy](#).

### **Colangelo College of Business**

**Bachelor of Science in Business for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

#### **College of Education**

**Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Educational Studies (IP/Non-TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education/Special Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

#### **College of Fine Arts and Production**

**Bachelor of Arts in Music Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Arts in Dance Education (IP/TL)**

#### **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Bachelor of Arts in English for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Arts in History for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Mathematics for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

#### **College of Science, Engineering, and Technology**

**Bachelor of Science in Biology for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

**Bachelor of Science in Chemistry for Secondary Education (IP/TL)**

Prior to participation in any practicum/field experience, teacher candidates must provide their Field Experience Counselor with verification of a current State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card or current fingerprint clearance documentation in accordance with the fingerprint policies of the state in which they reside. Current and valid fingerprint clearance must be on file through the duration of the program. Failure to maintain current and valid Fingerprint Clearance may lead to immediate termination from the program. Based on the teacher candidate’s Program of Study, the teacher candidate will need one of the following:

1. Fingerprint Clearance Card
2. Federal Background Check: If a federal background check is required, official copies of this document will be reviewed by the Field Experience Counselor. A federal background check will be considered ‘clear’ if no offense(s) are listed. Teacher

candidates with ‘cleared’ federal background checks will be deemed eligible for participation in practicum/field experiences. Should any offense(s) be listed on the federal background check, teacher candidates will be required to apply for and secure a valid State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card. Where applicable, a current teaching certificate may be provided in lieu of fingerprint clearance. GCU will not accept any background check older than six years.

3. District Letter: GCU accepts letters from cooperating school districts to satisfy the fingerprint clearance requirement. The letter must be on district letterhead. GCU must receive this letter directly from the district. If the letter is received directly from the teacher candidate, the teacher candidate must sign a FERPA release listing the letter’s signatory (school/district contact who completed the letter), and the teacher candidate’s TED will call the signatory to verify the letter’s authenticity. In order for the district’s letter to be accepted, the following information is required to be included:

- Teacher candidates name
- Employee identification number
- Date that the background check was completed (must be within the last 6 years)
- Identification number assigned to the background check
- Current employment status
- Date of initial employment
- Breaks in employment (if none, the letter must indicate that there were no breaks in employment)

Should any of the above information be missing from the letter or if the letter is not printed on official district letterhead, GCU will be unable to accept the letter for the purpose of satisfying the Fingerprint Clearance Policy. Please note that teacher candidates may need to complete additional fingerprinting for certification purposes based on their state’s requirements.

If candidates are charged with a felony or misdemeanor while in the program, even if charges are not verified, they are obligated to report this to their Field Experience Counselor. Failure to do so may lead to immediate termination from the program.

In the event that admission to Grand Canyon University’s College of Education is denied as a result of one or more offense listed in Sections B or Section C of the Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 41-1758.03, outlined in Appendix A, the following appeals process should be followed.

#### *Level One Appeal*

1. Apply for a fingerprint clearance card from the Arizona Department of Public Safety. (Should the fingerprint clearance card be denied, see a Level Two Appeal)
2. Upon securing a fingerprint clearance card, request documentation from the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education indicating consent of your potential eligibility to apply for and obtain a teacher or principal license based on the listed offense(s). The Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education may request additional information regarding the listed offense(s) prior to the issuance of their consent to be eligible for certification.
3. Provide Grand Canyon University with copies of the Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card and the documentation provided by the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education for reconsideration of admission.

#### *Level Two Appeal*

1. In the event that a fingerprint clearance card is denied, petition the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting for a good cause exception. More information regarding the application and

process for a good cause exception can be found at the [Arizona Board of Fingerprinting](#) website.

2. If the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting approves the good cause exception, a fingerprint clearance card will be issued. (Should the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting deny the good cause exception, a fingerprint clearance card will not be issued, and denied admission. (This decision cannot be appealed.)
3. Upon securing an Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card, request documentation from the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education indicating consent of your potential eligibility to apply for and obtain a teacher or principal license based on the listed offense(s). The Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education may request additional information regarding the listed offense(s) prior to the issuance of their consent to be eligible for certification.
4. Provide Grand Canyon University with copies of the Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card and the documentation provided by the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education for reconsideration of admission.

#### *Appendix A: Pursuant to ARS 41-1758.03 Section B*

A person who is subject to registration as a sex offender in this state or any other jurisdiction or who is awaiting trial on or who has been convicted of committing or attempting, soliciting, facilitating or conspiring to commit one or more of the following offenses in this state or the same or similar offenses in another state or jurisdiction is precluded from receiving a fingerprint clearance card:

1. Sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult.
2. Incest.
3. First or second degree murder.
4. Sexual assault.
5. Sexual exploitation of a minor.
6. Sexual exploitation of a vulnerable adult.
7. Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor.
8. Commercial sexual exploitation of a vulnerable adult.
9. Child prostitution as prescribed in section 13-3212.
10. Child abuse.
11. Abuse of a vulnerable adult.
12. Sexual conduct with a minor.
13. Molestation of a child.
14. Molestation of a vulnerable adult.
15. A dangerous crime against children as defined in section 13-705.
16. Exploitation of minors involving drug offenses.
17. Taking a child for the purpose of prostitution as prescribed in section 13-3206.
18. Neglect or abuse of a vulnerable adult.
19. Sex trafficking.
20. Sexual abuse.
21. Production, publication, sale, possession and presentation of obscene items as prescribed in section 13-3502.
22. Furnishing harmful items to minors as prescribed in section 13-3506.
23. Furnishing harmful items to minors by internet activity as prescribed in section 13-3506.01.
24. Obscene or indecent telephone communications to minors for commercial purposes as prescribed in section 13-3512.
25. Luring a minor for sexual exploitation.
26. Enticement of persons for purposes of prostitution.
27. Procurement by false pretenses of person for purposes of prostitution.
28. Procuring or placing persons in a house of prostitution.
29. Receiving earnings of a prostitute.
30. Causing one's spouse to become a prostitute.
31. Detention of persons in a house of prostitution for debt.

32. Keeping or residing in a house of prostitution or employment in prostitution.
33. Pandering.
34. Transporting persons for the purpose of prostitution, polygamy and concubinage.
35. Portraying adult as a minor as prescribed in section 13-3555.
36. Admitting minors to public displays of sexual conduct as prescribed in section 13-3558.
37. Unlawful sale or purchase of children.
38. Child bigamy.

#### *Appendix A: Pursuant to ARS 41-1758.03 Sections C*

A person who is awaiting trial on or who has been convicted of committing or attempting, soliciting, facilitating or conspiring to commit one or more of the following offenses in this state or the same or similar offenses in another state or jurisdiction is precluded from receiving a fingerprint clearance card, except that the person may petition the board of fingerprinting for a good cause exception pursuant to section 41-619.55:

1. Manslaughter.
2. Endangerment.
3. Threatening or intimidating.
4. Assault.
5. Unlawfully administering intoxicating liquors, narcotic drugs or dangerous drugs.
6. Assault by vicious animals.
7. Drive by shooting.
8. Assaults on officers or fire fighters.
9. Discharging a firearm at a structure.
10. Indecent exposure.
11. Public sexual indecency.
12. Aggravated criminal damage.
13. Theft.
14. Theft by extortion.
15. Shoplifting.
16. Forgery.
17. Criminal possession of a forgery device.
18. Obtaining a signature by deception.
19. Criminal impersonation.
20. Theft of a credit card or obtaining a credit card by fraudulent means.
21. Receipt of anything of value obtained by fraudulent use of a credit card.
22. Forgery of a credit card.
23. Fraudulent use of a credit card.
24. Possession of any machinery, plate or other contrivance or incomplete credit card.
25. False statement as to financial condition or identity to obtain a credit card.
26. Fraud by persons authorized to provide goods or services.
27. Credit card transaction record theft.
28. Misconduct involving weapons.
29. Misconduct involving explosives.
30. Depositing explosives.
31. Misconduct involving simulated explosive devices.
32. Concealed weapon violation.
33. Possession and sale of peyote.
34. Possession and sale of a vapor-releasing substance containing a toxic substance.
35. Sale of precursor chemicals.
36. Possession, use or sale of marijuana, dangerous drugs or narcotic drugs.
37. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation controlled substance.
38. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation prescription-only drug.



39. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation over-the-counter drug.
40. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation controlled substance.
41. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation prescription-only drug.
42. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation over-the-counter drug.
43. Manufacture of certain substances and drugs by certain means.
44. Adding poison or other harmful substance to food, drink or medicine.
45. A criminal offense involving criminal trespass and burglary under title 13, chapter 15.
46. A criminal offense under title 13, chapter 23.
47. Child neglect.
48. Misdemeanor offenses involving contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
49. Offenses involving domestic violence.
50. Arson.
51. Kidnapping.
52. Felony offenses involving sale, distribution or transportation of, offer to sell, transport or distribute or conspiracy to sell, transport or distribute marijuana, dangerous drugs or narcotic drugs.
53. Robbery.
54. Aggravated assault.
55. Felony offenses involving contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
56. Negligent homicide.
57. Criminal damage.
58. Misappropriation of charter school monies as prescribed in section 13-1818.
59. Taking identity of another person or entity.
60. Aggravated taking identity of another person or entity.
61. Trafficking in the identity of another person or entity.
62. Cruelty to animals.
63. Prostitution.
64. Sale or distribution of material harmful to minors through vending machines as prescribed in section 13-3513.
65. Welfare fraud.

#### *Practicum/Field Experiences*

Practicum experiences are field-based learning opportunities that focus on observation, application, and reflection. Practicum experiences require the teacher candidate to spend a prescribed amount of time in real-life classroom settings in order to demonstrate competency with predetermined activities that are aligned to professional standards in the field of education. Teacher candidates in any course requiring practicum hours are required to have fingerprint clearance on file with their Field Experience Counselor. In addition, teacher candidates enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education program, who are completing field experiences in Arizona, are required to submit a completed Student Information Release Form (SIRF) and proof of immunization and/or immunity from Tuberculosis (TB).

#### *COE Clinical Practice Expectations and Academic Standards*

The following clinical practice expectations for Teacher Candidates in the College of Education seek to address the common issues and responsibilities of Teacher Candidates who are out in schools and school districts in a field experience and clinical practice setting. The statements are designed to be reflective of the fundamental principles and values that are desired of a Teacher Candidate and his/her professional and personal conduct in the field experience and clinical setting. The

conduct expectations clarify conduct unbecoming of a Teacher Candidate, and thus are subject to disciplinary action. By addressing these issues we seek to respond to and clarify our expectations for all of our Teacher Candidates who are representing themselves and Grand Canyon University in their role and work with students, Cooperating Teachers, GCU Faculty Supervisors, and school communities.

Teacher Candidates in the College of Education represent GCU's value-based liberal arts institution. All Teacher Candidates who go out into the field are expected to abide by the responsibilities of university citizenship and to show consideration and respect for personal freedom and property rights of members of the civic, academic, and school community. Teacher Candidates are expected to abide by ethical, professional, and academic standards that are conducive to a positive learning experience. These expectations include, but are not limited to the expectation that the Teacher Candidate:

- Gives appropriate attention to college and site placement work
- Attends class, exercises, and engagements as required by the college and school site placement
- Acknowledges and accepts the responsibility of honorable adherence to the university's and site placement's standards, rules, policies, and procedures
- Supports and exhibits ethical behavior with students, faculty, staff, school placement personnel, and the community
- Recognizes and embraces the diversity and personal values of others
- Exhibits self-direction and self-reliance as a college student and in the pursuit of individual and collaborative learning objectives and goals
- Acknowledges and accepts personal responsibility and accountability for his or her actions, interactions, and communication in all forms with students, faculty, staff, school placement personnel, and the community
- Upholds confidentiality and respect for personal or professional information communicated in the placement classroom
- Adheres to college dispositional expectations, policies, and standards of academic honesty
- Represents themselves solely in all matters related to Clinical Practice performance, evaluation, assessments, disciplinary action, etc.
- Dresses according to professional attire expectations which can be interpreted as:
  - Women: slacks (dress pants), skirts (mid-calf to about two inches above the knee), blouses, shells, cardigans, blazers, dresses
  - Men: dress pants, button down shirts, polo shirts (with a collar), blazers
  - Dress not permitted: Anything that is see-through, short, tight, or shows too much skin, flip-flops, tennis shoes, jeans that are too loose fitting, ripped or faded. Teacher Candidates must also follow the dress code of teachers at the school site

#### *Dispositional Expectations*

- High Expectations- Educators should believe that all students can learn and should set and support realistic expectations for student success.
- Respect for the Diversity of Others- Educators should be sensitive to individual learning and social needs of students and embrace the cultural diversity of the community.
- Fairness- Educators should promote social justice and equity, maintain appropriate standards of confidentiality, and exercise fairness in all areas including assessment.

- Professional Conduct- Educators should exercise sound judgment and ethical behavior. They should be a positive role model within their community.
- Reflection- Educators should recognize that reflection combined with experience leads to growth as a professional. Educators should be thoughtful about their professional practice, critically examine it, and seek continual improvement.
- Curiosity- Educators should promote and support curiosity and encourage active inquiry. They should be able to think innovatively and creatively, using critical thinking as a problem-solving approach.
- Honesty- Educators should model integrity by their words and actions. They should be forthright with others and uphold high standards of trust, character, and integrity.
- Compassion- Educators should demonstrate professional friendliness, warmth, and genuine caring in their relationships with others while providing intellectual, emotional, and spiritual support.
- Advocacy- Teachers understand the impact of community involvement and servant leadership as it applies to the welfare of others in the educational setting.
- Dedication- Educators should be committed to the profession of teaching and learning. They should be professionally active, lifelong learners and seek opportunities for professional development.

#### *Clinical Practice Expectation Violations*

The following violations clarify conduct unbecoming of Teacher Candidates in the College of Education. Teacher Candidates are expected not to engage in such action while in a clinical setting at a school or school district. The following is a non-exhaustive list of actions that are considered clinical practice conduct violations, for which Teacher Candidates are subjected to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University. If teacher candidates are found eligible to continue with the program, Clinical Practice can only be repeated once.

- Falsification, forgery, alteration, or invention of information, including, but not limited to, any document used for admission or eligibility to the university, document related to:
  - Admission or eligibility to Clinical Practice
  - Information regarding the site placement school, the district and/or personnel
  - Information regarding students
  - Information regarding curriculum content in the classroom
- Disruptive behavior in any form that creates a hostile or offensive educational environment for a student, Cooperating Teacher, GCU Faculty Supervisor, faculty or staff
  - Threatening to harm or endanger the safety of any individual in the practicum/field experience setting
  - Threatening statements, behaviors, acts of violence or corporal punishment against any individual in the practicum/field experience setting
- Failure to comply promptly with any reasonable directive from a Cooperating Teacher, GCU Faculty Supervisors, GCU course instructor, or staff
- Failure to cooperate with an investigation
- Possession, use, distribution, or behavior under the influence of alcohol or illegal or banned drugs or substances while on school property, or as part of any school-related activity
- Communication orally, in writing, or by use of any technological device, including, and not limited to any phone or computer device, outside the classroom in a manner that

could be perceived as inappropriate by any member of the site placement school, its extended community or university

- Failure to maintain a professional approach to personal relationships with the students or the school community members

#### *Remediation*

The College of Education may take disciplinary action against candidates who demonstrate insufficient performance, inappropriate dispositions, conduct unbecoming, or are terminated by the site school placement. Remediation is implemented if candidates do not demonstrate sufficient progress with regard to performance or dispositions. The College of Education Office of Clinical Practice and/or Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Committee reviews all documentation and makes a determination as to whether the alleged violation or deficiency has been substantiated and which college-level penalties may apply. If candidates do not comply with remediation plans and/or sanctions, they may be terminated from their site, complete a corrective action plan and/or may have to undergo the Code of Conduct process for failure to comply with a college directive.

#### *Basic Skills and Content Area Exams (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

1. Teacher candidates enrolled in an Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure Programs (IP/TL) beginning with the 2009-2010 Academic Catalog must pass their state-mandated basic skills and content area exams or Praxis I® (Basic Skills) and Praxis II® (Content Area ) prior to student teaching. Arizona residents will be required to take the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments (AEPAs).
2. Arizona residents will be required to pass the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments (AEPAs) successfully.
3. Teacher candidates requiring Arizona certification in application for their local state licensure will need to complete the appropriate AEPAs or an equivalent exam as determined by the Arizona Department of Education's out of state exam reciprocity requirements prior to receiving an Arizona IR. For content areas out of the approved AEPAs areas, teacher candidates seeking Arizona Certification will be required to hold 24 units in the certification content area.
4. Score reports for Arizona residents and those seeking initial licensure in Arizona will be accepted only if the score report documents a passing score ('pass' or 'passed').
5. Teacher candidates residing in states that do not have state-specific mandated basic and/or content exams will be required to take the AEPAs exams or an equivalent exam.

#### *Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

Taken at the conclusion of all coursework, student teaching requires 15-16 consecutive weeks of unpaid, full-time placement with a COE approved cooperating/mentor teacher, who must be licensed in the area in which the teacher is teaching. Student teaching cannot be done during summer months; and is required for an Institutional Recommendation (IR).

#### *Paraprofessionals (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

Teacher candidates may not student teach in the classroom(s) in which they are employed as paraprofessionals. Paraprofessionals are not teachers of record. As assistants to a classroom teacher, their responsibilities are more limited than those required of a classroom teacher. Therefore, paraprofessionals will need to take a leave of absence from their duties and responsibilities while they complete the student teaching requirements for their program of study.

### *Eligibility for Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

1. Complete all coursework within the program of study.
2. Pass the state-specified basic skills and content area exams or Praxis I® (Basic Skills) and Praxis II® (Content Area) prior to student teaching.
3. Maintain a minimum GPA of a 2.8
4. Work with the appropriate departments to remove any academic and/or financial holds on account to ensure that the Student Services Counselor is able to complete the required registration process.
5. View program evaluations with assigned Student Services Counselor and/or Field Experience Counselor to discuss program progression and academic eligibility.
6. Possess a current Fingerprint Clearance Card or background check. Arizona residents must have an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card.
7. Student teaching may only be repeated once.

### *Application for Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

The [Student Teaching Application](#) can be found on the [College of Education](#) website. Deadlines for applying for student teaching are as follows:

- For Fall Student Teaching – February 1
- For Spring Student Teaching – August 1

No exceptions will be made to these deadlines, as placing learners in an appropriate setting is a process.

### *Requirements for an Institutional Recommendation (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

All teacher candidates seeking an Institutional Recommendation for a teaching license must complete the program requirements for their degree program, which include verification of fingerprint clearance, successful completion of student teaching, and passing scores in basic skills, content knowledge, and professional knowledge tests. It is the learner's responsibility to determine what, if any, testing is necessary for their individual state. Teacher candidates who are seeking licensure in a state which does not require verification of test scores for the basic skills, content knowledge, and/or professional knowledge exam prior to teacher licensure may request a waiver by completing a Waiver of Test Score Verification form. The Waiver of Test Score Verification will be approved only by a dean, or dean's designee. Learners should check with their own state department of education for additional applicable teacher licensure guidelines.

## **College of Fine Arts and Production**

### **Bachelor of Arts in Dance**

#### **Bachelor of Arts in Dance Education (IP/TL)**

Prospective students seeking admission to Grand Canyon University as dance education majors should have a minimum of two years of concentrated training in ballet, modern, and jazz dance technique. To gain admission into the program, a student must meet the general admission requirement of the university along with the requirements below.

1. An audition, either live or through the submission of DVD or digital materials
2. Dance resume and goal essay

Auditionees will be led by a faculty member and asked to demonstrate their technical skill level via barre and center work, progressions and improvisation. In addition, students will

perform one minute of solo choreography. Transfer students are required to perform solos that they have choreographed. Candidates must demonstrate performance strength and skills that can be developed to enable them to successfully complete the degree requirements of the major and to successfully serve in professional realms of dance and dance education. Prospective students may register online to audition on a date of their choice at [www.gcu.edu/auditions](http://www.gcu.edu/auditions).

## **College of Nursing and Health Care Professions**

### **Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training**

Students can enroll in the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training (ATP) program on admission to Grand Canyon University. Admission into the clinical portion of the Athletic Training Education program is competitive and determined by the criteria listed below and availability of clinical spaces.

To be eligible for acceptance into the clinical phase of the program, students must:

1. Complete the application by the designated deadline as specified on the [ATP](#) website.
2. Possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.
3. Successfully complete all prerequisite courses: UNV-103, ENG-105, ENG-106, MAT-134, BIO-155, BIO-155L, CWV-101, EXS-214, EXS-214L and BIO-253. EXS-214, EXS-214L and BIO-253 must be completed at Grand Canyon University.
4. Complete and submit the application for an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card.
5. Complete and submit a First Aid course completion card from one of the following listed in the Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experience Manual
6. Submit a Professional Rescuer CPR course completion card. CPR course must meet the Board of Certification (BOC) Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) requirements ([www.bocafc.org](http://www.bocafc.org)). Course completion card from one of the following listed in the Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experience Manual
7. Complete the Athletic Training entrance examination, which includes content from prerequisite courses including BIO-155, BIO-155L, BIO-253, EXS-214, EXS-214L.
8. Complete a written essay to answer a series of questions regarding students' knowledge of the profession of athletic training and commitment to learning.

Upon acceptance into the clinical phase of the program, students may remain enrolled in the Athletic Training program as long as they adhere to the following criteria:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7. Students who fail to meet the minimum GPA requirement will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. Students who fail to raise their GPA after the following semester will be administratively withdrawn from the program.
2. Successfully complete all Athletic Training major courses with C or better. Students who receive a lower grade than a C will be administratively withdrawn from the program and will need to follow the steps outlined in the Re-Entry to Athletic Training Major Courses section.
3. Maintain continuous enrollment during the fall and spring semesters.
4. Maintain National Athletic Trainers Association Membership at the cost to the student, which provides access to clinical course proficiency requirements.
5. Maintain Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) certification (current through May of each academic year).
6. Maintain Athletic Training Student Liability Insurance (current through May of each academic year).

7. Attend the GCU Athletic Training Student Orientation annually (either in person or on a webinar), which includes blood borne pathogen training and a discussion of the communicable disease policy.
8. Follow clinical requirements as outlined in the Athletic Training Clinical Manual.
9. Know and adhere to a clinical site's privacy and procedures before undertaking any activities at the site.
10. Promptly report any violation of those procedures, applicable law, or ATP confidentiality agreement by an ATP student, faculty or staff member to the appropriate ATP clinical instructor or faculty member.
11. Understand that a violation of the clinical site's policies and procedures, of applicable law, or ATP confidentiality agreement will subject the student to disciplinary action.
12. Maintain Immunization Records as outlined in the Athletic Training Clinical Manual.
13. Successfully complete GCU Board of Certification (BOC) endorsement exam prior to being endorsed by the Program Director. Students must report any legal incidence that may result in revocation of the fingerprint clearance card or cause ineligibility to sit for the BOC examination immediately to the program director.

#### *Re-Entry to Athletic Training Major Courses*

Students who have failed courses in the athletic training major must submit an official academic appeal to the Athletic Training Program Director to be considered for re-entry into the program.

A student receiving a grade of incomplete "I" in any athletic training major course must assure that the incomplete is resolved and a grade is submitted prior to the start of the next academic semester. Failure to do so will result in administrative withdrawal from the program and current cohort sequence.

Student must petition with the Athletic Training Program Director for re-entry to the athletic training major under the following conditions:

1. Interrupted Enrollment- Student has been out of the athletic training major (for at least one course). Students must follow a cohort sequence.
2. Course failure- Student receives a failure (below a grade of "C") in athletic training course. Students may not continue in ATP course sequence until failed course has been repeated and passed with a "C" or better. Courses are currently offered one time during the academic year.
3. Unresolved Incomplete- Student receives an incomplete "I" as a grade in an athletic training course that is unresolved by the first day of classes in the following semester.
4. Administrative Withdrawal- Student has been administratively withdrawn from the athletic training major course.

Re-entry to the major is not assured simply because the student was previously enrolled in athletic training courses or was previously accepted. The decision will be based on the evidence showing that the student is ready to continue, has potential to complete the program, and is in compliance with University regulations and standards of behavior. All decisions to readmit are also contingent upon clinical space availability. The student must meet all admission and clinical requirements to be considered for re-entry into the program.

Only one failed athletic training course may be repeated once based on acceptance of the student by the reapplication process to the major. Subsequent course failures constitute administrative withdrawal from the athletic training education program.

#### *Board of Certification Examination*

In order to attain certification, an individual must complete an entry-level athletic training education program accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education \(CAATE\)](#) and pass the Board of Certification (BOC) exam. Please visit the [BOC website](#) and view the candidate information for full description of qualifications and process.

#### *Mandatory Advisement for Athletic Training Major Courses*

Faculty members may request mandatory advisement or remediation sessions when students are in clinical or academic jeopardy, and/or when student behavior appears below professional standards. Satisfactory academics and/or behavioral changes must be accomplished by the end of the course in order to progress in the program. It is important to maintain continuous progress and a sound knowledge base to be successful throughout the program.

#### *Athletic Training Major Course Completion*

Successful completion of athletic training courses means that students must:

1. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the theory portion of the course.
  - a. Theory grade includes the average of exams and all non-clinical assignments.
2. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the graded clinical portion of the course with satisfactory clinical performance.
3. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the exam portion of the theory grade. This average will be calculated by adding the total number of exam points earned by the student and dividing by the total number of exam points possible.
  - a. Exam portion does not include quizzes.
4. All assignments, including pass/fail assignments, must be completed and submitted to earn course credit, with the exception of missed clinical assignments due to absence. Students are required to follow the Late Policy. Failure to achieve any of these criteria will result in athletic training course failure. Athletic training course is defined as any course associated with the program of study after admission to the athletic training program, not including prerequisite coursework. Failure to pass all of the benchmark assignments as designated in the individual course will result in failure of the course.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure)**

Students can enroll into the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure) program on admission to the University.

#### *Admission Requirements for Clinical Coursework*

Admission into the clinical portion of the program is competitive and determined by the criteria listed below and availability of clinical spaces.

1. Applicants meeting the minimum Prerequisite GPA and HESI entrance exam scores, along with passing an approved background check will be considered for admission into clinical coursework.
2. For admission into the clinical portion of the program, GCU uses a three-tiered admission process. GPA and HESI composite scores are stack-ranked for all applicants according to these tiers. The number of accepted students is dependent on the availability of clinical spaces and varies each application period. First tier applicants are prioritized. First tier: For admission purposes, all qualified applicants must have completed, or are currently in progress, 24 or more prerequisite credits at GCU that would apply to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at GCU. Second tier: For admission

purposes, all qualified applicants must have completed, or are currently in progress, 1 to 23 prerequisite credits at GCU that would apply to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at GCU. Third tier: For admission purposes, all qualified applicants with no prerequisite credits at GCU completed at the time of application that would apply to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at GCU are considered third tier. Acceptance among the Phoenix Metro Campuses, Albuquerque, and Tucson programs differs due to dissimilarities in student populations; therefore, students should consider the probability of acceptance based on our experience that Main Campus has historically admitted students meeting Tier 1 only. Probability of acceptance goes down with each tier. Applicants may only apply to one state per application period.

- Prerequisite GPA requirements: Completion of Prerequisite courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher for all prerequisite coursework ( ENG-105, MAT-134/144, BIO-201/201L, ENG-106, PSY-102, CHM-101/101L, BIO-202/202L, BIO-205/205L, BIO-483, MAT-274, SOC-102, PSY-357, and BIO-319)
  - HESI exam score requirements: Complete the Health Education Systems, Inc (HESI) entrance exam with a minimum score of 80% in Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary, Math and 70% in Human Anatomy and Physiology. Students are able to complete the full HESI entrance exam twice during one application period with a maximum of four total attempts. The highest HESI exam score earned for each subject will be used in the composite score calculation.
3. Submit verification of a Level One State of Arizona or New Mexico (where admitted) Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card application in process or current fingerprint clearance documentation in accordance with the fingerprint policies of the state in which the student resides. This must be on file prior to beginning clinical courses.
  4. Pass an approved Arizona or New Mexico (where admitted) background check (no felonies; misdemeanors will be subject to review by the college). If students are charged with a felony or misdemeanor while in the program, they are obligated to report this to their Program/Site Director. Failure to do so may lead to immediate termination from the program. Students whose fingerprints and background checks expire will be required to pay any additional fees to update their paperwork.

\*New Mexico students complete this simultaneously with the fingerprinting process. This process is completed prior to Level One of the program. New Mexico Department of Health requires student fingerprints to be updated annually for a fee.

All criteria must be completed by the deadline specified below. The College of Nursing and Healthcare Professions will conduct a review of the student's records to determine admissibility into the nursing major.

Deadline	Semester
May 15	Fall
September 15	Spring
January 15	Summer

*Required Prior to Starting BSN Clinical Coursework*

Upon acceptance into the nursing program, students must complete the following prior to starting the major coursework and clinical phase of the program.

1. Sign the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Confidentiality Agreement before any involvement in a clinical setting.
2. Attend College of Nursing and Health Care Professions training or an approved in-classroom clinical instruction on requirements relating to patient privacy.
3. Complete the Drug, Nicotine, and Alcohol Screening. Please refer to the Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experience Manual for additional information.
4. Provide the following health information to the Office of Field Experience at least two weeks before the semester start date where the student will begin their clinical coursework. Some requirements will need to be updated after the initial screening/immunization. Please refer to the Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experience Manual for additional information.
  - Health history
  - Physical exam
  - Current health insurance coverage
  - Proof of immunization and/or immunity (as in the Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experiences Manual) are required:
    - Tuberculosis (TB) screening
    - Lab evidence (titer) of immunity
    - MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
    - Varicella Zoster (VZV)
    - Tetanus-Diphtheria (TD)
    - Influenza
    - Hepatitis A (recommended; not required)
    - Hepatitis B (recommended; a signed waiver is required if the vaccination series is not completed or declined by the student)
  - Submit a Professional Rescuer CPR course completion card. The certification has to remain current throughout the program.

*Progression Requirements during the Pre-licensure Nursing Major and Clinical Coursework*

While enrolled in the nursing major, students must adhere to the following criteria:

1. Follow the clinical policies and procedures outlined in the Pre-licensure Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experience Manual.
2. Maintain a current Level One State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card or current fingerprint clearance documentation in accordance with the fingerprint policies of the state in which the student resides.
3. Maintain continuous enrollment in the nursing major courses. Traditional campus students maintain enrollment for the Fall and Spring semesters. Fast-track students maintain enrollment for the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. This includes clinical rotations.
4. Earn a grade of a C or better in all nursing major courses.
5. Only failure courses within the same academic term may be repeated one time, provided the student follows the college's reapplication process and the application is approved. Failure in a didactic or clinical course also results in failure of the co-requisite course; however, co-requisite failures are processed as a single non-passing occurrence. Students who fail one or more nursing core course(s) for the second time in consecutive or non-consecutive semesters will not be permitted re-enrollment to the program. Example NSG-321 Failure equals failure of NSG-321 and NSG-321C.
6. Maintain a 2.7 cumulative GPA in all nursing major courses. If the GPA falls below 2.7, the student will be placed on nursing

probation. If the student is able to raise his or her GPA during the subsequent semester, the student will be removed from nursing probation. However, if the student is unable to raise his or her GPA during the subsequent semester, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the nursing program.

Students that fail a term or semester will be not be allowed to register for the following term or semester given they are now out of sequence with their plan of study. These students must apply through a formal reentry application process to re-enter the program following a failure for the next term or semester the failed course(s) is offered. Re-entry is not guaranteed. A re-entry decision will be based on evidence showing that the student is ready to continue, has potential to complete the program, and is in compliance with University regulations, professional standards of behavior, and is deemed safe. All decisions to readmit are also contingent upon clinical space availability. The student must meet all admission and clinical requirements to be considered for re-entry into the program. All re-entry students will be placed on a student success plan. Students must meet with the faculty of the re-entered course during week one of the course to develop a student success plan.

#### *Re-Entry to Pre-licensure Nursing Major Courses*

Any student who exits the nursing program prematurely for any reason must reapply to obtain another seat in the program. The reason(s) a student is unable to successfully progress may be due to failure, withdrawal (elective or administrative) or leave of absence (LOA) in a course(s).

#### Readmission Definitions:

1. Student in Good Standing: A student will be considered in "Good Standing" when the eligibility to progress to the next semester is guaranteed through the successful completion of all coursework within the current semester.
2. Eligibility to Progress: A student will be considered eligible to progress when all portions (test, theory, and clinical) of each nursing course are passed with a 76% or greater average. A student must attain 76% or greater overall to complete a course successfully.
3. Student Not in Good Standing: A student will be considered "Not in Good Standing" when through Withdrawal (administrative) or failure the student has not successfully completed all coursework for the current semester. Given the student is now out of sequence with the normal progression of the nursing program, the student has lost his or her seat in the program and must seek readmission to the nursing program.
4. Failure: Nursing course failure occurs when the student does not attain a 76% or greater for each section (test, theory, and clinical) of the course and overall score for a nursing course.

#### *Conditions for Pre-Licensure Readmission Application*

1. Student withdrew from one or more enrolled nursing courses in same semester.
2. Student receives a failure in one or more enrolled nursing course within the same semester.
3. Student has been administratively withdrawn from a nursing major course.

#### *Guidelines for Pre-licensure Readmission*

1. Consideration for readmission will be granted only to the student who is in compliance with the following readmission guidelines:
  - a. Student will have to file a [Reinstatement form](#) for review by the college.
  - b. Student requesting readmission must have:

- i. A 2.7 cumulative GPA on 4.0 scale in all nursing major courses. GPA will be calculated using course grades from previously completed nursing major courses,
  - ii. In the reinstatement form, student must list the reason(s) for not progressing in the nursing major; the reason(s) for wanting readmission to the nursing major; indications for how the student's status has changed in regards to progression in the nursing major; and examples of the strategies for success to be implemented if granted readmission.
- c. The College Administrator may specify certain criteria necessary for readmission. In the Student Success Plan additional readmission criteria may include but are not limited to:
    - i. Repeating of academic courses;
    - ii. Clinical/laboratory/simulation experiences;
    - iii. Remediation meetings and activities;
    - iv. Counseling;
    - v. Review of Code of Conduct issues, including timeliness, professionalism, and accountability.
    - vi. Remediation activities related to Code of Conduct issues.
  - d. The student is responsible for providing documentation of compliance with the readmission criteria prior to consideration of reentry. This may include a summary of work, educational, and other experiences required/obtained since leaving the program.
  - e. Students may be granted one readmission.
  - f. A student requesting readmission to the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions may need to comply with new curriculum requirements.
  - g. Readmission to the nursing program is not guaranteed simply because the student was previously enrolled in nursing courses or was previously accepted. The decision will be based on the evidence showing that the student is ready to continue, has potential to successfully complete the program, and is in compliance with University regulations and standards of behavior
  - h. All readmissions are subject to space availability and approval of the Dean.
    - i. If readmission is granted, the readmission is valid only for the semester noted on the Readmission Request Form.
    - j. If readmission is granted, the student must meet all the requirements for readmission as detailed on the Readmission letter.
    - k. Student acceptance letter will detail the requirements and timelines the student must meet before attendance in the courses can occur.
    - l. Students denied readmission will receive a letter indicating College's decision.

#### *Mandatory Advisement for Pre-licensure Nursing Major Courses*

Faculty members may request mandatory advisement or remediation sessions when students are in clinical or academic jeopardy, and/or when student behavior appears below professional standards. Satisfactory academics and/or behavioral changes must be accomplished by the end of the course in order to progress in the nursing program. It is important to maintain continuous progress and a sound knowledge base to be successful throughout the program.

#### *Nursing Licensure Examination*

In order to be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Examination (NCLEX-RN) for professional licensure after graduation, students must graduate from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. No exceptions are made to this policy. Students are responsible for submitting an

application to take the National Council License Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) exam for professional licensure through the State Board of Nursing in which they intend to be licensed.

*Required Academic Remediation*

Remediation is considered a professional and academic responsibility. Students must complete individual academic remediation, as outlined in the Student Success Plan. This remediation might include but is not limited to HESI-specific remediation. Academic remediation is required component of course and program completion. All course/program requirements must be met in order for the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions to submit program completion documents to the State Board of Nursing in which a student intends to be licensed.

*Pre-licensure Nursing Major Course Completion*

Successful completion of nursing courses means that students must:

1. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the theory portion of the course.
  - a. Theory grade includes the average of exams and all non-clinical assignments.
2. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the graded clinical portion of the course with satisfactory clinical performance.
3. Achieve a minimum of 76% average for the exam portion of the theory grade.
  - a. Exam portion does not include quizzes.
4. All assignments, including pass/fail assignments, must be completed and submitted to earn course credit, with the exception of missed clinical assignments due to absence.
  - a. Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day.
  - b. No points will be awarded for any assignment submitted 10 days past the due date, but submission is still required.
  - c. Technical issues are not valid excuses for late work unless the problem stems from GCU servers.
  - d. No assignment can be accepted for grading after 11:59pm on the final day of class.
5. All asterisked skills (found within the Psychomotor Skills Checklist) must be completed and signed off by a clinical faculty before the end of the course.
6. HESI Standardized exams are given in theory courses at each level of the program. Completion of the exam and remediation is required as part of the course requirements. The GCU benchmark for successful completion is 900 or greater.
  - a. All students are encouraged to review the individualize HESI Remediation associated with the HESI exam.
  - b. Students who do not achieve a benchmark score on the first attempt are required to complete remediation as describe in the Success Plan and take a parallel version of the standardized exam.
  - c. The points for the exam will be awarded based on the student’s score on the first attempt and will contribute to the student’s overall grade in the course.

HESI Scoring Interval	Performance Level	% Score
≥ 1100	Recommended	100
1050 – 1099	Recommended	95
1000 – 1049	Acceptable	90
950 – 999	Acceptable	85

HESI Scoring Interval	Performance Level	% Score
900 – 949	Minimum Acceptable	80
875 – 899	Remediation required	76
850 – 874	Remediation required	70
800 – 849	Remediation required	65
750 – 799	Remediation required	60
700 – 749	Remediation required	55
≤ 699	Remediation required	50

7. Pre-licensure Nursing Total Testing Exams: Students are required to complete total testing exams, as assigned at each level of nursing courses. Students are required to complete HESI CAT Exam and a three-day HESI Live Review prior to end of program

Failure to achieve any of these criteria will result in nursing course failure.

Failure to pass ALL of the benchmark assignments as designated in the individual course will result in failure of the course.

*Pre-licensure Nursing Total Testing Exams*

Students are required to complete total testing exams, as assigned at each level of nursing courses.

*Pre-licensure Nursing Math Requirement*

A medication math exam, given at all levels, and as assigned after new math content, must be passed per the policy prior to administering medications in the clinical setting.

*Pre-licensure Nursing Med-Math Policy*

The purpose of this policy is to allow students to gain clinical experience and knowledge while working toward med-math and medication administration proficiency in a clinical/simulated environment. Student will not be allowed to administer medication in the clinical setting until both Part A and Part B of the performance-based assessment has been successfully completed. Students that do not achieve a minimum of 90% score after the third med-math exam will fail the course following the third failure. Students progressing to Part B will have three (3) opportunities to demonstrate proficiency in medication administration. Students that cannot demonstrate safe medication administration practice after three (3) clinical/simulated scenarios will fail the course.

The med-math and medication administration performance-based assessment will consist of two-parts within the following courses: Level 1: NSG-307, Level 2: NSG-321C, Level 3: NSG-401C and Level 4: NSG-421C:

Part A: Administration of the med-math exams.

Part B: Students demonstrate safe medication administration practice in a clinical/simulated environment evaluated by a clinical adjunct who has received training. The clinical adjunct will also be responsible for completing the checklist and signing their name on the document.

#### Part A - Med-Math Exam Administration Schedule:

Students must pass the med-math exam with a minimum score of 90% to progress to Part B.

#### Part B – Medication Administration Schedule:

Student must demonstrate the safe administration of medication in the clinical setting. Failure of the final attempt of the med-math exam will result in nursing course failure.

- Students who successfully score a minimum of 90% on either med-math exam #1 or med-math exam #2 will be scheduled.
- Students failing medication administration attempt #1 will remediate with faculty or lab coordinator.
- Students who successfully score a minimum of 90% on med-math exam #2 or 3 will be scheduled for their first medication administration attempt.
- Students unsuccessful in the medication administration attempt #1, and who have remediated with faculty/lab coordinator, will be scheduled for their second medication administration attempt.
- Students unsuccessful in their first and second medication administration attempts, and who have remediated with faculty/lab coordinator, will be scheduled for their third and final attempt.

#### *Pre-licensure Nursing Medication Administration Policy*

Administration of medication in the clinical setting should not occur with anyone but the Grand Canyon clinical faculty or with special arrangement by the faculty in agreement with the healthcare agency policies. All medication administration by students must be directly supervised by GCU faculty or the agency RN if permitted.

Students may not:

- Take verbal orders or phone order from a doctor or primary care provider
- Transcribe orders
- Witness permits or advanced directives
- Care for patients with active tuberculosis (TB)
- Provide patient care or perform procedures, etc., unless their instructor is on the hospital premises
- Administer any medication without instructor or RN present
- Leave clinical setting for any reason without instructor's approval
- Start IVs or draw blood without instructor or RN supervising
- Administer blood products except albumin
- Silence any alarm without nursing staff present
- Administer IV push drugs in an emergency code situation
- Administer any medications or perform any invasive procedure without direct supervision of the clinical instructor or the staff nurse. This includes changing any programmed information on any monitoring devices including IV pumps. A student who fails to follow these guidelines will be placed on clinical probation after one incident.

#### *Nursing Licensure Examination*

In order to be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Examination for Professional Licensure after graduation, students must have graduated from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. No exceptions are made to this policy. Students are responsible for applying to take the National Council License Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) exam for professional licensure through the State Board of Nursing.

The registered nurse licensing requirements are the exclusive responsibility of the State Board of Nursing (Arizona: Nurse

Practice Act, A.R.S. Sections 36-1601 et. seq.; New Mexico: Nurse Practice Act, Chapter 61, Article 3, NMSA 1978) and must be satisfied independently of any requirements for graduation from the University. Historically, the College of Nursing and Health Care Professionals graduates have been successful on the licensure examination. Satisfactory performance on the licensure examination is the responsibility of the graduate and not guaranteed by the College of Nursing and Health Care Professionals.

#### *Professional Nurse Qualifications*

Section 32-1632 of the Arizona State Board of Nursing Statutes, Chapter 15, Article 2 – Licensure states, “An applicant for a license to practice as a graduate, professional or registered nurse shall file with the board a verified written application accompanied by the prescribed fee and shall submit satisfactory proof that the applicant:

1. Has completed the basic professional curriculum in approved professional nursing program and holds a diploma or degree from that program.
2. If convicted of one or more felonies, has received an absolute discharge from the sentences for all felony convictions five or more years prior to the date filing an application pursuant to this chapter.”

In New Mexico, per 16.12.2.10 – Licensure Requirements for Registered Nurses and Practical Nurses.

Nursing students are expected to be clear of any felony convictions at the time of admission into the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions and to remain free of felony convictions for the duration of the program. If the prospective student or student is charged with a felony, or undesignated offense either before admission or during the program, he/she must speak with the Dean immediately.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure)**

#### **Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training**

#### *No Rounding Policy*

The GCU College of Nursing & Health Care Professions has adopted a No Rounding policy for all courses within the program. This policy states that all grades will be entered to the hundredth at their face value and not rounded (i.e., a final grade of 89.99 will be entered as B and not a B+).

#### *Testing Policy*

Students are allowed 1.5 min per multiple choice question and 3 min per short answer and Med Math questions on exams.

#### *Honor Code*

All students will sign the following Honor Code Statement each time they take a test, either electronically or by paper and pencil.

*“On my honor, as a Grand Canyon University Student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.”*

#### *Guidelines for Administration of Exams in The Ground Testing Environment*

Examinations will be administered in an environment that is conducive to success and minimizes the opportunity for academic dishonesty.

1. Students may only have a pencil on their desk. Calculators and scratch paper will be provided by proctor, if needed for exam.
2. Everything brought into the room (backpacks, purses, cell phones, hats, snacks, water, etc.) must be placed at the front of the room at the student's own risk.



3. Only head adornments of a medical or religious nature are permitted during examinations. Hats, hoodies, beanies, and/or other ornamental head coverings must be removed and left with other non-essential paraphernalia in the instructor-/proctor-designated locations
4. All cell phones must be turned off and placed in backpack (no cell phones on desk or in students' pockets).
5. All watch devices with internet capability must be placed in the front of the room with the student's belongings.
6. Faculty will be present during entire exam and actively monitoring student behaviors.
7. Students may not talk during the exams.
8. Students must keep their eyes on their own exam at all times.
9. Once the exam has begun students may not approach the instructor to ask questions or seek clarification.
10. Students may not leave the room and return once the exam has begun. Students must use restrooms prior to exam. In the event of a medical emergency, students may leave, but the allotted time will not change.
11. Students who arrive late will still be allowed to take the exam, but the stop time will remain the same.
12. Exams will be timed and collected when time is up.
13. Students may only access the HESI test site on the computer while taking an electronic exam. Students may not minimize the site, exit the site, or use chat during the exam.
14. After completing the examination, students will leave the classroom and not return until instructed by faculty once all students have finished the exam.
15. Students are encouraged to be present and well prepared to take all examinations. Consequences for being absent may include being given a different version of the exam. Only students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam. Pre-planned, non-emergency misses should be scheduled prior to absence; students will receive different exam versions from those administered to students' primary section. Only students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam. Students must notify the instructor no less than one hour prior to the start of the exam for the absence to be considered excused. Students may make up no more than one exam per course.
16. Students who are observed violating the above criteria will be asked to leave the exam, given no credit for the exam, and reported to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

#### *Policy for Student Drug, Nicotine & Alcohol Screening*

The practice of professionalism demands that the clinician be free from the influence of any substance that would impair judgment and thinking ability. As a result, health care agencies are requiring students who work directly with patients to undergo drug screening. Students must also be free from impairing substances. Health care agencies and the CONHCP require drug screening of all students prior to their first clinical experience. In addition, students are subject to screening if either the faculty or preceptor suspects that the student is impaired at any time on campus, or during any health care experience or any other university or work related activity. Any student whose test is deemed positive will not be able to enroll or continue in nursing course for a minimum period of one year. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee. The College is required to reports any positive screens and/or suspicion refusal to the appropriate board.

This policy is designed to identify the procedures to be followed for both types of testing as well as to outline the appeal and readmission to the program.

#### *Initial Urine Drug Screening*

1. Students entering their first clinical course and new transfer students will receive a drug screen authorization form in order to complete a random urine drug screen. Students will have 24 hours to complete the random drug screen at one of the laboratory options provided. Students receiving an authorization form on a Friday will be required to complete the screen by the end-of-business hours on Monday.
2. Students will be required to show picture identification upon arrival. A driver's license or passport are acceptable forms of identification.
3. The cost for all screening and medical review (if deemed necessary) is the students' responsibility.
4. A screen with questionable results will be sent by the lab for a medical review. Costs for review and retest will be the responsibility of the student.
5. A negative report is necessary to continue in the program of study in the CONHCP.
6. This screen need not be repeated as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment. Continuous enrollment is defined as enrollment in nursing classes during all consecutive semesters until graduation.
7. Students may be re-tested for cause or reasonable suspicion.

#### *For Cause or Reasonable Suspicion Drug, Nicotine & Alcohol Screening*

The CONHCP may ask a student to submit to a drug and alcohol screening at any time a faculty member or preceptor believes that the student may be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This includes but is not limited to the following circumstances: evidence of drugs or alcohol on or about the student's person or in the student's possession, unusual conduct on the student's part that suggests possible use or influence of drugs or alcohol, negative performance patterns, or excessive and unexplained absenteeism or tardiness. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee.

1. Students will be asked to submit to an immediate oral drug and alcohol screening test conducted at one of the laboratory options provided.
2. Students may also be given a drug screen authorization form and asked to immediately complete a urine drug screen at one of the laboratory options provided.
3. Students will be required to show picture identification upon arrival. A driver's license or passport are acceptable forms of identification.
4. The costs for all screening and medical review (if deemed necessary) are the students' responsibility.
5. A screen with questionable results will be sent by the lab for a medical review by the company completing the drug screen. Costs for review and retest will be the responsibility of the student.
6. A negative report, excluding a positive nicotine result, is necessary to continue in the program of study in the CONHCP.

#### *Follow-up Action: Positive Screen (For Cause or Initial Drug Screen)*

1. Positive drug screens (including those medically prescribed) may result in withdrawal from the nursing program for a minimum of 12 months. After this 12-month period, the student may apply for readmission under general guidelines stated in the University Policy Handbook, provided there is submission of evidence of satisfactory participation in a

rehabilitation program for alcohol/substance abuse. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee.

2. Sources of evidence include:
  - a. Documentation of completed program of rehabilitation.
  - a. Acknowledgement of continuance in a twelve step or after-care program.
  - b. Letter from therapist or licensed health care provider stating the student is now able to function safely in a clinical facility.
3. The student must have a negative screen prior to being readmitted to the nursing program. The screen will be done at the direction of CONHCP and may be periodic while the student is in a CONHCP program. The student is responsible for all costs of screening.
4. The decision to readmit will be made by the CONHCP College Administrator after review of submitted materials. As with other applications for readmission, space availability may be a determining factor for that particular semester.
5. A report will be filed with the State Board of Nursing upon withdrawal from the program consistent with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Nursing.
6. Any student who screens positive after one readmission may be permanently dismissed from the nursing program.

#### *Follow-up Action For-Cause Negative Screen*

1. Students whose drug screens are negative will meet with the College Administrator to discuss the perceptions of impaired behavior and the implications and steps to avoid similar situations in the future.
2. A review by the Medical Review Officer (MRO) by the company collecting the drug screen for documentation of any medical condition or treatment may be requested.
3. Students will not be counted as absent from clinical during this evaluation process. However, students will be expected to meet the clinical objectives.
4. A reasonable suspicion/cause drug screen that is positive; however, is deemed negative by a medical review officer will follow these guidelines:
  - a. The student will meet with the College Administrator.
  - b. The student may be required to undergo, at the student's expense, an evaluation for drug use/prescription drug use/impairment by a psychiatrist recommended by the State Board of Nursing.
  - c. The student will follow other recommendations deemed necessary by the College Administrator.
  - d. The student will be required to provide a negative drug screen prior to returning to clinical and be subject to periodic drug screens at the student's expense.
  - e. More than one incident of a reasonable suspicion/cause drug screen that is positive; however, deemed negative by a medical review officer may result in withdrawal from the nursing program for a minimum of 12 months. In this case the student will follow the positive drug screening guidelines.

#### *Students Who Refuse Drug Screening*

Students who refuse to participate in screening will be required to leave the clinical area and make an appointment with the Dean of Nursing or his/her designee. The student will remain out of the clinical area until an investigation has been done and a recommendation has been made by the College Administrator.

Students who refuse screening may be subject to dismissal from the CONHCP. A student who refuses to participate in the aforementioned rehabilitation program will not be allowed into clinical courses; therefore he/she cannot complete the nursing program.

#### *Substances Included in Urine Drug Screen*

Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cannabinoids, Cocaine metabolite, Cotinine (tobacco/nicotine), Fentanyl, Meperidine, Methadone, Opiates, Oxycodone, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene

\*Please note certain clinical facilities include nicotine as part of their screening and will not allow students to rotate at their facility who test positive from nicotine or its byproduct, cotinine.

#### *Bodily Fluids Exposure and/or Injury During Field Experiences*

Grand Canyon University acknowledges the inherent risks associated with working around or with patients and health care organizations, including a potential exposure to blood and body fluids. Once in a patient care setting, you will have access to and are expected to utilize appropriate blood-borne pathogen barriers, proper sanitary precautions, and appropriate biohazard disposal equipment and procedures at each clinical site.

The following policy outlines your responsibilities in this area:

- You must have and maintain current health insurance and show verification of coverage each year while matriculated in the program.
- GCU and the clinical agencies that provide practical experiences for our students are not responsible or liable for the costs of medical follow-up or expenses incurred.
- If evaluation and treatment is required by the facility where you are completing clinical experiences, the student is responsible for all costs and associated follow up.
- In the event that you are injured or exposed to blood and body fluids, you will:
  - Immediately notify your clinical instructor or site supervisor
  - Wash the area immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.
  - Within 24 hours, follow-up with your own Primary Care Provider who will make a determination of immunization status and give appropriate prophylaxis or referral for appropriate prophylaxis.
  - Assume full responsibility for disease sequelae.
  - Follow the policies of the agency (if any).
  - Complete a student incident report with the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during incident. A copy of this report will be given to the College Administrator and placed in the student's file.

#### *Communicable Disease Policy*

You may not participate in field experiences during the time you are affected by or suspect you have a communicable disease. A communicable disease is a health disorder that can be passed from one person to another. If suspected of communicable disease, you must immediately visit the student health center or personal physician for evaluation. If the evaluation shows possible communicable disease, you must remain out of contact with patients for the duration suggested by the physician. You may not return to participation in field experiences until you have been re-evaluated by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant and released with written verification from the medical provider. You must contact the clinical preceptor and faculty upon suspicion and verification of the disease.

### *Clinical Attendance and Participation Policy*

Absences in clinical rotation may jeopardize a student's successful progression and completion of the program. Clinical absences may result in clinical probation at the discretion of the preceptor. Students who are too ill to perform safely in clinical should seek medical attention and contact their course faculty their preceptor prior to missing clinical.

Attendance of 100% is strongly recommended. Students are responsible for any and all material covered in class, clinical, as well as their assigned readings. Participation in the classroom and clinical experience is essential to meet the objectives for all clinical major courses. No clinical make up will be allowed except under circumstances approved by the College Administrator, including missed clinical notes and assignments.

Attendance at all scheduled lectures, discussions, clinical and laboratory courses is expected. Students are expected to be on time to all scheduled activities. Students are required to notify faculty of any absence and/or anticipated tardiness. Individual faculty will discuss the mechanism for notification of absence. Absenteeism may interfere with student attainment of course objectives, and may impact the grade students receive in clinical and theory courses. Legitimate illness may be an excused absence when defined as:

- a communicable disease which can be transmitted to patients, staff or other students
- an illness which would be aggravated by attendance at lecture, lab, or clinical
- hospitalization

Students will be asked to submit to the course faculty evidence of illness for time periods when they have significant health problems or absences.

Any student who has experienced an Emergency Department visit or hospitalization or an acute illness, trauma, surgery or pregnancy/delivery will need a health care provider's release to return to clinical. Such a release should provide information that attests to the fact that the student is physically and emotionally able to provide direct patient care.

Students who must miss clinical due to pregnancy or extended illness may not be able to complete clinical objectives. Students must contact the course instructor to discuss options or students are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Office. The College is not obligated to provide makeup clinical opportunities for students unable to complete clinical during the normal academic calendar.

### *Clinical Absence Policy*

Failure to complete the minimum clinical requirements will result in failure of that clinical course.

All absences are to be reported to the preceptor in a timely manner via email, text, or phone.

If a student is unable to attend clinical, the student must:

1. Contact, by phone or in person, the course faculty, at least one (1) hour prior to the scheduled clinical time.
2. Notify by phone the designated client or clinical agency, at least one (1) hour prior to the scheduled clinical time.
3. At the discretion of the faculty member, submit a release signed by a health care provider to return to clinical.

### *Clinical Tardy Policy*

Clinical tardiness is defined as being late at the beginning of a clinical. Any anticipated tardiness is to be reported to the appropriate course faculty and preceptor.

Consequences of being tardy three times within the same course are:

First Occurrence: Student will receive a clinical warning.

Second Occurrence: Student will be placed on clinical probation for the second late.

Third Occurrence: Student will fail clinical on the third late.

### *Clinical Restriction Policy*

Clinical restriction is the official means of restricting the student from any field experience when students have missing, expired, or insufficient immunizations or documentation requirements on file with the Office of Field Experience (OFE). You will be notified by the OFE 4 weeks before documentation is set to expire. Once documentation has expired, the OFE will notify you course faculty of your restriction status. At all times it is your responsibility to ensure that your health and safety documentation is up to date and current, and that all other program requirements have been met. Health and safety requirements are mandatory for all students where indicated in this manual.

### *Clinical Probation Policy*

Clinical probation is the official means of notifying you of unacceptable behavior or unsatisfactory performance. Being placed on probation can affect the field experience/clinical grade and may result in being administratively withdrawn from the course as determined by the Professional Standards Committee.

Clinical probation status is conferred at the discretion of the course instructor, clinical instructor, and respective Course Faculty for any unsafe or unprofessional behaviors. The following are examples of behaviors that lead to probation:

- Participating in a setting with expired or outstanding immunizations or documentation or delay in completing OCO modules by the due date.
- Unexcused absences
- Tardiness, failure to notify faculty/staff of tardiness or absences in clinical
- Insufficient preparation for the field experience
- Failure to follow instructor's or preceptor's guidance
- Unsafe practice in the clinical area
- Causing a client unnecessary suffering or harm
- Failure to report abnormal data in a timely manner to the appropriate persons
- Conduct inappropriate to the role of the student as outlined in this manual
- Failure to follow instructor's guidance
- Failure to dress in approved program attire
- HIPAA violations
- Leaving the clinical site without permission at any time during clinical hours
- Pre-licensure students administering medications unsupervised by an RN
- Performing skills/interventions which have not been signed off by the faculty
- Acting outside of a student scope or practice

### *Probation Procedure*

- A discussion with Course Faculty and letter of probation will be given you.
- Code of Conduct will be initiated.
- A copy of the letter will be sent to the College Administrator and will be placed in your file.
- Refer to the University Policy Handbook for more information

- Clinical probation may result in up to 10% reduction in the clinical grade and may result in the student being withdrawn from the course

#### *Failure/Program Expulsion*

If you fail to meet the course objectives, policies, and procedures outlined in the classroom and this manual, you may face failure or program expulsion. You must repeat any failed courses before moving on to the next course outlined in your program of study. A Code of Conduct form will be filed by the course faculty for any action that results in clinical failure. Field

Experience/Clinical course failure may result in a failure of the co-requisite theory course at the judgment of the Course Faculty and Professional Standards Committee.

Examples of clinical failure, program expulsion, or Code of Conduct violation actions:

- Compromising GCU's relationship with any site
- Compromising safety in any form
- Plagiarism and ethical conduct resulting in Code of Conduct Violations

#### *Clinical Probation*

Clinical probation means the student is not meeting the stated clinical objectives, which are listed in the syllabus for each clinical course. A student may be removed from the clinical area for any unsafe or unprofessional behaviors. Clinical probation may result in up to 10% reduction in the clinical grade and may result in the student being withdrawn from the course at the discretion of the lead faculty member.

Examples of probationary actions, include but are not limited to:

1. Unsafe practice in the clinical area
2. Insufficient preparation for clinical experience
3. Failure to follow faculty/staff guidance in clinical experience
4. Failure to notify faculty/staff of tardiness or absences during clinical experience
5. Causing patient to experience unnecessary suffering
6. Inappropriate performance specific to level of expectations
7. Unprofessional communication to faculty, staff, or patient
8. Non-adherence to student uniform attire
9. Consciously falsifying documents, including patient and personal documents

#### *Clinical Probation Procedure*

The following steps will occur if the student is not meeting the clinical objectives.

1. The lead faculty member will meet with the student and provide him or her with a letter of clinical probation effective throughout the duration of the clinical course.
2. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Associate Dean and Site Director and will be placed in the student's file.

The student has the remainder of the course to earn a passing grade, which removes the student from clinical probation.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN)**

Students who have been accepted into the nursing program may remain in the program if they adhere to the following criteria:

1. Maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA on 4.0 scale in all nursing major courses.
2. Maintain continuous enrollment for nursing major courses
3. Adhere to the [Class Attendance and Participation](#) section of the University Policy Handbook.
4. Students who earn two non-passing grades in the program will be administratively withdrawn from the program. Students have the option to complete a [Request for Reinstatement](#),

which is discussed within the [University Appeals Procedures](#) section of the University Policy Handbook.

Students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) program who want to transition into Grand Canyon University's Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program may complete up to two graduate level courses as part of their upper division elective credits for the BSN degree completion. Eligible MSN programs are included on the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) to Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Fast-Track Request Form. To be eligible, students must:

1. Possess a 3.5 enrollment cumulative GPA at the time 33 of 36 RN to BSN program major credits are completed.
2. Complete the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) to Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Fast-Track Request Form.

Once approved, students must complete the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) courses with a C or better. Grades earned will be calculated into the graduate GPA. Tuition for the MSN courses taken as electives will be charged at the graduate tuition rate and will be charged the Canyon Connect Fee at the graduate rate. It is recommended that students enroll into the MSN program within 180 days of completing their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) program to guarantee transferability of credit hours earned toward the MSN program. After 180 days, students will be required to advance into the graduate program of study deemed current at that time

#### **Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing**

##### *CPR Requirements*

Students must be certified in CPR for Health Care Providers through the American Heart Association or American Red Cross and are required to maintain certification throughout the program. Graduate students may also obtain CPR certification for the Professional Rescuer from American Red Cross. Information as to the availability of courses may be obtained by calling either the American Heart Association, or American Red Cross. CPR for Bystanders or the community will not fulfill this requirement. CPR instruction teaches skill of airway management and external cardiac compression for the adult and pediatric victim.

Students who do not have a current CPR certification card will not be permitted to participate in clinical experiences. In addition, Graduate students need to meet the certification requirements of the respective agency in which they perform clinical.

#### **College of Theology**

The College of Theology's mission is to educate and equip students to communicate the gospel effectively, serve the church faithfully, and minister with integrity at home and abroad. Therefore, within the context of the College, significant attention is given to spiritual and professional formation so that students are biblically qualified for ministry upon graduation. The Bible teaches that ministers must be "above reproach" in private and in public because ministers lead God's people as they grow up into the fullness of Christ through the careful study and application of God's word. Simply stated, one whose life has not been transformed profoundly by the power of the gospel is hardly in a position to lead others in this way of life. Thus, preparation for ministry requires attention to the spiritual, and professional aspects of each student's training in addition to academic study.

Doctrinal, ethical, and covenantal alignment are vital to the health of the institution as the faculty and administration strive to fulfill the mission of developing godly leaders, ministers, and scholars. Evangelical unity with respect to doctrine and morality represents a crucial basis for ministerial preparation just as it

represents a crucial basis for gospel ministry. For these reasons, students in the College are asked to affirm the University's Doctrinal and Ethical Positions Statement, the COT Covenant, and standards for conduct that agree with those beliefs. In this way students affirm the basic tenets of the Christian faith and commitment to a lifestyle worthy of the Lord Jesus and worthy of the gospel ministry to which they have been called.

The University's foundational documents, the Covenant, and the dispositional and behavioral standards have not been created for purposes of legalistic compulsion or in a coercive spirit. Rather, they represent commitments and guidelines that have been developed for the purpose of living freely together in a community marked by faith, hope, and love. All students who enter into COT's covenantal community do so freely and they do so with full understanding that the community strives to cultivate the character of Christ daily. Indeed, in light of the unique call God has placed on their lives, the vast majority of ministerial students are motivated to conform to established standards and are grateful for the structure and accountability the community provides.

In most cases when students' dispositions or behaviors fail to align with the College's standards, COT's faculty and staff are able to correct gently and provide all necessary counsel. Indeed, gracious conversation and pastoral guidance should normally characterize the initial steps taken by faculty and staff to address impropriety. The College is committed to forming students in a loving and merciful way that is redemptive rather than punitive. Thus, in cases where minor dispositional or behavioral issues arise, direct student engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College will be most appropriate. Further action will only be necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Faculty and staff should refer cases that involve major dispositional and behavioral issues in accord with established processes.

### **Dispositional and Behavioral Standards**

As ministers of the gospel, theology students are expected to conform to dispositional and behavioral standards that are consistent with biblical teaching, sound doctrine, and the commitments they make at the start of their program.

"Dispositions" refers to one's attitudinal inclinations, mental and emotional outlook, integrity, and character. Sincerely held dispositions lead to actions and patterns of conduct, which is to suggest that dispositions, at some level, contribute to behaviors.

COT has adopted the following dispositional and behavioral standards that align with the College's Covenant. Although these standards are not exhaustive, they represent the essential values and qualities that should characterize gospel ministers. Students are encouraged to acknowledge their struggles and shortcomings without fear and for the sake of working through challenges with the support and encouragement of the community. Students who disregard the standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors, however, may be subject to disciplinary action.

- **EMBRACE TRUTH:** Ministers of the gospel embrace the truth of Christ, and speak and act truthfully. This includes integrity with respect to the commitment to uphold doctrinal and ethical positions and behaviors consistent with those of the University within their academic work, within the GCU community, and in any internship or supervised ministry/field experience setting.
- **DISPLAY A HEART FOR GROWTH, TRANSFORMATION, AND LEARNING:** Ministers of the gospel have a heart for growth and transformation. They demonstrate humility and pursue Christlikeness by taking correction, having a charitable

spirit, and not thinking of themselves more highly than they ought. They do not hide sin but, rather, acknowledge it and learn from mistakes as they progress through their program of study. They demonstrate eagerness to learn and engage faithfully with their coursework, classmates, Scripture, scholarly research, faculty, and ministry supervisors.

- **AFFIRM THE VALUE OF PEOPLE:** Recognizing that all people are created in the image of God, ministers of the gospel treat people in ways that demonstrate their intrinsic value and dignity. Accordingly, ministers of the gospel reject discrimination and show the value of others in the way they interact with people of all races, nationalities, ages, genders, socio-economic levels, abilities, and faith traditions. These principles extend to all forms of communication.
- **DEMONSTRATE GRACE AND RESPECT:** Ministers of the gospel demonstrate grace and respect in their attitudes, actions, and words. They embody the fruit of the Spirit, speaking with kindness and patience, communicating respectfully in all situations. They avoid actions and speech that could show disrespect, a sharp tongue, harassment, prejudice, racism, sexism, vulgarity, foul language, or bullying. Students extend grace and charity at all points including discussions with others who differ with them on matters of doctrine and ethics. They strive for unity, which requires careful thought about doctrinal dialogue, genuine love for one another, and a resolve to be "quick to hear, slow to speak, [and] slow to anger" (James 1:19).
- **PROMOTE PEACE:** Ministers of the gospel seek to be peacemakers, approaching conflict with the goal of restoration and reconciliation. They follow biblical practices for conflict resolution, glorifying God by taking responsibility for their own contribution to a conflict, and asking and offering forgiveness when needed. They bring peace and joy to their classrooms and congregations, avoiding words and actions that might bring discord, dissension, or destruction.
- **MAINTAIN SEXUAL PURITY:** Following the teaching of the Bible, ministers of the gospel maintain personal sexual purity, reserving sexual expression for a marriage relationship between one man and one woman. They refrain from the use of all pornographic materials and any explicit content that would grieve the Holy Spirit while demonstrating an openness to accountability, counsel, and prayer in areas of struggle and perceived powerlessness. They refrain from sexually charged language and behavior inside or outside the classroom.
- **AVOID EXCESS:** Ministers of the gospel avoid excess and abuse of any substances that could move them from a place of health to harm. Students embrace moderation in all things for the sake of safeguarding against idolatry and protecting their gospel witness.
- **SEEK FIRST GOD'S KINGDOM:** Ministers of the gospel pursue God's purposes for the world even when this requires abandoning the pursuit of their own selfish interests. They cultivate love, justice, beauty, grace, wisdom, and wholeness in their relationships and eschew worldly desires that result in consumerism, materialism, and the pursuit of fame and prestige.

### **Corrective Action Plan for Unacceptable Dispositions and Unprofessional Behavior**

As a Christian community, the College of Theology and Grand Canyon Theological Seminary strive to be affirming and redemptive to students who are struggling and failing to exhibit these dispositions in their behaviors. The conduct that is unbecoming for a Christian leader or minister, however, may be referred through one of the following processes:

1. Dispositional alert from a faculty member, a ministry supervisor, or another GCU employee which is processed through the College of Theology's Covenantal Standards Committee (CSC). This committee will determine the disciplinary action to be taken on a case by case basis.
2. Code of conduct violation charge which is reported through the "Classroom Incident Report" and is handled through the Code of Conduct process of the University.

In cases of minor misalignment, direct engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College for the purpose of education, formation, and/or correction will be most appropriate. Further action is only necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Students who disregard COT's Dispositional and Behavioral standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors may be subject to disciplinary action. In certain egregious situations, disciplinary action may be immediate and will be recommended to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

Unbecoming dispositions and behavior, within the classroom or outside the classroom may result in an array of corrective actions taken by the CSC or recommendations for disciplinary actions made by the CSC to the Code of Conduct Committee including, but not limited to the following potential outcomes

1. A corrective dialog with the CSC or designee
2. A letter of reprimand
3. A required number of professional and/or pastoral counseling sessions
4. A series of coaching sessions
5. Recommendations to the Code of Conduct committee such as:
  - a. Removal from the class
  - b. Removal from the supervised ministry/field experience site
  - c. Failure of the course
  - d. Suspension
  - e. Expulsion from the program. In the case of expulsion, students will have the option of reapplying to the program after a two year hiatus at which time the student will make a case for his or her change in behavior and disposition such that the CSC would possibly allow them to return to the program

Any question of interpretation or application of the Dispositional and Behavioral Standards Policy will be referred to the Dean of the College of Theology or a designee for final determination.

These standards should not be applied in ways that foster discrimination and harassment. Students who experience gender or disability-based discrimination or harassment should seek the assistance of the Title IX or Section 504 Coordinator for investigation under the applicable grievance procedures.

#### **Process Guidelines for COT Dispositional and Behavioral Standards**

The following guidelines are intended to assist with the evaluation of and appropriate response to dispositional and behavioral issues. These guidelines should enable faculty and College representatives to accurately assess and prudently address situations in ways that are redemptive, fair, and commensurate with the type of misalignment in question.

#### ***Doctrinal and Ethical Alignment***

COT faculty are encouraged to make key distinctions in their teaching and classroom interaction between doctrine that is

absolutely essential to the Christian faith and other teachings that, although important, are not fundamental to Christianity.

Essential doctrines are those core teachings that distinguish Christians from non-Christians and must be believed in order for one to be a genuine follower of the Lord Jesus. Denial of essential doctrine represents a grave matter.

Nonessential teachings are significant because they safeguard the integrity and health of essential doctrines and because they derive either directly or indirectly from the teaching of Scripture. Examples include the form and meaning of baptism, the organization and governance of the church, qualifications for ministers, styles of worship music, and the timing of Christ's return in relation to other events of the last days. Christians frequently disagree about various nonessential teachings but disagreement about these doctrines does not amount to a denial of the faith.

#### ***Dispositional and Behavioral Alignment***

In cases of minor misalignment, direct engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College for the purpose of education, formation, and/or correction will be most appropriate. Further action is only necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Students who disregard COT's Dispositional and Behavioral standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors may be subject to disciplinary action. In certain egregious situations, disciplinary action may be immediate and will be recommended to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

#### ***Minor Misalignment***

Instances of minor misalignment should be dealt with redemptively rather than punitively to the extent possible. Such cases typically require forbearance and patience instead of formal discipline.

#### ***Major Misalignment***

Instances of major misalignment should be dealt with redemptively, but disciplinary action may be necessary if the situation cannot be redeemed apart from formal action. Certain egregious situations may represent exceptions and may require immediate disciplinary action.

## **Master Programmatic Progression Requirements**

### **College of Education**

#### **All College of Education Graduate Programs**

#### **COE Graduate Certificates**

Prior to participation in any practicum/field experience, teacher candidates must provide their Field Experience Counselor with verification of a current State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card or current fingerprint clearance documentation in accordance with the fingerprint policies of the state in which they reside. Current and valid fingerprint clearance must be on file through the duration of the program. Failure to maintain current and valid Fingerprint Clearance may lead to immediate termination from the program. Based on the teacher candidates' Program of Study, the teacher candidate will need one of the following:

1. Fingerprint Clearance Card
2. Federal Background Check: If a federal background check is required, official copies of this document will be reviewed by the Field Experience Counselor. A federal background check

will be considered 'clear' if no offense(s) are listed. Teacher candidates with 'cleared' federal background checks will be deemed eligible for participation in practicum/field experiences. Should any offense(s) be listed on the federal background check, teacher candidates will be required to apply for and secure a valid State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card. Where applicable, a current teaching certificate may be provided in lieu of fingerprint clearance. GCU will not accept any background check older than six years.

3. District Letter: GCU accepts letters from cooperating school districts to satisfy the fingerprint clearance requirement. The letter must be on district letterhead. GCU must receive this letter directly from the district. If the letter is received directly from the teacher candidate, the teacher candidate must sign a FERPA release listing the letter's signatory (school/district contact who completed the letter), and the teacher candidate's TED will call the signatory to verify the letter's authenticity. In order for the district's letter to be accepted, the following information is required to be included:
  - Teacher candidate's name
  - Employee identification number
  - Date that the background check was completed (must be within the last 6 years)
  - Identification number assigned to the background check
  - Current employment status
  - Date of initial employment
  - Breaks in employment (if none, the letter must indicate that there were no breaks in employment)

Should any of the above information be missing from the letter or if the letter is not printed on official district letterhead, GCU will be unable to accept the letter for the purpose of satisfying the Fingerprint Clearance Policy. Please note that teacher candidates may need to complete additional fingerprinting for certification purposes based on their state's requirements.

If candidates are charged with a felony or misdemeanor while in the program, even if charges are not verified, they are obligated to report this to their Field Experience Counselor. Failure to do so may lead to immediate termination from the program.

In the event that admission to Grand Canyon University's College of Education is denied as a result of one or more offense listed in Sections B or C of the Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 41-1758.03, outlined in Appendix A, the following appeals process should be followed.

\*Note: Students enrolled in Non-College of Education programs at Grand Canyon University who seek to transfer into the College of Education need to meet current admission requirements.

#### *Level One Appeal*

1. Apply for a fingerprint clearance card from the Arizona Department of Public Safety. (Should the fingerprint clearance card be denied, see a Level Two Appeal)
2. Upon securing an Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card, request documentation from the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education indicating consent of your potential eligibility to apply for and obtain a teacher or principal license based on the listed offense(s). The Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education may request additional information regarding the listed offense(s) prior to the issuance of their consent to be eligible for certification.
3. Provide Grand Canyon University with copies of the Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card and the documentation provided by the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education for reconsideration of admission.

#### *Level Two Appeal*

1. In the event that a fingerprint clearance card is denied, petition the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting for a good cause exception. More information regarding the application and process for a good cause exception can be found at the [Arizona Board of Fingerprinting](#) website.
2. If the Board of Fingerprinting approves the good cause exception, a fingerprint clearance card will be issued. (Should the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting deny the good cause exception, a fingerprint clearance card will not be issued, and denied admission. (This decision cannot be appealed.)
3. Upon securing an Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card, request documentation from the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education indicating consent of your potential eligibility to apply for and obtain a teacher or principal license based on the listed offense(s). The Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education may request additional information regarding the listed offense(s) prior to the issuance of their consent to be eligible for certification.
4. Provide Grand Canyon University with copies of the Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card and the documentation provided by the Investigation Unit of the Arizona Department of Education for reconsideration of admission.

#### *Appendix A: Pursuant to ARS 41-1758.03 Sections B*

A person who is subject to registration as a sex offender in this state or any other jurisdiction or who is awaiting trial on or who has been convicted of committing or attempting, soliciting, facilitating or conspiring to commit one or more of the following offenses in this state or the same or similar offenses in another state or jurisdiction is precluded from receiving a fingerprint clearance card:

1. Sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult.
2. Incest.
3. First or second degree murder.
4. Sexual assault.
5. Sexual exploitation of a minor.
6. Sexual exploitation of a vulnerable adult.
7. Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor.
8. Commercial sexual exploitation of a vulnerable adult.
9. Child prostitution as prescribed in section 13-3212.
10. Child abuse.
11. Abuse of a vulnerable adult.
12. Sexual conduct with a minor.
13. Molestation of a child.
14. Molestation of a vulnerable adult.
15. A dangerous crime against children as defined in section 13-705.
16. Exploitation of minors involving drug offenses.
17. Taking a child for the purpose of prostitution as prescribed in section 13-3206.
18. Neglect or abuse of a vulnerable adult.
19. Sex trafficking.
20. Sexual abuse.
21. Production, publication, sale, possession and presentation of obscene items as prescribed in section 13-3502.
22. Furnishing harmful items to minors as prescribed in section 13-3506.
23. Furnishing harmful items to minors by internet activity as prescribed in section 13-3506.01.
24. Obscene or indecent telephone communications to minors for commercial purposes as prescribed in section 13-3512.
25. Luring a minor for sexual exploitation.
26. Enticement of persons for purposes of prostitution.
27. Procurement by false pretenses of person for purposes of prostitution.

28. Procuring or placing persons in a house of prostitution.
29. Receiving earnings of a prostitute.
30. Causing one's spouse to become a prostitute.
31. Detention of persons in a house of prostitution for debt.
32. Keeping or residing in a house of prostitution or employment in prostitution.
33. Pandering.
34. Transporting persons for the purpose of prostitution, polygamy and concubinage.
35. Portraying adult as a minor as prescribed in section 13-3555.
36. Admitting minors to public displays of sexual conduct as prescribed in section 13-3558.
37. Unlawful sale or purchase of children.
38. Child bigamy.

*Appendix A: Pursuant to ARS 41-1758.03 Sections C*

A person who is awaiting trial on or who has been convicted of committing or attempting, soliciting, facilitating or conspiring to commit one or more of the following offenses in this state or the same or similar offenses in another state or jurisdiction is precluded from receiving a fingerprint clearance card, except that the person may petition the board of fingerprinting for a good cause exception pursuant to section 41-619.55:

1. Manslaughter.
2. Endangerment.
3. Threatening or intimidating.
4. Assault.
5. Unlawfully administering intoxicating liquors, narcotic drugs or dangerous drugs.
6. Assault by vicious animals.
7. Drive by shooting.
8. Assaults on officers or fire fighters.
9. Discharging a firearm at a structure.
10. Indecent exposure.
11. Public sexual indecency.
12. Aggravated criminal damage.
13. Theft.
14. Theft by extortion.
15. Shoplifting.
16. Forgery.
17. Criminal possession of a forgery device.
18. Obtaining a signature by deception.
19. Criminal impersonation.
20. Theft of a credit card or obtaining a credit card by fraudulent means.
21. Receipt of anything of value obtained by fraudulent use of a credit card.
22. Forgery of a credit card.
23. Fraudulent use of a credit card.
24. Possession of any machinery, plate or other contrivance or incomplete credit card.
25. False statement as to financial condition or identity to obtain a credit card.
26. Fraud by persons authorized to provide goods or services.
27. Credit card transaction record theft.
28. Misconduct involving weapons.
29. Misconduct involving explosives.
30. Depositing explosives.
31. Misconduct involving simulated explosive devices.
32. Concealed weapon violation.
33. Possession and sale of peyote.
34. Possession and sale of a vapor-releasing substance containing a toxic substance.
35. Sale of precursor chemicals.
36. Possession, use or sale of marijuana, dangerous drugs or narcotic drugs.
37. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation controlled substance.
38. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation prescription-only drug.
39. Manufacture or distribution of an imitation over-the-counter drug.
40. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation controlled substance.
41. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation prescription-only drug.
42. Possession or possession with intent to use an imitation over-the-counter drug.
43. Manufacture of certain substances and drugs by certain means.
44. Adding poison or other harmful substance to food, drink or medicine.
45. A criminal offense involving criminal trespass and burglary under title 13, chapter 15.
46. A criminal offense under title 13, chapter 23.
47. Child neglect.
48. Misdemeanor offenses involving contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
49. Offenses involving domestic violence.
50. Arson.
51. Kidnapping.
52. Felony offenses involving sale, distribution or transportation of, offer to sell, transport or distribute or conspiracy to sell, transport or distribute marijuana, dangerous drugs or narcotic drugs.
53. Robbery.
54. Aggravated assault.
55. Felony offenses involving contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
56. Negligent homicide.
57. Criminal damage.
58. Misappropriation of charter school monies as prescribed in section 13-1818.
59. Taking identity of another person or entity.
60. Aggravated taking identity of another person or entity.
61. Trafficking in the identity of another person or entity.
62. Cruelty to animals.
63. Prostitution.
64. Sale or distribution of material harmful to minors through vending machines as prescribed in section 13-3513.
65. Welfare fraud.

*Practicum/Field Experiences*

Practicum experiences are field-based learning opportunities that focus on observation, application, and reflection. Practicum experiences require the teacher candidate to spend a prescribed amount of time in real-life classroom settings in order to demonstrate competency with predetermined activities that are aligned to professional standards in the field of education. Teacher candidates in any course requiring practicum hours are required to have fingerprint clearance on file with their Field Experience Counselor. In addition, teacher candidates enrolled in the Master of Education in Early Childhood Education program, who are completing field experiences in Arizona, are required to submit a completed Student Information Release Form (SIRF) and proof of immunization and/or immunity from Tuberculosis (TB).

1. Basic Skills and Content Area Exams
2. Teacher candidates enrolled in an Initial Program – Leads to Initial Teacher Licensure Programs (IP/TL) beginning with the 2009-2010 Academic Catalog must pass their state-mandated basic skills and content area exams or Praxis I® (Basic Skills)



and Praxis II® (Content Area ) prior to student teaching. Arizona residents will be required to take the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments (AEPAs).

3. Arizona residents will be required to pass the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments (AEPA's) successfully.
4. Teacher candidates requiring Arizona certification in application for their local state licensure will need to complete the appropriate AEPA or an equivalent exam as determined by the Arizona Department of Education's out of state exam reciprocity requirements prior to receiving an Arizona IR. For content areas out of the approved AEPA areas, teacher candidates seeking Arizona Certification will be required to hold 24 units in the certification content area.
5. Score reports for Arizona residents and those seeking initial licensure in Arizona will be accepted only if the score report documents a passing score ('pass' or 'passed').
6. Teacher candidates residing in states that do not have state-specific mandated basic and/or content exams will be required to take the AEPA exams or an equivalent exam.

#### *COE Clinical Practice Expectations and Academic Standards*

The following clinical practice expectations for Teacher Candidates in the College of Education seek to address the common issues and responsibilities of Teacher Candidates who are out in schools and school districts in a field experience and clinical practice setting. The statements are designed to be reflective of the fundamental principles and values that are desired of a Teacher Candidate and his/her professional and personal conduct in the field experience and clinical setting. The conduct expectations clarify conduct unbecoming of a Teacher Candidate, and thus are subject to disciplinary action. By addressing these issues we seek to respond to and clarify our expectations for all of our Teacher Candidates who are representing themselves and Grand Canyon University in their role and work with students, Cooperating Teachers, GCU Faculty Supervisors, and school communities.

Teacher Candidates in the College of Education represent GCU's value-based liberal arts institution. All Teacher Candidates who go out into the field are expected to abide by the responsibilities of university citizenship and to show consideration and respect for personal freedom and property rights of members of the civic, academic, and school community. Teacher Candidates are expected to abide by ethical, professional, and academic standards that are conducive to a positive learning experience. These expectations include, but are not limited to the expectation that the Teacher Candidate:

- Gives appropriate attention to college and site placement work
- Attends class, exercises, and engagements as required by the college and school site placement
- Acknowledges and accepts the responsibility of honorable adherence to the university's and site placement's standards, rules, policies, and procedures
- Supports and exhibits ethical behavior with Teacher Candidates, faculty, staff, school placement personnel, and the community
- Recognizes and embraces the diversity and personal values of others
- Exhibits self-direction and self-reliance as a college student and in the pursuit of individual and collaborative learning objectives and goals
- Acknowledges and accepts personal responsibility and accountability for his or her actions, interactions, and communication in all forms with Teacher Candidates, faculty, staff, school placement personnel, and the community

- Upholds confidentiality and respect for personal or professional information communicated in the placement classroom
- Adheres to college dispositional expectations, policies, and standards of academic honesty
- Represents themselves solely in all matters related to Clinical Practice performance, evaluation, assessments, disciplinary action, etc.
- Dresses according to professional attire expectations which can be interpreted as:
  - Women: slacks (dress pants), skirts (mid-calf to about two inches above the knee), blouses, shells, cardigans, blazers, dresses
  - Men: dress pants, button down shirts, polo shirts (with a collar), blazers
  - Dress not permitted: Anything that is see-through, short, tight, or shows too much skin, flip-flops, tennis shoes, jeans that are too loose fitting, ripped or faded. Teacher Candidates must also follow the dress code of teachers at the school site

#### *Dispositional Expectations*

- High Expectations- Educators should believe that all Teacher Candidates can learn and should set and support realistic expectations for student success.
- Respect for the Diversity of Others- Educators should be sensitive to individual learning and social needs of Teacher Candidates and embrace the cultural diversity of the community.
- Fairness- Educators should promote social justice and equity, maintain appropriate standards of confidentiality, and exercise fairness in all areas including assessment.
- Professional Conduct- Educators should exercise sound judgment and ethical behavior. They should be a positive role model within their community.
- Reflection- Educators should recognize that reflection combined with experience leads to growth as a professional. Educators should be thoughtful about their professional practice, critically examine it, and seek continual improvement.
- Curiosity- Educators should promote and support curiosity and encourage active inquiry. They should be able to think innovatively and creatively, using critical thinking as a problem-solving approach.
- Honesty- Educators should model integrity by their words and actions. They should be forthright with others and uphold high standards of trust, character, and integrity.
- Compassion- Educators should demonstrate professional friendliness, warmth, and genuine caring in their relationships with others while providing intellectual, emotional, and spiritual support.
- Advocacy- Teachers understand the impact of community involvement and servant leadership as it applies to the welfare of others in the educational setting.
- Dedication- Educators should be committed to the profession of teaching and learning. They should be professionally active, lifelong learners and seek opportunities for professional development

#### *Clinical Practice Expectation Violations*

The following violations clarify conduct unbecoming of Teacher Candidates in the College of Education. Teacher Candidates are expected not to engage in such action while in a clinical setting at a school or school district. The following is a non-exhaustive list of actions that are considered clinical practice conduct violations, for which Teacher Candidates are subjected to disciplinary action

up to and including expulsion from the University. If teacher candidates are found eligible to continue with the program, Clinical Practice can only be repeated once.

- Falsification, forgery, alteration, or invention of information, including, but not limited to, any document used for admission or eligibility to the university, document related to:
  - Admission or eligibility to Clinical Practice
  - Information regarding the site placement school, the district and/or personnel
  - Information regarding Teacher Candidates
  - Information regarding curriculum content in the classroom
- Disruptive behavior in any form that creates a hostile or offensive educational environment for a student, Cooperating Teacher, GCU Faculty Supervisor, faculty or staff
- Failure to comply promptly with any reasonable directive from a Cooperating Teacher, GCU Faculty Supervisors, GCU course instructor, or staff
- Failure to cooperate with an investigation
- Possession, use, distribution, or behavior under the influence of alcohol or illegal or banned drugs or substances while on school property, or as part of any school-related activity
- Communication orally, in writing, or by use of any technological device, including, and not limited to any phone or computer device, outside the classroom in a manner that could be perceived as inappropriate by any member of the site placement school, its extended community or university
- Failure to maintain a professional approach to personal relationships with the Teacher Candidates or the school community members

#### *Remediation*

The College of Education may take disciplinary action against candidates who demonstrate insufficient performance, inappropriate dispositions, conduct unbecoming, or are terminated by the site school placement. Remediation is implemented if candidates do not demonstrate sufficient progress with regard to performance or dispositions. The College of Education Office of Clinical Practice and/or Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Committee reviews all documentation and makes a determination as to whether the alleged violation or deficiency has been substantiated and which college-level penalties may apply. If candidates do not comply with remediation plans and/or sanctions, they may be terminated from their site, complete a corrective action plan and/or may have to undergo the Code of Conduct process for failure to comply with a college directive.

#### *Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

Taken at the conclusion of all coursework and dependent upon the teacher candidate's program of study, student teaching requires 15-16 consecutive weeks of unpaid, full-time placement with a COE approved cooperating/mentor teacher, who must be licensed in the area in which the teacher candidate is teaching. Student teaching cannot be done during summer months; and is required for an Institutional Recommendation (IR).

#### *Paraprofessionals (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

Teacher candidates may not student teach in the classroom(s) in which they are employed as paraprofessionals. Paraprofessionals are not teachers of record. As assistants to a classroom teacher, their responsibilities are more limited than those required of a classroom teacher. Therefore, paraprofessionals will need to take a leave of absence from their duties and responsibilities while they complete the student teaching requirements for their program of study.

#### *Eligibility for Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

1. Complete all coursework within the program of study.
2. Pass the state-specified basic skills and content area exams or Praxis I® (Basic Skills) and Praxis II® (Content Area) prior to student teaching.
3. Maintain a minimum GPA of a 3.0
4. Work with the appropriate departments to remove any academic and/or financial holds on account to ensure that the Student Services Counselor is able to complete the required registration process.
5. View program evaluations with assigned Student Services Counselor and/or Field Experience Counselor to discuss program progression and academic eligibility.
6. Possess a current Fingerprint Clearance Card or background check. Arizona residents must have an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card.
7. Student teaching may only be repeated once.

#### *Application for Student Teaching (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

The [Student Teaching Application](#) can be found on the [College of Education](#) website. Deadlines for applying for student teaching are as follows:

- For Fall Student Teaching – February 1
- For Spring Student Teaching – August 1

No exceptions will be made to these deadlines, as placing learners in an appropriate setting is a process.

#### *Requirements for an Institutional Recommendation (Initial Program/Teacher Licensure Only)*

All teacher candidates seeking an Institutional Recommendation for a teaching license must complete the program requirements for their degree program, which include verification of fingerprint clearance, successful completion of student teaching, and passing scores in basic skills, content knowledge, and professional knowledge tests. It is the learner's responsibility to determine what, if any, testing is necessary for their individual state. Teacher candidates who are seeking licensure in a state which does not require verification of test scores for the basic skills, content knowledge, and/or professional knowledge exam prior to teacher licensure may request a waiver by completing a Waiver of Test Score Verification form. The Waiver of Test Score Verification will be approved only by a dean, or dean's designee. Learners should check with their own state department of education for additional applicable teacher licensure guidelines.

#### *Certification through Non-Degree Courses (Initial Program/Non-Teacher Licensure Only)*

Graduates from an Initial Program – Does Not Lead to Teacher Licensure (IP/Non-TL) programs who wish to return to GCU to complete certification coursework will enroll in student teaching courses through the non-degree division. As these learners do not qualify for an Institutional Recommendation they must be certified in Arizona through a course-by-course evaluation conducted by the certification division of the Arizona Department of Education. Learners will need to meet all Arizona certification requirements, including verification of fingerprint clearance, successful completion of student teaching, verification of passing scores on the AEP or an equivalent exam as determined by the Arizona Department of Education's out of state exam reciprocity requirements, and successful completion of Arizona SEI requirements.

## **Master of Education in Educational Administration (Advanced Program for Principal Licensure (AP/PL))**

Prior to the first internship course, students must submit a copy of one of their Valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card or official results of Federal Background Clearance from their state Department of Public Safety agency to their Field Experience Counselor.

### *Eligibility for the Educational Administration (EAD) Internship*

1. Learners must complete the following courses prior to starting their internship courses.
  - EAD-501, EAD-505, and EAD-510 must be successfully completed in order to enter into the first internship, EAD-519.
  - EAD-519, EAD-513, EAD-520, and EAD-523 must be successfully completed in order to enter into the second internship, EAD-529.
  - EAD-529, EAD-530, EAD-533, and EAD-536. Must be successfully completed in order to enter into the third and final internship, EAD-539.
2. Work with the appropriate departments to remove any academic and/or financial holds on account to ensure that the Student Services Counselor is able to complete the required registration process.
3. View program evaluations with assigned Student Services Counselor and/or Field Experience Counselor to discuss program progression and academic eligibility.
4. Principal candidates not meeting the graduate GPA requirement of a 3.0 at the time of the final internship, EAD-539, must submit an appeal which will be reviewed by the College of Education.
5. Possess a current Fingerprint Clearance Card or background check. Arizona residents must have an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card.
6. The Internship may only be repeated once.

Students unable to meet the eligibility requirements may transfer enrollment to the Master of Educational Leadership program of study.

### *Internship and Field Work Hours*

Learners in the educational administration program will accumulate 270 internship and 90 field work hours, totaling 360 hours. Field work hours are accrued throughout the program and internship hours are accrued at the culmination of each of the three blocks in 90-hour increments. Internship hours are unpaid, require partial-time placement with an approved COE mentor administrator, and are required for an Institutional Recommendation (IR).

### *Institutional Recommendation*

All College of Education principal candidates seeking an Institutional recommendation for principal license must complete the program requirements for their degree program, which include verification of the fingerprint clearance and successful completion of an internship component, and verification of passing scores on a principal licensure test.

- Arizona residents will be required to successfully pass the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA) principal licensure test.
- Principal candidates requiring Arizona principal certification in application for their local state licensure will need to successfully pass the principal AEPA licensure test or an equivalent exam as determined by the Arizona Department of Education's out of state exam reciprocity requirements prior to receiving an Arizona IR.

## **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

### **Master of Science in Addiction Counseling**

### **Master of Science in Christian Counseling**

### **Master of Science in Christian Counseling of Substance Use and Addictive Disorders**

### **Master of Science in Professional Counseling**

#### *Pre-Practicum Hours Requirement*

Students are required to complete the minimum of 100 pre-practicum hours. Students who fail to meet the minimum amount of hours required per course will receive a failing grade and will have to retake the course. Hours accumulated during a course that receives a non-passing grade will not be counted towards the program practicum hour requirement. Students may not complete additional hours to use in a future course. Students are responsible for determining which licensure guidelines, including additional practicum hours, are applicable to and necessary for their individual state boards.

#### *Practicum Hours Requirement*

Students are required to complete the minimum practicum hours required for each course in their program of study. Each practicum course requires that the student complete 150 practicum hours. Students who fail to meet the minimum amount of hours required per course will receive a failing grade and will have to retake the course. Hours accumulated during a course that receives a non-passing grade will not be counted towards the program hour requirement. Students may not complete additional hours to use in a future course. Students are responsible for determining which licensure guidelines, including additional practicum hours, are applicable to and necessary for their individual state boards.

#### *Coaching Practicum Students during Practicum/Internship Process*

Students who are in practicum courses and need support from the college will be asked to participate in a concurrent four-week coaching series with the college. Clinical supervisors, practicum instructors, or the College can request the four-week coaching for students.

Though this process is not part of a corrective action plan, if students do not comply with this request, they may have to undergo the Code of Conduct process for failure to comply with a college directive. The ability of students to complete practicum courses and accrue hours will not be impacted by the coaching or Code of Conduct process.

#### *Dispositional Expectations*

Dispositions are the values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward others, and, if sincerely held, dispositions lead to actions and patterns of professional conduct. The Grand Canyon University Counseling Program's dispositions adhere to the University's mission statement, as well as to the established counseling profession codes of ethics.

The Grand Canyon University Counseling Program have adopted the following dispositions for its students derived from the American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics. Although these dispositions are not all inclusive, they do represent values and qualities that are warranted by counseling students. Students who fail to adhere to or demonstrate such dispositions may be subject to disciplinary actions.

- Psychological Fitness - Counselors\* are aware and assess their motives for pursuing the counseling profession. They are aware of their unfinished emotional and/or mental health

issues, and resolve them before starting to provide counseling services to others. Counselors engage in self-care and seek resolutions to issues that arise during their practice. Counselors adhere to the American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics and/or the NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals Code of Ethics.

- Self-Awareness - Counselors are aware of their personal moral, ethical, and value systems and provide counseling services with objectivity, justice, fidelity, veracity, and benevolence. Counselors are acutely aware of their personal limitations in providing services, and are willing to refer clients to another provider when necessary.
- Cultural Diversity - Counselors respect, engage, honor, and embrace diversity and a multicultural approach that supports the worth, dignity, potential, and uniqueness of people within their social and cultural context. Counselors promote self-advocacy and assist clients in advocating for empowerment within their cultural context.
- Acceptance - Counselors foster a healthy climate of change by providing and promoting acceptance, and a nonjudgmental environment during the therapeutic process. They understand their personal value system and do not impose their values, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors on their clients.
- Empathy - Counselors foster understanding, compassion, and avoid any actions that can cause harm to a client. Counselors treat others with dignity and respect.
- Genuineness - Counselors deal truthfully with themselves and their clients, in order to avoid harming their clients.
- Flexibility - Counselors practice a client-centered approach, and align treatment to the client's goals for therapy.
- Patience - Counselors understand the therapeutic process and respect clients' efforts to gain control over their lives. Counselors encourage an environment that promotes self-empowerment and allows client's voice in the therapeutic process.
- Amiability - Counselors do not support or engage in any act of discrimination against a prospective, current, or former client. Counselors promote and practice social justice and do not exploit others in their professional relationships.
- Professional Identity - Counselors adhere to regulatory state boards and nationally recognized codes of ethics. Counselors practice only within their scope and competencies. They seek to utilize best practices and empirically supported treatments. Counselors stay current with the counseling profession through seeking continuing education, and by supporting counseling associations.

\* The term counselor is used to refer to counselors in training at the graduate level.

#### *Corrective Action Plan for Unprofessional Behavior*

Unprofessional conduct, as defined by the American Counseling Association (ACA) and/or the National Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) counseling codes of ethics, may be the subject of a code of conduct violation charge and/or corrective action plan.

- Depending on the determination made by the Corrective Action Plan Committee, students may be administratively withdrawn from practicum courses and asked to participate in mandatory four-week coaching session. If administratively withdrawn, students will be issued an "F" as a final grade. If students are terminated from sites due to an unethical or illegal behavior and, consequently, administratively withdrawn from an individual practicum course, the practicum hours completed during this time will not be counted for that course.

- To resume practicum experiences, students must successfully complete the terms of their corrective action plans, which include mandatory coaching, within the allotted four-week period. Students will not earn credits or practicum hours for completing corrective action plans.
- If students are administratively withdrawn from a practicum course as part of a corrective action plan, they may need to retake the course at their own expense. Students are encouraged to discuss any financial or other concerns with a Student Services Adviser (SSA).
- Students may not participate in corrective action plans more than twice. Students who do not successfully complete their corrective action plan will not be able to graduate with a counseling degree.

Ethical violations may result in the student being reported to the state licensing board (for information on different types of violations, and potential consequences refer to the "Unprofessional Conduct Acknowledgement Form" located in the practicum manuals).

## **College of Nursing and Health Care Professions**

### **All CONHCP Nursing Graduate Programs**

#### *Professional Standards*

The [American Nursing Association \(ANA\) Code of Ethics statement](#) serves as the guiding principle for the nursing profession. The Associate Dean of Graduate Programs in the College of Nursing and Healthcare Professions, together with the respective APRN program director and faculty, will determine the consequences for graduate nursing students who violate these standards. Graduate nursing students must adhere to the [Code of Conduct and Academic Standards](#) section of the University Policy Handbook.

The University carries Medical Professional Liability Insurance on all students. The coverage is \$2,000,000 each incident or occurrence and \$4,000,000 in the aggregate through the following company:

Parker Smith & Feek, Inc.  
Bellevue (425-709-3600)  
2233 112th Avenue NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
Certificate number: MFL019309

#### **Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology (ACNP)**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing: Clinical Nurse Specialist with an Emphasis in Adult-Gerontology (ACNS)**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**

Students who have been accepted into the nursing program may remain in the program if they adhere to the following criteria:

1. Maintain continuous enrollment for the duration of their program.
2. Students who earn one non-passing (W, F) grade will be administratively withdrawn from the program. Students who are administratively withdrawn or take a leave of absence have the option to complete a Request for Reinstatement, which is discussed within the University Appeals Procedures section of the University Policy Handbook.
3. Students need to follow the requirements listed in the Guidelines for Graduate Field Experience Manual. If not followed, students may have a registration hold place on their student accounts.

4. Students must possess self-coverage Professional Nursing Liability Insurance. The coverage is a minimum of \$1 million per event/\$3 million total coverage. Proof of insurance must be submitted upon request by the Office of Field Experience.

#### *Graduate Clinical Requirements*

Prior to registration for clinical courses, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Possess a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA.
2. Submit a Student Clinical Placement Application prior to the start of each clinical course to the Office of Field Experience. The Office of Field Experience will give priority to assigning clinical placements to those students who have submitted the application and all required documentation by the appropriate deadline.
3. Submit the following documents to the Office of Field Experience. Students are required to maintain these documents in order to continue in the clinical setting each semester.
  - Evidence of Professional Nursing Liability Insurance \$1 million per event and \$3 million total coverage
  - Evidence of Health Insurance
  - Health/Safety Requirements as described in the Guidelines for Graduate Field Experience Manual

Upon admission into the clinical portion of the program, the following will be required:

- State Board of Nursing Variance
- Clinical Placement
- Maintain minimum enrollment cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Maintain a copy of the current RN license

#### *On-Campus Experience Attendance Policy*

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) students are required to attend both scheduled On-Campus Experiences and successfully complete all requirements including, but not limited to, skills practice, skills check-off and lecture.

Required attendance:

- Must be physically present each day.
- Must participate each day from scheduled start to finish time.

Failure to attend any portion of the On-Campus Experience will result in an automatic course failure. Students will be required to repeat the course and the On-Campus Experience associated with the course to progress in their program of study.

All On-Campus Experiences must be fulfilled as a graduation requirement.

#### **Master of Public Health**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing**

#### **Post-Master of Science in Nursing Certificate**

#### *No Rounding Policy*

The GCU College of Nursing & Health Care Professions has adopted a No Rounding policy for all courses within the program. This policy states that all grades will be entered to the hundredth at their face value and not rounded (i.e., a final grade of 89.99 will be entered as B and not a B+).

#### *Testing Policy*

Students are allowed 1.3 min per question and 3 min per short answer and math questions on exams.

#### *Honor Code*

All students will sign the following Honor Code Statement each time they take a test, either electronically or by paper and pencil.

*“On my honor, as a Grand Canyon University Student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.”*

#### *The Ground Testing Environment*

Examinations will be administered in an environment that is conducive to success and minimizes the opportunity for academic dishonesty.

1. Students may only have a pencil and piece of blank scratch paper issued by the proctor at their desk or computer.
2. Everything brought into the room (backpacks, purses, phones, PDAs, hats, snacks, water, etc.) must be placed at the front of the room at the student’s own risk.
3. All phones must be turned off.
4. Students may only use calculators and paper provided by GCU.
5. Faculty will actively monitor all students during examinations.
6. Students will be issued a piece of colored cardstock to use as a cover sheet while taking paper exams.
7. Talking is not allowed during the exam.
8. Each student’s eyes must be on their own exam at all times.
9. Once the exam has begun students cannot approach faculty to ask questions or seek clarification about the exam.
10. Students cannot leave the room and return once the exam has begun.
11. Students may only access the test site on the computer while taking an electronic exam. Students may not minimize the site, exit the site, or use chat during the exam.
12. After completing the examination, students will leave the classroom and not return until instructed by faculty once all students have finished the exam.
13. Students are encouraged to be present and well prepared to take all examinations. Consequences for being absent may include being given a different version of the exam. Only students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam. Students must notify the instructor no less than 30 minutes prior to the start of the exam for the absence to be considered excused. Students may make up no more than one exam per course.
14. Students who are observed violating the above criteria will be asked to leave the exam, given no credit for the exam, and reported to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

#### *Policy for Student Drug, Nicotine & Alcohol Screening*

The practice of professionalism demands that the clinician be free from the influence of any substance that would impair judgment and thinking ability. As a result, health care agencies are requiring students who work directly with patients to undergo drug screening. Students must also be free from impairing substances. Health care agencies and the CONHCP require drug screening of all students prior to their first clinical experience. In addition, students are subject to screening if either the faculty or preceptor suspects that the student is impaired at any time on campus, or during any health care experience or any other university or work related activity. Any student whose test is deemed positive will not be able to enroll or continue in nursing course for a minimum period of one year. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee. The College is required to reports any positive screens and/or suspicion refusal to the appropriate board.

This policy is designed to identify the procedures to be followed for both types of testing as well as to outline the appeal and readmission to the program.

### *Initial Urine Drug Screening*

1. Students entering their first clinical course and new transfer students will receive a drug screen authorization form in order to complete a random urine drug screen. Students will have 24 hours to complete the random drug screen at one of the laboratory options provided. Students receiving an authorization form on a Friday will be required to complete the screen by the end-of-business hours on Monday.
2. Students will be required to show picture identification upon arrival. A driver's license or passport are acceptable forms of identification.
3. The cost for all screening and medical review (if deemed necessary) is the students' responsibility.
4. A screen with questionable results will be sent by the lab for a medical review. Costs for review and retest will be the responsibility of the student.
5. A negative report is necessary to continue in the program of study in the CONHCP.
6. This screen need not be repeated as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment. Continuous enrollment is defined as enrollment in nursing classes during all consecutive semesters until graduation.
7. Students may be re-tested for cause or reasonable suspicion.

### *For Cause or Reasonable Suspicion Drug, Nicotine & Alcohol Screening*

The CONHCP may ask a student to submit to a drug and alcohol screening at any time a faculty member or preceptor believes that the student may be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This includes but is not limited to the following circumstances: evidence of drugs or alcohol on or about the student's person or in the student's possession, unusual conduct on the student's part that suggests possible use or influence of drugs or alcohol, negative performance patterns, or excessive and unexplained absenteeism or tardiness. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee.

1. Students will be asked to submit to an immediate oral drug and alcohol screening test conducted at one of the laboratory options provided.
2. Students may also be given a drug screen authorization form and asked to immediately complete a urine drug screen at one of the laboratory options provided.
3. Students will be required to show picture identification upon arrival. A driver's license or passport are acceptable forms of identification.
4. The costs for all screening and medical review (if deemed necessary) are the students' responsibility.
5. A screen with questionable results will be sent by the lab for a medical review by the company completing the drug screen. Costs for review and retest will be the responsibility of the student.
6. A negative report, excluding a positive nicotine result, is necessary to continue in the program of study in the CONHCP.

### *Follow-up Action: Positive Screen (For Cause or Initial Drug Screen)*

1. Positive drug screens (including those medically prescribed) may result in withdrawal from the nursing program for a minimum of 12 months. After this 12-month period, the student may apply for readmission under general guidelines stated in the University Policy Handbook, provided there is submission of evidence of satisfactory participation in a rehabilitation program for alcohol/substance abuse. Determination will be made in the Professional Standards Committee.

2. Sources of evidence include: a. Documentation of completed program of rehabilitation.
  - a. Acknowledgement of continuance in a twelve step or after-care program.
  - b. Letter from therapist or licensed health care provider stating the student is now able to function safely in a clinical facility.
3. The student must have a negative screen prior to being readmitted to the nursing program. The screen will be done at the direction of CONHCP and may be periodic while the student is in a CONHCP program. The student is responsible for all costs of screening.
4. The decision to readmit will be made by the CONHCP College Administrator after review of submitted materials. As with other applications for readmission, space availability may be a determining factor for that particular semester.
5. A report will be filed with the State Board of Nursing upon withdrawal from the program consistent with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Nursing.
6. Any student who screens positive after one readmission may be permanently dismissed from the nursing program.

### *Follow-up Action For-Cause Negative Screen*

1. Students whose drug screens are negative will meet with the College Administrator to discuss the perceptions of impaired behavior and the implications and steps to avoid similar situations in the future.
2. A review by the Medical Review Officer (MRO) by the company collecting the drug screen for documentation of any medical condition or treatment may be requested.
3. Students will not be counted as absent from clinical during this evaluation process. However, students will be expected to meet the clinical objectives.
4. A reasonable suspicion/cause drug screen that is positive; however, is deemed negative by a medical review officer will follow these guidelines:
  - a. The student will meet with the College Administrator.
  - b. The student may be required to undergo, at the student's expense, an evaluation for drug use/prescription drug use/impairment by a psychiatrist recommended by the State Board of Nursing.
  - c. The student will follow other recommendations deemed necessary by the College Administrator.
  - d. The student will be required to provide a negative drug screen prior to returning to clinical and be subject to periodic drug screens at the student's expense.
  - e. More than one incident of a reasonable suspicion/cause drug screen that is positive; however, deemed negative by a medical review officer may result in withdrawal from the nursing program for a minimum of 12 months. In this case the student will follow the positive drug screening guidelines.

### *Students Who Refuse Drug Screening*

Students who refuse to participate in screening will be required to leave the clinical area and make an appointment with the Dean of Nursing or his/her designee. The student will remain out of the clinical area until an investigation has been done and a recommendation has been made by the College Administrator. Students who refuse screening may be subject to dismissal from the CONHCP. A student who refuses to participate in the aforementioned rehabilitation program will not be allowed into

clinical courses; therefore he/she cannot complete the nursing program.

#### *Substances Included in Urine Drug Screen*

Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cannabinoids, Cocaine metabolite, Cotinine (tobacco/nicotine), Fentanyl, Meperidine, Methadone, Opiates, Oxycodone, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene

\*Please note certain clinical facilities include nicotine as part of their screening and will not allow students to rotate at their facility who test positive from nicotine or its byproduct, cotinine.

#### *Bodily Fluids Exposure and/or Injury During Field Experiences*

Grand Canyon University acknowledges the inherent risks associated with working around or with patients and health care organizations, including a potential exposure to blood and body fluids. Once in a patient care setting, you will have access to and are expected to utilize appropriate blood-borne pathogen barriers, proper sanitary precautions, and appropriate biohazard disposal equipment and procedures at each clinical site.

The following policy outlines your responsibilities in this area:

- You must have and maintain current health insurance and show verification of coverage each year while matriculated in the program.
- GCU and the clinical agencies that provide practical experiences for our students are not responsible or liable for the costs of medical follow-up or expenses incurred.
- If evaluation and treatment is required by the facility where you are completing clinical experiences, the student is responsible for all costs and associated follow up.
- In the event that you are injured or exposed to blood and body fluids, you will:
  - Immediately notify your clinical instructor or site supervisor
  - Wash the area immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.
  - Within 24 hours, follow-up with your own Primary Care Provider who will make a determination of immunization status and give appropriate prophylaxis or referral for appropriate prophylaxis.
  - Assume full responsibility for disease sequelae.
  - Follow the policies of the agency (if any).
  - Complete a student incident report with the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during incident. A copy of this report will be given to the College Administrator and placed in the student's file.

#### *Communicable Disease Policy*

You may not participate in field experiences during the time you are affected by or suspect you have a communicable disease. A communicable disease is a health disorder that can be passed from one person to another. If suspected of communicable disease, you must immediately visit the student health center or personal physician for evaluation. If the evaluation shows possible communicable disease, you must remain out of contact with patients for the duration suggested by the physician. You may not return to participation in field experiences until you have been re-evaluated by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant and released with written verification from the medical provider. You must contact the clinical preceptor and faculty upon suspicion and verification of the disease.

#### *Clinical Attendance and Participation Policy*

Absences in clinical rotation may jeopardize a student's successful progression and completion of the program. Clinical absences may result in clinical probation at the discretion of the

preceptor. Students who are too ill to perform safely in clinical should seek medical attention and contact their course faculty their preceptor prior to missing clinical.

Attendance of 100% is strongly recommended. Students are responsible for any and all material covered in class, clinical, as well as their assigned readings. Participation in the classroom and clinical experience is essential to meet the objectives for all clinical major courses. No clinical make up will be allowed except under circumstances approved by the College Administrator, including missed clinical notes and assignments.

Attendance at all scheduled lectures, discussions, clinical and laboratory courses is expected. Students are expected to be on time to all scheduled activities. Students are required to notify faculty of any absence and/or anticipated tardiness. Individual faculty will discuss the mechanism for notification of absence. Absenteeism may interfere with student attainment of course objectives, and may impact the grade students receive in clinical and theory courses. Legitimate illness may be an excused absence when defined as:

- a communicable disease which can be transmitted to patients, staff or other students
- an illness which would be aggravated by attendance at lecture, lab, or clinical
- hospitalization

Students will be asked to submit to the course faculty evidence of illness for time periods when they have significant health problems or absences.

Any student who has experienced an Emergency Department visit or hospitalization or an acute illness, trauma, surgery or pregnancy/delivery will need a health care provider's release to return to clinical. Such a release should provide information that attests to the fact that the student is physically and emotionally able to provide direct patient care.

Students who must miss clinical due to pregnancy or extended illness may not be able to complete clinical objectives. Students must contact the course instructor to discuss options or students are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Office. The College is not obligated to provide makeup clinical opportunities for students unable to complete clinical during the normal academic calendar.

#### *Clinical Absence Policy*

Failure to complete the minimum clinical requirements will result in failure of that clinical course.

All absences are to be reported to the preceptor in a timely manner via email, text, or phone.

If a student is unable to attend clinical, the student must:

1. Contact, by phone or in person, the course faculty, at least one (1) hour prior to the scheduled clinical time.
2. Notify by phone the designated client or clinical agency, at least one (1) hour prior to the scheduled clinical time.
3. At the discretion of the faculty member, submit a release signed by a health care provider to return to clinical.

#### *Clinical Tardy Policy*

Clinical tardiness is defined as being late at the beginning of a clinical. Any anticipated tardiness is to be reported to the appropriate course faculty and preceptor.

Consequences of being tardy three times within the same course are:

First Occurrence: Student will receive a clinical warning.

Second Occurrence: Student will be placed on clinical probation for the second late.

Third Occurrence: Student will fail clinical on the third late.

#### *Clinical Restriction Policy*

Clinical restriction is the official means of restricting the student from any field experience when students have missing, expired, or insufficient immunizations or documentation requirements on file with the Office of Field Experience (OFE). You will be notified by the OFE 4 weeks before documentation is set to expire. Once documentation has expired, the OFE will notify you course faculty of your restriction status. At all times it is your responsibility to ensure that your health and safety documentation is up to date and current, and that all other program requirements have been met. Health and safety requirements are mandatory for all students where indicated in this manual.

#### *Clinical Probation Policy*

Clinical probation is the official means of notifying you of unacceptable behavior or unsatisfactory performance. Being placed on probation can affect the field experience/clinical grade and may result in being administratively withdrawn from the course as determined by the Professional Standards Committee.

Clinical probation status is conferred at the discretion of the course instructor, clinical instructor, and respective Course Faculty for any unsafe or unprofessional behaviors. The following are examples of behaviors that lead to probation:

- Participating in a setting with expired or outstanding immunizations or documentation or delay in completing OCO modules by the due date.
- Unexcused absences
- Tardiness, failure to notify faculty/staff of tardiness or absences in clinical
- Insufficient preparation for the field experience
- Failure to follow instructor's or preceptor's guidance
- Unsafe practice in the clinical area
- Causing a client unnecessary suffering or harm
- Failure to report abnormal data in a timely manner to the appropriate persons
- Conduct inappropriate to the role of the student as outlined in this manual
- Failure to follow instructor's guidance
- Failure to dress in approved program attire
- HIPAA violations
- Leaving the clinical site without permission at any time during clinical hours
- Pre-licensure students administering medications unsupervised by an RN
- Performing skills/interventions which have not been signed off by the faculty
- Acting outside of a student scope or practice

#### *Probation Procedure*

- A discussion with Course Faculty and letter of probation will be given you.
- Code of Conduct will be initiated.
- A copy of the letter will be sent to the College Administrator and will be placed in your file.
- Refer to the University Policy Handbook for more information
- Clinical probation may result in up to 10% reduction in the clinical grade and may result in the student being withdrawn from the course

#### *Failure/Program Expulsion*

If you fail to meet the course objectives, policies, and procedures outlined in the classroom and this manual, you may face failure or program expulsion. You must repeat any failed courses before moving on to the next course outlined in your program of study. A Code of Conduct form will be filed by the course faculty for any action that results in clinical failure. Field Experience/Clinical course failure may result in a failure of the co-requisite theory course at the judgment of the Course Faculty and Professional Standards Committee.

Examples of clinical failure, program expulsion, or Code of Conduct violation actions:

- Compromising GCU's relationship with any site
- Compromising safety in any form
- Plagiarism and ethical conduct resulting in Code of Conduct Violations

#### *Clinical Probation*

Clinical probation means the student is not meeting the stated clinical objectives, which are listed in the syllabus for each clinical course. A student may be removed from the clinical area for any unsafe or unprofessional behaviors. Clinical probation may result in up to 10% reduction in the clinical grade and may result in the student being withdrawn from the course at the discretion of the lead faculty member.

Examples of probationary actions, include but are not limited to:

1. Unsafe practice in the clinical area
2. Insufficient preparation for clinical experience
3. Failure to follow faculty/staff guidance in clinical experience
4. Failure to notify faculty/staff of tardiness or absences during clinical experience
5. Causing patient to experience unnecessary suffering
6. Inappropriate performance specific to level of expectations
7. Unprofessional communication to faculty, staff, or patient
8. Non-adherence to student uniform attire
9. Consciously falsifying documents, including patient and personal documents

#### *Clinical Probation Procedure*

The following steps will occur if the student is not meeting the clinical objectives.

3. The lead faculty member will meet with the student and provide him or her with a letter of clinical probation effective throughout the duration of the clinical course.
4. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Associate Dean and Site Director and will be placed in the student's file.
5. The student has the remainder of the course to earn a passing grade, which removes the student from clinical probation.

## **College of Theology**

The College of Theology's mission is to educate and equip students to communicate the gospel effectively, serve the church faithfully, and minister with integrity at home and abroad. Therefore, within the context of the College, significant attention is given to spiritual and professional formation so that students are biblically qualified for ministry upon graduation. The Bible teaches that ministers must be "above reproach" in private and in public because ministers lead God's people as they grow up into the fullness of Christ through the careful study and application of God's word. Simply stated, one whose life has not been transformed profoundly by the power of the gospel is hardly in a position to lead others in this way of life. Thus, preparation for ministry requires attention to the spiritual, and professional aspects of each student's training in addition to academic study.



Doctrinal, ethical, and covenantal alignment are vital to the health of the institution as the faculty and administration strive to fulfill the mission of developing godly leaders, ministers, and scholars. Evangelical unity with respect to doctrine and morality represents a crucial basis for ministerial preparation just as it represents a crucial basis for gospel ministry. For these reasons, students in the College are asked to affirm the University's Doctrinal and Ethical Positions Statement, the COT Covenant, and standards for conduct that agree with those beliefs. In this way students affirm the basic tenets of the Christian faith and commitment to a lifestyle worthy of the Lord Jesus and worthy of the gospel ministry to which they have been called.

The University's foundational documents, the Covenant, and the dispositional and behavioral standards have not been created for purposes of legalistic compulsion or in a coercive spirit. Rather, they represent commitments and guidelines that have been developed for the purpose of living freely together in a community marked by faith, hope, and love. All students who enter into COT's covenantal community do so freely and they do so with full understanding that the community strives to cultivate the character of Christ daily. Indeed, in light of the unique call God has placed on their lives, the vast majority of ministerial students are motivated to conform to established standards and are grateful for the structure and accountability the community provides.

In most cases when students' dispositions or behaviors fail to align with the College's standards, COT's faculty and staff are able to correct gently and provide all necessary counsel. Indeed, gracious conversation and pastoral guidance should normally characterize the initial steps taken by faculty and staff to address impropriety. The College is committed to forming students in a loving and merciful way that is redemptive rather than punitive. Thus, in cases where minor dispositional or behavioral issues arise, direct student engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College will be most appropriate. Further action will only be necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Faculty and staff should refer cases that involve major dispositional and behavioral issues in accord with established processes.

### **Dispositional and Behavioral Standards**

As ministers of the gospel, theology students are expected to conform to dispositional and behavioral standards that are consistent with biblical teaching, sound doctrine, and the commitments they make at the start of their program. "Dispositions" refers to one's attitudinal inclinations, mental and emotional outlook, integrity, and character. Sincerely held dispositions lead to actions and patterns of conduct, which is to suggest that dispositions, at some level, contribute to behaviors.

COT has adopted the following dispositional and behavioral standards that align with the College's Covenant. Although these standards are not exhaustive, they represent the essential values and qualities that should characterize gospel ministers. Students are encouraged to acknowledge their struggles and shortcomings without fear and for the sake of working through challenges with the support and encouragement of the community. Students who disregard the standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors, however, may be subject to disciplinary action.

- **EMBRACE TRUTH:** Ministers of the gospel embrace the truth of Christ, and speak and act truthfully. This includes integrity with respect to the commitment to uphold doctrinal and ethical positions and behaviors consistent with those of the University within their academic work, within the GCU community, and

in any internship or supervised ministry/field experience setting.

- **DISPLAY A HEART FOR GROWTH, TRANSFORMATION, AND LEARNING:** Ministers of the gospel have a heart for growth and transformation. They demonstrate humility and pursue Christlikeness by taking correction, having a charitable spirit, and not thinking of themselves more highly than they ought. They do not hide sin but, rather, acknowledge it and learn from mistakes as they progress through their program of study. They demonstrate eagerness to learn and engage faithfully with their coursework, classmates, Scripture, scholarly research, faculty, and ministry supervisors.
- **AFFIRM THE VALUE OF PEOPLE:** Recognizing that all people are created in the image of God, ministers of the gospel treat people in ways that demonstrate their intrinsic value and dignity. Accordingly, ministers of the gospel reject discrimination and show the value of others in the way they interact with people of all races, nationalities, ages, genders, socio-economic levels, abilities, and faith traditions. These principles extend to all forms of communication.
- **DEMONSTRATE GRACE AND RESPECT:** Ministers of the gospel demonstrate grace and respect in their attitudes, actions, and words. They embody the fruit of the Spirit, speaking with kindness and patience, communicating respectfully in all situations. They avoid actions and speech that could show disrespect, a sharp tongue, harassment, prejudice, racism, sexism, vulgarity, foul language, or bullying. Students extend grace and charity at all points including discussions with others who differ with them on matters of doctrine and ethics. They strive for unity, which requires careful thought about doctrinal dialogue, genuine love for one another, and a resolve to be "quick to hear, slow to speak, [and] slow to anger" (James 1:19).
- **PROMOTE PEACE:** Ministers of the gospel seek to be peacemakers, approaching conflict with the goal of restoration and reconciliation. They follow biblical practices for conflict resolution, glorifying God by taking responsibility for their own contribution to a conflict, and asking and offering forgiveness when needed. They bring peace and joy to their classrooms and congregations, avoiding words and actions that might bring discord, dissension, or destruction.
- **MAINTAIN SEXUAL PURITY:** Following the teaching of the Bible, ministers of the gospel maintain personal sexual purity, reserving sexual expression for a marriage relationship between one man and one woman. They refrain from the use of all pornographic materials and any explicit content that would grieve the Holy Spirit while demonstrating an openness to accountability, counsel, and prayer in areas of struggle and perceived powerlessness. They refrain from sexually charged language and behavior inside or outside the classroom.
- **AVOID EXCESS:** Ministers of the gospel avoid excess and abuse of any substances that could move them from a place of health to harm. Students embrace moderation in all things for the sake of safeguarding against idolatry and protecting their gospel witness.
- **SEEK FIRST GOD'S KINGDOM:** Ministers of the gospel pursue God's purposes for the world even when this requires abandoning the pursuit of their own selfish interests. They cultivate love, justice, beauty, grace, wisdom, and wholeness in their relationships and eschew worldly desires that result in consumerism, materialism, and the pursuit of fame and prestige.

## **Corrective Action Plan for Unacceptable Dispositions and Unprofessional Behavior**

As a Christian community, the College of Theology and Grand Canyon Theological Seminary strive to be affirming and redemptive to students who are struggling and failing to exhibit these dispositions in their behaviors. The conduct that is unbecoming for a Christian leader or minister, however, may be referred through one of the following processes:

1. Dispositional alert from a faculty member, a ministry supervisor, or another GCU employee which is processed through the College of Theology's Covenantal Standards Committee (CSC). This committee will determine the disciplinary action to be taken on a case by case basis.
2. Code of conduct violation charge which is reported through the "Classroom Incident Report" and is handled through the Code of Conduct process of the University.

In cases of minor misalignment, direct engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College for the purpose of education, formation, and/or correction will be most appropriate. Further action is only necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Students who disregard COT's Dispositional and Behavioral standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors may be subject to disciplinary action. In certain egregious situations, disciplinary action may be immediate and will be recommended to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

Unbecoming dispositions and behavior, within the classroom or outside the classroom may result in an array of corrective actions taken by the CSC or recommendations for disciplinary actions made by the CSC to the Code of Conduct Committee including, but not limited to the following potential outcomes

1. A corrective dialog with the CSC or designee
2. A letter of reprimand
3. A required number of professional and/or pastoral counseling sessions
4. A series of coaching sessions
5. Recommendations to the Code of Conduct committee such as:
  - a. Removal from the class
  - b. Removal from the supervised ministry/field experience site
  - c. Failure of the course
  - d. Suspension
  - e. Expulsion from the program. In the case of expulsion, students will have the option of reapplying to the program after a two year hiatus at which time the student will make a case for his or her change in behavior and disposition such that the CSC would possibly allow them to return to the program

Any question of interpretation or application of the Dispositional and Behavioral Standards Policy will be referred to the Dean of the College of Theology or a designee for final determination.

These standards should not be applied in ways that foster discrimination and harassment. Students who experience gender or disability-based discrimination or harassment should seek the assistance of the Title IX or Section 504 Coordinator for investigation under the applicable grievance procedures.

## **Process Guidelines for COT Dispositional and Behavioral Standards**

The following guidelines are intended to assist with the evaluation of and appropriate response to dispositional and behavioral issues. These guidelines should enable faculty and College representatives to accurately assess and prudently address situations in ways that are redemptive, fair, and commensurate with the type of misalignment in question.

### ***Doctrinal and Ethical Alignment***

COT faculty are encouraged to make key distinctions in their teaching and classroom interaction between doctrine that is absolutely essential to the Christian faith and other teachings that, although important, are not fundamental to Christianity.

Essential doctrines are those core teachings that distinguish Christians from non-Christians and must be believed in order for one to be a genuine follower of the Lord Jesus. Denial of essential doctrine represents a grave matter.

Nonessential teachings are significant because they safeguard the integrity and health of essential doctrines and because they derive either directly or indirectly from the teaching of Scripture.

Examples include the form and meaning of baptism, the organization and governance of the church, qualifications for ministers, styles of worship music, and the timing of Christ's return in relation to other events of the last days. Christians frequently disagree about various nonessential teachings but disagreement about these doctrines does not amount to a denial of the faith.

### ***Dispositional and Behavioral Alignment***

In cases of minor misalignment, direct engagement by a member of the faculty or a representative of the College for the purpose of education, formation, and/or correction will be most appropriate. Further action is only necessary when a student is unresponsive to direct engagement or when a student persists in conduct that is unbecoming. Students who disregard COT's Dispositional and Behavioral standards or fail to demonstrate these dispositions and behaviors may be subject to disciplinary action. In certain egregious situations, disciplinary action may be immediate and will be recommended to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

### ***Minor Misalignment***

Instances of minor misalignment should be dealt with redemptively rather than punitively to the extent possible. Such cases typically require forbearance and patience instead of formal discipline.

### ***Major Misalignment***

Instances of major misalignment should be dealt with redemptively, but disciplinary action may be necessary if the situation cannot be redeemed apart from formal action. Certain egregious situations may represent exceptions and may require immediate disciplinary action.

## **Doctoral Programmatic Progression Requirements**

### **College of Doctoral Studies**

Doctoral learners who have completed the total number of credits and the content requirement for graduation, but who are struggling with completion of the dissertation requirement for graduation, may choose to transfer to a corresponding alternate degree program, as follows:

- Move to the Education Specialist Degree:

- EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in K-12 Leadership
- EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Instructional Leadership
- EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Effective Schools
- Move to the Master of Science in Leadership degree:
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Organizational Development
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Healthcare Administration
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Christian Ministry
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Special Education
  - EdD in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Higher Education Leadership
  - Doctor of Business Administration with an Emphasis in Management
- Move to the Master of Science in Psychology with an Emphasis in Industrial and Organizational Psychology
  - PhD in General Psychology with an Emphasis in Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Move to the Master of Science in Psychology with an Emphasis in General Psychology
  - PhD in General Psychology with an Emphasis in Cognition and Instruction
  - PhD in General Psychology with an Emphasis in Performance Psychology
  - PhD in General Psychology with an Emphasis in Integrating Technology, Learning, and Psychology

Learners who transfer should consult with their SSAs to see which courses carry over to the new degree and which courses do not. Learners are responsible for meeting all graduation requirements of the new degree after approved course equivalencies and substitutions are applied. Once the learner completes the alternate degree, then they are unable to return to that doctoral program for completion.

#### **Doctor of Philosophy in General Psychology**

Learners in the DIS process beginning with RES-871, RES-885, and PSY-825 are taking ownership of their dissertation journey and setting their own schedule and goals. Learners need to follow the dissertation process and policy set in the Grand Canyon University Dissertation Milestone Guide and the Learner Expectations Checklist, accessible by all learners via the DC Network. Supporting this process are the various University resources that are available to them.

#### *Doctoral Dispositions:*

It is important for the doctoral learner and dissertation chair to establish a clear understanding of the expectations of working together, how each will communicate with the other, and how they will establish a timeline for completion of dissertation milestone steps (see below). Additionally, it is important that the learner model the doctoral dispositions that exemplify a practicing scholar and researcher. As an independent scholar, a doctoral learner should be modeling the dispositions in their interactions with their committee, the college, and support staff. The Doctoral Dispositions state that doctoral learners at GCU:

- Are dedicated Scholar-Practitioners, passionate about their field, who become leaders in the disciplines and communities they serve
- Commit to producing scholarly research, which is ethical and academically honest
- Are self-directed, able to self-motivate toward their continued pursuit of knowledge and are responsible for their own learning
- Engage in reflective scholarly practice, asking questions of both self and others
- Actively communicate effectively and professionally with peers, faculty, and college staff
- Are accountable for the quality and academic integrity of their own scholarship and research agenda
- Are receptive to the feedback, analysis, and constructive critique from peers and faculty within their scholarly community
- Demonstrate how to design, execute, and present independent, academically rigorous research, that adds to the body of knowledge within their discipline

#### *Continuous Enrollment*

Learners need to remain continuously enrolled in order to access guidance from their chairs and University resources throughout the dissertation process. There are three academic reasons for a Leave of Absence (LOA):

- After the learner has completed External AQR Review for the Proposal and is planning on submitting for a full IRB review or requires a site authorization/external IRB that is taking longer than thirty (30) days, he/she can take an LOA until the review is completed.
  - Learners who are using a longitudinal design for data collection that will require more than two months may take an LOA for a specified amount of time based on their approved methodology.
  - After the learners have completed the Form and Format review of their dissertation, they do not need to maintain active enrollment as they complete the final steps of the process.
- Learners should reference the Leave of Absence – Nontraditional policy for additional information.

All standard policies regarding LOAs apply. Learners looking to take a Leave of Absence for academic or other reasons should work closely with their SSA. Chairs and committee members are under no obligation to work with a learner who is on an LOA. Once a learner is reenrolled, the chair and committee members will return to following the Committee Roles and Expectations document. If Learners are Inactive longer than three months for reasons other than the exceptions listed above, the University may need to assign them a different chair when they return.

Students in the Doctor of Business Administration, Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership, and Doctor of Philosophy in General Psychology programs have a limit of seven calendar years to successfully complete the course of study and dissertation as determined by their original enrollment date in the degree program. Changing emphases does not change this date, but changing programs (i.e. from Ph.D to Ed.D) does. Learners who are also out more than 12 months and reenroll will use their reenrollment date as their start date. This limit is in effect regardless of whether the learner is active or inactive. Learners approaching the limit may submit a formal appeal through a Student Services Counselor requesting a one year extension; however, the extension is not guaranteed. Including any extensions, the time required to complete the doctorate may

not exceed a maximum of nine calendar years from the start of program.

#### *Residency Attendance Policy*

Doctoral Learners that are required to attend residencies as part of their program of study for their degree programs and who do not attend residency during the first 24 credit hours of their program will be not be allowed to register for further coursework until the first residency requirement is fulfilled.

Additionally, any learner who has not fulfilled their second residency requirement by completion of 42 credit hours will not be allowed to register for further coursework until the second residency requirement is fulfilled.

All residency requirements must be fulfilled as a graduation requirement.

The only exceptions to this attendance policy will be for medical or other unforeseen extenuating circumstances and then only at the recommendation of the appeals process. Any learner who is granted an appeal to postpone residency will be expected to attend the next available residency to fulfill this attendance requirement.

#### *Dissertation Milestone Table*

The table shows the eight review levels required for dissertation approval. Each review level is iterative and may be repeated until the documents meet the standards set for that document based on GCU criteria and general accepted standards of scholarly work for doctoral research across disciplines. Use this table to set target completion dates for the major milestones and levels of review. Then track and adjust your plan (if necessary) according to the actual completion dates. Please refer to [Appendix A](#).

#### **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)**

Learners in the Direct Practice Improvement (DPI) Project process beginning with DNP-955, DPI Project: Part I, are taking ownership of their direct practice improvement project journey and setting their own schedule and goals. Learners need to follow the DPI Project process and policy set in the Grand Canyon University DPI Project Milestone Guide and the Learner Expectations Checklist, accessible by all learners via the DC Network. Supporting this process are the various University resources that are available to them. Learners need to remain continuously enrolled in order to access guidance from their chairs and University resources throughout the DPI Project process.

Learners looking to take a Leave of Absence (LOA) for academic or other reasons should work closely with their Student Services Counselor (SSA). Chairpersons and committee members are under no obligation to work with a learner who is on an LOA. Once a learner returns, the chairperson and committee members will resume following the Committee Roles and Expectations. The learner might also be assigned a new chairperson and/or committee members if the previously assigned chairperson or committee members are unavailable once the learner returns.

Students in the Doctor of Nursing Practice programs have a limit of seven calendar years to successfully complete the course of study and DPI Project as determined by their original enrollment date in the degree program. This limit is in effect regardless of whether the learner is active or inactive. Learners approaching the limit may submit a formal appeal through a Student Services Counselor requesting a one year extension; however, the extension is not guaranteed. Including any extensions, the time required to complete the doctorate may not exceed a maximum of nine calendar years from the start of program.

#### *Practice Immersion Requirements*

Prior to registration for practice immersion courses, the student must meet the requirements set forth in the Program Handbook.

#### **Doctor of Philosophy in General Psychology (Ph.D.)**

This degree is not intended for those seeking licensure in clinical practice. Those interested in licensure or certification should identify the applicable requirements by inquiring directly with their state or province.

## Non-Degree Programmatic Progression Requirements

#### **HS Dual Enrollment**

Each fall, continuing high school students must maintain a 3.0 GCU enrollment cumulative GPA, as well as the required high school GPA, in order to continue in the HS Dual Enrollment program. Students who fail to meet the 3.0 GCU enrollment cumulative GPA in the fall semester will not be able to participate in the spring semester of the same academic year. Students may enroll in no more than two online courses at a time.

## Code of Conduct and Academic Standards

#### **Student Code of Conduct**

Grand Canyon University endeavors to create an atmosphere of value-based liberal arts education. All students who enroll in the University are expected to accept the responsibilities of university citizenship and to show consideration and respect for personal freedom and property rights of members of the civic and academic community. Students are expected to abide by ethical, professional, and academic standards that are conducive to a positive learning experience. These expectations include, but are not limited to, the expectations that the student

- Gives appropriate attention to college level work
- Attends class, exercises, and engagements as required
- Acknowledges and accepts the responsibility of honorable adherence to the University's standards, rules, policies, and procedures
- Supports and exhibits ethical behavior with fellow students, faculty, and staff
- Recognizes and embraces the diversity and personal values of others
- Exhibits self-direction and self-reliance as a college student and in the pursuit of individual and collaborative learning objectives and goals
- Acknowledges and accepts personal responsibility and accountability for his or her actions, interactions, and communication in all forms with fellow students, faculty, and staff
- Upholds confidentiality and respect for personal or professional information communicated in the classroom
- Adheres to University policies and standards of academic honesty

#### **Conduct Violations**

The following is a non-exhaustive list of actions that are considered student conduct violations, for which students are subjected to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University:

- Falsification, forgery, alteration, or invention of information, including, but not limited to, any document used for admission

or eligibility to the University, or other official University documents.

- Communicating or behaving in any form that disrupts or interferes with the educational process or any institutional function
- Behaving in any manner that creates a disruption, or a hostile or offensive educational environment for a student, faculty member, or staff member
- Failing to comply promptly with any reasonable directive from a faculty member or University official
- Failing to cooperate with officials in a University investigation
- Possessing, using, distributing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while on University property or as part of any University activity
- Permitting anyone, with the exception of authorized persons, access to one's classroom, to attend class in one's stead, or to attend class for another
- Sharing one's password or using someone else's password for any University system or network
- Using any University system, network, or other IT resources to upload, download, or otherwise share and/or distribute any copyrighted music, video, software, written works, or other materials without the written consent of the copyrighted owner
- No student or person, individually or on behalf of any business or organization of any kind, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, is permitted to solicit, market, offer goods or services, or operate on behalf of such organization in any way on the University's campus without the prior written consent of the University's President or Provost. In addition, no student or person, individually or on behalf of any business or organization of any kind, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, may use the University's name, marks, seal, logos or other identifying symbols, without the prior written consent of the University's President or Provost.

### **Campus Violence and Substance Abuse Prevention**

Grand Canyon University is committed to creating a safe educational atmosphere and providing an appropriate learning environment for the University community. Therefore, the University prohibits and will take immediate action, up to and including expulsion, against the following:

- Threatening statements, behaviors, or acts of violence against students, faculty, and staff
- Acting in a manner which can be interpreted as physical assault or abuse
- Threatening to harm or endanger the safety of others.
- Behaving or acting in a manner which carries the potential for violence or acts of aggression, as interpreted by a reasonable person

#### **Possessing a weapon on campus:**

Weapons, as defined by GCU's Weapons-Free Campus Policy, and hazardous materials are not allowed on campus. Students possessing weapons on campus are in violation of GCU's Weapons-Free Campus Policy.

Students possessing a firearm on campus are subject to immediate expulsion from the University, and the expulsion is not subject to appeal. Law Enforcement Officers, on or off duty, are exempt from this provision.

#### **Selling/Distribution of Illegal and Unprescribed Drugs:**

In addition to legal consequences which may result from the involvement of law enforcement, this policy applies to students

found to be selling, distributing, or possessing an amount determined to be for more than personal use of illegal or prohibited substances, or paraphernalia indicative of selling/distribution. This includes but is not limited to the intent or ability to distribute.

Illegal drugs are defined as any controlled substance banned by the State of Arizona and/or the United States Federal Government. In addition to these banned controlled substances, GCU also prohibits the possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana products/ substitutes such as "Spice", "K2" or "Potpourri"; "Bath Salts"; prescription medication not prescribed to the possessor and synthetic substances categorized as a drug by law enforcement. Drug paraphernalia is described as any equipment, product or material that is modified or used for making, consuming, using or concealing drugs. This includes but it is not limited to the use or possession of a Hookah pipe, glass smoking pipe or items altered to assist in the making, using or concealing drugs including the scent of drugs.

### **Academic Integrity Violations**

As indicated in the Code of Conduct, all students are expected to possess a high standard of conduct and personal integrity in the classroom. Academic dishonesty is defined as any act of deception in an academic setting. The following examples include, but are not limited to, academic integrity violations for which students may be subjected to disciplinary action:

- Cheating, attempting to cheat, or assisting others to cheat, including dishonest activity or unauthorized use of any resource or materials in any academic exercise
- Fabricating, falsifying, forging, altering, or inventing information that applies, but is not limited to, academic coursework, any academic exercise or academic activity
- Plagiarizing, intentionally or unintentionally, the words, works, or ideas of others without proper citation or acknowledgement and representing them as one's own in any academic exercise. Paraphrasing sources which do not represent the student's original words or ideas without proper citation or acknowledgement
- Presenting work that has been prepared by someone other than the student, including the purchase and sharing of work
- Submitting work that has been prepared and used for a different course, wholly or in part, and without appropriate citation of the original work and prior approval of faculty
- Using materials not authorized by the faculty member to complete an assignment, or completion of an assignment by someone other than the student, including, but not limited to, providing/receiving exam answers, using faculty materials, answer keys, or solution manuals
- Collaborating in an unsanctioned manner - Students must work individually on homework, assignments, and other assigned coursework, unless collaboration has been expressly permitted by the instructor. Students who do collaborate without express permission of their instructor must inform the instructor of the nature of their collaboration
- Violating copyright laws and regulations.
- Violating the University's policies and regulations pertaining to the use and propriety nature of the Grand Canyon University curriculum, network, networking facilities, computer use, or platform access
- Selling or providing papers, essays, discussion questions, assignments, or any part of the University curriculum, to online term paper clearinghouses, or other commercial websites

## Procedure for Processing Alleged Violations of the Student Code of Conduct

The University may take disciplinary action against a student who violates the University's Code of Conduct. Depending on where the incident occurs, violations will be reported on the Classroom Incident Report (classroom-related incidents), the Residence Life Incident Report form (for campus housing issues), or the Security Incident Report (for general campus incidents) (collectively the "Reports").

Reports are forwarded to the Office of Academic Compliance upon discovery of the incident. Additionally, faculty are required to notify students that an incident report will be submitted to the Office of Academic Compliance. The Office of Academic Compliance then reviews the report, as well as any history of prior offenses. This office then notifies the student if the University intends to take further action as a result of the particular report or as a result of the history of offenses. If further action is recommended, the Code of Conduct Committee will determine whether the alleged violation has been substantiated and which University-level penalty to apply.

Students who are charged with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct are afforded an opportunity to be heard before a University-level penalty is applied. Students at risk for University-level sanctions will be contacted by the Office of Academic Compliance and offered the opportunity to present documentation and speak on their own behalf to the Code of Conduct Committee, which includes the Dean (or designee) of the appropriate College. Those at risk for University-level sanctions are offered three ways in which they may present refutation information to the Code of Conduct Committee: 1) Written statement; 2) Teleconference, and 3) In-person meeting (students are responsible for any expenses incurred).

Students are not required to present information to the Code of Conduct Committee. If the student does not respond within seven days of being contacted by the Office of Academic Compliance, the student forfeits his/her right to participate in the process and a determination will be made by the Code of Conduct Committee.

Students are not entitled to representation by any third party, personal representative, or attorney in the University disciplinary process.

### In-Course Penalties

The instructor determines the penalty for academic dishonesty that occurs during the course, as it relates to the outcome of the course for the student. An in-class penalty may include, but is not limited to:

- Requiring a rewrite of the assignment or paper, with or without point deductions
- Awarding limited credit for a specific assignment or paper
- Awarding no credit for a specific assignment or paper
- An instructor may not prevent a student from attending or completing a course, as this would be a University-level decision. However, the professor can recommend such action to the Code of Conduct Committee in the Classroom Incident Report.

### University Penalties

The Code of Conduct Committee determines all University-level penalties. In making its determination, the Committee considers the severity of the offense, as well as the student's history at the University. A University-level penalty may include, but is not limited to:

- Applying an official disciplinary warning to the student record (which may result in further penalties for additional occurrences)
- Assigning a failing grade for the assignment(s)
- Assigning a failing grade for the course
- Removing a student from class
- Stipulating suspension for 15-weeks
- Stipulating expulsion for two years
- Revoking academic credit or degree

The recommendation for academic suspension, academic expulsion, and the revocation of academic credit or degree must be approved by the Director of Academic Compliance or a designee. Upon conclusion of a required separation period, students who are suspended or expelled from the University for a code of conduct violation may apply for reinstatement by submitting a formal appeal through a Student Services Counselor; however, re-admittance is not guaranteed.

Grand Canyon University requires the use of plagiarism detection software, by which student work is monitored for plagiarism. The University retains all student work submitted to the plagiarism detection database.

The University reserves the right to review all courses for any purpose at any time. If unreported / undiscovered academic dishonesty is found through course examination, the University may engage in a thorough investigation of all coursework the student completed at GCU. Upon completion of the investigation, if the University believes academic dishonesty has occurred, a report will be submitted to the Office of Academic Compliance for disciplinary action by the Code of Conduct Committee.

## Internal Review Policy

We expect our students, prospective and current, to be ethical and honest members of the University community and beyond. Fraudulent behavior, or attempting to commit fraud, will not be tolerated. Such fraudulent activity includes, but is not limited to:

- Falsification, forgery, alteration, or invention of information, including, but not limited to, any document used for admission or eligibility to the University, document used to apply for financial aid, or other official University documents, including the misuse of documents, records, accounts, identification, or financial instruments.
- The inability or unwillingness of a student or prospective student to demonstrate academic intent or verify eligibility or identity.
- Acting on behalf of another student and/or allowing someone to act on one's behalf without approved documentation on file.

GCU complies with the recommendation of the Department of Education, Office of Inspector General (OIG) to have a system in place for detecting and monitoring for fraud. Therefore, individuals or groups suspected of violating these provisions will be selected for Internal Review, required to comply, and complete the review process. Such students may be placed on hold and unregistered from future courses, which may prevent any type of funding to be disbursed until cleared through the Internal Review process. Those deemed ineligible for admission may be permanently denied admittance, or dismissed from the University, by the Registrar or designee. Students administratively withdrawn through these provisions are processed separately from the Code of Conduct procedures. Students may be responsible for any balances or charges incurred.

If Grand Canyon University suspects fraud has occurred in connection with a student's application for federal student

financial assistance, the individual will be referred to the Office of Inspector General of the US Department of education.

## Gender-Based and Sexual Misconduct Policy and Grievance Procedures

### Purpose

The University, while reserving its lawful rights where appropriate to take actions designed to ensure and promote the Christian principles that sustain its mission and heritage, prohibits unlawful discrimination, including any form of harassment, on the basis of age, disability, national origin, race, color, religion, gender, veteran status, or any other classification protected by applicable law, in its employment, admission policies, educational programs, or activities. It is the purpose of the University to pursue the very highest employment and academic standards within a context that celebrates and extends the spiritual and ethical ideals of the Christian faith. Title IX regulations require non-discrimination on the basis of sex or gender.

### Statement of Objective

This policy prohibits any gender-based discrimination and/or harassment by, of, and between members of the Grand Canyon University community. For example, between employees, between an instructor and a student, between two students, or between a student and campus guest. This policy applies in all University programs and activities, including but not limited to, athletics, instruction, grading, housing, and University employment.

### Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, prohibited sex discrimination includes harassment, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, and other misconduct offenses when sex or gender is the foundation. Full definitions are provided in the following sections.

**Student -** Student status, per the terms of this policy, is a person who is in active status defined as currently attending classes.

**Reporting Party -** The student, employee, or third party who presents as the subject of any prohibited conduct under this policy, regardless of whether that person makes a report or seeks action under this policy.

**Responding Party -** The student, employee, or third party who has been accused of violating this policy.

**Proceeding -** Any hearing where a determination is made on a complaint, including whether there is a finding and/or sanctions. This includes informal resolution, Administrative adjudication, and Title IX Hearing Board adjudication.

**Result -** Regulatory requirements stipulate that both parties be notified, in writing, of the outcome of the complaint and any appeal. This includes information about the sanction imposed upon the Responding Party when the sanction directly relates to the Reporting Party. Compliance with these provisions does not constitute a violation of Section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), commonly known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as provided in the following sections.

## Policy

### Off-Campus Conduct

Conduct that occurs off campus can be the subject of a complaint or report and will be evaluated to determine whether it violates this policy, e.g., if off-campus harassment has continuing effects that create a hostile environment on campus. Allegations of off-campus sexual misconduct are of particular concern and should be brought to the University's attention.

The University is able to respond to alleged incidents of sex and gender-based misconduct:

- that occurred on campus,
- that were part of official University programs or activities (regardless of location), or
- where the Reporting Party and/or Responding Party are students, member of the faculty, staff, administration or third-party vendor of the University.

If the offender is unknown or is not a member of the GCU community, the Title IX Coordinator (or designee) will assist individuals in identifying appropriate campus resources, including assistance in contacting local authorities if the individual would like to file a criminal report. In addition, GCU may take other actions to protect the individual and the campus community.

### Retaliation Prohibited

The University prohibits retaliation against anyone who complains of, or is involved in the filing, investigation, or resolution of a gender-based harassment or discrimination claim. The University also will not retaliate against anyone who files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing conducted by an outside agency. Employees or students who believe they have witnessed or experienced retaliation in violation of this policy should report the retaliation pursuant to the Complaint Procedure outlined in this policy.

### Mandatory Employee Reporting

To enable the University to respond effectively and to stop instances of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct at the University proactively, all University employees must promptly (normally within 24 hours) report information they have about alleged or possible sexual harassment and sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. An employee's responsibility to report potential Title IX violations is dependent upon their designation as either a "Confidential Employee" or a "Responsible Employee".

Confidential Employees are employees who are licensed medical, clinical, or mental-health professionals, and who are acting in that professional role in the provision of services to a patient who is a student. Confidential Employees are also any employees providing administrative, operational and/or related support for such health care providers in their performance of such services. A Confidential Employee will not disclose information about a potential Title IX policy violation to the University's Title IX Coordinator without the student's permission.

A Responsible Employee is any University employee not designated as a Confidential Employee. Responsible Employees are required to report to the University's Title IX Coordinator all relevant details about an incident regarding a potential Title IX policy violation. Responsible Employees include student-employees, such as resident assistants, and teaching assistants.

## Policy

Members of the Grand Canyon University community, guests and visitors have the right to be free from all forms of gender and sex-based discrimination, examples of which can include acts of sexual violence, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and stalking. All members of the campus community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights of others. The specific procedures for reporting, investigating, and resolving prohibited conduct are based upon the nature of the Responding Party's relationship to the University (student, employee, or third party). Each set of procedures referenced below is guided by the same principles of fairness and respect. When an allegation of misconduct is brought to the University's attention, and a Responding Party is found to have violated this policy, serious sanctions will be used to reasonably ensure that such actions are never repeated. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for those individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy is intended to define community expectations and to establish a mechanism for determining when those expectations have been violated.

Harassing conduct may take various forms, including, name-calling, graphic verbal or written statements (including those communicated through cell phones, social media, or the Internet), or other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. Harassment does not have to be based on intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents. Sex-based harassment includes sexual harassment, which is further defined below.

### Sexual Misconduct Offenses

Sexual misconduct offenses include, but are not limited to:

1. Sexual Harassment
2. Non-Consensual Sexual Contact (or attempts to commit same)
3. Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse (or attempts to commit same)
4. Sexual Exploitation (or attempts to commit same)

### Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is unwelcome, gender-based verbal or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it:

- unreasonably interferes with, denies or limits someone's ability to participate in or benefit from the university's educational program and/or activities, and is
- based on power differentials (*quid pro quo*), the creation of a hostile environment, or retaliation.

#### *Quid-pro quo*

*Quid pro quo* sexual harassment exists when there are:

- unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature; and
- submission to or rejection of such conduct results in adverse educational or employment action

#### *Hostile Environment*

A Hostile Environment based on sex exists when harassment has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or academic performance.

A hostile environment can be created by anyone involved in a university program or activity (e.g., administrators, faculty members, students, and even campus guests). Mere offensiveness is not enough to create a hostile environment. Repeated incidents increase the likelihood that harassment has created a hostile

environment. A serious incident, such as a sexual assault, even if isolated, can be sufficient.

In determining whether harassment creates a hostile environment, the harassment will be considered not only from the perspective of the individual who feels harassed, but also from the perspective of a reasonable person in a similar situation. Also, the following factors will be considered:

- The degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education or individual's employment;
- The nature, scope, frequency, duration, and location of the incident or incidents;
- The identity, number, and relationships of the persons involved;
- The perspective of a "reasonable person" in the same situation as the person harassed; and
- The nature of higher education.

#### *Retaliatory Harassment*

Retaliatory harassment is any adverse employment or educational action taken against a person because of the person's participation in a complaint or investigation of discrimination or sexual misconduct.

#### *Non-Consensual Sexual Contact*

Non-Consensual Sexual Contact is:

- any intentional sexual touching,
- however slight,
- with any object,
- by one person upon another.
- that is without consent and/or by force.

#### *Sexual Contact*

Sexual Contact includes: intentional contact with the breasts, buttock, groin, or genitals, or touching another with any of these body parts, or making another touch you or themselves with or on any of these body parts; any intentional bodily contact in a sexual manner, though not involving contact with/of/by breasts, buttocks, groin, genitals, mouth or other orifice.

#### *Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse*

Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse is:

- any sexual intercourse
- however slight,
- with any object,
- by one person upon another.
- that is without consent and/or by force.

#### *Intercourse*

Intercourse includes: vaginal penetration by a penis, object, tongue or finger, anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger, and oral copulation (mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact), no matter how slight the penetration or contact.

Non-consensual sexual intercourse includes sexual assault, defined by ASRS 13-1406, as intentionally or knowingly engaging in sexual intercourse or oral sexual contact with any person without consent of such person.

#### *Sexual Exploitation*

Occurs when someone takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his/her own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of other sexual misconduct offenses. Examples of sexual exploitation include, but are not limited to:

- Invasion of sexual privacy;



- Prostituting another student;
- Non-consensual video or audio-taping of sexual activity;
- Going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting your friends hide in the closet to watch you having consensual sex);
- Engaging in voyeurism;
- Knowingly transmitting an SDI, STD or HIV to another student;
- Exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances; inducing another to expose their genitals;
- Sexually-based stalking and/or bullying may also be forms of sexual exploitation

**Additional Applicable Definitions:**

A. *Consent* is an understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable clear permission regarding willingness to engage in (and the conditions of) sexual activity.

- Silence does not necessarily constitute consent.
- In the absence of mutually understandable words or actions, it is the responsibility of the initiator, or the person who wants to engage in the specific sexual activity, to make sure that he/she has the consent from his/her partner(s).
- Consent to any one form of sexual activity cannot automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual activity.
- Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts.
- Effective consent may not be given by minors less than 18 years old.

B. *Force* is the use of physical violence and/or imposing on someone physically to gain sexual access. Force also includes threats, intimidation (implied threats) and coercion that overcome resistance or produce consent (“Have sex with me or I’ll hit you. Okay, don’t hit me, I’ll do what you want.”).

- Coercion is unreasonable pressure for sexual activity. Coercive behavior differs from seductive behavior based on the type of pressure someone uses to get consent from another. When someone makes clear to you that they do not want sex, that they want to stop, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point can be coercive.
- There is no requirement that a party resists the sexual advance or request, but resistance is a clear demonstration of non-consent.

C. *Incapacitation* is a state where someone cannot make rational, reasonable decisions because they lack the capacity to give knowing consent (e.g. to understand the “who, what, when, where, why or how” of their sexual interaction).

- This policy also covers a person whose incapacity results from mental disability, sleep, involuntary physical restraint, alcohol or drug consumption, or from the taking of rape drugs.
  - Possession, use and/or distribution of any of these substances, including Rohypnol, Ketamine, GHB, Burundanga, etc. is prohibited, and administering one of these drugs to another student is a violation of this policy.
- Sexual activity with someone who one should know to be -- or based on the circumstances should reasonably have known to be -- mentally or physically incapacitated (by alcohol or other drug use, unconsciousness or blackout), constitutes a violation of this policy.
- Use of alcohol or other drugs will never function as a defense for any behavior that violates this policy.

**Other Misconduct Offenses When Based on Sex or Gender**

Allegations of the following behaviors, regardless of whether they are based on discrimination, shall be addressed and considered in accordance with this policy and Discrimination Grievance Procedures:

- **Bullying**, defined as repeated and/or severe aggressive behavior likely to intimidate or intentionally hurt, control or diminish another person, physically or mentally (that is not speech or conduct otherwise protected by the 1st Amendment).
- **Intimate Partner Violence**: Any act of abuse, violence or threatened act of violence that occurs between individuals who are involved or have been involved in a sexual, dating, spousal, domestic, or other intimate relationship. Psychological abuse is a form of Intimate Partner Violence.
- **Stalking**: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, on the basis of sex/gender, that is unwelcome, and would cause a reasonable person to fear bodily injury or to experience substantial emotional distress.
  - Stalking includes, but is not limited to acts in which a person directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about another person, or interferes with another person’s property.
  - Stalking includes “cyber-stalking,” a particular form of stalking in which a person uses electronic media, such as the internet, social networks, blogs, cell phones, texts, or other similar devices or forms of contact

**Sanction Statement**

Consequences for violating this policy will depend upon the facts and circumstances of each particular situation. In determining the severity of sanctions or corrective actions, factors such as the frequency and severity of the offense and any history of past discriminatory, harassing or retaliatory conduct are relevant. The sanctions include, but are not limited to:

- Any student found responsible for violating the policy on Non-Consensual or Forced Sexual Contact (where no intercourse has occurred) will likely receive a sanction ranging from warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident, and taking into account any previous disciplinary violations.
- Any student found responsible for violating the policy on Non-Consensual or Forced Sexual Intercourse will likely face a recommended sanction of suspension or expulsion.
- Any student found responsible for violating the policy on sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, or other misconduct or harassment offenses will likely receive a recommended sanction ranging from warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident, and taking into account any previous disciplinary violations.

For employees, a finding of discrimination, harassment that creates a hostile environment or results in a tangible employment or educational action, or sexual misconduct may be cause for disciplinary action up to and including termination.

For students transferring to GCU, the Title IX Coordinator may take action if the student transferred prior to completing their sanctions at their previous institution. If the student wishes to continue attending GCU, the Title IX Coordinator will evaluate the possibility of applying or upholding the incomplete sanctions.

**Amnesty for Drug or Alcohol Possession and Consumption Violations**

The University strongly encourages students to report instances of sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual

misconduct involving students. Therefore, students who provide information about sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking involving students will not be disciplined by the University for any violation of the University's drug or alcohol possession or consumption policies in which they might have engaged in connection with the reported incident.

### **Consensual Relationships**

In order to protect the integrity of the academic and work environment, it is essential that those in a position of authority do not abuse, or appear to abuse the power with which they are entrusted. Staff (including all employees who supervise other staff or students) and faculty members (including coaches and graduate assistants) exercise power over subordinates and students. Therefore, the University prohibits consensual relationships of an intimate, sexual or romantic nature between staff or faculty and any employee or student when unequal power exists in the relationship. Unequal power in the relationship exists when the staff or faculty employee is in a position of actual or apparent professional or academic authority in activities including teaching, advising, mentoring, supervising, directing or evaluating the employee or student. Consensual relationships between Public Safety Officers and students are strictly prohibited due to the unequal power inherent in their interactions.

Furthermore, the University strongly discourages consensual relationships between staff or faculty and students even when no unequal power exists in the relationship since it may lead to unanticipated conflicts. Consensual relationships with students may lead to the perception by others that there is favoritism or bias in educational decisions undermining the spirit of trust and mutual respect that is important in an educational environment. Moreover, the fact that a relationship was initially consensual does not insulate the staff or faculty member from a claim of sexual harassment.

### **Grievance Procedures**

The University will take prompt and appropriate action to: (1) thoroughly, promptly, and impartially investigate complaints; and (2) prevent, correct and, if necessary, discipline individuals who engage in behavior that violates this policy. The following procedures should be followed whenever a person believes that they have witnessed or been the subject of discrimination, harassment or retaliation on the basis of sex or gender. These procedures also apply to students and employees in our online environment.

If an individual feels they have been harassed in any way, it is generally best to tell the offending person that you find such behavior offensive, that such behavior is against University policy, and that you want him or her to immediately stop. However, if an individual is uncomfortable taking this action, or if the conduct does not stop after the offending person has been warned, the student should immediately contact the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If the Reporting Party is an employee, he/she should report the conduct to a supervisor, Department Head/SVP, the division HR Business Partner, or the Title IX Coordinator.

Students and employees should report the offending incident or conduct promptly. Timely reporting is vital to the University's ability to investigate complaints and take appropriate action. Prompt reporting also discourages further misconduct. This said, students and employees are encouraged to report offensive conduct even if similar conduct was not reported in the past.

The complaint should specify:

- The name of the individual(s) against whom the complaint is made
- The nature of the alleged offense
- The specifics of the offending incident(s) with precise details (what happened, who was present, when, where, any reasons why they believe the action was taken)
- The date and signature of the person making the complaint

A person wishing to file a complaint should submit a written statement to the Title IX Coordinator or one of the Title IX Deputy Coordinators. It is recommended that as much information as possible be provided regarding the offending incident or conduct.

### ***Title IX Coordinator***

Jennifer Lech, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and University Registrar  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-5900  
[TitleIX@gcu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@gcu.edu)

Duties and Responsibilities: Monitoring and oversight of overall implementation of Title IX compliance at the University, including coordination of training, education, communications, and administration of grievance procedures for faculty, staff, students, and other members of the University community.

### ***Deputy Title IX Coordinator***

Shanna Milonas, MBA  
Director of Academic Compliance  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-5900  
[TitleIX@gcu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@gcu.edu)

The Deputy Title IX Coordinator reports to the Title IX Coordinator to assist with day-to-day leadership, coordination and oversight of the University Title IX program and assists with assuring institutional compliance with Title IX. The Deputy Title IX Coordinator assists the Title IX Coordinator by playing a lead role in monitoring and implementing Title IX compliance measures in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and University policies.

### ***Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinators***

The University has also designated Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinators who may assist the Title IX/Deputy Coordinator with implementing and monitoring appropriate policies, procedures, training programs, best practices, and other items related to compliance with Title IX. Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinators ensure potential Title IX issues are immediately reported to the Title IX/Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

For students:

Tim Griffin, Ed.D  
Dean of Students  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-6647  
[Tim.Griffin@gcu.edu](mailto:Tim.Griffin@gcu.edu)

For employees or vendors:

Patti Stoner  
Director of Human Resources  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-6744

Patti.Stoner@gcu.edu

If the Responding Party participates in athletics:

Jamie Boggs  
Deputy Director of Athletics  
Senior Women's Administrator  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-6611  
Jamie.Boggs@gcu.edu

### **Privacy/Confidentiality of Complaints and Reports**

GCU will inform the Reporting Party before beginning an investigation. All parties involved in the investigation process, including witnesses, have privacy rights and information will be shared only as necessary:

- To the Reporting Party, Responding Party, or witnesses, as necessary to give fair notice of the allegations and to conduct the investigation. This includes the complaint, investigation report and findings including sanctions, and any decision resulting from an appeal;
- To other University officials who have a need to know in performing their official University business;
- To law enforcement consistent with state and federal law and University Policy;
- To government agencies who review the University's compliance with federal law;
- As necessary to respond to litigation, formal investigation, or to respond to lawfully issued subpoenas.

Privacy and confidentiality have distinct meanings under this policy. Privacy applies to responsible employees and means that information related to the allegations will only be shared with a limited circle of University employees who "need to know" in order to assist in the assessment, investigation, and resolution of the report. Confidentiality refers to confidential employees in the context of laws that protect certain relationships, including medical and clinical care providers, mental health providers, and counselors (and those who provide administrative services related to the provision of those services).

### **Reporting Party Requests Confidentiality or No Investigation**

If a Reporting Party requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, GCU will take reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality, but GCU's ability to respond may be limited. The Title IX Coordinator will evaluate the request in the context of its responsibility to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students, faculty, and staff. GCU reserves the right to initiate a formal or informal investigation. Should the University decide to initiate an investigation, the Reporting Party will be notified that the University intends to proceed with an investigation and confidentiality cannot be ensured. The Reporting Party is not required to participate in the investigation.

In cases where the Reporting Party requests confidentiality and the circumstances allow the University to honor that request, the University will offer interim supports and remedies to the Reporting Party and community, but will not otherwise pursue formal action.

### **Interim Measures**

GCU will take whatever measures necessary to create a safe environment for all students. During the course of the investigation, various measures may be taken by the University in order to ensure the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of its students. A student may request some of these measures be

taken on their behalf, even if the University does not pursue a formal investigation, however, interim measures cannot be applied retroactively from the reporting date. These measures include, but are not limited to:

- Academic accommodations, to include but not limited to:
  - Transferring to another section of a lecture or laboratory
  - Rescheduling an academic assignment or test
  - Accessing academic support (e.g., tutoring)
  - Arranging for incompletes, a leave of absence, or withdrawal from campus
  - Preserving eligibility for academic, athletic, or other scholarships, financial aid, internships, study abroad, or foreign student visas
- Providing medical and mental health services, including counseling.
- Arranging changes in campus housing and/or dining locations.
- Providing assistance in finding alternative housing.
- Assistance in arranging for alternative employment arrangements and/or changing work schedules.
- A "No contact" directive pending the outcome of an investigation. Such a directive serves as notice to both parties that they must not have verbal, electronic, written, or third party communication with one another
- Providing an escort to ensure that the student can move safely between school programs and activities.
- Transportation accommodations or parking arrangements to ensure safety and access to other services.
- Assistance identifying additional resources or assistance including off-campus and community advocacy, support, and services.
- In serious cases, an interim suspension may be considered in order to ensure overall campus safety.

Failure to adhere to the parameters of any University-directed interim measure may result in immediate action by the Title IX Coordinator for failure to comply with a reasonable directive, and failure to cooperate with officials in a University investigation.

### **Law Enforcement Investigations**

Certain acts may constitute both a violation of University policy and criminal activity, the University encourages students to report alleged such acts promptly to local law enforcement agencies, and will assist them in doing so if requested. Criminal investigations may be useful in the gathering of relevant evidence, particularly forensic evidence. Because the standards for finding a violation of criminal law are different from the standards for finding a violation of this policy, criminal investigations or reports are not determinative of whether a violation has occurred as it relates to this policy. The filing of a complaint of a sexual assault under this policy is independent of any criminal investigation or proceeding.

While the University's investigation may be delayed temporarily while the criminal Investigators are gathering evidence, the University will not wait for the conclusion of any criminal investigation or proceedings to commence its own investigation and will issue immediate interim measures as necessary.

If police have not already been notified, the University may be obligated to contact law enforcement if it has reasonable belief that a crime has been committed. Claimants will be notified if such a report is necessary. This does not mean charges will be automatically filed or that a Claimant must speak with the police, but the institution is legally required to notify law enforcement authorities.

## **Preserving Evidence**

After a sexual assault, vital evidence may remain on your body or clothes. It is important to not shower, bathe, wash, change clothes, comb hair, eat or drink before a physical exam, if possible. Exams should typically be conducted within 120 hours of an assault. Such physical evidence is important to both a GCU investigation, as well as a police investigation. If you showered or washed, evidence may still be collectible, and medical conditions can be treated, even after 120 hours.

Electronic evidence can be extremely important for the outcome of an investigation. Save and/or screenshot any relevant text messages, social media posts, photos, snapchats, voicemails or emails. These can be provided to Public Safety or the Title IX investigator for use in a university investigation.

## **Preliminary Investigation**

If the University receives a complaint or otherwise becomes aware of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, a preliminary investigation will be conducted to assess whether the alleged facts, as immediately known, could rise to the level of prohibited conduct, and whether informal or formal resolution is appropriate. A preliminary investigation may include an initial meeting with the Reporting Party to:

- Review details of the allegation
- Provide a copy of this policy
- Explain avenues for resolution
- Explain the steps involved in an investigation
- Discuss confidentiality standards and concerns
- Determine whether the Reporting Party wishes to pursue a resolution through the University
- Referral to law enforcement, counseling, medical, academic, or other resources, as appropriate.
- Discuss interim measures that can be provided during the investigation and resolution process.

If the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, determines that a full investigation is not warranted, the Reporting Party will be provided written notification of the decision and any remedial measures that the University plans to implement in order to ensure the concerns were reviewed and addressed. A determination that a full investigation under this policy is not warranted does not preclude the University from taking appropriate steps to eliminate, deter, remedy, or address prohibited or otherwise disruptive conduct.

## **Resolution of Complaints**

A Title IX Investigation will normally be completed within 60 calendar days after the University has notice of an allegation of prohibited conduct. The Title IX Coordinator or designee may extend this timeframe for good cause, including but not limited to, law enforcement involvement, number of witnesses to be interviewed, and University breaks. The University will take all reasonable efforts to apprise the parties of the progress of the investigation. Anyone with a perceived conflict of interest may not be a part of the fact finding or decision making process.

## **Informal Resolution**

Some complaints may allow for an informal resolution. Mediation will not be used to resolve sexual misconduct complaints. If informal resolution is appropriate, a resolution of the conflict that is agreeable to all parties will be pursued. Under the informal process, GCU is required to only conduct such fact-finding as is useful to resolve the complaint, and to protect the interests of the parties, the University, and the community. If a satisfactory resolution is reached, the matter will be considered

closed, and both parties will be provided written notification of the outcome. A formal investigation can be requested at any time by the parties, or as initiated by GCU.

## **Formal Investigation and Resolution**

If investigation is to commence, the Responding Party will receive a Notice of Investigation as notification that a report has been filed, and will have the opportunity to review the written complaint or otherwise be informed of the substance of the allegation. If the Responding Party cannot be located, attempts at notification will be documented and additional University actions may take place to ensure a documented response to the notification.

A trained Investigator will interview the Reporting Party, Responding Party, and, as applicable, any witnesses. The Reporting Party and Responding Party may each have an advisor of their choice present at all interviews in which they participate. The Investigator will also gather any pertinent evidentiary materials (this may include, but is not limited to, emails, written documents, or photographs). During the investigation process, both the Reporting Party and the Responding Party will have opportunity to provide the Investigator with evidence and/or specify witness information. The Investigator will then prepare a report detailing the relevant content of the interviews and the documentation materials gathered, which is submitted to the Title IX Coordinator for review. Directly following the submission of the investigative report, the Title IX Coordinator will determine sanctions if a policy violation has been found, or determine that no policy violation has occurred.

At any point during the investigation, if it is determined there is no reasonable cause to believe that university policy has been violated, the Title IX Coordinator has authority to terminate the investigation and end resolution proceedings.

During the course of an investigation, should the Responding Party withdraw from the University, official transcripts will not be released until the conclusion and adjudication of the investigation.

For all levels of adjudication, the rules of evidence, process and procedure used in civil or criminal court do not apply and will be based on the preponderance of the evidence standard (i.e. it is more likely than not that a policy violation occurred).

## **Responding Party Admits to Violation**

If at any point during the investigative process the Responding Party admits to the Title IX policy violation, the investigation will conclude and be submitted for adjudication. The Title IX Coordinator will review the prepared investigative materials, along with the Responding Party's admission, and will determine sanctions accordingly.

## **Adjudication Where the Responding Party is a Student**

### ***Administrative Adjudication – No Policy Violation***

If no violation is found to have occurred, such outcome will be communicated in writing to the Reporting Party and Responding Party along with the opportunity to review the investigative report. GCU will continue to assist the Reporting Party with resources as applicable.

### ***Administrative Adjudication – Policy Violation Established***

If a violation is found to have occurred, the Responding Party and Reporting Party will each individually have the opportunity to review the investigative report and the documentation materials from the investigation. Following this review, the Responding Party will be given the opportunity to accept the findings and sanctions as issued by the Title IX Coordinator, or designee. If

the Responding Party accepts, the decision and sanctions will be communicated to both parties in writing, and the decision is not appealable by the Responding Party. If the Responding Party rejects the findings and sanctions, the case will be forwarded to the Title IX Hearing Board. The Reporting Party will be notified of the submission to the Title IX Hearing Board. The Responding Party will have 3 days to decide to accept or reject the finding. If the Responding Party does not submit a decision within the 3 days, the sanctions will be imposed as outlined in the decision letter.

#### ***Title IX Hearing Board Adjudication – Policy Violation Established***

If the Responding Party rejects the Title IX Coordinator findings and sanctions, the issue is forwarded to the University's Title IX Hearing Board for a formal hearing, which will be convened within 7 days of the Responding Party's rejection of the findings. The Reporting Party and Responding Party will be notified of the date, time, and location of the hearing. One member of the Board will be designated as the Chair and responsible for administering the hearing and recording the decision. The Board members will be given timely and equal access to the information that will be used at the hearing.

A Title IX Hearing Board meeting regarding a violation under this policy will consist of the following components:

- Introduction of members and procedural rules
  - Reporting Party, Responding Party, and Advisors cannot interact and are not permitted to speak to or question one another.
  - Reporting Party, Responding Party, and Advisors cannot interrupt the proceedings at any time.
  - Reporting Party, Responding Party, and Advisors cannot correct the Investigator during the presentation of the case.
  - Reporting Party, Responding Party, and Advisors are to address the Board only.
- Presentation of the information and investigative report by the Investigator
- Questions asked by Board (directed toward Investigator, or the parties as necessary)
- Closed deliberation, as determined by a majority vote, by Title IX Hearing Board.

The Reporting Party has the option to not be in the same room with the Responding Party during the hearing, and the University will accommodate and facilitate such requests to the extent practicable. It is not required that either party attend the scheduled hearing; however, the hearing will proceed in their absence and a determination will be made by the Title IX Hearing Board.

Where the preponderance of the evidence supports the findings against the accused individual, the Title IX Hearing Board will institute penalties for the infractions in accordance with the sanction statement listed above. Notification of the decision will be provided in writing to both parties within three (3) business days after the hearing has been completed.

#### **Adjudication Where the Responding Party is Faculty or Staff**

Due to the intersection of employment law and Title IX, there are only two potential outcomes when a finding involves a faculty or staff:

#### ***Administrative Adjudication – No Policy Violation***

If no violation is found to have occurred, such outcome will be communicated in writing to the Reporting Party and Responding Party along with the opportunity to review the investigative

report. GCU will continue to assist the Reporting Party with resources as applicable.

#### ***Administrative Adjudication – Policy Violation Established***

If a violation is found to have occurred, the Responding Party and Reporting Party will each individually have the opportunity to review the investigative report and the documentation materials from the investigation.

Following this review, the Responding Party will be given the opportunity to accept the findings and sanctions as issued by the Title IX Coordinator, or designee. If the Responding Party accepts, the decision and sanctions will be communicated to both parties in writing, and the decision is not appealable by the Responding Party. If the Responding Party rejects the findings and sanctions, the case will be forwarded to the Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Human Resources. The Reporting Party will be notified of the submission to the Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Human Resources.

#### **Appeal Process for Students**

Students will have three (3) business days to appeal the decision made during the hearing. All appeals must be made in writing, providing additional documentation for consideration. Appeals are not intended to be full re-hearings of the complaint, and as such, appeals will only be accepted based on one of the following factors:

- Procedural error or omission
- New evidence that was unknown or not available during the original hearing
- Substantially disproportionate sanctions

Disagreement with the findings or sanctions is not, by itself, ground for an appeal. The request for an appeal, including the grounds upon which the request is based and the documentation thereof should be submitted in writing to the Title IX Coordinator:

Jennifer Lech, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and University Registrar  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-5900  
[TitleIX@gcu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@gcu.edu)

Both parties will be notified in writing if an appeal is submitted. The appeal will be submitted for an initial review to the Title IX Appeal Committee, who will be given timely and equal access to the compliant, investigative report, appeal, and any other relevant documentation. One member of the Committee will be designated as the Chair and responsible for administering the hearing and recording the decision. The Title IX Appeal Committee will review the appeal and new documentation to determine if the appeal meets the limited grounds described above. If the Title IX Appeal Committee determines that grounds are met, it will review the appeal in light of the new information. Appeals are confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the original hearing, and pertinent documentation regarding the grounds for appeal. Appeal decisions are to be differential to the original hearing body, making changes to the finding only where this is clear error, and only to the sanction if there is a compelling justification to do so. A decision will be issued within 15 business days of the appeal being accepted. Any sanctions will remain in place during the appeal process. The Title IX Appeal Committee's decision to deny an appeal request,

or an appeal decision is considered the final decision of the University.

### **Appeal Process Where the Responding Party is Faculty or Staff**

A Responding Party who is faculty or staff will have three (3) business days to appeal the decision made during the hearing. All appeals must be made in writing, providing additional documentation for consideration. Appeals are not intended to be full re-hearings of the complaint, and as such, appeals will only be accepted based on one of the following factors:

- Procedural error or omission
- New evidence that was unknown or not available during the original hearing
- Substantially disproportionate sanctions

Disagreement with the findings or sanctions is not, by itself, ground for an appeal. The request for an appeal, including the grounds upon which the request is based and the documentation thereof should be submitted in writing to the Title IX Coordinator:

Jennifer Lech, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and University Registrar  
3300 W. Camelback Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85017  
602-639-5900  
[TitleIX@gcu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@gcu.edu)

Appeals for Responding Parties who are faculty or staff will be processed through the Open Door Policy or the Employment Dispute Resolution Policy, as outlined in the Employee Handbook, and reviewed by the Assistant Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Human Resources. Please refer to the Employee Handbook for information on the applicable policies. Both parties will be notified in writing if an appeal is submitted. Any sanctions will remain in place during the appeal process.

### **The Role of Advisors/Support Persons**

All parties are entitled to an advisor of their choosing to guide and accompany them throughout the campus resolution process. The advisor may be a friend, mentor, family member, attorney or any other supporter. However, a witness may not also serve as advisor/support person.

The parties are entitled to be accompanied by their advisor in all meetings and interviews at which the party is entitled to be present, including intake, interviews, and hearings. Advisors should help their advisees prepare for each meeting, and are expected to advise ethically, with integrity and in good faith. The University cannot guarantee equal advisory rights, meaning that if one party selects an advisor who is an attorney, but the other party does not, or cannot afford an attorney, the university is not obligated to provide one.

All advisors are subject to the same rules, whether they are attorneys or not. Advisors may not address campus officials in a meeting, interview or hearing unless invited to. Advisors may confer quietly with their advisees as necessary, as long as they do not disrupt the process. For longer or more involved discussions, the parties and their advisors should ask for breaks or step out of meetings to allow for private conversation. Advisors are expected to refrain from interference with the University investigation and resolution. Any advisor who steps out of their role in any meeting under the campus resolution process will be warned once and only once. If the advisor continues to disrupt or otherwise fails to respect the limits of the advisor role, the advisor will be asked to leave the meeting. When an advisor is

removed from a meeting, that meeting will typically continue without the advisor present. Subsequently, the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy will determine whether the advisor may be reinstated, may be replaced by a different advisor, or whether the party will forfeit the right to an advisor for the remainder of the process.

The University expects that the parties will wish to share documentation related to the allegations with their advisors. The University provides a consent form that authorizes such sharing. The parties must complete this form before the University is able to share records with an advisor. Advisors are expected to maintain the privacy of the records shared with them. These records may not be shared with 3rd parties, disclosed publicly, or used for purposes not explicitly authorized by the University. The University will restrict the role of any advisor who does not respect the sensitive nature of the process or who fails to abide by the University's privacy expectations.

The University expects an advisor to adjust their schedule to allow them to attend University meetings when scheduled. The University does not typically change scheduled meetings to accommodate an advisor's inability to attend. The University will, however make provisions to allow an advisor who cannot attend in person to attend a meeting by telephone, video and/or virtual meeting technologies as may be convenient and available. A party may elect to change advisors during the process, and is not locked into using the same advisor throughout.

### **False Reports**

Any member of the university community who knowingly files a false complaint of sexual harassment, or who knowingly provides false information to or intentionally misleads university officials who are investigating or reviewing a complaint of alleged sexual harassment, is subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge for employees and dismissal for students.

### **Enforcement**

Any question of interpretation or application of this policy will be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, for final determination.

Any student, faculty, or staff found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion (for students) or termination of employment (for faculty or staff).

University students are responsible for knowing the information, policies, and procedures outlined in this document.

The University may, at any time, in its sole discretion, change, modify or vary from anything stated in this policy, with or without notice. Nothing contained in this or any other policy, procedure or work rule of the University shall affect the "at will" status of any employee.

## **University Appeal Procedures**

The process described herein relates only to the formal University-level procedure for student appeals, including academic and financial issues. In some cases, a student may appeal a financially or academically related University policy or decision, including tuition, fees, a Code of Conduct or an Academic Dishonesty charge when extreme extenuating circumstances merit, and where supporting documentation exists. Such issues may involve, but are not limited to, final grades, discrimination, or harassment. The appeal process is designed to offer the student multiple opportunities to be heard, as illustrated in the table below. Students should be aware that appeals in

which policy or process was not followed, in which extenuating circumstances are not existent, are unlikely to be approved. Additionally, in order to provide students with as many options as possible for resolving issues, University departments may attempt to address student concerns through an informal issue resolution process which is separate from the formal University-level appeal procedure. Students may request to escalate their appeal to the University Appeal process at any time; any decision made at the University-level will supersede all previous proposed resolutions.

Students must initiate the appeal by contacting their Student Services Counselor. The Student Services Counselor will gather the information and route to the appropriate parties at the university. All supporting documentation should clearly and explicitly describe the appeal (including the actual policy being appealed), demonstrating he or she attempted in good faith to resolve the issues with the involved parties. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the intended appeal with a Student Services Counselor prior to submission.

Under extenuating circumstances, if the student believes the first level decision is unjust, the student may escalate the appeal to the second level by submitting another request via their Student Services Counselor. Not liking the first level decision is not justification for filing a second appeal. A second appeal decision requires additional documentation to justify a re-submission of the issue. The second level of appeal decision is the final decision of the University.

The following include the different appeal definitions:

- End-of-course grades: Faculty are responsible for issuing earned grades. The University supports this assessment made by the faculty based on student performance throughout the course, and overturning a grade is unlikely and only if miscalculation occurred. A student cannot appeal final grades earned unless the student has ample evidence that the grade earned was indeed miscalculated. GCU does not condone rounding grades, and therefore that is not considered miscalculation. To file a grade appeal, students must provide ample documentation indicating where the grade was miscalculated, as well as evidence the faculty and student communicated about the alleged miscalculation of the overall course grade, or the appeal will not be accepted for review. A final grade for a course may be disputed within five weeks of the last day of the course. Students may not file a grade appeal with the University for a grade/score on an individual assignment while the course is in progress.
- Reinstatement Admission Appeals: Students who have been dismissed from the University due to a lack of academic progress or Code of Code of Conduct violations have the option to submit a Request for Reinstatement.
- Code of Conduct: Depending on the severity and origination of a Code of Conduct violation, a student may be subject to consequences of violating the Student Code of Conduct up to, and including, expulsion. A Code of Conduct violation that is also a violation of state or federal law will be turned over to the appropriate authorities for action and is not under the jurisdiction of the University.
- A published policy: Students who have issues with a particular policy may in some cases appeal the policy. However, the following is a list of reasons, albeit a non-exhaustive list, for which a dispute of a published policy is not acceptable, and for which relief (tuition and fees) will not be granted:
  - Disputes arising out of a student's lack of knowledge or understanding of a stated policy

- A student's reliance upon verbal statements which conflict with the University's written policies, regardless of the source of the verbal communication
- A student's actions when the student failed to investigate, understand, or consider the financial ramifications of that action / decision
- A student's failure to regularly review University communications, whether via telephone, mail, or e-mail
- Illness or death of a person who is not a member of the student's immediate family
- Disputes arising because of technological issues that are not in direct control of the University

For any appeal where documentation is required but not submitted, the appeal will be returned to the Student Services Counselor as incomplete, and will not be accepted for review. Documentation includes, but is not limited to, email communication, evidence showing attempts to resolve grade appeal issues with faculty, or evidence which supports specific details relating to the claim. Additional documentation may be requested by the University at any time.

Below is a list of specific policies that are not appealable, and for which appeals will not be accepted for review:

- Minimum GPA requirements for graduation
- Program credit requirements for graduation
- Residency requirement
- Upper division credit requirement
- Course overload requirements
- Continuing Education Credits for certificates that do not meet the criteria outlined for GCU Approved Certificates
- SAP statuses (Warning/Probation/Suspension)
- GPA Progression statuses
- Grade appeals where the student has not provided evidence that it meets the terms of the end-of-course grades policy
- Exceeding the maximum number of course repeat attempts
- Expulsions issued for possessing a firearm on campus

Reason for Appeal	1st Appeal Level	2nd Appeal Level
End-of-course grades	Program chair or equivalent in the appropriate college	Dean of the appropriate college or designee
A published policy	Appeals Decision Board	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee
Reinstatement Admission Appeals	Dean (or designee) of the appropriate college	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee
A Code of Conduct violation that may result in sanctions up to and including suspension from GCU	Dean (or designee) of the appropriate college	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee

Reason for Appeal	1st Appeal Level	2nd Appeal Level
A Code of Conduct violation that results in expulsion from GCU	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee	Provost or designee
A doctoral academic appeal	Dean of College of Doctoral Studies	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee
Denial of doctoral admission	NA	Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee
Athletics	Vice President of Athletics	Chief Operating Officer

If the student complaint cannot be resolved after exhausting the Institution's appeal procedure, the student may file a complaint with the Arizona State Board for Private Post-Secondary Education. The student must contact the State Board for further details. The State Board address is:

1400 W. Washington, Room 260  
Phoenix, AZ 85007.  
Phone: 602/542-5709  
Website: <http://azppse.state.az.us>

For New Mexico residents, please contact:

New Mexico Higher Education Department  
2048 Galisteo Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
(505) 476-8400  
<http://hed.state.nm.us/institutions/complaints.aspx>

### **SARA Grievance Process**

Grand Canyon University is a SARA participating institution. For students who reside in SARA states (see list of SARA states at [www.nc-sara.org](http://www.nc-sara.org)) the Arizona SARA Council has jurisdiction over Arizona SARA-approved institutions in relation to non-instructional complaints. Instructional complaints, such as grade grievances, are not reviewed by the Council and should not be submitted for review. Prior to registering a non-instructional complaint with the Arizona SARA council, the student must first utilize GCU's appeals process and then utilize the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education's complaint process. Non-instructional complaints may be submitted to AZ-SARA via <http://azsara.arizona.edu/complaint-process>.

### **Appeal Timelines**

Appeals for both academic and non-academic concerns must be filed no later than five weeks after grades are posted for the course involving the appealed issue. Appeals received after this deadline will not be considered. If the student chooses to dispute the first appeal decision, the second appeal must be filed with the University within five weeks after the notification of the first appeal decision is issued.

The University makes every effort to come to a decision and notify the student within 15 business days of receipt of the appeal. However, in some cases the investigative process may lengthen this timeframe.

## **Appeal Communication**

Appeal decisions are communicated to the student through postal letter. Any questions regarding the appeal must be communicated to the assigned Student Services Counselor.

## **Textbooks**

Some courses are digitally enabled where students are charged the Canyon Connect fee to access the eBook in their Learning Management System. Other courses that may require a print textbook will direct students to purchase the print copy at the campus bookstore. For questions on print textbooks, contact 1-877-866-8917.

## **Grading System**

Grade points are assigned to specific grades according to the grading system and are used to compute a grade point average (GPA). Only those courses in which a letter grade (A through F) is earned are included in the calculation of the GPA. The semester credits of each course are multiplied by the grade points for the grade earned in each course. The sum of these products is divided by the number of semester credits in which a letter grade (A through F) is earned. The GPA that appears on the GCU transcript is based only upon coursework completed at Grand Canyon University. Certain courses earn credit toward fulfilling academic requirements but are not included in the computation of the GPA. These courses are denoted by a grade of CR or S. A grade of U earns no credit. A degree will never post prior to the final course end date.

Please note that course assignments are thoughtfully planned and allocated specific relative values to demonstrate the achievement of student learning outcomes. Consequently, the University does not permit the rounding of assignment or course grades or the issuing of extra-credit points. For example, 92.99 is an A- on the Undergraduate Grading Scale.

### **Undergraduate GPA**

Undergraduate students must earn a minimum grade point average of 2.0 to meet the minimum GPA graduation requirement. Undergraduate students must earn a grade of C in courses in their majors and minors. To review all graduation requirements, please visit the [Undergraduate Graduation Requirements](#) section.

### **Undergraduate Grading Scale**

The 100-point grading scale is the standard for all GCU undergraduate courses, although point scales may differ by college or program. Previous grading scales are presented on the University's official transcript. The grade or symbol, point equivalent (scale), the GPA value of the course letter grade, and the interpretation of the level of performance are as follows:



Letter Grade	GPA Value	Point Scale		Interpretation of Level of Performance
		COE, COFAP, CONHCP (Non-Nursing), COT, CHSS, CSET, CCOB	CONHCP (Nursing)	
A	4.0	93-100	95-100	Superior; outstanding scholarship
A-	3.7	90-92	92-94	
B+	3.3	87-89	90-91	Above average; good work
B	3.0	83-86	87-89	Average standard performance
B-	2.7	80-82	84-86	
C+	2.3	77-79	80-83	
C	2.0	70-76	76-79	Average standard performance
D	1.0	60-69	72-75	Below standard
F	0.0	<60	<72	Failure
I	NA	NA	NA	Course work is Incomplete
W	NA	NA	NA	Authorized withdrawal; No Credit
MW	NA	NA	NA	Mandatory Withdrawal
AW	NA	NA	NA	Academic Withdrawal
DW	NA	NA	NA	Deployment Withdrawal
CR	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Credit given, but No Grade or GPA Value
S	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Satisfactory Completion of Non-Credit Course
U	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Additional work needed to meet requirements in non-credit or non-grade course
NR	NA	NA	NA	Grade status not reported by instructor

Letter Grade	GPA Value	Point Scale		Interpretation of Level of Performance
		COE, COFAP, CONHCP (Non-Nursing), COT, CHSS, CSET, CCOB	CONHCP (Nursing)	
IP	NA	NA	NA	Course currently in progress

### Graduate GPA

Graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for graduation. Graduate students must earn a grade of C or better in all of their courses.

### Graduate Grading Scale

The 100-point grading scale is the standard for all GCU graduate courses, although point scales may differ by college or program. In graduate courses, students will be evaluated by the grading scale shown below. Previous grading scales are presented on the University's official transcript. If a graduate student earns a grade of F, he or she will be required to repeat the course and bring up the grade in order to continue in the program. The grade or symbol, point equivalent (scale), the GPA value of the course letter grade, and the interpretation of the level of performance are as follows:

Letter Grade	GPA Value	Point Scale		Interpretation of Level of Performance
		COE, COFAP, CONHCP (Non-Nursing), COT, CHSS, CSET, CCOB	CDS, CONHCP (Nursing)	
A	4.0	93-100	97-100	Superior; outstanding scholarship
A-	3.7	90-92	93-96	
B+	3.3	87-89	89-92	Above average; good work
B	3.0	83-86	85-88	Average standard performance
B-	2.7	80-82	81-84	
C+	2.3	77-79	78-80	Below Standard
C	2.0	70-76	76-77	
F	0.0	<70	<76	Failure
I	NA	NA	NA	Course work is incomplete

Letter Grade	GPA Value	Point Scale		Interpretation of Level of Performance
		COE, COFAP, CONHCP (Non-Nursing), COT, CHSS, CSET, CCOB	CDS, CONHCP (Nursing)	
W	NA	NA	NA	Authorized withdrawal; no credit
CR	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Credit given, but no grade or GPA value
S	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Satisfactory completion of non-credit course
U	NA	NA	NA	Campus Only: Additional work needed to meet requirements in non-credit or non-grade course
MW	NA	NA	NA	Mandatory Withdrawal
AW	NA	NA	NA	Academic Withdrawal
DW	NA	NA	NA	Deployment Withdrawal
NR	NA	NA	NA	Grade status not reported by instructor
IP	NA	NA	NA	Course currently in progress

### Incomplete Grades

Students become eligible to request an incomplete grade if the following requirements have been met during the last week of the course:

- They are experiencing a physical and/or extreme circumstance that prevent them from completing the assignments by the scheduled end of the course;
- They are passing the course at the last week of the class;
- They have no outstanding Incompletes; and
- Their course fees and tuition are paid in full.
- Incompletes are not intended for students who have fallen behind in their studies and request an extension past the last day of class solely to submit materials.
- Even if the student is eligible for an Incomplete, the decision to grant the Incomplete contract lies solely with the instructor. If the instructor grants an incomplete, the following must happen:

- By the end of the course, the instructor and the student must complete the Incomplete Contract Form, which is created by the instructor and lists all eligible assignments to be completed by the student and the deadline date(s).
- When submitting final grades for the course, the instructor must enter a grade of “I” and send a copy of the Incomplete Contract Form to the Office of Academic Records.
- The student must submit all assignments within three weeks of the last day of the course.
- Within four weeks of the last day of the course, the instructor must submit a final grade for the student, or the grade of I will be changed to a failing grade.

Neither the incomplete nor the failing grade may be changed to a W grade. A student with more than one outstanding Incomplete may not register for any additional courses until the requirements for all outstanding Incompletes have been fulfilled.

### Auditing Courses

Students are not permitted to audit Grand Canyon University courses.

### Repeat Policy

When a course has been repeated, the credit used in computing the grade point average is the grade and credit hours earned the last time the repeated course was taken. Students who maximize the number of attempts for repeating a required course may not be able to complete their program.

### Repeating Non-Passing Courses

A grade of D or lower earned at Grand Canyon University may be replaced in an undergraduate student’s GPA when the identical course or course equivalent is retaken. Undergraduate students must repeat any program-specific Prerequisite courses completed in which a grade of less than C was earned. A grade of C or lower earned at Grand Canyon University may be removed from a graduate student’s GPA under the same conditions and with the same results as stated above. Students may attempt the same course up to three times. Attempts include any course with an issued grade, including withdrawn courses. All attempted courses will be documented on the official transcript, but the repeat grade will be the grade of record regardless if it is higher or lower on the grading scale.

A course in a Program of Study may not be repeated once the degree has been awarded. The student should note that graduate schools or other institutions may calculate grades in an alternate fashion. This policy does not apply to special topics and independent study courses, which may consist of varying content depending on the timeframe it was offered.

### Repeating Non-Failing Courses

Undergraduate students have the option to repeat any undergraduate general education course where a non-failing grade was earned. The grade earned at Grand Canyon University may be replaced in an undergraduate student’s GPA when the identical general education course or equivalent course is retaken. Students have one attempt to retake the same non-failing general education course. This option can only be used for a total of two non-failing general education courses throughout their academic career at Grand Canyon University. All attempts will need approval by submitting a formal University Appeal through an Student Services Counselor. Students may be financially responsible for the tuition of the course. All attempted courses will be documented on the official transcript, but the repeat grade

will be the grade of record regardless if it is higher or lower on the grading scale.

A course in a Program of Study may not be repeated once the degree has been awarded. The student should note that graduate schools or other institutions may calculate grades in an alternate fashion. This policy does not apply to special topics and independent study courses, which may consist of varying content depending on the timeframe it was offered.

## Grade Changes

A final grade may be changed by the instructor of the course within five weeks of the last day of the course for the following reasons:

- A miscalculation or error in grading has been detected by the instructor/student after final grades have been submitted.
- A University investigation of a grade dispute appeal supports a change of grade or an instructor fails to submit a final grade to replace an Incomplete grade by the deadline.

To change a student's final grade, an instructor must complete and submit a Grade Change Form to the Office of Academic Records.

## Academic Honors

### Dean's and President's List

GPA's for all undergraduate students' completing 12 semester credits are calculated to determine eligibility for these honors. Students whose enrollment cumulative GPA is 3.5 or above qualify for the Dean's List. Students whose enrollment cumulative GPA is 3.8 or above qualify for the President's List. Student's receiving the Dean's and President's honors will be notified by letter, at each 12-credit review.

## Special Study Courses

Certain course numbers have been reserved for special study courses that departments of the University wish to approve. This fall into four categories: independent study, practicum, internship, and student teaching. To register for a special study course, students must obtain and complete appropriate forms with their Student Services Counselor. Once approved by the college, these forms are submitted to the Office of Academic Records where they are reviewed to determine student eligibility. A Special Study Request Form must be submitted no later than the last day of the regular registration period.

### Independent Study

Independent Study courses may only be used when a student exhausted alternative courses, especially in the case of degree completion. Independent study courses are restricted to a case-by-case need that must be approved by the instructor, College Dean, and the Provost. A syllabus must be included.

### Practicum

A practicum is a supervised practical experience in the student's major area of interest. Between 45 and 60 hours of practical experience equates to one University credit. Arrangements must be made between the agency, organization, or individual and the College Dean/designee to design and evaluate the student's experience. Practicum is reserved for junior and senior students with at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA and approval is required from the College Dean and/or Department Chair or designee(s). Practicum courses are restricted to the lock-step programs of study in the online modality.

## Guidelines for University Internship

Grand Canyon University offers two types of internship opportunities: programmatic internships and elective internships. Programmatic internships are encompassed within required courses in the students' program of study, and are administered by the College that houses the specific program. Elective internships are administered by the Office of University Internships. Through the Office of University Internships, undergraduate students have the option to earn up to 12 elective credits. Graduate students can use internships to meet transfer elective credit deficiencies up to the total number of credits required in their program. International students must obtain approval from the Designated School Official.

Students must meet with a Student Services Counselor to review their eligibility to participate in an elective internship. Students must meet the following requirements.

1. Undergraduate Students:
  - Must have completed one semester at Grand Canyon University.
  - Recognizing that some internships might require a certain GPA, students may be required by the employer to have and maintain that level of GPA throughout the internship experience.
2. Graduate students:
  - Where applicable, graduate students may also be required by the employer to have and maintain a certain GPA level throughout the internship experience.
3. All students must meet any additional agency-specific requirements (eg. fingerprinting or background check, CPR, vaccinations, site-specific training etc.)

Students wishing to seek an elective internship for University credit outside of Arizona must check with the Internship Office to determine if approval for internships in that state can be granted. Please note, elective internships for programs in counseling, nursing, or education programs are only permissible within Arizona.

Students are encouraged to contact the Office of University Internships for assistance in selecting their elective internship. Once selected, students need to complete the Internship Registration packet, including:

1. Registration form
2. Code of Conduct Agreement
3. Resume
4. Offer letter from internship organization

Students are required to complete a minimum of 45 hours of documented site based work for each academic credit earned and participate in the learning management system classroom throughout the duration of the course. However, students participating in the AZ Legislative Program are not required to fulfill this requirement. Students may submit Internship Registration Forms requesting to have their current employment position evaluated for consideration as an internship assignment with future work hours being applied towards internship credit. In no case will academic credit be granted for work done in the past.

### Student Teaching

Student teaching provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills in a live classroom setting. College of Education requires full-time placement of student teachers for 15-16 weeks, dependent upon student's program of study, in classrooms associated with their major

area(s) of interest under the direct supervision of a certified educator. During this time, student teachers will assume all teaching duties and responsibilities necessary for effective teaching of students, including assessing students, planning and teaching lessons, and evaluating students' progress. Students must complete all associated student teaching paperwork and approvals, prior to commencing student teaching activities. Students with missing approvals on forms needed may be removed from student teaching. Student teaching may only be repeated once.

## Official Enrollment Status Change and Withdrawal

The implications of discontinuing course registration differ greatly during various points. The academic and financial consequences of the specific types of enrollment status changes are outlined below.

### Change of Classification

Traditional Undergraduate students who want to become a Nontraditional (Online) Undergraduate student, or vice versa, need to contact their Student Services Counselor for approval. The Student Services Counselor will assign a new Student Services Counselor to the student.

### Change of Start Date

Graduate and undergraduate students who have not begun their initial start date at GCU may decide to change their start date by contacting their University Counselor. Students should be aware of the University [Course Tuition Refund Policy](#), when considering changing their start date after the commencement and attendance in their first course.

### Course Drop

When students seek to remain active in school, yet reduce the number of credits for which they are registered, the option to drop a course is available. Students must contact their Student Services Counselor to process a course drop.

Students in a 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 12 week course are not permitted to drop a course during the last two weeks of the course. If students stop attending a course within the last two weeks of the course, they will earn the grade based on their academic performance for the entirety of the course. Faculty will assign a letter grade of A through F. Students who drop a course prior to two weeks before the end of the course will earn a grade of W for the course.

Students in a 15 or 16 week course are not permitted to drop a course during the last four weeks of the course. If students stop attending a course within the last four weeks of the course, they will earn the grade based on their academic performance for the entirety of the course. Faculty will assign a letter grade of A through F. Students who drop a course prior to four weeks before the end of the course will earn a grade of W for the course.

Before dropping a course, students are strongly advised to speak with their Student Services Counselor to understand the academic and financial ramifications associated with dropping a course. The [Course Tuition Refund Policy](#) in the Financial Services section of the University Policy Handbook outlines the refund schedule for dropped courses. Students who delay exercising the course-drop option until after the deadline retain financial responsibility. Students are responsible for all non-refundable charges.

### Add/Drop

If students drop and add courses there may be additional tuition charges depending on the timing of the drop/add action, and the length of the instructional period of the course that is being dropped or added.

#### *Traditional Campus Students*

All students may add courses after the semester has begun, but the scheduling may differ based on the length of the instructional period.

- Students enrolled in 15-week courses may add additional 15-week courses to their schedule through the third week of the semester with College approval. Students are responsible for any additional tuition charges that may be incurred as a result of adding credits based on the change. A student who is enrolled in 15-week courses, who desires to drop a 15-week course after the third week of the semester (outside the refund period) and add another course will be responsible for tuition charges if the number of registered credits, including the dropped course, exceeds 18.
- Students enrolled in 7-week and 8-week may add additional courses in their current 15-week semester only if the course has not yet begun, they have been actively enrolled from the beginning of the semester, and are responsible for any additional tuition charges based on the change.
- Students who unregister from a course may be eligible for a portion of their refund based on total registered credits remaining.

Before dropping a course, students are strongly advised to speak with their Student Services Counselor to understand the academic and financial ramifications associated with dropping a course. The [Course Tuition Refund Policy](#) in the Financial Services section of the University Policy Handbook outlines the refund schedule for dropped courses.

### Registration Discontinuance

Students who choose to drop from courses after they have already begun participation in the courses must request to discontinue by contacting their Student Services Counselor. Students will be dropped from all current and future scheduled courses and will be considered inactive for the period discussed with their Student Services Counselor.

Although the discontinuation of registration places students in an inactive status for the requested time, students retain their admitted status within the University and should remain in contact with a Student Services Counselor. If the student is out of attendance for more than 180 days, the student will have to enroll in a program in the current Academic Catalog. Students are still subject to the [Course Tuition Refund Policy](#) and the [Course Drop Policy](#).

Students are strongly advised to speak with their Student Services Counselor to understand the academic and financial ramifications associated with dropping a course.

## University Official Withdrawal

In the event that students choose to discontinue their enrollment at GCU, they must officially withdraw from the University. Students in this situation lose all of the rights and privileges associated with being GCU students, including maintaining enrollment in their Program of Study (POS). To officially withdraw from the University, students must submit a University Official Withdrawal Form to the Office of Academic Records via the GCU Student Portal. When submitting the University Official

Withdrawal Form, students will be asked to identify the reason for withdrawing from the University. If students notify their Student Services Counselor of their intent to withdraw from the University but do not complete the Official Withdrawal form, Student Services Counselors will notify the Office of Academic Records of the Official Withdrawal. Students may also be withdrawn from the University through the Unofficial Withdrawal policy.

Students are still subject to the Course Tuition Refund Policy and the grading policy listed above in [Course Drop Policy](#). Before withdrawing from the University, students are strongly advised to speak with a Student Services Counselor to understand the academic and financial ramifications associated with dropping a course.

All Financial Aid students are required to complete Exit Counseling for any federal loans borrowed while in attendance at Grand Canyon University. This is in accordance with the Department of Education requirements and students should contact their Student Services Counselor for further information on how to complete the Exit Counseling.

Officially withdrawn students must reapply for admission to the University if they decide to return, and enroll in the most current POS.

## Semester Official Withdrawal

### *Traditional Campus Students*

Traditional campus students, who choose to discontinue their enrollment at GCU for the current semester enrolled, must complete a Semester Official Withdrawal Form, which can be obtained through their Student Services Counselor. Students are subject to the [Course Tuition Refund Policy](#) and the grading policy listed above in [Course Drop Policy](#).

## Military Deployment

In support of U.S. military students, the University offers special circumstance withdrawals for students who find themselves deployed without computer access or experience other circumstances that will make it impossible to complete coursework within the prescribed time frame due to temporary assignments when accompanied with official documentation. Active Duty, Reservists, and National Guard students that are currently enrolled in a degree program will be placed on a deployed status for the duration of deployment. Students will receive a tuition credit to their GCU account for the course(s) from which the University withdraws the student. A DW grade (Deployment Withdrawal) will appear on the student transcript for each class the University approves for withdraw with the expectation that students will re-take the affected courses upon re-entrance.

Students seeking this option must submit a completed GCU Deployment Form prior to deployment to be eligible, including submission of official military deployment orders to their Student Services Counselor. It is also the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the situation. The student assumes responsibility of a course if they post into the classroom after the deployment date indicated on the soldier's Orders.

Students out of attendance for greater than 14 days may have a recalculation of financial aid completed, which may result in a balance on the student's account (if student is using Title IV). Grand Canyon University will defer collections of tuition and fees while in a deployed status.

Eligibility:

- The student must have been attending the course and completing the assignments up to the point of the deployment request.
- The student's circumstances must involve a military commitment.
- Students who determine their need for a deployment withdrawal must submit the GCU Deployment form prior to any scheduled departure date.
- Students must submit official documentation to confirm deployment and/or circumstance (official orders, letter from Commander, etc.).
- Students using Financial Aid must also complete a Deferment Form.
- Official documentation submitted by the student must confirm that the dates of the deployment and/or special circumstance coincide with the time frame of the course.

Temporary Duty or No-Notice deployment will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and must have a letter from the Commander of the soldiers unit attached with the Deployment Orders.

## Unofficial University Withdrawal

There are two types of unofficial university withdrawals. The first is administrative withdrawal and the second is the 14-day rule.

### Administrative Withdrawal

The University reserves the right to administratively withdraw a student for the following reasons:

- Students who do not attend any of their registered classes within the first week of the course may be administratively withdrawn from all classes, current and future.
  - Students who have not returned to the University in 6 months and have not provided any notification of their absence
- Students withdrawn through the provisions below are processed separately from the Code of Conduct Procedures.
- Students deemed ineligible for admission as a result of the Internal Review process.
  - Failing to comply with the Internal Review process

### 14-day Rule

An unofficial withdrawal occurs when a student has stopped attending courses for a period of 14 consecutive days or more but has not communicated a desire to officially withdraw from the University.

## Student Records

### Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Grand Canyon University annually informs students of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. Questions concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act may be referred to the Office of Academic Records.

These rights are as follows:

- The right to inspect and review educational records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access. Students should submit written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect to the Office of Academic Records. The University will make arrangements for access

and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- The right to request an amendment of education records that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the University to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the Office of Academic Records and clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the University will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement, personnel, and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Executive Cabinet; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or appeal committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the University discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:  
Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave., SW  
Washington, DC, 20202-5920

Grand Canyon University has designated certain information in the education records as directory information for the purposes of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Students are required to complete a Student Information Release Form, submitted to the Office of Academic Records, to control release of such information with respect to student records. The Student Information Release Form is good for one year, from the date of signature.

Although GCU recognizes some information as directory, GCU's practice is not to release most directory components unless the University determines a need to do so (for example, police request). Some directory information will be released when it comes to athletes, or other student activities, such as theatre productions, regardless if a student opts out. Students wishing to opt out of ALL directory information disclosure must send their request to the following email address: [directoryoptout@gcu.edu](mailto:directoryoptout@gcu.edu).

If choosing to opt out students must provide their student ID, and or, reply from their GCU email address.

- Student name
- Address
- Personal email address
- Phone number

- Date and place of birth
- Hometown
- Degrees and awards received and dates
- Dates of attendance (current and past)
- Full or part-time enrollment status
- Participation in officially recognized activities or sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Most recently attended educational institution
- Major field of study
- Academic levels
- Photographs

## Student Access

### Mobility

Individuals who reside upon and/or visit the GCU campus are responsible for their own mobility. If assistance is needed, a golf cart ride may be available based on a disability issue; however, arrangements need to be made at least 48 hours prior to the visit and are offered as a courtesy service only. Rides are based on availability of campus resources.

For disability accommodations, please contact 602-639-6342.

### Student Disability Services

Grand Canyon University (GCU) seeks to serve all of its students equally. This plan is established in order to provide all students with equal access to GCU's programs, systems and facilities.

In order to receive accommodations through the University, students are required to complete the Accommodation Request Form and provide supporting documentation to Student Disability Services. To allow the University sufficient time for processing, requests should be submitted no later than two (2) weeks (10 working days) prior to the start of the course. All approved accommodation requests turned in after the course has begun will be in place as of the date the form and documentation was received by Student Disability Services. Accommodations will not be retroactive. Processing of accommodations begins after both the request form and the appropriate documentation information is received.

Students are required to complete a new accommodation request form annually based on their original approval date. Documentation for permanent disabilities will remain on file with Student Disability Services. Students that are approved for Temporary services will be asked to provide additional documentation to extend services. (Please see Temporary Accommodations Policy for more information). Students are required to notify Student Disability Services of any schedule changes that may occur during their program of study, in order to ensure that their accommodations are applied or adjusted accordingly. Students that withdraw from the University or have been suspended will need to contact Student Disability Services upon their return in order to re-establish their accommodations. Please note that the University cannot provide accommodations that are not requested.

Steps to Accommodations:

1. Complete the [Accommodation Request Form](#)
2. Supporting documentation is required for all students requesting accommodations through Student Disability Services. The documentation must be from a medical provider (such as a doctor, psychologist, psychiatrist, etc.) or from testing services (such as Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and other tests). The documentation should be on letterhead from

the provider or service company. The documentation is kept on file in Student Disability Services for verification purposes.

3. Turn in a copy of the above items via one of the options listed below:
4. Fax - 602.589.2652 (All documents must contain the student's name and be addressed: Attn: Disabilities Coordinator)
5. Email - [disabilityoffice@gcu.edu](mailto:disabilityoffice@gcu.edu) please put the student's name in the subject line of the email (last, first)
6. Hand Delivery - Take requests to the Kaibab building through the Ground Advisement Team and ask for Student Disability Services.

The student is required to provide documentation that demonstrates credible assurance of a disability issue. The documentation should directly support the student's request for accommodations. The documentation must be from a medical provider (such as a doctor, psychologist, psychiatrist, etc.) or from testing services (such as Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and other tests). The documentation must state the specific disability and show cause for why a student's disability significantly limits their ability to complete their educational goals at GCU. The documentation should include a summary of the student's functional limitations in order for the University to determine the appropriate accommodations. The documentation is kept on file in Student Disability Services for verification purposes.

The documentation should be typed with the appropriate official signature and contact information for the associated facility for verification purposes (on official letterhead is preferred). We do NOT accept documentation that is handwritten or submitted on a prescription note. These documents are scanned into a protected part of your permanent record and therefore, must be legible and clear. Documentation can be submitted to Student Disability Services either by fax to 602-589-2652, by email to [disabilityoffice@gcu.edu](mailto:disabilityoffice@gcu.edu) or they can be hand delivered to Student Disability Services at the Main Campus in Phoenix, Arizona.

Once documentation is received it will be reviewed. If the documentation provided does not meet the University's requirements it will not be accepted as the official documentation. Students will receive notice and will be asked to provide alternative supporting documentation. The documentation is kept on file in Student Disability Services for verification purposes. Students requesting additional accommodations after their initial approval may be asked to provide additional documentation.

### **Service Animals and Assistive Animals Policy**

For the purpose of this policy, the term "accommodation animal" refers to "service animals," "emotional support animal," "assistive animals" and "necessary assistance animals" as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, Fair Housing Act, and other applicable laws.

Any resident student wanting an accommodation animal to live in Grand Canyon University Housing must complete the Steps to Accommodations process. Their request needs to include an explanation of the disability-related need for the animal, the types of tasks, if any; the animal is trained to perform, as well as a description of the animal, including type and the animal's name.

With the exception of a trained service dog, the animal should not be in residence unless/until the request is approved. Please note that the approval of a request is animal-specific and is not transferable to another or different animal.

### **Service Animal:**

Per the ADA 2010 Revised Requirements, service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. If the animal is a trained service dog trained to perform service tasks, then the student's Request for Accommodations must answer two questions:

- (1) Is this a service animal that is required because of a disability?
- (2) What work or tasks has the animal been trained to perform? If the resident's disability is not readily apparent, appropriate medical documentation verifying the student's disability will be required.

### **Therapy/Emotional Support Animals:**

If the animal is not a dog, or the animal (even if a dog) is not trained to perform service tasks but is an emotional support animal, then the student needs to request a Housing Accommodation for the assistive animal through the Student Disability Services office. In this case, the student's Request must answer these two questions:

- (1) Does the student (asking to live with the animal) have a disability — i.e., a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities?
- (2) Does the resident making the request have a disability-related need for an assistance animal?

When the disability and/or disability-related need for the animal are not readily apparent, the student will be required to also provide supporting documentation in the form of a letter from a treating physician, licensed mental health professional (specialist), or DSP Specialist documenting the disability and/or disability-related need for the animal, and outlining the following:

- a) Verification of the disability the animal is supporting, and
- b) How the animal serves as an accommodation for the verified disability, and
- c) How the need for the animal relates to the ability of the student to use and enjoy the living arrangements available through the University, and
- d) The letter is subject to the Documentation Criteria as outlined in the Steps to Accommodations.

Please note that Therapy/Emotional Support animals are restricted to the residence area where the student resides only. They cannot go to class or to other communal areas of the University including the Library, the Arena, sports fields, the Rec Center, Thunder Alley, Classroom buildings, Pool area, etc.

### **Denied Requests:**

Requests for an assistive animal as a disability-related accommodation may be denied if granting the request would constitute an undue financial or administrative burden, or would fundamentally alter the nature of the housing option. In addition, animal accommodation requests may be denied if:

- (1) the specific assistance animal in question poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation, or
- (2) the specific assistance animal in question would cause substantial physical damage to the property of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by another reasonable accommodation. Breed, size, and weight limitations are not applicable to an assistance animal.

## **Guidelines for Assistive Animals Living on the Grand Canyon University Campus**

The following guidelines apply to all approved disability-related accommodation animals and their students who live in GCU Housing.

### **Animal Behavior**

1. An Exception to the Residential Pet Policy is granted for accommodation animals provided that their behavior, noise, odor and waste do not exceed reasonable standards and that these factors do not create unreasonable disruptions for students, faculty or staff.
2. Dangerous, poisonous, and/or illegal animals are not permitted.
3. The approved accommodation animal must be contained within the private residential area (room, suite, apartment, or enclosed balcony) at all times. When being transported outside the private residential area, the animal must be in a carrier or controlled by leash or harness.

### **Animal Health and Well-Being**

1. Accommodation animals must have all veterinarian-recommended vaccinations to maintain the animal's health and prevent contagious diseases. Documentation of appropriate vaccinations are due at the time the Request. Grand Canyon University reserves the right to request updated vaccination verification during the animal's residency.

All animals must have a clean bill of health from a qualified veterinarian professional in order to live in GCU Housing.

2. Animals that live on GCU's campus fall under the licensure and health requirements for Maricopa County. Proof of compliance with those rules and regulations is part of the documentation required for approval of an assistive animal. Please visit the following link for more information: <http://www.maricopa.gov/pets/>
2. All accommodation animals that reside on the GCU campus are required to have the appropriate GCU issued identification cards.

### **Animal Cleanliness**

Residents are responsible for properly containing and disposing of all animal waste, including but not limited to:

1. Indoor animal waste, such as cat litter, must be placed in a sturdy plastic bag and tied securely before being disposed of in outside trash dumpsters. Litter boxes should be placed on mats so that feces and urine are not tracked onto carpeted surfaces. Animals are required to be housebroken.
2. Outdoor service animal waste, such as dog feces, must be immediately retrieved by resident, placed in a plastic bag and securely tied before being disposed of in outside trash dumpsters.
3. With respect to common areas, the University reserves the right to designate specific sites indoors/outdoors for elimination of animal waste and to prohibit (even if there is immediate clean up afterwards) animal waste in any other common area.

### **Resident Responsibilities**

1. The student is responsible for assuring that the accommodation animal does not interfere with the routine activities of their fellow resident students or cause unreasonable difficulties for student, faculty or staff. Residential community living requires respect for the needs of residents with allergies and those who may fear animals.
2. The student is financially responsible for all consequences caused by the actions of the accommodation animal, including bodily injury or property damage which may necessitate

replacement or repair of damaged furniture, carpet, drapes, or wall covering, etc. If an accommodation animal causes substantial physical damage to the property of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by reasonable accommodation, the animal may be excluded from living in the residence.

4. The University shall have the right to bill the student's account for unmet obligations arising for damage caused by an accommodation animal.).
5. The student's place of residence may be inspected for fleas, ticks or other pests once per semester or as needed. If fleas, ticks or other pests are detected through inspection, the residence will be treated using approved fumigation methods by a university-approved pest control service.
6. The student must notify Student Disability Services in writing if the accommodation animal is no longer needed as an accommodation or is no longer in residence within 48 hours.
7. Even if the student previously obtained permission for an accommodation animal, the student must file a new request for accommodations if s/he wishes to bring in a new/different accommodation animal in substitution of the previous accommodation animal.
8. The University has the ability to relocate resident and accommodation animal as necessary provided the new site is consistent with the terms of the current contractual agreement.
9. All roommates or suitemates of the student must sign an agreement allowing the accommodation animal to be in residence with them. In the event that one or more roommates or suitemates do not approve, either the student and pet or the non-approving roommates or suitemates, as determined by the Student Disability Services and Housing, may be moved to a more suitable location.
10. Student agrees to continue to abide by all other residential policies. An exception to a policy that otherwise prohibits having an animal does not constitute an exception to any other policy.
11. Any violation of the above rules will be reviewed through the University's Code of Conduct and the resident will be afforded all rights of due process and appeal as outlined in that process.

Resident students will be required to sign an acknowledgement of these guidelines with Student Disability Services.

## **Section 504 Grievance Procedure**

It is the policy of Grand Canyon University not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Grand Canyon University has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) of the U.S. Department of Education regulations implementing the Act. Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The Law and Regulations may be examined in the office of Dr. Jennifer Lech, Section 504 Coordinator, 602-639-9200, who has been designated to coordinate the efforts of Grand Canyon University to comply with Section 504.

Any participants, beneficiaries, applicants, or employees, including students, staff, faculty, and visitors who believes they have been subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability (or is unsatisfied with accommodations provided by Student Disability Services) may file a grievance under this procedure. It is against the law for Grand Canyon University to retaliate against anyone who files a grievance or cooperates in the investigation of a grievance. The Section 504 Coordinator should be notified immediately if anyone associated with the grievance



procedure is subjected to retaliation as a result of that person's participation in the grievance process.

The University has both informal and formal mechanisms in place to resolve concerns about disability discrimination, denial of access to services, accommodations required by law, or an auxiliary aid they believe they should have received ("disability-related issues"), such as:

- Disagreements regarding a requested service, accommodation, modification of a University practice or requirement, or denial of a request
- Inaccessibility of a program or activity
- Violation of privacy in the context of a disability

### **Informal Process**

GCU encourages students and campus visitors with concerns about a disability-related issue to first discuss the matter with the Student Disability Services (SDS) Office, who will attempt to facilitate a resolution. The SDS Office can be reached at [disabilityoffice@gcu.edu](mailto:disabilityoffice@gcu.edu) or 602-639-6342. Employees and applicants for employment, on the other hand, are encouraged to first contact the HR Service Center regarding disability-related issues at [hr@gcu.edu](mailto:hr@gcu.edu) or 602-639-6549.

If the SDS Office or HR is not successful in achieving a satisfactory resolution, within ten working days from the date the disability-related issue is raised, or the complaint is made against HR or the SDS Office, a formal grievance may be filed as described below.

The purpose of the informal process is to make a good faith effort to resolve the issue quickly and efficiently; however, the individual may ask to implement the formal process at any time during the informal resolution or instead of the informal resolution.

### **Formal Grievance**

A formal grievance must be filed with the SDS Executive Decision Board ([SDSEDC@gcu.edu](mailto:SDSEDC@gcu.edu)) within 21 working days of the date of the informal decision, if applicable, or within 30 calendar days of the occurrence of the disability-related issue. The grievance must be in writing and include the following:

- The grievant's name, address, email address and phone number
- A full description of the situation
- A description of the efforts which have been made to resolve the issue informally, if any
- A statement of the requested remedy, e.g. requested accommodation

If the grievance involves confidential medical information, the Board will maintain the confidentiality of that information and will not release that information without the student's permission, except as allowed by law.

The Board will review the grievance for timeliness and appropriateness under this grievance procedure and notify the grievant if the grievance has been accepted. If the complaint is against an identified individual, such as a student, faculty, or staff member, the board will also provide notice of their receipt of the complaint to the named individual.

The Board will select an investigator who will promptly initiate an investigation. The investigator will be an individual who is trained on disability or civil rights issues. In undertaking the investigation, the investigator may interview, consult with and/or request a written response to the issues raised in the grievance from any individual the investigator believes to have relevant information, including but not limited to faculty, staff, students,

and visitors to Grand Canyon University. All parties will have an opportunity to provide the investigator with information or evidence that the party believes is relevant to his or her grievance. All parties involved will receive a fair and equitable process and be treated with care and respect. The investigator will respect the privacy of all parties.

Generally, the investigation will be completed within thirty calendar days of the filing of the written complaint. At the request of the grievant, the Board will determine whether the formal grievance process can and should be expedited. In certain situations, circumstances may require the investigation to extend beyond 30 days, and the grievant will be notified in writing if such a situation arises.

### **Findings and Notification**

Within five working days of the completion of the investigation, the investigator will make a recommendation to the Board regarding appropriate actions to be taken. The investigator will summarize the evidence that supports the recommendation, and the grievant will be advised in writing of the outcome of the investigation.

The Board will make a determination regarding the complaint and, if appropriate, take prompt action to remedy the concerns raised by the grievant. If the grievance is against an identified individual, the board will also provide notice of their determination to the named individual.

### **Appeal**

Within 30 calendar days of receiving the determination from the Board, the grievant or the party against whom the grievance is directed, if any, may appeal the determination. To appeal, the party must file a written request for review with the Section 504 Coordinator. The written request for appeal must be based on the grounds of improper procedure, or new evidence that was unavailable at the time of the investigation.

The Section 504 Coordinator will provide a copy of his/her written decision to all parties within 30 calendar days of the filing of the appeal. The appeal decision of the Section 504 Coordinator will be the final determination of the University.

The individual also may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, at any time before, during or after the University's 504 grievance process.

Grand Canyon University does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or any other classification protected by law in its programs and activities.

## **Student Driver Waiver**

Students are required to acknowledge the statement below within the Student Driver Waiver document in their Student Portal.

Students may participate in both mandatory and voluntary off-site events (including classes, internships, externships, clinicals, training, student teaching, volunteer work, school events, etc). Students driving in a personal motor vehicle will be personally responsible for their travel to and from off-site events. Students waive, release, and discharge any and all claims against GCU for damages for death, personal injury, or property damage to students or others that may arise as a result of operating a motor vehicle while traveling to and from any off-site events.

# University Technology Requirements

Students and faculty participating in Online and Traditional Web-Enhanced courses must have access to the following minimum hardware and software. Some programs of study at Grand Canyon University require additional technology requirements, which can be found under the Programmatic Technology Requirements section.

\*We are working on optimizing our online learning system for mobile devices. Until this optimization is complete, some functions may not be fully available and system navigation may appear different on your mobile device than on your computer. Some error messages may intermittently appear about your mobile browser not being supported.

\*\*Please note that most mobile devices, including tablets, smart phones and PDA devices, as well as many eBook reader devices, do not support eBook (PDF) files with embedded digital right management (DRM) restrictions that require connecting to a live server for authentication.

	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8.1, Windows RT 8.1, or Windows 10
<b>Processor Speed</b>	800 MHz 32 or 64 bit (x86) processor, or equivalent/better
<b>CPU Memory</b>	512 MB of RAM or more
<b>Internet Connection</b>	Cable Broadband or DSL
<b>Internet Browser</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet Explorer 11 or greater</li> <li>• Mozilla Firefox 45 or greater</li> <li>• Google Chrome 55 or greater</li> <li>• Edge 38 or greater</li> </ul>
<b>Internet Browser Configuration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pop-Up Blocking Disabled</li> <li>• JavaScript Enabled</li> <li>• Adobe Flash Player 23 or higher</li> <li>• AJAX Enabled</li> </ul>
<b>Java Runtime Environment</b>	1.6.0 or higher
<b>Hard Disk Space</b>	500 MB Free
<b>Audio Card</b>	24-bit or better
<b>A/V</b>	Built-in or external Webcam, Speakers, microphone.
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Office Suite 2007 or higher (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>• Windows Media Player 12 or newer</li> <li>• Adobe Acrobat Reader 11 or newer</li> <li>• Adobe Flash, Current Version</li> <li>• An updated anti-virus software</li> </ul>
<i>Please note that Microsoft Works is not a valid alternative</i>	

	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	OS X 10.6.4 or higher

	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Processor Speed</b>	800 MHz G4, or better
<b>CPU Memory</b>	512 MB of RAM or more
<b>Internet Connection</b>	Cable Broadband or DSL
<b>Internet Browser</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apple Safari 9 or greater</li> <li>• Mozilla Firefox 45 or greater</li> <li>• Google Chrome 55 or greater</li> </ul>
<b>Internet Browser Configuration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pop-Up Blocking Disabled</li> <li>• JavaScript Enabled</li> <li>• Adobe Flash Player 23 or higher</li> <li>• AJAX Enabled</li> </ul>
<b>Java Runtime Environment</b>	1.6.0 or higher
<b>Hard Disk Space</b>	500 MB Free
<b>Audio Card</b>	24-bit or better
<b>A/V</b>	Built-in or external Webcam, Speakers, microphone.
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Office 2008 Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>• Adobe Acrobat Reader 10 or newer</li> <li>• Adobe Flash, current version</li> <li>• An updated anti-virus software</li> </ul>

## Computers and Software

The Department of Information Technology Services provides computing services at GCU. Students have free access to computers on the GCU campus. The GCU Library is outfitted with new Dell desktop computers offering Internet access. Each student has an individual login that includes secured space on a server for the storage of personal files. This means the student does not have to rely on saving work on a disc. In addition to the library computers, wireless access is available for students with laptops.

### Hours of Operation

Monday – Thursday:	7:00am - Midnight
Friday:	7:00am - 10:00pm
Saturday:	10:00am - 10:00pm
Sunday:	10:00am - Midnight

### Contact Information

1-800-800-9776

### Location

GCU Library, Student Union

## The Data Base (Computer Repair Bar)

The Data Base offers free computer repair to current GCU students and faculty. Services available: Computer clean-ups, virus removal, software installation, limited hardware repair, and password resets for student/faculty portal and email.

### Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday:	8:00am – 8:00pm
Saturday:	8:00am – 5:00PM
Sunday:	12:00pm – 6:00pm

## Contact Information

(602) 639-7700

[helpdesk@gcu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@gcu.edu)

## Location

2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Student Union

## Applications Installed on the PCs

Microsoft Office 2013: Access, Excel, Info Path, Outlook, Power Point, Publisher, Visio, Word, Digital Certificate for VBA Projects, iTunes, Quick Time, Roxio Easy CD Creator, Microsoft Photo Draw, Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0, Internet Explorer, Windows Media Player, Windows Messenger, Windows Movie Maker, Power DVD, Calculator, Notepad, Paint, and WordPad.

## GCU Accessibility Standards

Grand Canyon University is committed to providing accessible website content and functionality. "Accessible" means that regardless of any visual impairment, an individual is able to independently access and utilize GCU's websites to obtain information and services offered by the University. It is GCU's goal that all students, faculty and staff are able to use the same web services with equivalent ease of use.

In order to achieve this goal, GCU has adopted the following standards for new web development:

1. GCU websites will be designed and developed to be compatible with screen reader software.
2. All website functionality will be accessible through keyboard commands.
3. Site navigation will be arranged so that a user can progress logically from start to finish through the site content.
4. Web sites will be designed to permit screen readers to skip repetitive navigation menus.
5. Frames will be titled with text to allow navigation and identification.
6. Data tables will include identified row and column headers.
7. Multimedia elements will have text alternatives provided.
8. Descriptive text elements will be included for all non-text elements of the page that relate to the page content and functions.
9. Alt tags will be included for pages that contain images.
10. All videos will be closed-captioned and a descriptive text transcript will be made available for blind users.
11. All audio content will include transcripts.
12. All form controls must be labeled.
13. Elements that expand / collapse must be labeled to announce change to the screen reader.
14. If a timed response is required, the user must be alerted and given a method to request more time.
15. All elements must be visible in high contrast mode (Windows).
16. Any information conveyed by color will also be available without the use of color.
17. All pages will be understandable without their associated style sheet.
18. All elements will be designed to avoid causing a screen flicker in the frequency range of 2Hz to 55Hz, inclusive. If a video is unable to meet these standards due to content, a warning label will be included.
19. GCU will use tools provided by W3C to scan new websites and attempt to resolve accessibility suggestions before the website is made available.

In addition to the above standards, GCU offers Technical Support for individuals to work in a one-on-one basis to assist with

navigation of a GCU website. Individuals requiring assistance can contact Technical Support or Student Disability Services for assistance.

## Programmatic Technology Requirements

Students and faculty participating in the programs below must have access to the following minimum computer hardware and software.

### College of Fine Arts and Production

#### Bachelor of Arts in Advertising and Public Relations with an Emphasis in Advertising Design

Advertising and Public Relations with an Emphasis in Advertising Design majors must have access to the following computer hardware and software:

	All Students
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud - Paid monthly by student</li> <li>• Microsoft Office (free to students)</li> </ul>
<b>Peripherals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mouse</li> <li>• Graphics Tablet (Wacom Intuos, size choice is up to the student)(optional)</li> </ul>

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 8
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Extreme with 6 cores 2.6 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	16GB
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	512GB SSD for back ups
<b>Screen</b>	16" Ultra HD resolution WLED, contrast 600:1 (for games 1000:1 recommended)
<b>Built-in AV</b>	Built-in AV
<b>Service Plan (optional insurance available at time of purchase from computer manufacturer)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	OS X 10.10
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Quad-core 2.2 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	16GB
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	512GB for back ups
<b>Screen</b>	15" Retina Display

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Built-in AV</b>	Webcam, Speakers
<b>Service Plan (optional insurance available at time of purchase from computer manufacturer)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

### Bachelor of Arts in Digital Film (Nontraditional Only)

Digital Film majors must have access to the following computer hardware and software:

	All Students
<b>Software – Screenwriting Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Draft</li> <li>Movie Magic Screenwriting</li> <li>Celtix - Free</li> <li>Microsoft Word Screenwriting template - Free</li> </ul>
<b>Software - Production</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Cut Pro X or 7</li> <li>Subscription to the Adobe Creative Cloud, paid monthly by the student, to include Adobe Premier.</li> <li>Adobe Premiere</li> <li>Avid</li> <li>IMovie, Edit Movie, Windows Movie Maker – Free</li> </ul>
<b>Camera &amp; Tripod</b>	All Digital Film Majors are required to have a camera and a tripod. The camera must be able to manually adjust the aperture, shutter speed, frame rate, white balance, and ISO/Gain. Two models we recommend are listed here. Only one 18-55 lens is required. DSLR cameras that take video are recommended as well as Prosumer level video camera like (Canon C100, Sony FS100, or Blackmagic Cinema Camera).
<b>Lighting</b>	Lighting needs are practical lamps and foam core bounce cards.

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 8
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Extreme with 6 cores 2.6 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	16GB or 8GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB
<b>Screen</b>	16” Ultra HD resolution WLED, contrast 600:1 (for games 1000:1 recommended)
<b>Wireless</b>	Wi-Fi___33, Bluetooth
<b>Networking</b>	Firewire, USB3.0, HDMI

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Service Plan (optional insurance available at time of purchase from computer manufacturer)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	OS X 10.9
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Quad-core 2.6 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	16GB or 8 GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB
<b>Screen</b>	15” Retina Display
<b>Wireless</b>	Wi-Fi___33, Bluetooth
<b>Networking</b>	Thunderbolt, USB 3.0, HDMI
<b>Service Plan (recommended)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

### Bachelor of Arts in Digital Design

All Digital Design majors with an emphasis in Web Design or Animation must have access to the following computer hardware and software:

	All Students
<b>Software – Web Design students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud - Paid monthly by student</li> <li>Web Hosting and domain registration, paid for by the student. (Instructions given in DDN-300)</li> <li>XCode - PhoneGap - both paid for by student</li> <li>Audacity audio editor – Free</li> <li>MAMP – Free</li> <li>GameSalad – Free</li> <li>Sublime Text</li> <li>JQuery &amp; JQuery Mobile</li> <li>Wordpress</li> <li>Joomla</li> <li>Drupal</li> <li>Android SDK</li> </ul>
<b>Software – Animation Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud</li> <li>Maya Student download – Free (<a href="http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/maya">http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/maya</a>)</li> <li>Pencil-Animation – Free (<a href="http://www.pencil-animation.org">http://www.pencil-animation.org</a>)</li> <li>Audacity audio editor – Free</li> </ul>
<b>Peripherals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mouse (Animation students will need a 3-button mouse)</li> </ul>

	All Students	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graphics Tablet (Wacom Intuos, size choice is up to the student)</li> <li>External storage – 16 GB USB drive</li> </ul>	
Camera & Tripod	All Design Majors are required to have a 35mm DSLR camera and tripod. The camera must be able to manually adjust the aperture, shutter speed, and ISO. Two models we recommend are listed here. Only one 18-55 lens is required.	
	Cannon	Nikon
	EOS Rebel T3i or equivalent	Nikon D3200, D3300 or equivalent
Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum	
Operating System	Windows 8	
CPU Speed	Intel Core i7 Extreme with 6 cores 2.6 GHz	
RAM memory	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)	
Hard Drive Storage	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB	
Graphics Card	NVIDA GeForce GT or GTx	
Screen	16” Ultra HD resolution WLED, contrast 600:1 (for games 1000:1 recommended)	
Wireless	Wi-Fi___33, Bluetooth	
Networking	Firewire, USB3.0, HDMI	
Built-in AV	Webcam, Speakers	
Service Plan (optional insurance available at time of purchase from computer manufacturer)	3-4 years including accidental damage	

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
Operating System	OS X 10.9
CPU Speed	Intel Core i7 Quad-core 2.6 GHz
RAM memory	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
Hard Drive Storage	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB
Graphics Card	NVIDA GeForce GT or GTx
Screen	15” Retina Display
Wireless	Wi-Fi___33, Bluetooth
Networking	Thunderbolt, USB 3.0, HDMI
Built-in AV	Webcam, Speakers

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
Service Plan (optional insurance available at time of purchase from computer manufacturer)	3-4 years including accidental damage

### College of Nursing and Health Care Professions

All Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure) and graduate level students enrolled in a ground cohort are required to have a portable device (PC or MAC laptop computer) with internet access that meets the University Technology Requirements.

### College of Science, Engineering, and Technology

#### Engineering and Engineering Technology Majors

All majors in engineering and engineering technology must have access to a Microsoft Windows PC (laptop only) satisfying the hardware and system requirements as specified at the SOLIDWORKS website -

<http://www.solidworks.com/sw/support/SystemRequirements.html>. In selecting a laptop, please note that the programs will be using the most recent version of SOLIDWORKS. For example, please select a laptop that satisfies the hardware and system requirements for SOLIDWORKS 2016 (EDU 2016-2017) for Fall semester 2016. In addition, a 16 GB (minimum) flash drive is required.

#### Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

#### Bachelor of Science in Information Technology

All Computer Science and Information Technology majors must have access to the following computer hardware and software:

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
Operating System	Windows 8
CPU Speed	Intel Core i7 Extreme with 6 cores 2.6 GHz
RAM memory	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
Hard Drive Storage	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB
Screen	16” Ultra HD resolution WLED, contrast 600:1 (for games 1000:1 recommended)
Wireless	Wi-Fi, Bluetooth
Networking	Firewire, USB3.0, HDMI
Built-in AV	Webcam, Speakers
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install Linux to make computer dual boot for Windows and Linux</li> <li>Microsoft Office Suite 2013 for students (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2014 with C, C#, C++. (FREE)</li> <li>Notepad++ editor (FREE)</li> <li>Antivirus + malware protection</li> </ul>

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Service Plan (recommended)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage
<b>Laptop</b>	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	OS X 10.9
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Quad-core 2.6 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	1TB SSD or 512GB SSD upgradable later to 1TB
<b>Screen</b>	16" Retina Display
<b>Wireless</b>	Wi-Fi___33, Bluetooth
<b>Networking</b>	Thunderbolt, USB 3.0, HDMI
<b>Built-in AV</b>	Webcam, Speakers
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Install Windows 8 to make computer dual-boot Ma OS / Windows</li> <li>○ Install Parallels software and install Windows on top</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Microsoft Office Suite 2014 for students (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>• Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2014 (on Windows). (FREE)</li> <li>• TextWrangler editor (FREE)</li> <li>• Antivirus + malware protection</li> </ul>
<b>Service Plan (recommended)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

### Bachelor of Science in Computer Programming

All majors in the Bachelor of Science in Computer Programming program must have access to the following computer hardware and software:

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 8 or later
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 with quad cores
<b>RAM memory</b>	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	Minimum 512GB HD or SSD
<b>Graphics/Display</b>	16"
<b>Wireless</b>	Wi-Fi, Bluetooth
<b>Networking</b>	USB3.0, HDMI
<b>Built-in AV</b>	Webcam, Speakers

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install Linux to make computer dual boot for Windows and Linux</li> <li>• Microsoft Office Suite 2015 for students (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>• Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2015 with C, C#, C++. (FREE)</li> <li>• Notepad++ editor (FREE)</li> <li>• Antivirus + malware protection</li> </ul>
<b>Service Plan (recommended)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage
<b>Laptop</b>	Apple Macintosh Minimum
<b>Operating System</b>	OS X 10 El Capitan
<b>CPU Speed</b>	Intel Core i7 Quad-core 2.6 GHz
<b>RAM memory</b>	32GB or 16GB with capability to expand later to 32GB (2Ghz speed)
<b>Hard Drive Storage</b>	Minimum 512GB HD or SSD
<b>Screen</b>	16" Retina Display
<b>Wireless</b>	Standard Apple configuration
<b>Networking</b>	Standard Apple configuration
<b>Built-in AV</b>	Webcam, Speakers
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Install Windows 8 to make computer dual-boot Ma OS / Windows</li> <li>○ Install Parallels software and install Windows on top</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Microsoft Office Suite 2016 for students (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</li> <li>• Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2014 (on Windows). (FREE)</li> <li>• TextWrangler editor (FREE)</li> <li>• Antivirus + malware protection</li> </ul>
<b>Service Plan (recommended)</b>	3-4 years including accidental damage

### College of Theology

#### Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts with an Emphasis in Digital Media

All majors in the Bachelor of Worship Arts with an emphasis in Digital Design program are required to have a PC or Mac laptop computer and the appropriate software. When selecting a laptop, students may choose from a variety of makes and models provided that the laptop meets the following technical specifications:

	All Students
<b>Software – Worship Arts Production</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud</li> <li>• Audacity audio editor – Free</li> </ul>
<b>Peripherals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mouse</li> <li>• External storage – 16 GB USB drive</li> </ul>

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
Operating System	Windows 8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0GHz processor or better
RAM memory	4 GB minimum, 8 GB (or more) recommended
Hard Drive Storage	8 GB - 16 GB hard drive space recommended
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1 or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Vectorworks</li> <li>• Adobe Creative Cloud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Will be required by instructor for purchase in semester-long increments during particular courses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
Operating System	OS X 10.7.5 or 10.8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0 GHz processor or better
RAM memory	8 GB RAM Required
Hard Drive Storage	8GB - 16 GB hard drive space
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1, Garageband, or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Vectorworks</li> <li>• Adobe Creative Cloud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Will be required by instructor for purchase in semester-long increments during particular courses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

#### Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts with an Emphasis in Worship Ministry

All majors in the Bachelor of Worship Arts with an emphasis in Worship Ministry program are required to have a PC or Mac laptop computer and the appropriate software. When selecting a laptop, students may choose from a variety of makes and models provided that the laptop meets the following technical specifications:

	All Students
Software – Worship Arts Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud</li> <li>• Audacity audio editor – Free</li> </ul>
Peripherals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mouse</li> <li>• External storage – 16 GB USB drive</li> </ul>

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
Operating System	Windows 8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0GHz processor or better
RAM memory	4 GB minimum, 8 GB (or more) recommended
Hard Drive Storage	8 GB - 16 GB hard drive space recommended
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1 or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Notion</li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
Operating System	OS X 10.7.5 or 10.8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0 GHz processor or better
RAM memory	8 GB RAM Required
Hard Drive Storage	8GB - 16 GB hard drive space
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1, Garageband or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Notion</li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

#### Bachelor of Arts in Worship Arts with an Emphasis in Worship Production

All majors in the Bachelor of Worship Arts with an emphasis in Worship Production program are required to have a PC or Mac laptop computer and the appropriate software. When selecting a laptop, students may choose from a variety of makes and models provided that the laptop meets the following technical specifications:

	All Students
Software – Worship Arts Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subscription to Adobe Creative cloud</li> <li>• Audacity audio editor – Free</li> </ul>
Peripherals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mouse</li> <li>• External storage – 16 GB USB drive</li> </ul>

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
Operating System	Windows 8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0GHz processor or better
RAM memory	4 GB minimum, 8 GB (or more) recommended

Laptop	Microsoft Windows PC Minimum
Hard Drive Storage	8 GB - 16 GB hard drive space recommended
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1 or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Vectorworks</li> <li>• Adobe Creative Cloud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will be required by instructor for purchase in semester long increments during particular courses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

Laptop	Apple Macintosh Minimum
Operating System	OS X 10.7.5 or 10.8
CPU Speed	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.0 GHz processor or better
RAM memory	8 GB RAM Required
Hard Drive Storage	8GB - 16 GB hard drive space
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools 11.2.1, Garageband or any DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)</li> <li>• Vectorworks</li> <li>• Adobe Creative Cloud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will be required by instructor for purchase in semester long increments during particular courses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ports	2 available USB port
Service Plan (recommended)	3-4 years including accidental damage

### All Graduate Programs

### All Undergraduate Christian Studies Programs

All graduate and undergraduate Christian Studies students in the College of Theology are required to have a PC or Mac computer, a viable internet connection, and the appropriate hardware and software for required use of YouSeeU at various points within each program of study. When selecting a computer, students may choose from a variety of makes, models, and accessories provided that the computer meets the following technical specifications:

	All Students
YouSeeU	<a href="http://www.youseeu.com/system-requirements/">http://www.youseeu.com/system-requirements/</a>

	All Students
Software	<p>Computers must have a current version of Adobe Flash. Students should visit <a href="http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/">http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/</a> to check their Flash version and update if needed.</p> <p>If a student is using a Mac, check Flash settings to ensure Flash is allowed to work. All new Mac computers are defaulted to restrict Flash so one must change the settings before YouSeeU will work. Follow the steps on the Flash Tutorial for Mac article for help with Mac settings.</p> <p>If video editing is necessary to reduce the size or trim the starting or ending point, students may elect to use a standard program like Microsoft Movie Maker or iMovie. These programs should be on most computers or can be added easily.</p>
Other Hardware	<p>Students must have a webcam and microphone available with their computers. Most computers have 'built in' webcams and mics, and if not they can be purchased at minimal cost and added to a computer. Review current computer documentation to find the system settings for mic level and control of the webcam.</p> <p>Students may also use an external video camera or smart phone to record video for some assignment types. If using an external video camera, students need to be familiar with its record function and process for moving the video files from the camera to the computer for upload. Recording in medium to low quality settings is preferred. High definition video is not required and will only increase the size of the file and require further editing.</p>

## Intellectual Property Rights

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) amends federal copyright law to provide certain liability protections for online service providers, when their computer systems or networks carry materials that violate (infringe) copyright law. To qualify for liability protection, the University is required to have a policy under which the computer accounts of users will be terminated if they repeatedly infringe the copyrighted works of others.

The objectives of this policy are to minimize liability while also providing support for the activities of students, faculty, and staff. In the context of copyright and other intellectual property, this means that the Chief Information Officer should be advised as soon as possible of any suspected infringement. The Chief Information Officer will work with the University content provider to establish any defenses. However, if there is inadequate information to provide a defense, or it appears that no defense exists, the best route to minimize University damages will be prompt removal of the allegedly infringing material.

### Policy Statement

Compliance with federal copyright law is expected of all students, faculty, and staff at Grand Canyon University. "Copyright" is legal protection for creative intellectual works,



which is broadly interpreted to cover just about any expression of an idea. Text (including e-mail and Web information), graphics, art, photographs, music, and software are examples of types of works protected by copyright. The creator of the work, or sometimes the person who hired the creator, is the initial copyright owner.

Students may "use" all or part of a copyrighted work only if (a) they have the copyright owner's permission (in writing—either e-mail or letter), or (b) they qualify for a legal defense (the most common defense is called "fair use"). "Use" of a work is defined for copyright purposes as copying, distributing, making derivative works, publicly displaying, or publicly performing the work.

Copying, distributing, downloading, and uploading information on the Internet may infringe the copyright for that information. Even an innocent, unintentional infringement violates the law. Violations of copyright law that occur on or over the University's networks or other computer resources may create liability for the University as well as the computer user. Accordingly, repeat infringers are subject to the appropriate disciplinary review procedures as set forth in the disciplinary policies for students, faculty or staff. Violations of law may also be referred for criminal or civil prosecution.

The University has a legal duty to ensure that official Web sites, official e-mail, and other official communications and expressions do not violate the intellectual property rights of third parties. The most common intellectual property rights found on the Internet involve copyright and trademark/service marks.

"Official" Web sites and communications include those that are funded or otherwise sponsored by the University for a University purpose, or which are created by an employee or agent of the University who is acting within the authorized scope of employment or agency on behalf of the University (e.g., posting Canyon Connect on the web for educational use of enrolled students).

Removal of official University content, especially Canyon Connect, can be harmful to academic freedom, to teaching effectiveness, and to the University's educational mission. Therefore, faculty and staff are encouraged to secure copyright permission, a license, or a legal basis for use of someone else's intellectual property, before using the material.

## Procedures

A Notice and Counter Notice for material that may infringe on Intellectual Property Rights:

Notice: A copyright owner, or person acting for the owner, must provide the University's designated agent, the Chief General Council, with written notice that information residing on the University's computer systems or networks is an infringement of the copyright. The notice requirement also applies to information in system cache and to information location tools (e.g., hypertext links) that infringe copyright.

If a person working for the University has independent knowledge of a copyright violation on a University computer system or network, the University may have a duty to remove the infringing material. This is true even if there is no "notice" from the copyright owner and this person should report the violation to the General Council as soon as possible.

The University has "notice" of possible infringement when a third party advises a University official that there is an infringement, or when it appears to a University official that material is likely to be infringing based on the circumstances (e.g., copies of

nationally syndicated cartoons appear on a University Web site without any statement of copyright permission).

When the University has notice of a possible intellectual property infringement in official University-provided content, it will in good faith:

- Attempt to establish who truly owns the copyright (or other intellectual property) through consultation with the author of the University content and the party claiming ownership.
- Attempt to determine if any legal defense (e.g., "fair use") exists to allow the material to be used by the University.
- Attempt to negotiate a permission or settlement if it appears that the content is infringing or if it appears that settlement is preferable to litigating an unclear claim. If permission or settlement is not feasible and it appears that the material is infringing, the University will promptly remove the material and the designated agent will notify the computer user and the person who complained of infringement.
- When copyright ownership is clear and sharing of the copyrighted material on the University's network appears to violate the law, the University will take appropriate, interim actions to discontinue sharing of the copyrighted materials on the University's network.
- Determine if any disciplinary action is appropriate against the person who posted infringing content. In the case of repeated infringement or bad faith infringement, disciplinary action may include suspension or termination of computing privileges, disciplinary review, termination of employment, and/or legal action.

## Network Use

To assure reliable operation of the Grand Canyon University computer network in a manner compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, the Information Technology Services department enforces each of the policies listed below. All network users must agree to abide by these policies. Use of the network or any portion thereof for any purpose implies such consent.

## Network Goals and Priorities

The Grand Canyon University Information Technology Services department operates and maintains the computer network for the purpose of facilitating the timely transfer of digital information relevant to and essential for the research and educational activities of Grand Canyon University. In particular, the network is intended to enable information transfer among students, faculty, staff and administrators as necessary to observe the following goals:

- To facilitate student and faculty research;
- To enable access to published literature relevant to teaching and research efforts at Grand Canyon University;
- To allow the receipt and transmission of electronic mail both within the campus and between the campus and off-campus institutions and individuals; and
- To provide access to Internet-based information resources of value to teaching and research efforts at Grand Canyon University.

For all students, faculty, and administrators of Grand Canyon University Information Technology Services, all networking activities not directly related to one of the above goals are considered to be of secondary importance and should not impede or interfere with activities which serve the stated goals of the network.

## **Media Licensing and Compliance with Copyright Protection Legislation**

It is strictly forbidden for any student of Grand Canyon University to engage in any illegal activity while on Grand Canyon University property or during performance of coursework or any other duties related to their involvement with the University. Because unauthorized copying of software is a form of theft and theft is illegal, the illegal copying or “pirating” of software, music, videos, or other media is forbidden by Grand Canyon University policy.

## **Software Purchase and Installation**

To fully comply with Grand Canyon University policy governing software copyright protection, each registered network user must agree that (s)he will not install or use any software that is not legally purchased and registered.

## **Copyrighted Materials and Usage of Peer-to-Peer and Other File Sharing Systems**

Grand Canyon University strictly forbids the sharing and distribution of copyrighted digital materials, including music, movies, photos, etc. Peer-to-Peer File-sharing software including, but not limited to LimeWire, BitTorrent, and Kazaa shall not be activated on any computer that is attached to any GCU network without express written permission from the Information Security. The University shall monitor its networks for indications of such file sharing systems and refer all violations for disciplinary action.

## **Discipline and Consequences of Policy Violation**

If there is discovery of illegally installed software or inappropriate possession, use, or sharing of copyrighted materials, the user may be subject to disciplinary action which may include but is not limited to the loss of network access privileges, suspension, dismissal, and/or criminal prosecution. The individual involved shall be held responsible to fully reimburse the Grand Canyon University for all losses resulting from such discovery.

## **Installation and Detachment of Network Devices**

No device may be connected to the network without authorization of the network manager for the Information Technology Services department. This includes hardware or software, routers, printers, modems, servers, wireless access points and new computers. Violation of this policy that results in network crashes, or other downtime, may result in loss of network privileges.

## **Computer Virus Protection**

All computers connected to the Grand Canyon University Network will be required to have anti-virus software installed and providing active protection. The software must be configured to check for updates on a daily basis. Upon request, the Information Technology Services department will provide students legal sources for free and/or low cost anti-virus software that meets these requirements.

## **User-Caused Network Service Interruptions**

Any user who repeatedly causes service interruptions in any network segment, either through knowingly or unknowingly performing disruptive procedures, introducing viruses, or by attempting procedures for which the user is unqualified, can lose the privilege of access to the network. It is incumbent upon the individual user to use reasonable care to make sure that his/her computer is free of computer viruses that may infect other network computers before each attachment to the network. In cases of malicious vandalism of the network and/or tampering with other user files, the perpetrator may be financially liable for all damages, subject to disciplinary action, and can be subject to criminal prosecution.

## **Hacking**

It is expressly forbidden to make any attempt to defeat any security system in operation on the network. It is also forbidden to reconfigure any common use machine without the express authorization of the network manager responsible for supporting that machine. No computer attached to the network may be used for any illegal activities, including attempts to penetrate the security of other networks. Any user who knowingly or negligently attempts to defeat security may be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to loss of network access.

## **Desktop Support**

Desktop support is defined as the support required to keep a desktop personal computer up and running. This includes the installation, set-up and trouble-shooting of desktop hardware including hard drives, computer cards, monitors, modems, printers, memory upgrades, etc.

University Information Technology Services does not provide desktop support to students.

## **Software Support**

Students will not receive software support from the Grand Canyon University Information Technology Services department.

## **Network Access and Support**

The Grand Canyon University Information Technology Services department will provide support for student computers to connect to the University network and access the Internet.

The Grand Canyon University Information Technology Services department assumes no responsibility for the loss of any data that resides on student owned computers.

Student computers must have a network interface card (NIC) or wireless network adapter in order to connect to the GCU network.

Students are required to be present when a representative from the Information Technology Services department is working on a student owned computer.

## **Warranties**

It is a recommendation that students maintain manufacturer warranties for the computer and any software installed.

# Financial Services

The financial information presented in this Handbook was current when published. Many of the policies, interest rates, limitations, etc., are set by organizations (private or governmental), which may change after this Handbook is published. We strongly urge students to confirm all such information with the student's Student Services Counselor before making financial decisions or commitments.

## Payment Policy

### Method of Payment

The University offers students the option of one or more of the following methods of payment:

- Cash Payment Options
- Direct Bill
- Financial Aid

Students choose primary and secondary methods of payment upon completing the application for admission. Students are expected to clear their account balances using the specified methods of payment, unless other arrangements are approved. Upon clearing their account, students may contact their Student Services Counselor to arrange different methods of payment for future courses.

### Cash Payment Options

#### Cash

For the protection of Grand Canyon University students and employees, cash payments are only accepted in the Advisement Center with a Student Services Counselor. Students should not send cash through the mail.

#### Check

The University accepts personal checks, traveler's checks, bank money orders, and cashier's checks. When paying by check, students must include their full name and GCU Student ID on the face of the check. Remit payments to the Accounting Department at P.O. Box 11590, Phoenix, AZ 85061-1590. A service fee of \$25.00 is charged for each check returned by a bank for any reason. The University may refuse future payments by check for individuals whose payment is returned by a bank.

#### Charge

The University accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. All credit card payments are subject to authorization by the issuing bank. If authorization is denied, payments cannot be processed. Credit card payments can be made online via the Student Portal at <http://my.gcu.edu>. The Portal displays student balances by payment period. Enter payment information and submit. An e-mail will be sent to the GCU e-mail address with confirmation of payment received.

### Monthly Installment Plan

The Tuition Payment Plan enables students to spread tuition payments across an agreed upon timeframe. Participation requires a non-refundable \$25.00 enrollment fee and advanced approval by their Student Services Counselor. Students who fail to meet the requirements of the payment plan may be prohibited from participating in future payment plans. For additional information, students may contact their Student Services Counselor.

### Direct Bill Payment Options

#### Corporate

Students may have employers that pay school tuition directly to GCU which is different from Deferred Payment. In this situation,

the Employer will create an account with GCU, and the GCU Accounting Office will send a billing statement directly to the Employer. This payment relationship bypasses the students; however, students must have their employer complete a Direct Bill Voucher, and submit with their application. Students should contact their assigned Student Services Counselor with questions. In addition, students must pay any balance that Employers do not cover or on which Employers default by selecting an alternative payment option before the end of each payment period.

#### Military

In order to support those who are currently serving and their spouses or those who have served in the military and are able to utilize military education benefits, Grand Canyon University offers a special military rate per credit hour. Consideration is given to students who can provide the following supporting documentation which must be presented in advance of the term to receive the scholarship:

- Military Transcripts;
- Copy of DD-214 (Release or Discharge from Active Duty);
- Letter from Commanding Officer;
- VA Letter Certifying Military Service;
- Benefit Documentation (TA form, COE, VA form 1905);
- Copy of Military Orders;
- Leave and Earnings Statement (LES); and
- Copy of Military Personal Record.

There are numerous military benefits from the government based upon military status at the time of departure from the service as well as for active duty personnel. Students may utilize several Veterans' Administration educational benefits at GCU such as ROTC, the Montgomery GI Bill, Tuition Assistance (Top-Up), and Vocational Rehabilitation. For additional information, please call 888-442-4551 or visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

### International Student Payment

Students attending GCU as F-1 visa holders are required to make payment of school tuition, fees and housing in full 30 days prior to the start date of each semester. Delays in satisfying payment may prevent students from attending classes and jeopardize their F-1 status. If international students anticipate payment issues for the following semester, they must consult with the International Students Office immediately.

As noted under the admission policy, Grand Canyon University reserves the right to require a \$6,000 refundable deposit from applicants before an I-20 will be issued. A refund will be granted only if the visa is denied and evidence of denial is provided to the International Students Office.

#### Financial Payment Options

Students may use financial aid to fund their education. Refer to the [Financial Aid](#) section for information on applying for aid and the types of aid available.

### Payment Deadlines

Tuition and fees are assessed to students as follows: Online (Nontraditional) students are assessed at the time of attendance and Ground (Traditional Campus) students are assessed on the

start date of the term. All cash payment options must be paid in full by the start date of the course or term, unless other payment arrangements have been agreed to. Students are able to view their outstanding balance and account activity as well as initiate a credit card payment by logging on to their student portal. Any financial related questions should be directed to the student's assigned Student Services Counselor.

All direct-bill payment options must be paid in full within 30 days of invoicing unless other terms are agreed to with the vendor. Balance notices will be generated and sent to the responsible third party on Day 10 of the course after all rosters have been confirmed.

Accounts that remain delinquent past 30 days are subject to collection efforts that may include credit reporting and placement of the account with a third party collection agency. Accounts that are placed with a third party collection agency will be assessed the associated collection fees. It is the sole responsibility of the students to adhere to payment deadlines of their tuition and fees, regardless of the method of payment or contract with their employer.

### **Late Payment Fee**

#### ***Traditional Campus Students***

Traditional campus students are required to establish payment arrangements prior to the first day of the semester and to fulfill those payment arrangements, as scheduled, on a monthly basis. Students who do not fulfill the established terms of payment, by failing to submit required financial documents or making full payment as scheduled, will be assessed a monthly fee of \$25.00 until the account is current.

Additionally, students who do not pay their balance in full prior to the term's completion may be removed from future university classes, residential housing, and/or have their Meal Plan access restricted, depending on the reason for the balance.

### **Schedule Change Fee**

#### ***Traditional Campus Students***

Traditional campus students are permitted to change their schedule up to 14 calendar days prior to the semester's start date without financial penalty. Students who make schedule changes after this date are subject to a \$25.00 Schedule Change Fee for each advising office visit where the student requests schedule changes. Schedule changes include exchanging courses, adding or dropping courses, or transferring to another section of the same course.

The schedule change fee will be waived for students adjusting schedules based on institutional initiated changes. Schedule changes stemming from participating in a GCU club or activity will be evaluated and verified with the Club/Activity Owner.

### **Failure to Pay**

Failure to pay the balance does not cancel registration or responsibility for tuition and fee charges or related taxes. Non-attendance does not cancel registration or responsibility for tuition and fee charges or related taxes. All cash and direct-bill payment options must be received in full by their due date or a Finance hold will be placed on the student's account on day 30 of the payment period.

\*\* The only exception to this rule includes CASH-paying students who are making regular and consistent payments through Tuition Payment Plans or students with a Deferred Payment Voucher. These students will not incur holds on their accounts.

A Finance Hold will prohibit any future class registration as well as prohibit the purchase and distribution of any official Grand Canyon University transcripts or diploma. Any students who have a hold placed on their account will be subject to Grand Canyon University's Collection Policy.

Failure to comply with the stated policies of the University may result in an administrative withdrawal from classes and/or submission to an outside collection agency, with the student assuming all additional costs.

### **Student Bankruptcies**

Upon notification that a student has filed a bankruptcy petition, the University will immediately cease any collection efforts on the student's account, including removing any Collection Hold that had been issued.

In addition, the University will immediately place a Bankruptcy Hold on the student's account. The purpose of a Bankruptcy Hold is to identify a student with a pending bankruptcy petition. A Bankruptcy Hold allows the University to:

- Release the student's transcript upon receipt of an Official Transcript Request Form and Fee, if applicable.
- Allow the student continued enrollment and attendance in current course(s).

Students that file a bankruptcy petition will have their files referred to the University's legal department for processing. Students in this situation may continue to attend their current classes without interruption, but must prepay for future enrollment.

## **Course Tuition Refund**

The University will refund tuition according to the following policy unless a student attending courses online is a resident of a state that requires the University to follow different guidelines. These state policies are listed in the [State Refund Policies](#) section of this handbook. Refer to the [Official Enrollment Status Change](#) section of the University Policy Handbook for a complete explanation of the University's Withdrawal Policy.

### ***Nontraditional Students***

Students who drop/withdraw from a course/all courses are eligible for the following refund:

Before Week 1.....	100% tuition refund
During Week 1 .....	75% tuition refund
During or after Week 2.....	No refund

### ***Traditional Campus Students***

Students who drop/withdraw from a course/all courses within the 15-week semester at the ground campus in Phoenix, Arizona, are eligible for the following refund. The refund policy is based on the start date of the semester regardless of where the course falls within the semester.

Before Week 1.....	100% tuition refund
During Week 1 .....	90% tuition refund
During Week 2 .....	75% tuition refund
During Week 3 .....	50% tuition refund
During or after Week 4 .....	No refund

## **Course Fee Refunds**

### ***Nontraditional Students***

All fees, including materials fees, are non-refundable after the start of a course.

### ***Traditional Campus Students***

With the exception of materials fees and student insurance, which are non-refundable after the start of class, all instructional and ground campus-related fees are refundable during Week 1. After Week 1, all fees are non-refundable.

### **State Refund Policies**

Many states have regulations that require the University to apply a specific refund policy to students taking courses in these states. The specific state refund policies are listed below.

#### **Kentucky**

Students in the state of Kentucky who cancel their enrollment at any point before the start of the first class session will receive a full refund of all monies paid, minus 10% of the tuition agreed upon in the enrollment agreement or \$100, whichever is less. A student who has completed less than 50% of a course and withdraws is eligible for a refund. All refunds are made in full to the student within 30 days of the date of official withdrawal.

Refunds will be calculated as follows:

- Students who withdraw from a course during the first week of instruction are eligible for a 75% refund.
- Students who withdraw after the first week of a course but complete no more than 50% of a course will be refunded 10% of tuition.
- Students who complete more than 50% of a course will receive no refund.

#### **New Mexico**

Any student signing an enrollment agreement or making an initial deposit or payment toward tuition and fees of the institution shall be entitled to a cooling off period of at least 3 work days from the date of agreement or payment or from the date that the student first visits the institution, whichever is longer. During the cooling off period, the agreement can be withdrawn and all payments shall be refunded. Evidence of personal appearance at the institution or deposit of a written statement of withdrawal for delivery by mail or other means shall be deemed as meeting the terms of the cooling off period.

Prior to the beginning of instruction, a student may withdraw from enrollment, effective upon personal appearance at the institution or deposit of a written statement of withdrawal for delivery (as defined above), and the institution shall be entitled to retain no more than \$200 in tuition or fees as registration charges.

Refunds will be calculated as follows:

- Students completing no more than the first 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 90% of tuition.
- Students completing no more than the second 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 75% of tuition.
- Students completing no more than the third 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 60% of tuition.
- Students completing no more than the fourth 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 45% of tuition.
- Students completing no more than the fifth 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 30% of tuition.
- Students completing no more than the sixth 10% of the enrollment period are refunded 15% of tuition.
- Students completing after the sixth 10% of the period will not receive a refund.

"Enrollment period" means a quarter, semester, or other term of instruction followed by the institution which the student has begun and for which the student has agreed to pay tuition.

Tuition and fee refunds must be made within 30 calendar days of the institution receiving written notice of a student's withdrawal or of the institution terminating enrollment of the student, whichever is earlier. Upon request by a student or the department, the institution shall provide an accounting for such amounts retained under this standard within 5 work days.

#### **South Carolina**

A student in the state of South Carolina has a right to a full refund of all monies paid if the student cancels his/her enrollment agreement within 72 hours (excluding weekends and legal holidays) after signing the agreement or the student is not accepted by the University. After the 72-hour cancellation period, the University may retain up to \$100 if the student does not attend a course. A student who has completed 60% or less of the course is eligible for a pro rata refund. The refund will be calculated by dividing the total numbers of weeks of the course into the number of weeks remaining in that course as of the official date of withdraw. This percentage should be rounded downward to the nearest 10%. The University may retain an administrative fee up to \$100. Refunds will be paid within 40 days of the student's official withdrawal.

#### **Wisconsin**

Students in the state of Wisconsin will receive refunds in accordance with the following policy: The student is entitled to a full refund if they cancel enrollment within 3 business days; the student accepted is unqualified and the school did not secure a disclaimer; or the school procured the student's enrollment as the result of any false representations in the written materials used by the school or in oral representations made by or on behalf of the school.

A student who withdraws or is dismissed after 3 business days has passed, but before completing 60% of the potential units of instruction in the current enrollment period, shall be entitled to a pro rata refund, as calculated below, less any amounts owed by the student for the current enrollment period, less a one-time application fee of \$100.

- Pro rata refund shall be determined as the number of units remaining after the last unit completed by the student, divided by the total number of units in the enrollment period, rounded downward to the nearest ten percent. Pro rata refund is the resulting percent applied to the total tuition and other required costs paid by the student for the current enrollment period.
- All efforts will be made to refund prepaid amounts for books, supplies and other charges unless the student has consumed or used those items and they can no longer be used or sold to new students, or returned by the school to the supplier.
- Refunds shall be paid within 40 days after the effective date of termination.
- After the student's first period of enrollment, if a student withdraws or is dismissed in a subsequent enrollment period, the school may also retain an administrative fee of 15% of the total cost of a resident program, or \$400, whichever is less.
- No refund is required for any student who withdraws or is dismissed after completing 60% of the potential units of instruction in the current enrollment period unless a student withdraws due to mitigating circumstances, which are those that directly prohibit pursuit of a program and which are beyond the student's control.

### **Sales/Use/Excise/Gross Receipts Taxes**

It is the policy of the University to collect and remit sales, use, excise, and/or gross receipts taxes in compliance with state and local taxing jurisdiction regulations which require the University

to remit tax where applicable. These regulations vary by student location. Please note: It is also the policy of the University to require payment of sales, use excise, and/or gross receipts tax. Payment of tax is ultimately the student's financial responsibility to the University regardless of the financing arrangements.

Per Hawaii requirements: It is hereby stated that students residing in the State of Hawaii will be charged Hawaii General Excise Tax on all transactions. Students living in the District of Oahu will be charged 4.712%. Students residing in other Hawaii districts will be charged 4.1666%.

## Institutional Aid (GCU Scholarships and GCU Grants)

### **Traditional Campus Students**

Grand Canyon University institutional aid reduces the cost of tuition, room and board, materials, and lab fees.

Institutional aid is not available for the summer semester except in certain circumstances.

### **Eligibility**

Applicants may be required to:

1. Complete and submit a GCU Admissions Application.
2. Secondary (high school) transcript, documenting no less than 75% of the coursework needed for degree completion, with an unweighted grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or above. Degree-bearing transcript must be submitted when conferred. If final transcript negatively impacts admissibility, acceptance status may be rescinded or modified to include specifications
3. Submit post-secondary (college) transcripts, if applicable.
4. Submit final transcripts noting high school graduation date and unweighted GPA to allow final institutional aid to be awarded by the University due date.
5. Submit math and reading SAT and ACT scores (writing does not need to be included).
6. Students must be fully accepted into the University. Students who are [Accepted with Specifications](#) may not be eligible for institutional scholarships and will remain ineligible even if they meet full acceptance criteria after their first semester. Students already receiving an employer tuition discount are not eligible for institutional aid.

### **Institutional Aid Limits**

Institutional aid can be combined up to an annual limit (commonly referred to as caps). Institutional aid limits vary by enrollment period. Institutional aid limits also vary based on housing selection per semester. Institutional aid programs, not including those designated for housing, are applied towards tuition and fees only.

### **Institutional Aid Renewal Eligibility**

The following University institutional aid renewal criteria do not supersede requirements that may be specifically outlined within other GCU scholarship programs.

1. Students must maintain full-time continuous enrollment which is defined by program (typically 12 credits per semester) and meet minimum GPA requirements.
  - Students are typically re-evaluated at the end of the University's academic year.
2. Students may use the Summer semester to increase their GPA, if needed. If students become ineligible to participate in the institutional aid program, they may lose eligibility for any future institutional aid.
3. Institutional aid is renewable up to eight semesters for freshman students and up to six semesters for transfer students.

4. Many forms of institutional aid vary based on housing selection and are adjusted on a semester basis.
5. Students enrolled in a double major or double degree may extend their institutional aid for additional semesters if needed, but only if they were enrolled in the double major or double degree prior to their first semester.

### **Scholarship Revocation**

Students who are unable to fulfill the requirements of their institutional aid will have their award immediately revoked in the full amount for the current semester, regardless of the calendar date or amount of time spent in their program of study.

Students transitioning from Online, Evening-Satellite or Evening-Campus to the Traditional Campus may qualify for an Indirect Academic Scholarship if they have completed a minimum of 12 GCU credits, and have a GCU GPA that meets the academic scholarship eligibility.

GCU reserves the right to decline institutional aid at any time. Typically, students will be re-evaluated at the end of the University's academic year.

### **Financial Bridge Program / Regaining Eligibility Program**

The Financial Bridge Program is available to students who began as new students at GCU in the Academic Scholarship Program during the 2014-2015 academic year.

The Regaining Eligibility Program is available to all students at GCU who have lost eligibility for their Academic Scholarship Program.

The University provides a 'Financial Bridge' opportunity to students who originally qualified for a Freshman Entry academic scholarship but earned a cumulative GCU GPA of 2.8-2.99 upon completion of their first year. During the 'Financial Bridge' period (the second academic year at GCU), students are eligible for \$4,000 per year (on-campus resident) or \$3,000 per year (off-campus). Students are required to bring their cumulative GCU GPA to a minimum of 3.0 to continue receiving this level of funding. Once a student participates in the 'Financial Bridge' program, s/he forfeits the right to participate in the original Academic Scholarship program for future academic years.

If, upon the completion of an Academic Year, your GCU cumulative GPA falls below 2.8, you are ineligible for the 'Financial Bridge' program and will not receive any academic aid for the subsequent Academic Year. However, through the 'Regaining Eligibility' program, students can secure aid for the following academic year if a minimum 3.0 GCU cumulative GPA is earned. This 'Regaining Eligibility' program awards \$4,000 per year to an on-campus student and \$3,000 per year for an off-campus student. This level of aid is renewable annually as long as a minimum 3.0 GCU cumulative GPA is maintained. Once a student participates in the 'Regaining Eligibility' program, s/he is ineligible to participate in the Academic Scholarship program for the future academic years.

### **Common Institutional Aid Awards**

Following is a list of commonly awarded forms of Institutional Aid for new students who enrolled for the first time during the 2016-2017 Academic Year\*. This is not a comprehensive list and excludes the Institutional Aid program requirements for prior years. For more information about the specific requirements for any Institutional Aid program not listed, please contact your Student Services Counselor.

### **Direct Academic Scholarships (0-23 credits)**

This program is only available for freshman students attending GCU and coming directly from High School:

- Students who have fewer than 24 transfer credits.
- Students who completed college coursework while enrolled in high school are exempt from the 24 transfer credit limit. These students may choose to use their transfer GPA, if preferred. If the student chooses to use their transfer GPA, the transfer GPA will be used for In-Direct Academic Scholarship eligibility. Transfer GPA's cannot be used to determine Direct Academic Scholarship eligibility.
- This award is evaluated annually and can be adjusted up or down as long as the student maintains eligibility.
- Once enrolled, Maintain continuous and full-time enrollment at GCU.

Scholarship Options	Award Amount for new Freshman students starting during the Fall 2015 or Spring 2016 term
<b>Chancellor's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$9,750 per year (\$4,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 4.0 GPA (un-weighted)</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.75 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>President's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$7,750 per year (\$3,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.9 GPA (un-weighted) or SAT: 1350 / ACT: 31, or exceeds on 3 of 3 AIMS exams</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.5 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Provost's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6,750 per year (\$3,375 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.6 GPA (un-weighted) or SAT: 1225 / ACT: 27, or exceeds on 2 of 3 AIMS exams</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.3 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Dean's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5,750 per year (\$2,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.5 GPA (un-weighted) or SAT: 1100 / ACT: 24</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.2 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Faculty Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4,750 per year (\$2,375 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.2 GPA (un-weighted) or SAT: 1050/ ACT: 22</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.1 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Antelope's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3,750 per year (\$1,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.0 GPA (un-weighted) or SAT 1000/ACT 20</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.0 GPA</li> </ul>

\*Freshman students who started prior to Fall 2016 need to contact their Student Services Counselor for award amounts and requirements.

**Transfer Academic Scholarships (24 or more transfer credits) – Non- Nursing**

This program is only available for transfer students who must:

1. Submit transcripts showing cumulative GPA for 24 or more college credits.
2. Submit official transcripts for all previously completed coursework by day 21 of the semester.
3. Maintain continuous and full-time enrollment at GCU once enrolled.
4. This award is evaluated annually and can be adjusted up or down so long as the student maintains eligibility.

Scholarship Options	Award Amount
<b>Transfer President's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6,750 per year (\$2,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.75 GPA</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.6 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer Provost's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5,750 per year (\$1,875 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.5 GPA</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.3 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer Dean's Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3,750 per year (\$1,375 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.25 GPA</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.2 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer Faculty Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2,750 per year (\$1,375 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 3.0 GPA</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 3.0 GPA</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer Antelope Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2,000 per year (\$1,000 per Semester)</li> <li>• Minimum incoming 2.5 GPA</li> <li>• Maintain minimum 2.5 GPA</li> </ul>

\*Transfer students who started prior to Fall 2016, need to contact their Student Services Counselor for award amounts and requirements.

**Priority Registration Grant**

This scholarship/grant is for new students only. Award amounts are limited to select number of student per year. The award amount per Priority Registration Grant may vary, and the student must meet Direct or Indirect Academic Scholarship eligibility. There is no wait list for these funds.

Once awarded, student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and maintain continuous full-time enrollment to retain this scholarship/grant.

**Early Registration Scholarship & New Student Grant**

This scholarship/grant was not awarded to new students for the 2015-2016 Academic Year. Students who are currently receiving this scholarship will remain eligible as long as the following criteria are met:

This scholarship/grant is for new students only. Award amounts are based on date of registration, housing selection per semester and incoming GPA: Direct students must have a minimum incoming 2.75 GPA (un-weighted) and Indirect students (24 or more transfer credits) must have a minimum 2.25 cumulative GPA.

Once awarded, students must maintain a 2.75 GPA and maintain continuous full-time enrollment to retain this Scholarship.

**Programmatic Scholarships**

Effective February 13, 2012, this Institutional Aid program was eliminated. New students enrolled in an applicable program prior to this date will remain eligible to participate in this program on an ongoing basis, as long as the following criteria are met:

- Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA.
- Students must complete a minimum of 12 credits per semester.
- Students must stay enrolled in the applicable program.
- If the student changes programs and the new program was originally designated for programmatic scholarship eligibility for the year the student enrolled, the student will be eligible for the new award amount, as long as it is of equal or lesser value.

For a list of eligible programs and the Scholarship values per Academic Year, please contact your Student Services Counselor.

# Tuition and Fees

Courses Beginning Jan 1, 2017

Traditional Campus Programs	
Undergraduate Tuition	
Credits 1-11	\$687.50/credit
Block Tuition (12-18 credits)	\$8,250.00
Credits 19+ (Block +)	\$8,250.00+\$687.50/ per credit above 18 credits
Summer Traditional Undergraduate rate (except pre-licensure nursing cohorts) (Effective 8/29/16)	\$310/credit
Graduate Tuition	
Graduate Programs	\$390.00/credit
Seminary Programs	
Credits 1-7	\$687.50/credit
Block Tuition (8-12 credits)	\$5,500.00
Credits 12+	\$5,500.00+\$687.50/ per credit above 12 credits

\*No In-State/Out-State rates

\*Traditional campus undergraduate students are required to take a minimum of 9 credits in the Traditional Campus format during the Fall and Spring semester

\*Traditional campus students taking courses in the online format will be charged the regular traditional tuition rates.

\*\$390 Graduate tuition is only for traditional day-time students attending Master's programs (excluding seminary) on the West Phoenix Main Campus.

Non-Traditional Campus	
Undergraduate Tuition	
Education Programs	\$440/credit
Theology Programs	\$355/credit
IT Programs	\$449/credit
Online and Professional Studies (all programs other than those listed above)	\$470/credit
Active Duty and Active Reserve (Online and Professional Studies)	\$250/credit
Graduate Tuition	
Education Programs	\$515/credit
MDIV Program	\$330/credit
IT Programs	\$489/credit
Business Programs	\$560/credit
Nursing Programs	\$500/credit
Advanced Practice Nursing Programs	\$630/credit
Online and Professional Studies (all programs other than those listed above)	\$500/credit
Doctoral Programs (includes dissertation courses DIS-966 thru DIS-970)	\$640/credit

Non-Traditional Campus	
Doctoral Programs-Active Duty and Active Reserve (Online and Professional Studies)	\$608/credit
Active Duty and Active Reserve (Online and Professional Studies)	\$400/credit
Continuing Education (CTE) Tuition	
Online	\$150/credit
Fees	
Canyon Connect-Undergraduate	\$85
Canyon Connect-Graduate	\$95
Canyon Connect-Doctoral	\$105
Course Material Fee for RN to BSN Program, 5 week courses with an NRS-prefix and HLT-362V	\$110/per course
Course Material Fee – NUR-634	\$300
Learning Management Service Fee (New Online & Professional Studies students)	\$400
Doctoral Residencies (including MDiv)	\$775-950/residency
Doctoral Programs –Dissertation Continuation (Optional zero credit course–DIS-975)	\$500
Accordance Bible Software (New MDiv students only)	\$225
Credential Evaluation (International) Basic Evaluation	\$175
Credential Evaluation (International) Course-by-Course Evaluation	\$250
Returned Check Fee-All returned checks	\$25
Transcript Fee	\$5
Graduation Fee	\$150

Traditional Campus Programs	
Fees	
Student Activity Fee (Traditional campus students excluding students accepted into Pre-Licensure nursing program)	\$275/semester (Excl. Summer)
Computer Science, Engineering, and Information Technology Program Premiums	\$700/semester
Nursing Program Premium (Pre-Licensure nursing program)	\$800/semester
Golf Management Premium	\$500/semester
Worship Arts Premium (includes minors)	\$250/semester
Hospitality Management Premium	\$100/semester
Student Parking Fee	\$5-\$150 depending on lot
Health Insurance	\$2,729 per Academic Year



<b>Traditional Campus Programs</b>	
Housing Application Fee	\$250
Registration Deposit (non-refundable)	\$50
Housing Pre-Payment (Returning residents only, non-refundable)	\$200
Health Fee	\$70/semester
Global Studies Portfolio Fee	\$90
Schedule Change Fee	\$25
Late Payment Fee	\$25
<b>Room Rates (per semester) for Residential Students</b>	
<b>Dormitory Rates: (Students are required to carry at least Canyon 1350 Meal Plan)</b>	
Camelback Hall / Sedona Hall / Saguaro Hall / Chaparral Hall / Prescott Hall / Ocotillo Hall Triple Occupancy	\$1,775
<b>The Grove:</b> Acacia / Ironwood / Juniper / Willow Triple Occupancy	\$1,775
Canyon Hall / Hegel Hall Double Occupancy	\$2,200
Prescott / Camelback / Sedona / Chaparral / Saguaro / Ocotillo Double Occupancy	\$2,500
<b>The Grove:</b> Acacia / Ironwood / Juniper / Willow Double Occupancy	\$2,500
<b>Apartments Rates (Students are required to carry at least Canyon 750 Meal Plan)</b>	
North Rim Double Occupancy	\$2,750
North Rim Single Occupancy	\$3,000
Papago Studio Single Occupancy	\$2,750
Papago/Agave/Roadrunner/Encanto Single Occupancy	\$3,050
<b>Summer Room Rates</b>	
Active Student (must be actively enrolled in at least 1 course)	\$1,200/semester
Working Student (On-campus job, but not enrolled in any course)	\$1,600/semester

## Dining Options

Dining options for 2016-17 will be an allotment of Dining Dollars and will not include meal swipes. All resident students are required to purchase a dining option. Students residing in on-campus apartments are required to purchase at minimum the \$500 option. Students residing in a residence hall are required to purchase at minimum the \$1,350 option, but may elect to purchase any of the other options except for the \$500 option. Commuter students may purchase any of the available dining options.

Dining options changes may only be made prior to when the Dining Dollars are available for use on campus. Dining Dollars may not be transferred from the purchasing student to any other individual. Dining Dollar refunds will be calculated less the actual usage and based on the applicable refund percentage at the time of the dining option cancellation. (Week 1 – 90%, Week 2 – 75%, Week 3 – 50%). After the first three weeks of the term, there will be no Dining Dollar refunds.

Dining Dollars that are not used at the end of the fall semester will be available for use in the spring semester. Unused Dining Dollars will expire at the end of the academic year (spring semester).

Dining Options	Details	Price
Canyon \$750 Dining Dollars	Exclusive to only apartment and remote housing residents. Minimum requirement for Papago and North Rim Residents.	\$750/semester
Canyon \$1,350 Dining Dollars	Residence Hall Minimum	\$1,350/semester
Canyon \$1,800 Dining Dollars		\$1,750/semester
Canyon \$2,100 Dining Dollars		\$2,000/semester
Canyon \$2,700 Dining Dollars		\$2,550/semester

Students who have special dietary needs should contact Dining Services in person or at (602) 639-6924.

## Lopes Cash

Lopes Cash is a form of payment separate from Dining Dollars. Funds can be loaded to a student's campus ID card by their Student Services Counselor. Lopes Cash can be used at all dining locations, to check out resources and books from the GCU Library, and to print from computers.

At the end of the academic year, a student no longer attending the University has 30 days to request a refund of any unused Lopes Cash with their Student Services Counselor. If a request is not made by the student to the University, the Lopes Cash will be forfeited. For both attending and non-attending students, unused Lopes Cash may be used to cover any other outstanding balance the student has with University prior to a refund being issued.

## Campus ID Cards

Campus ID cards are issued for accessing GCU services as well as for security on campus. Campus ID cards can be used for Dining Dollars access, to check out resources and books from the GCU Library, or discounts on, certain GCU-sponsored events (sporting events, etc.). Students may obtain a campus ID card by visiting the Enrollment Office during normal business hours. Do not give your card to another student or person to use for building access, event admission or for meals. If a student allows another to use his or her card to access food services, both students may receive disciplinary sanctions. Students are issued one card for use during the entire time at GCU at no charge.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the security of their student ID card. Any ID cards that are lost or stolen will not receive a refund on any Dining Dollars or Lopes Cash that had been used during the time the card was stolen. If a card is lost or stolen, please notify your Student Services Counselor to put a hold on it for protection. There is a \$10.00 fee to replace a lost or stolen card.

## Special Course Fees

Certain University classes require payment of fees or deposits for materials, breakage, and/or rental. Contact the Program Director in the pertinent College for specific information.

- Any course where digital materials are provided will be charged the course materials fee. Digital course materials

include but are not limited to, simulations, multimedia content, eBooks and/or custom created content. Some courses will include electronic textbooks for which students will be charged a Canyon Connect fee.

Special Course Fees	
Course Fee (EXS-415)	\$30
Course Fee (DAN-100, DAN-101, DAN-120, DAN-130A, DAN-130B, DAN-180A, DAN-180B, DAN-200, DAN-210, DAN-250, DAN-260, DAN-270, DAN-280A, DAN-280B, DAN-300, DAN-310, DAN-312, DAN-313, DAN-350, DAN-353, DAN-360, DAN-363, DAN-370, DAN-373, DAN-380A, DAN-380B, DAN-385, DAN-390, DAN-412, DAN-413, DAN-430, DAN-435, DAN-450, DAN-453, DAN-465A, DAN-465B, DAN-470, DAN-480, HLT-665, NUR-665E, NUR-670, NSG-301, NSG-303, NSG-321, NSG-323, NSG-401, NSG-403, NSG-421, NUR-300, NUR-315, NUR-316, NUR-318, NUR-320, NUR-320C, NUR-322, NUR-322C, NUR-432, NUR-432C, NUR-436, NUR-436C, NUR-442, NUR-444, UNV-300, DNP-801, PCN-662B, PCN-662D)	\$50
Course Fee (Online only) (HOS-200, HOS-440, HOS-450, HOS-460, HOS-465, HOS-470)	\$50
Course Fee (Online only) (PCN-490, PCN-622)	\$80
Laboratory Fee (BIO-100L, BIO-181L, BIO-182L, BIO-201L, BIO-202L, BIO-205L, BIO-320L, BIO-360L, BIO-492L, BME-356L, BME-460, CHM-101L, CHM-113L, CHM-115L, CHM-231L, CHM-232L, CHM-235L, CHM-331L, CHM-332L, CHM-360L, CHM-365L, CST-100, CST-105, CST-110, CST-111, CST-115, CST-116, CST-117, CST-125, CST-126, CST-135, CST-200, CST-201, CST-210, CST-211, CST-213, CST-215, CST-216, CST-217, CST-217HN, CST-220, CST-221, CST-225, CST-226, CST-227, CST-230, CST-235, CST-236, CST-247, CST-256, CST-305, CST-307, CST-310, CST-315, CST-320, CST-322, CST-323, CST-325, CST-326, CST-340, CST-341, CST-360, CST-361, CST-405, CST-410, CST-415, CST-416, CST-425, CST-435, CST-440, CST-452, EEE-213L, ESG-202L, ESG-250, ESG-360, ESG-435, ESG-455, EXS-200L, EXS-202L, EXS-214L, EXS-335L, EXS-340L, EXS-387L, EXS-455L, HIM-410, HIM-412, HIM-450, HIM-484, NUR-316, NUR-318, NUR-320C, NUR-322C, NUR-432C, NUR-436C, NUR-444, PHY-111L, ITT-115, ITT-116, ITT-120, ITT-121, ITT-200, ITT-201, ITT-307, ITT-325, ITT-340, ITT-370, ITT-410, ITT-422, ITT-430, ITT-450, MEE-340L, MEE-352, MEE-460, PHY-111L, PHY-112L, PHY-121L, PHY-122L, STG-110L, STG-242L, STG-330, STG-350L, STG-430, UNV-112)	\$100

Special Course Fees	
Course Fee (BIO-253, BIO-356, BIO-440, CST-451, EEE-302, EEE-320, EEE-431, ESG-451, ESG-452, EXS-322, EXS-351, EXS-352, EXS-353, EXS-354, EXS-355, EXS-356, EXS-358, EXS-366, EXS-421, EXS-426L, ITT-305, ITT-306, ITT-455, STG-451, STG-452, TEN-111, TEN-112, TEN-211, TEN-212, TEN-311, TEN-312, TEN-411, TEN-412)	\$100
Course Fee (ANP-635, ANP-650, ANP-652, ANP-654, NUR-634, PCN-662A, PCN-662C, FNP-630, FNP-630N, FNP-652, FNP-652N, FNP-654, FNP-654N, FNP-690)	\$150
Laboratory Fee (NSG-305, NSG-307, NSG-321C, NSG-323C, NSG-401C, NSG-403C, NSG-421C)	\$150
Music & Worship Arts-Private Applied Instruction Fee (MAP-118, MAP-128, MAP-218, MAP-250, MAP-313, MAP-318, MAP-323, MAP-350, MAP-413, MAP-450, MAP-451, MBE-113, MBE-123, MBE-213, MBE-223, MBE-313, MBE-323, MBE-413, MBE-423, MEN-318, MIE-113, MIE-123, MIE-213, MIE-223, MIE-313, MIE-323, MIE-413, MIE-423, MSE-113, MSE-123, MSE-213, MSE-223, MSE-313, MSE-323, MSE-413, MSE-423, MVA-119, MVA-129, MVA-219, MVA-229, MVA-319, MVA-329, MVA-419, MVA-429, MWE-113, MWE-123, MWE-213, MWE-223, MWE-313, MWE-323, MWE-413, MWE-423, WGA-111, WGA-112, WGA-211, WGA-212, WGA-311, WGA-312, WGA-411, WKA-111, WKA-112, WKA-211, WKA-212, WKA-311, WKA-312, WKA-411, WPA-111, WPA-112, WPA-211, WPA-212, WPA-311, WPA-312, WPA-411, WVA-111, WVA-112, WVA-211, WVA-212, WVA-311, WVA-312, WVA-411)	\$200
Music & Worship Arts-Private Applied Instruction Fee (MAP-120, MAP-130, MAP-220, MAP-230, MAP-320, MAP-330, MAP-420, MAP-430, MBE-115, MBE-125, MBE-215, MBE-225, MBE-315, MBE-325, MBE-415, MBE-425, MIE-115, MIE-125, MIE-215, MIE-225, MIE-315, MIE-325, MIE-415, MIE-425, MSE-115, MSE-125, MSE-215, MSE-225, MSE-315, MSE-325, MSE-415, MSE-425, MVA-120, MVA-130, MVA-220, MVA-230, MVA-320, MVA-330, MVA-420, MVA-430, MWE-115, MWE-125, MWE-215, MWE-225, MWE-315, MWE-325, MWE-415, MWE-425)	\$250
Laboratory Fee (NUR-636C)	\$475

### Student Health Insurance

All GCU students must ensure they follow the federal guidelines for insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act. Insurance coverage must be demonstrated or secured by the first of the month prior to the semester.

Deadline	Semester
August 1	Fall
January 1	Spring
May 1	Summer

The student populations below are required to secure suitable insurance coverage while attending GCU

- All traditional campus undergraduate students taking 12 credits or more, regardless of registered credits, are required to carry health and accident insurance.
  - The University-sponsored plan is provided by Aetna Life Insurance Company. The plan provides in-and-out patient coverage up to the required limit (see current brochure for limit) of reasonable and customary charges. Insurance brochures are available in the Cooke Health and Wellness Center.
    - Annual Period: Coverage for all insured students enrolled for the Fall semester, will become effective at the start of the fall semester.
    - Fall Semester Period: Coverage for all insured students will become effective at the start of the semester and conclude at the duration of the fall semester.
    - Spring Semester (Newly Enrolled) Period: Coverage for all students first entering Grand Canyon University in the Spring semester will become effective at the start of the spring semester, and will terminate at the end of the summer semester.
    - New Enrolled Summer Semester Period: Coverage will be determined prior to the start of the Summer semester.
    - NOTE: The health insurance rate for the full academic year is \$2,450. It is \$923.50 for Fall semester and \$1,526.50 for the combined Spring and Summer semesters. The rate for students who enroll for the first time during the Spring semester is \$1,526.50. These rates may be subject to change in Fall 2015 For Newly Enrolled Summer Students – rates will be determined prior to the start of the Term. Insurance charges may be subject to change in Fall 2017.
- All international students with an F-1 visa (all programs of study) will be automatically enrolled into the University-sponsored plan and do not have the option of waiving.
- All student athletes (all programs of study) are required to provide proof of suitable coverage by semester deadline, or they will be automatically enrolled into the University-sponsored plan and are required to pay the premium.
- Students in the following programs, are required to provide proof of suitable coverage by semester deadline, or they will be automatically enrolled into University-sponsored plan and are required to pay the premium. International students cannot opt out of the coverage.
  - Pre-licensure Nursing - upon entry/acceptance of Level 1 into the program
  - Athletic Training- upon entry/acceptance as a Level 1 into the program
  - Theatre Education- upon entry/acceptance as a Freshman into the program
  - Theatre and Drama- upon entry/acceptance as a Freshman into the program
  - Dance Education- upon entry/acceptance as a Freshman into the program

## Waiving Insurance

Student athletes and nursing students (in their clinical portion of their program) with comparable health insurance, including coverage for acute and follow-up health care in the Phoenix area, may apply to waive the University-sponsored plan. To submit a waiver, student should visit <http://www.aetnastudenthealth.com>. Student must complete the insurance waiver process by the posted semester deadlines. No other means of acceptance will be acknowledged. A new waiver must be completed each academic year. All waivers are subject to verification and approval. The University cannot waive student health insurance later than the deadline and fees cannot be appealed

## Federal Financial Aid

The purpose of financial aid is to provide funding resources to students who otherwise would be unable to pursue a postsecondary education. The primary responsibility for meeting University costs lies with students and their families.

### General Eligibility Requirements

To receive federal Title IV financial assistance, all students must be admitted to the University, be enrolled in a degree Program of Study, be in good academic standing, and be making satisfactory academic progress. Students who are [Accepted with Specifications](#) are eligible for financial assistance according to the University's admission policy. According to federal regulations, financial aid recipients must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens, not owe money back on a federal student grant, and cannot be in default on any federal student loans.

### Financial Aid Application Process

Annually students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which is the first step in determining financial need. The application can be accessed at [Fafsa.Ed.Gov](http://Fafsa.Ed.Gov). If a student does not have Internet access, a paper FAFSA may be obtained directly from the Department of Education. The University does not require any of the supplemental forms processed by the College Scholarship Service (CSS) or American College Testing (ACT), for which there is a fee charged.

The results of the FAFSA will be sent electronically to the financial aid department. Eligibility will be determined and funds will be awarded after receipt of all required documentation. Before any federal loans can be awarded, both a Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Counseling must be completed on the Department of Education's website, [StudentLoans.gov](http://StudentLoans.gov).

### Verification

Based on information reported on the FAFSA, the Department of Education will require certain applicants to complete the verification process before becoming eligible for TIV aid. If a student is selected for verification, the University will request that the student provide all required documentation which may include, but is not limited to:

- IRS Tax Return Transcript
- Verification of household size and number in college
- Documentation of high school completion
- Government Issued Photo Identification
- Statement of Educational Purpose

Additional documentation may be required to complete the verification process. All paperwork must be submitted as soon as

possible but no later than the earlier of 120 days after the student's last day of enrollment or the end of the award year which runs through the month of September. Federal awards will not be processed until the verification process is completed.

### **Preference/Deadline Dates**

Both new and returning students are strongly encouraged to submit initial or renewal FAFSA applications as soon as possible each year as some types of financial aid have limited funding and those students whose FAFSA applications are delayed run an increased risk of receiving reduced awards. Effective with the 17/18 award year, students will be able to complete the FAFSA as early as the preceding October of the award year. Only students who have applied for admission to Grand Canyon University will be issued a financial aid award notice through the Student Portal.

### **Financial Need and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

Aid for most federal funding is awarded based on financial need. The EFC is a measure of a family's financial strength and indicates how much of students' and students' families (for dependent students) financial resources should be available to help pay educational costs.

The EFC is calculated from information reported on the FAFSA using a formula established by law. Family income and assets are considered in determining the EFC along with household size and number of family members attending a postsecondary school. The EFC can be found on the Student Aid Report (SAR) which is the document produced from the information supplied on the FAFSA.

To determine financial need for federal student aid programs the EFC is subtracted from the Cost of Attendance (COA) which is an estimated amount it will cost to attend school for an academic year. Estimated costs include tuition and fees, room and board, allowances for books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses. Federal grants and other financial aid are used to meet financial need.

Upon completion of all required paperwork, Title IV funds will be awarded. A financial aid award letter will then be available on the student's portal.

Any changes made to original reported information on the FAFSA may result in a change in financial aid award amounts. If the FAFSA is selected for verification, any changes made during the verification process may also change financial aid award amounts.

### **Traditional Academic Calendar**

The majority of aid for the Traditional campus is processed using the Scheduled Academic Year calendar which consists of a Fall and Spring term (semester) with aid for a Summer term optional. To receive maximum financial aid benefits, undergraduate students must be enrolled full-time (minimum 12 credits per term). Undergraduate students enrolled less than full-time may be eligible for prorated amounts of federal aid depending on the funding source. Undergraduate programs require enrollment of at least six credits per term for federal loan eligibility. Students who receive any institutional scholarships (i.e., academic, departmental, endowed, and/or merit) must maintain a continuous full-time enrollment status. Courses taken at other colleges do not count towards determining enrollment status at Grand Canyon University for financial aid/scholarship purposes.

### **Nontraditional Academic Calendar (Online and Cohort)**

Nontraditional campus aid is processed using the Borrower-Based, Non-term academic calendar. An academic year for undergraduate programs is defined as a minimum of 24 earned credits and 30 instructional weeks. The academic year for masters programs starting July 2012 and after is defined as a minimum of 16 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks. Doctoral programs utilize an academic year definition of 12 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks.

An academic year begins with participation in the first eligible course of a degree program and ends when a student successfully completes both the credits and instructional weeks requirements. An academic year has no calendar time constraints and continues through periods of non-attendance that are less than 180 days until both the credit and weeks requirements are met.

The academic year is divided into two payment periods (terms). The first payment period consists of half of the credits and instructional weeks as defined in the academic year. The second payment period begins when a student has successfully completed the first payment period requirements and has continued on into the next scheduled course. Aid is packaged and disbursed using these definitions. Payments of financial aid awards are made in two equal disbursements following the appropriate payment period rules.

### **Inform the Office of Financial Aid**

Students who receive additional outside assistance must report this fact to the Office of Financial Aid through their assigned Student Services Counselor. Students who have received any Title IV aid from a prior school or are currently receiving Title IV aid at another institution while attending Grand Canyon University must also notify the Office of Financial Aid through their assigned Student Services Counselor as this other source of funding may affect students' eligibility to receive maximum Title IV aid with GCU.

### **Student Responsibilities**

All students should do the following:

- Accurately complete and return all applications, required documentation, verification forms, and any additional information that is requested by any GCU department or any other agency providing financial assistance. Errors or omissions may delay the awarding and disbursement of eligible funds.
- Read and understand all documentation and agreements that are signed and submitted to any department or agency.
- Review the award letter and all other notices issued regarding the responsibilities and conditions that must be adhered to by students receiving financial aid.
- Understand what portion of the financial aid package is need based aid (grant and scholarships that does not have to be repaid) and what portion is non-need based aid (funding that must be repaid such as student loans). If any portion of the aid is in the form of a student loan, understand the total amount of the loan, the interest rate assessed to the amount borrowed, the repayment schedule, the timeframe of the repayment schedule, and the start date of the repayment schedule.
- Notify the servicer of any changes to personal name, address, and enrollment status.
- Review and understand the amounts pertaining to the cost of attendance and the Course Tuition Refund Policy for Grand Canyon University as stated in the Financial Services section.

- Review and understand the amounts pertaining to the cost of attendance and the Course Tuition Refund Policy for Grand Canyon University as stated in the Financial Services section.
- Review and comply with all rules and regulations pertaining to academic, financial, and University conduct policies
- Understand that any intentional misrepresentation of information provided on applications or documents submitted for federal financial aid is a violation of law and is considered a criminal offense subject to penalties under the U.S. Criminal Code and will be reported to the Office of Inspector General (OIG)

### **Disbursement of Title IV Funds for Books and Supplies**

If a Pell grant eligible student meets all requirements to receive Title IV funds at least 10 days before the start of a payment period, any Title IV funds in excess of the amount owed to the school at the that time (Title IV credit balance funds) are to be made available to the student up to the amount needed to obtain books and supplies.

The school must make the Title IV credit balance funds for books and supplies available to the student by the 7th day of the payment period.

If a student has not yet established eligibility to receive Title IV funds at least 10 days before the beginning of a payment period due to outstanding verification requirements, unresolved “C” codes on the Student Aid Report (SAR), or conflicting information, this requirement does not apply.

In determining whether a Title IV credit balance exists, the school considers all Title IV funds that could be disbursed at least 10 days before the term/payment period, regardless if funds have been received by the institution. It is the student’s eligibility to receive Title IV funds at that time, rather than the school’s schedule for receiving or disbursing those funds, that determines the existence and amount of a Title IV credit balance for this purpose.

If a student requires monetary assistance with purchasing books and supplies, he should contact his Student Services Counselor to determine if he meets the qualifications listed above. If the Student Services Counselor determines that the student is eligible to receive assistance in purchasing books/supplies, the student will have a maximum of \$300 available at the GCU bookstore to purchase the required books/supplies.

The student is under no obligation to take advantage of this provision.

### **Excess Funds - Stipend Checks**

Many times students request aid in excess of the total account charges. Once funds post to the student’s account, any funds in excess of the posted charges create a credit balance on the account. In compliance with federal regulations, the University will mail an excess funds (stipend) check within 14 calendar days from the date the credit balance was created on the account.

It is University policy to mail all refund checks to the current address on file. Students who wish to change their address must go through the Office of Academic Records, update their address on the Student Portal, or contact their SSA to make this change. Students may be subject to a \$25 charge for stop payments made after 21 business days of mailing date.

Stipend checks are processed according to federal regulations and University policies. For further details, please contact your Student Services Counselor.

### **Leave of Absence – Nontraditional**

Leave of Absence (LOA) refers to a specific time period during a program when a student is not in attendance. A student who requires a temporary break of enrollment in his program of study that will last for more than 14 days has the option of requesting a Leave of Absence. An LOA must meet certain conditions to be counted as a temporary interruption in a student’s education rather than being counted as a withdrawal from the University. There must also be a reasonable expectation that the student will return from the LOA in order for the leave to be approved.

#### **Leave of Absence Criteria**

- An LOA request must be signed, dated and submitted on or before the last day of class attendance in a course and must include the reason for the student’s request. The request must be completed on the GCU Leave of Absence form. Any request submitted after the last day of class in a course will be denied unless unforeseen circumstances prevented the student from doing so.
- GCU policy allows two LOAs of up to 60 calendar days each in any 12 month rolling calendar year.
- A third LOA can be requested within this 12 month period only if the student can demonstrate extenuating circumstances that would warrant a third leave of absence. The total time spent on an LOA in a rolling calendar year cannot exceed a 180 days.
- Students who do not return from an approved LOA will be withdrawn from the University effective the last date of documented attendance.
- Title IV loans cannot be disbursed to a student while on an LOA; Title IV grants and Perkins loan funds can be disbursed to a student while on an LOA.

A student wishing to request an LOA will need to initiate the process with his Student Services Counselor. The final approval/denial will be completed within one week of the student’s LDA. No additional charges can be assessed to a student who returns from an approved LOA.

If the LOA request is not approved or the student does not return as scheduled from the approved LOA, this time of non-attendance will be counted against any grace period for Title IV student loan repayment purposes.

Because of various federal requirements, a Leave of Absence is available only to the Nontraditional student population.

### **Federal Refund Policy - Official and Unofficial Withdrawal**

Any federal financial aid recipient who fails all courses in a semester (traditional campus) or withdraws from the University (traditional and nontraditional) is subject to a federal Return of Title IV Aid calculation. This calculation determines both the amount of federal aid that the school is allowed to retain as well as the amount that must be returned to the Department of Education.

An official withdrawal occurs when a student has formally requested to be withdrawn from the University. The student must submit a Complete Withdrawal Form, available on the student portal. If a student notifies his Student Services Counselor of his intent to withdraw from the University but did not complete the Official Withdrawal form, the Student Services Counselor will notify the Office of Academic Records of the official withdrawal request.

An unofficial withdrawal occurs when a student has stopped attending any coursework for a period of 14 consecutive days or

more but has not communicated a desire to officially withdraw from the University.

The federal refund calculation is as follows:

1. Withdrawal:
  - a. Withdrawal from the University before the first day of classes, 100% of Title IV aid must be returned.
  - b. Withdrawal from the University through 60% of the payment period will result in a prorated percentage of aid being earned. Any unearned aid due from the school will be returned to the appropriate funding source. In some instances a portion of unearned aid will be the student's responsibility.
  - c. Withdrawal from the University after attending more than 60% of the payment period will result in 100% of the student's Title IV aid being earned. The institution will retain 100% of funding that covers institutional costs; students may retain the remainder of funding.
2. Failing All Courses in a Semester (Traditional Campus): Traditional campus students receiving failing grades in all coursework for the semester will earn 50% of Title IV aid disbursed. If validation can be obtained of a later Last Academic Activity date (LAA), that date will be used in the calculation. The student will continue to owe tuition and fees for the entire semester and will be responsible to the University for any remaining balance on account.
3. Unofficial Withdrawal within a Term Containing Modules (Traditional Campus): Coursework taken within a term where no courses taken span the entire length of the term will be subject to modular refund rules. If the withdrawal from future courses within the term occurs after the student is no longer attending a course, Title IV aid will be earned at a 50% rate and the student will be responsible to the University for any remaining balance on account. If validation can be obtained of a later Last Academic Activity date (LAA), that date will be used in the refund calculation.

### Maximum Timeframe

Federal regulations require a student to complete his Program of Study within a measured maximum time frame that cannot exceed 150% of the published length of the program. The sum of the total required credits multiplied by 150% will be the maximum number of attempted credits for which a student is eligible to receive aid. If a student reaches the 150% timeframe and has not completed his program of study, he is no longer eligible for Title IV aid. The student may continue taking required coursework, but must make other payment arrangements.

## Federal Funding Sources

### Federal Pell Grant Awarding

A Federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. It is available to eligible undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's degree. Student and family income information that is provided when completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines Pell eligibility.

Effective July 2012, the Department of Education limited the number of semesters/terms to 12 in which a student may receive a Pell grant. A student's remaining Pell eligibility will be reported on the student's Institutional Student Aid Report or students may contact their Student Services Counselor for this information.

### Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

FSEOG is available to undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. Students with the lowest EFCs who also receive a Pell grant for that award year have primary consideration for FSEOG funding. FSEOG is an award that does not require repayment. This award is dependent on financial need and availability of limited funds.

### Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG)

A student whose parent or guardian was a member of the U. S. Armed Forces and died as a result of service performed in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001, may be eligible to receive this grant. For more information on this grant students should contact their Student Services Counselor.

### Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH)

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program was established under the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA), to benefit current and prospective teachers. This program currently provides up to \$3728 a year in grant assistance to students who plan on becoming a teacher and meet certain specific requirements. Based on the Budget Control Act of 2011, this amount will be reduced to \$3724 in October. If a student who receives a TEACH Grant does not complete the required teaching obligation, the grant must be repaid as a Direct Unsubsidized Loan under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program.

To be eligible to receive a TEACH Grant, students must:

- Be enrolled in an eligible institution
- File an application and *Agreement To Serve*
- Have a 3.25 GPA

The *Agreement To Serve* requirements:

- Full-time teacher for 4 years within eight years of completing degree
- Teach in high need subject areas such as Math, Science, Foreign Language, Bilingual Education, Special Education, Reading Specialist, or a field as defined by the federal government as high need
- Comply with the requirements for being a highly qualified teacher

The amount of the grant will be treated as an unsubsidized Stafford loan and interest will accrue from the date of grant award if the student fails to complete the *Agreement to Serve* requirements.

For more information about this grant, students can refer to the [Financial Services](#) website.

### Federal Work Study

Federal work-study provides part-time jobs for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay educational expenses. Contact Career Services for more information.

## Federal Loan Programs

Loans are often part of a financial award package as they provide students with an opportunity to defer part of their educational costs by borrowing now and paying later. Each year a student's loan eligibility is determined by completing the FAFSA.

Likewise, eligibility for certain loans and loan amounts may change according to the information reported on all required documentation.

## Federal Direct Loan Program

In order to receive a Federal Direct loan, a completed Master Promissory Note (MPN) is required. The MPN is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education. It explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s), and items such as how interest is calculated, what deferment and cancellation provisions are available to you, and estimated repayment plans.

A second requirement of receiving a student loan is to complete Entrance Counseling. This is a mandatory information session which takes place before you receive your first federal student loan that explains your responsibilities and rights as a student borrower.

Upon graduation/withdrawal, Exit Counseling is also required which will reiterate your rights and responsibilities as a student loan borrower and provide useful tips and information to help manage your student loans.

All required information can be found at both [Federal Student Aid](#) and Student Loans.Gov sites.

### Direct Subsidized Loans

Subsidized loans are available to undergraduate students who meet certain financial need criteria. The federal government will pay the interest on the loan while the student is attending classes on at least a half time basis and during periods when the loan is deferred.

Effective July 1, 2012, graduate and professional students are no longer eligible for this loan.

The Department of Education implemented a cap on the amount of time a student can attend an institution and continue to receive a subsidized loan. Any student who had no loan debt effective July 1, 2013 will need to complete his program of study within 150% of the published time to completion. If the student does not complete his program of study within that timeframe, he will no longer be eligible to receive additional subsidized funding. Under certain conditions, the provision also causes first-time borrowers who have exceeded the 150% limit to lose the interest subsidy on their Direct Subsidized loans

### Direct Unsubsidized Loans

Unsubsidized loans are available to students regardless of financial need. Students are responsible for the interest that accrues on this loan from the date the funds are disbursed until the funds are paid back in full. The student borrower also has the option to pay the interest that is accruing while attending school or postpone payment. If payment is postponed, the interest will accrue and be capitalized (added to the principal amount of the loan).

### Plus Loans

PLUS loans are available for graduate/professional students as well as parents of dependent undergraduate students. The PLUS Loan enables parents/graduate students to borrow up to the full cost of attendance less any other financial assistance awarded to the student. PLUS Loan borrowers are subject to a credit check before loan approval.

The interest rate for new loans is determined each year and is announced during the month of July. Contact your Student Services Counselor for the current interest rates.

Repayment on the principal loan balance begins six (6) months after the borrower drops below half-time enrollment status or graduates. Normally, monthly loan payments will not be less than fifty dollars (\$50) and must be repaid within the time-period specified by the terms of the borrower's repayment contract.

## Federal Carl D. Perkins Loan

The Federal Perkins Loan provides low interest, long-term loans for graduate and undergraduate students who are United States citizens or permanent residents. The amounts awarded vary depending on financial need and the availability of limited funds. No interest is charged nor is repayment required while the borrower is enrolled at least halftime. Nine months after the borrower ceases to be enrolled at least half time, payments begin at an interest rate of 5%. Loan repayment must be completed within a ten-year period at a minimum repayment rate of \$40 per month. Under certain circumstances, a portion of the loan may be canceled for designated public service.

All financial records pertaining to Perkins Loans awarded to Grand Canyon University students are maintained by the Office of Financial Aid. Perkins loan recipients must complete the Perkins Entrance Interview and sign the Perkins [Promissory Note](#) before funds can be disbursed.

Based on final regulations, the Perkins program will be discontinued after the 2017/18 award year.

## Annual and Aggregate Loan Limits

There are limits on the amount of subsidized and unsubsidized loans that a student is eligible to receive each academic year (annual loan limits) and the total amounts that may be borrowed for undergraduate and graduate study (aggregate loan limits).

Annual Loan Limits			
	Base Loan Dependent/ Independent Sub/Unsub	Additional Loan Independent Unsub	Total Loan Amount
<b>Freshman</b>	\$3,500/\$2,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 9,500
<b>Sophomore</b>	\$4,500/\$2,000	\$ 4,000	\$10,500
<b>Junior</b>	\$5,500/\$2,000	\$ 5,000	\$12,500
<b>Senior</b>	\$5,500/\$2,000	\$ 5,000	\$12,500
<b>Graduate</b>		\$20,500	\$20,500

Aggregate Stafford Loan Limits	
Undergraduate Subsidized Limit	\$ 23,000
Undergraduate Combined Limit	\$ 57,500
Graduate Subsidized Limit (including all undergraduate loans)	\$ 65,500
Graduate Combined Limit (including all undergraduate loans)	\$138,500

## State Grants for Arizona Residents

### Arizona Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Program (AzLEAP)

The AZ LEAP program is a state and institutional partnership which provides student financial assistance in the form of need-based grants to low-income, undergraduate, Arizona resident students who have demonstrated substantial financial need.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be U.S. Citizen or an eligible non-citizen
- Must be a resident of Arizona
- Must be enrolled at least half-time as an undergraduate student
- Must have substantial financial need (be Pell eligible) as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Must meet GCU Satisfactory Academic requirements
- Must not have concurrent enrollment in undergraduate and graduate courses

### Math, Science, Special Education Teach Loan Forgiveness Program (MSSE)

The Math, Science and Special Education Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program (MSSE) is a student-centered, need-based forgivable loan designed to financially support and encourage junior or senior Arizona resident college students to enter into the teaching profession and teach in a public school in Arizona.

The maximum forgivable loan is \$7,000 per academic year for up to three years excluding all grants, scholarships and other tuition benefits (ex: tribal and military). Funds can be applied toward tuition, instructional materials and mandatory fees as documented in the student's Cost of Attendance (COA) at their institution.

Students must enter into an agreement with the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education (ACPE) to teach in an Arizona public school in a term equal to the number of years of loans received plus one year. Additionally, students must sign a promissory note acknowledging the conditions of the loan and promising to repay the loan plus interest if the teaching obligation is not met.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be U.S. Citizen or an eligible non-citizen
- Must be a resident of Arizona for at least the previous 12 months at the time of application
- Must be enrolled at least half-time as an undergraduate student
- Must be a junior or senior (completed at least 60 college credits) in a course of instruction with the intent to attain licensure as a teacher in math, science, special education in a public school in Arizona
- Must be seeking a first baccalaureate degree
- Must have financial need
- Must maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Must enter into an agreement with the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education to teach in an Arizona public school in a term equal to the number of year of loans of loan received plus one year
- Must sign a promissory note acknowledging the conditions of the loan and promising to repay the loan plus 7% interest if teaching obligations are not met.

## Student Employment

### Federal and Non-Federal Work Study

On campus Federal Work Study and Non-Federal Work Study employees will not be able to work without completed hiring documents. Federal and Non-Federal Work Study positions are paid bi-monthly. A student employed by GCU must be registered for at least six credit hours in order to maintain his/her exemption from Social Security taxes. Students are unable to receive state unemployment upon termination of their position.

Students are expected to do the following:

- Report to work promptly.
- Notify supervisors in advance if they will be late or absent from work.
- Refrain from conducting personal business and schoolwork on during scheduled work hours.
- Accurately report the hours worked (sign time sheet).
- Dress appropriately according to position.
- Monitor earnings in relation to their Federal Work Study award.
- Give two weeks' notice before resigning.

### International Student Employment

International students who wish to work while in the U.S. must be aware of and comply with F-1 visa employment regulations. Working illegally while in the U.S. is a serious offense that must be reported to the Department of Homeland Security (SEVIS) and can result in loss of F-1 status and benefits, and possible deportation. All international students must confer with the staff at the International Students Office before accepting or beginning any employment.

For Canadian Students: Grand Canyon University is dedicated to providing high quality service for our Canadian students. Please be advised that students are responsible for determining their eligibility for Canadian Tax Credits. Certain Grand Canyon University courses and programs may not meet certain requirements for tax credits, including but not limited to the minimum week and continuous enrollment requirements. For more information on Canadian Tax Credits, please contact The Revenue Canada Agency or visit [www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca).

### On-Campus Employment

International students with F-1 status may be employed on campus without obtaining special permission from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) provided they are maintaining legal immigration status. Nonetheless, international students should check with the International Students Office to be sure the prospective job is permissible.

### Off-Campus Employment

After being enrolled full-time for one academic year (two semesters), international students may be eligible for employment off-campus; however, opportunities are limited. Consult with the International Students Office for more information.

Below is a listing of the three primary types of off-campus employment that are available to international students.

- Practical Training (PT) - PT is a benefit that allows F-1 students to gain practical experience working in the US in their field of study. There are two types of PT, Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT). OPT may be taken either during or following completion of the degree program, but is most feasible following completion



because of the amount of time it takes to apply. Students are allowed a total of 12 months of OPT. The International Student Coordinator in the International Students Office will determine eligibility for OPT and may recommend to USCIS that work authorization for OPT be given. Prior to submitting an application for OPT, students must have completed full-time enrollment in two semesters of the degree program, and the application must be submitted to USCIS prior to completion. USCIS will review the application and upon approval will issue an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card as legal permission to work. Students must have the EAD in their possession before they begin to work. Students are not required to have a job offer to apply for OPT.

- CPT may be authorized for those F-1 students who have enrolled in an internship course and have an internship job (firm offer) that has been certified through the college and the International Students Office. Any time up to 12 months on full-time CPT does not detract from a student's OPT. Students who complete 12 or more months of full-time CPT, however, are not eligible for OPT.
- Employment with an International Organization: This type of employment is very limited and must fit within the guidelines of the International Organization Immunities Act. It may require a change of status that could be detrimental to the student's status.

### **Social Security Number**

A Social Security Number (SSN) is required in order to be employed in the U.S. For F-1 students to obtain an SSN, they must have employment on-campus or have other work authorization like Curricular Practical Training or Optional Practical Training. To apply for a SSN on the basis of an on-campus job, students must provide a letter from the campus department and the International Students Office, verifying the job and eligibility.

The following documentation will be necessary to present when applying:

- Unexpired passport containing F-1 visa
- Form I-94 Arrival/Departure record

- I-20 form
- One other piece of identification – a student ID card, driver's license, etc.
- Letter of eligibility from the Center of International Education
- Letter from campus department where the student will be working

To apply on the basis of Curricular Practical Training (CPT), after approval for the internship and registration for an internship course, the staff in International Students Office will generate a new I-20 that lists the student's work permission for that specific employment. In the case of Optional Practical Training (OPT), the student will apply for it in the last semester of study. Upon approval from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), the student will receive a card showing work authorization. Please see staff in the International Students Office for these types of employment.

After obtaining one of the above types of authorization and documentation, an international student may apply for a Social Security Number by going in person to the local Social Security Administration office. The International Students Office can direct students to the nearest Social Security Administration office.

### **International Student Tax-Reporting Responsibilities**

International students have some responsibilities for reporting to the Internal Revenue Service each year. Students may be subject to U.S. taxation based on the source and type of income and the number of years they have been present in the U.S. Each tax year, all international students must file Form 8843. Those who earned income from a U.S. source must file Form 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ. Grants and scholarships may be subject to taxation. Generally, tax forms must be filed by April 15 for the previous tax year (January 1 – December 31).

It is students' responsibility to determine tax liabilities and file the appropriate forms in a timely manner.

The International Students Office is not trained as professional tax consultants and cannot complete and/or file any tax forms.

# Evaluation of Transfer Credit

The following section outlines how Grand Canyon University evaluates transfer credit from other institutions, alternative transfer credit options, and discusses general policies.

## General Policies

The University generally accepts courses from accredited, GCU-approved colleges, universities, or programs provided the work is not of a highly specialized nature and a grade of C or better is earned. Transfer Credit Practices of Designated Educational Institutions, published by the American Association of Collegiate Academic Registrars and Admissions Officers, is used as a general guide in determining acceptability.

If the Office of Academic Records is unable to determine specific applicability for an acceptable course, general elective credit will be granted.

## Baccalaureate Transfer Policies

All undergraduate students accepted to Grand Canyon University with prior college or university course credit will receive an official transfer credit evaluation from the Office of Academic Records showing how the courses completed at each previous school will transfer. Evaluations will include the total number of credits accepted, as well as a course-by-course breakdown indicating how each class may be applied toward University graduation requirements. Courses may be accepted as upper or lower division general electives, upper or lower division major or minor electives, or as directly equivalent University courses.

GCU uses the following policies to determine acceptability of courses in an undergraduate program:

- For undergraduate programs, a maximum of 90 hours of transfer credit, no more than 84 credits of which can be lower-division.
- A maximum of 30 credits, combined from the list below, can come from alternative credit options:
  - College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
  - Prometric DSST Exams (DANTES)
  - Excelsior Colleges Exams
  - Berlitz Language Evaluation
  - Advanced Placement (AP)
  - International Baccalaureate (IB)
  - American Credit Evaluation (ACE) approved credits
  - National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS) approved credits
  - Lifelong Learning Assessments (8 credit maximum)
  - GCU Approved Certificates
  - Global Studies Portfolios (GSP)
- Another 30 credits maximum can come from military schools and training.
- All other transfer credits must come from accredited, GCU-approved college(s) transcripts.
- The University will not accept transfer credits from a third-party transcript. Each transfer course must be presented on the college transcript from which the course was completed.
- Courses with a grade of Pass (P) will be considered if “P” is equivalent to a C or better. This is determined by reviewing the grade scale of the institution where the course was completed.
- The University will not accept any course for credit that is described as having remedial or developmental content.

- If a student disagrees with the way credit has been awarded, he or she may appeal through the appeals process as outlined in this University Policy Handbook.
- When coursework is equivalent, transfer credit from a quarter-system institution is evaluated and converted to semester credits on a 1:0.666 ratio.

Quarter Credits	Equivalency in Semester Credits
5	3.33
4	2.67
3	2.00
2	1.33
1	0.67

Below are examples of the evaluation and conversion of quarter system courses:

- Example A: If a student completed 4 quarter credits of ENG 101, the credits would be converted to 2.67 semester credits of English Composition at GCU. It would fulfill credits in the Communications requirement of the General Education; however, the student would earn only 2.67 credits toward the overall requirement of 120.
- Example B: If a student completed 3-quarter credits of ENG 101, the credits would be converted to 2.00 semester credits of English Composition at GCU. The 2 credits would count toward the overall requirement of 120 hours by fulfilling 2 credits in the Effective Communications requirement of the General Education; however, it does not fulfill the English composition requirement. The student would earn only 2.00 semester credits toward the overall requirement of 120.

## Master Degree Transfer Policies

### External Transfer from Other Institution

The University generally accepts courses from accredited, GCU-approved colleges, universities, and programs, provided the work is equivalent to a Grand Canyon University graduate-level course, has been earned in conjunction with the completion of a 500 level or higher course, and a grade of B or better was earned. The University will accept up to 12 credits or 1/3 of the total program requirements in transfer (whichever is less).

### Internal Transfer between GCU Degrees and/or Graduate Certificates of Completion

Students who have completed a Grand Canyon University master's degree or post-master certificate that required 30 or more credits can apply the lesser of 12 credits, or 1/3 of the total program-credit requirements, to a second master's degree at GCU. All credits earned in graduate certificates of completion that require fewer than 30 credits can be applied towards a master's degree at Grand Canyon University.

If students are found to have taken a course equivalent to a GCU course of differing credit, the student will still need to meet the total program credit requirements in order to graduate.

## College Transfer Restriction

The first course of the graduate program of study cannot be satisfied by transferred credits.

## Graduate Certificate of Completion Transfer Policies

The University generally accepts courses from accredited, GCU-approved colleges, universities, and programs, provided the work is equivalent to a Grand Canyon University graduate-level course, has been earned in conjunction with the completion of a 500 level or higher course, and a grade of B or better was earned. The University will accept one course of the total certificate requirements in transfer. This includes credits completed from a master's degree previously earned through Grand Canyon University.

Post-Master Certificates requiring 30 or more credits for completion fall under the Master Degree Transfer Policies section.

## Doctoral Degree Transfer Policies

The University generally accepts doctoral-level courses from regionally accredited colleges and universities, provided the content is equivalent to a Grand Canyon University doctoral-level course, and a grade of B or better was earned. The University will accept up to nine credits into the program. Coursework transferred into GCU's doctoral program must have been completed within seven years prior to transfer.

Due to the dissertation or practice improvement components integrated throughout courses in GCU's doctoral programs, the following courses are not eligible for transfer and must be completed at GCU:

- All research courses: RES, PSY-801, PSY-815, PSY-825, PSY-850
- All residency (RSD) courses
- All assessment and statistics courses: PSY-843, PSY-845, PSY-870
- All dissertation courses RES-871, PSY-885, and all 900 level courses
- DNP-801 and the DPI Project (DNP-955, DNP-960, DNP-965) courses in the DNP program.

## Foreign Evaluation of Transfer Credits

The following policies apply to credits students have earned at foreign institutions and wish to transfer to GCU.

In order to accurately and consistently evaluate foreign credentials, Grand Canyon University requires all international college or university transcripts to be evaluated by a University-approved evaluation service. Obtaining an evaluation is an additional step to awarding college or university credit from foreign transcripts. The fee for evaluation is the responsibility of the student.

## Transferring from GCU to another Institution

Students transferring from GCU to another educational institution are subject to that institution's transfer credit policy. All institutions reserve the right to refuse credits for transfer; therefore, students are encouraged to consult that institution's policy. Grand Canyon University cannot control how, or if, other institutions accept credits earned at GCU.

## Transfer Credit Application

There are two methods Grand Canyon University uses to apply transfer credit; through an earned transfer-oriented associate degree (AA or AS), or through course-by-course evaluation.

### Associate Transfer Plan

Students who complete a transfer-oriented associate degree (Associate of Arts or Associate of Science) at an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program may fulfill the University's General Education requirements, with the exception of the University Success, Christian Worldview, and specified general education course requirements. This applies only if the content of the associate is in alignment with the chosen bachelor program (Associate of Science in Business to Bachelor of Science in Business Administration). If a student's chosen bachelor program is not in alignment (Associate of Science in Business to Bachelor of Science in Education) then a course-by-course evaluation will occur (due to the number of credits required in the major). The same is true of the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) from Arizona's public community colleges and the California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) from California's public community colleges.

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) program need to refer to the Baccalaureate Programmatic Admission Requirements section for more information on general education requirements.

### Course-by-Course Evaluations

Students who transfer into a baccalaureate degree program without a previously earned transfer-oriented associate's degree (AA or AS) or with an Associate of Applied Science degree must fulfill the requirements of the General Education and have a course-by-course evaluation completed. Grand Canyon University will accept a maximum of 90 transfer credits, of which a maximum of 84 can be lower-division credits. Students are required to complete the 120-credit graduation requirement, including the balance of courses specified in the program of study and any elective credits.

Course-by-course transcript evaluations are conducted to determine if courses taken in transfer work equal courses in the student's chosen GCU bachelor degree program. If courses match, the University considers the content requirement fulfilled by that equivalency; however, the upper division requirement may remain. After the University evaluates the student's transfer credits, the University only applies those transfer credits that fulfill program requirements including general education, electives, and courses in the major. Additionally, credit will only be given when it does not duplicate credit previously earned.

## Alternative Transfer Credit Options

Students may transfer a total of 30 credits from all alternative transfer credit options combined. All alternative methods accepted are listed in this section. Many students who come to Grand Canyon University have achieved college-level mastery of certain subjects through advanced high school programs or by other means not generally recognized for college credit.

For this reason, the University actively participates in the following:

- High School Programs
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate Credit (IB)
- Alternative Testing Programs
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) of the College Entrance Examination Board;
- Prometric DSST Exams (Formerly DAN TES)
- Excelsior College Exams
- Berlitz Language Evaluation
- American Council on Education (ACE);
- National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS)
- GCU Approved Certificates
- Lifelong Learning Assessment (LLA)
- IT Competency Assessment
- Global Studies Portfolios (GSA)

Certain restrictions apply to these programs. Credit will be given only when it does not duplicate credit previously earned and is not for a course more elementary than one for which the student has earned college credit. CLEP credit will be given only for examinations completed after July 1965.

### High School Programs

Student may have earned credits through two alternative credit options during high school. These include Advanced Placement Requirements (AP) and International Baccalaureate Credit (IB). Official transcripts will need to be sent to the Office of Academic Records. Upon receipt of transcripts, credit will be awarded as designated below.

#### Advanced Placement Requirements (AP)

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Art History	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Biology	3	8	Critical Thinking
Calculus AB	3	3	Critical Thinking
Calculus BC	3	6	Critical Thinking
Chemistry	3	8	Critical Thinking
Chinese Language & Culture	3	6	Effective Communication
Computer Science A	3	3	Critical Thinking
Computer Science AB	3	6	Critical Thinking

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Economics: Macroeconomics	3	3	Critical Thinking or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Economics: Microeconomics	3	3	Critical Thinking or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
English Language & Composition	3	6	Effective Communication
English Literature & Composition	3	6	Effective Communication or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Environmental Science	3	3	Critical Thinking
European History	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
French Language and Culture	3	8	Effective Communication
French Literature and Culture	3	6	Effective Communication
German Language and Culture	3	6	Effective Communication
Government and Politics: Comparative	3	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Government and Politics: United States	3	2	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Human Geography	3	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Italian Language & Culture	3	7	Effective Communication
Japanese Language & Culture	3	6	Effective Communication
Latin: Literature	3	6	Effective Communication
Latin: Vergil	3	6	Effective Communication
Music Theory	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Physics B	3	6	Critical Thinking

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	3	4	Critical Thinking
Physics C: Mechanics	3	4	Critical Thinking
Psychology	3	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Spanish Language and Culture	3	8	Effective Communication
Spanish Literature and Culture	3	6-12	Effective Communication
Statistics	3	3	Critical Thinking
Studio Art: 2D Design Portfolio	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Studio Art: 3D Design Portfolio	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
United States History	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
World History	3	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

#### International Baccalaureate Credit (IB)

Subject (Higher level exams only)	Score	Hours	General Education Competency
Biology	4	4	Critical Thinking
	5,6,7	8	Critical Thinking
Chemistry	4	4	Critical Thinking
	5,6,7	8	Critical Thinking
Economics	4	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
	5,6,7	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
English A	4	3	Effective Communication
	5,6,7	6	Effective Communication
English B	N/A	N/A	N/A

Subject (Higher level exams only)	Score	Hours	General Education Competency
Geography	5,6,7	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
History – American	4	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
	5,6,7	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
History – European	4	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
	5,6,7	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Math Methods	4,5,6,7	3	Critical Thinking
Advanced Math	4	3	Critical Thinking
	5,6,7	6	Critical Thinking
Music	4	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Philosophy	4,5,6,7	3	Critical Thinking
Psychology	5,6,7	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Spanish A	4	4	Effective Communication
Spanish B	5,6,7	7	Effective Communication

#### Alternative Testing Programs

National testing exams offer students another choice to demonstrate mastery of course content. Credit awarded is based on official transcripts.

#### College Level Examination Program Requirements (CLEP)

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
American Government	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
American Literature	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Analysis and Interpreting of Literature	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Biology	50+	6	Critical Thinking
Calculus	50+	3	Critical Thinking

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Calculus with Elementary Functions	41+	6	Critical Thinking
Chemistry	50+	6	Critical Thinking
College Algebra	50+	3	Critical Thinking
College Algebra – Trigonometry	52+	3	Critical Thinking
College Composition	50+	6	Effective Communication
College Composition Modular	50+	3	Effective Communication
College Mathematics	50+	6	Critical Thinking
English Literature (with or without Essay)	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
English Literature	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Financial Accounting	50+	4	Critical Thinking
French, Level 1	50+	6	Effective Communication
French, Level 2	59+	9	Effective Communication
Freshman College Composition	50+	6	Effective Communication
German, Level 1	50+	6	Effective Communication
German, Level 2	60+	9	Effective Communication
History of the United States I: Early Colonization to 1877	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
History of the United States II: 1865 to Present	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Human Growth and Development	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Humanities	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Information Systems	50+	3	Critical Thinking

General Examination:	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Introduction to Educational Psychology	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introductory Business Law	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introductory Psychology	50+	4	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introductory Sociology	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Natural Sciences	50+	6	Critical Thinking
Precalculus	50+	3	Critical Thinking
Principles of Accounting	n/a	6	Critical Thinking
Principles of Macroeconomics	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Principles of Management	50+	3	General Elective
Principles of Marketing	50+	3	General Elective
Principles of Microeconomics	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Social Sciences and History	50+	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Spanish, Level 1	50+	6	Effective Communication
Spanish, Level 2	63+	9	Effective Communication
Trigonometry	n/a	3	Critical Thinking
Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Western Civilization II: 1648 to Present	50+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

**Prometric DSST Exams (Formerly DANTES)**

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
A History of the Vietnam War	49+	3UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Art of the Western World	48+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Astronomy	48+	3	Critical Thinking
Business Ethics and Society	400	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Business Law II	52+	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Business Mathematics	V3.400 V2.48 V1.45	3	Critical Thinking
Criminal Justice	400	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Environment and Humanity: The Race to Save the Planet	46+	3	Critical Thinking
Ethics in America	400	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Foundation of Education	46+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Fundamentals of College Algebra	400	3	Critical Thinking
Fundamentals of Counseling	47+	3	General Elective
Fundamentals of Cybersecurity	400	3 UD	General Elective
General Anthropology	47+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Health and Human Development	400	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
History of the Soviet Union	400	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Human/Cultural Geography	48+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to Business	V2.400 V1.46	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to Computing	400	3+	Critical Thinking

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Introduction to Law Enforcement	45+	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to World Religions	400	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introductory College Algebra	46+	3	Critical Thinking
Lifespan Developmental Psychology	400	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Management Information Systems	V2.400 V1.48+	3	Critical Thinking
Money and Banking	V2.400 V1.48+	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Organizational Behavior	V2.400 V1.48+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Personal Finance	400	3	Critical Thinking
Personnel/Human Resource Management	V2.400 V1.48+	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Physical Geology	46+	3	Critical Thinking
Principles of Finance	V3.400 V2.46 V1.46	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Principles of Finance Accounting	49+	3	Critical Thinking
Principles of Physical Science I	47+	3	Critical Thinking
Principles of Public Speaking	47+	3	Effective Communication
Principles of Statistics	400	3	Critical Thinking
Principles of Supervision	V2.400 V1.46	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	45	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Substance Abuse	400	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Technical Writing	46+	3	Effective Communication

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
The Civil War and Reconstruction	47+	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

**Excelsior College Examinations (ECE)**

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Abnormal Psychology	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Adult Nursing	C or better	8 UD	Critical Thinking
American Dream	C or better	6 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Anatomy and Physiology	C or better	6	Critical Thinking
Bioethics: Philosophical Issues	C or better	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Clinical Performance in Nursing Exam (CPNE)	Pass	8	General Elective
College Writing	C or better	3	Effective Communication
Community-Focused Nursing	C or better	4 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Corporate Finance	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Cultural Diversity	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Earth Science	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
English Composition	C or better	6	Effective Communication
Essentials of Nursing Care: Chronicity	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Essentials of Nursing Care: Health Differences	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Essentials of Nursing Care: Health Safety	C or better	3	Critical Thinking

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Essentials of Nursing Care: Reproductive Health	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Ethics: Theory and Practice	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Foundations of Gerontology	C or better	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Fundamentals of Nursing	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Health Differences Across the Life Span 1	C or better	8	Critical Thinking
Health Differences Across the Life Span 2	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Health Differences Across the Life Span 3	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
History of Nazi Germany	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Human Resource Management	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
International Conflict in the Twentieth Century	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Interpersonal Communication	C or better	3	Effective Communication
Introduction to Macroeconomics	C or better	3	Critical Thinking or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to Microeconomics	C or better	3	Critical Thinking or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to Music	C or better	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Introductory Accounting	C or better	6	Critical Thinking
Juvenile Delinquency	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics



General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Labor Relations	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Lifespan Developmental Psychology	C or better	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Literacy Instruction in the Elementary School	C or better	6 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Management in Nursing	C or better	4 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Maternal and Child Nursing: Associate	C or better	6 LD	Critical Thinking
Maternal and Child Nursing: Baccalaureate	C or better	8 UD	Critical Thinking
Maternity Nursing	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Microbiology	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
New Role of Reason: Philosophy and Society in the Seventeenth Century	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 1	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 2	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 3	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 4	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 5	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts 6	C or better	4	Critical Thinking
Nursing Concepts: Foundations of Professional Practice	C or better	3	General Elective
Nursing Examinations Associate Degree Level - Differences In Nursing Care: Area A	45+	5	General Elective

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Nursing Examinations Associate Degree Level - Differences In Nursing Care: Area B	50+	5	General Elective
Nursing Examinations Associate Degree Level - Differences In Nursing Care: Area C	45+	5	General Elective
Nursing Examinations Associate Degree Level – Maternal and Child Nursing (Associate)	C or better	6	General Elective
Nursing Examinations Associate Degree Level - Occupational Strategies In Nursing	61+	3	General Elective
Organizational Behavior	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Pathophysiology	C or better	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Principles of Management	C or better	3	General Elective
Principles of Marketing	C or better	3	General Elective
Production / Operations Management	C or better	3	General Elective
Psychiatric/ Mental Health Nursing	C or better	8 UD	Critical Thinking
Psychology of Adulthood and Aging	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Religions of the World	C or better	3	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Research in Nursing	C or better	3 UD	Critical Thinking
Research Method in Psychology	C or better	3 UD	Critical Thinking or Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

General Examination	Score	Credits	General Education Competency
Social Psychology	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
Statistics	C or better	3	Critical Thinking
Transition to the Registered Professional Nurse Role	C or better	3	General Elective
Values & Responsibility: The Individual and Society	C or better	6	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
War in Vietnam (1945-1975): A Global Perspective	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
World Conflicts Since 1900	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics
World Population	C or better	3 UD	Global Awareness, Perspectives, and Ethics

### Berlitz Language Evaluation

For assessment of languages, an evaluation of language proficiency from the Berlitz Institute may be accepted for credit. Credit will satisfy the foreign language requirements. Students can take exams for any language assessed by Berlitz. A maximum of 16 lower-division credits will be awarded using the following scale:

A rating of 7 (out of 10) must be attained on each of the following to receive 8 credits of lower division for the Speaking and Listening portion of the evaluation:

- Listening Comprehension
- Pronunciation
- Speaking Ability
- Vocabulary
- Use of Grammar

A rating of 7 (out of 10) must be attained on each of the following to receive 8 credits of lower division for the Reading and Writing portion of the evaluation:

- Reading Comprehension
- Writing Ability
- Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Spelling

### American Council on Education (ACE)

ACE provides credit recommendations for formal courses and examinations completed outside of a traditional classroom. ACE evaluated courses can be applied towards undergraduate lower division general education or elective requirements. Certificates or an ACE transcript should be submitted to the Office of Academic Records. A transcript can be requested on the ACE website at <http://www.acenet.edu/>. Students may submit certificates issued by the National Fire Academy (NFA) and

Emergency Management Institute (EMI) as approved by the American Council on Education (ACE). All other certificates issued by NFA and EMI, as well as FEMA Independent Study and Gannett, will not be considered for alternative transfer credits.

### National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS)

NCCRS (formerly National PONS) evaluates training and education programs offered outside the traditional college classroom setting and translating them into college credit equivalencies. NCCRS-evaluated courses can be applied towards undergraduate lower-division general education requirements or toward undergraduate lower-division elective requirements. Official transcripts from the organization that sponsored the course or learning experience must be submitted to the Office of Academic Records. NCCRS does not issue transcripts. More information can be found on the [NCCRS website](#).

### GCU Approved Certificates

GCU has identified a list of international and national professional certificates that students can submit for alternative transfer credits, which are listed on the [GCU Transfer Center](#). These certificates have been approved by the Colleges and can apply towards one of the following:

- Lower or upper division undergraduate general education, program major/core or elective requirements
- Limited graduate level coursework

Grand Canyon University will award alternative transfer credits based on the equivalencies listed below:

- 10 contact hours = 1 Continuing Education Units (CEU) credit
- 10 CEUs = 1 semester credit
- 100 CEU contact hours = 1 semester credit

Grand Canyon University will consider an academic appeal for certificate(s) not listed on the ACE website or GCU Transfer Center if the certificate meets the following criteria:

- Issued by an international or national organization (cannot be issued by an approved provider of a national or international organization)
- Name of attendee
- Name of Certification earned
- Documents number of CEU or contact hours completed
- Date certification was awarded

### Lifelong Learning Assessment (LLA)

The Center for Learning & Advancement defines 'Lifelong Learning Experiences' within the context of the LLA, and for the purposes of choosing an LLA topic and writing an LLA paper, as: "A real-life event that was experienced first-hand, has generated an extensive amount of personal and professional learning that is equivalent to college-level academic rigor and quality, and has created a significant life change in the learner (i.e., an increased capacity to live and apply the learning in new contexts). These learning experiences are most valued when they are job-based (or volunteerism), but they should involve engaging in activities for significant amounts of time (e.g., several years or more), are non-episodic (i.e., not one-time events), and are context-embedded within naturally occurring life events during the adult years of life."

In order to take advantage of this alternative credit method, students must first take the course ENG 135: Lifelong Learning Assessment, which teaches students the skills needed to submit

up to 8 credits of Lifelong Learning Assessments. Students create and submit an LLA by documenting adult life experience in the form of an essay following the Kolb model of experiential learning. Papers submitted for consideration of credit should follow the following guidelines to earn:

- 2 credits, complete 10 pages and a minimum of two academic references; 3 subtopics;
- 4 credits, complete 20 pages and a minimum of four academic references; 6 subtopics.

Papers should be written and documented following APA guidelines, including title and reference pages. These pages are not included in the page requirement.

Grand Canyon University will award credit to students for life experiences when the evaluator is convinced that such experiences meet the requirements as outlined in the grading rubric and LLA definition. Sample topic areas follow:

- Caring for the Elderly
- Death and Dying
- Early Childhood
- Management
- Marriage and Family

Credit earned through the LLA process can only be used to fulfill undergraduate general-education or elective requirements and these credits may not be transferable to another institution in the way credit for actual courses completed at GCU would be transferable.

Students should note that incomplete LLAs or LLAs with incomplete coversheets will not be reviewed and will be returned to the student. Students will be notified of the outcome of the review within 2 weeks of receipt of the LLA. Students are notified through their GCU e-mail account. Students will only have 2 attempts to receive a passing score on their LLA paper. Completed LLAs are submitted through the [Transfer Center](#) site.

## IT Competency Assessment

Students who have experience in a course that cannot be awarded credit through a course transfer from another educational institution or approved certification may be eligible to complete a competency assessment to be awarded transfer credit. Not all courses are available for competency assessments and students can obtain a list of available competency assessments through their SSC or UC. Students must pass the competency assessment with a grade of 70% or better and scores will not be rounded. Students must take the competency assessment prior to becoming active in the course for which transfer credit may be granted. There is no cost to the student to attempt the assessment. Students may attempt the competency assessment two times.

## Global Studies Portfolio (GSP)

### *Traditional Campus Students*

The Global Studies Portfolio program will provide international opportunities for students to integrate experiential learning, personal development, disciplinary knowledge, and spiritual growth through active involvement in mission trip experiences through the Department of Spiritual Life. This program strives to prepare students to be responsible leaders and global citizens who participate in a values-based curriculum from the context of our Christian heritage.

GSPs submitted for consideration of credit should follow the following guidelines to earn:

- 2 credits, submit 10 of the pre-determined artifacts and a minimum of two academic references. Mandatory artifact assignments include G1.9 and G3.3.
- 4 credits, submit 20 of the pre-determined artifacts and a minimum of four academic references.
- Each artifact has a detailed assignment description.

Papers should be written and documented following APA guidelines, including title and reference pages. These pages are not included in the page requirement.

Grand Canyon University will award credit to students for a Global Studies Portfolio (GSP) when the student demonstrates that such experiences meet the requirements as outlined in the grading rubric and GSP definition.

Credit earned through the GSP process can only be used to fulfill lower division elective credit requirements. These credits may not be transferable to another institution in the way credit for actual courses completed at GCU would be transferable. Credits are repeatable up to 8 total elective credits.

Students should note that incomplete GSPs with incomplete coversheets will not be reviewed and will be returned to the student. Learning will be evaluated based on content, presentation and mechanics of the portfolio. Students will be notified of the outcome of the review within 2 weeks of receipt of the GSP. Students are notified through their GCU e-mail account. Students will only have 2 attempts to receive a passing score on their GSP.

Completed GSPs are submitted to [StudyAbroad@gcu.edu](mailto:StudyAbroad@gcu.edu) within 90 days of the conclusion of the GCU Mission Trip. A \$90 processing fee must be submitted prior to evaluation of the GSP. Payment should be delivered to the Study Abroad Office.

## Credit for Military Training and Experience

In addition to the alternative transfer credit option policy, Grand Canyon University will award a maximum additional 30 credits for military training and experience as included on the Army/ACE Registry Transcript System (AARTS), Sailor/Marine/ACE Registry Transcript (SMART), Air University/Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), Coast Guard Institute (CGI) or Joint Services Transcript (JST). If used in conjunction with the alternative transfer credit option, a military student can transfer in 60 credits (30 military training and experience and 30 alternative credits). Credits earned above 60 credits must come from transfer coursework up to 90 credits, of which a maximum of 84 lower-division credits would be accepted. AARTS, SMART, JST, CCAF, and CGI transcripts track all of a service member's or veteran's military training and coursework. Created by the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps in partnership with ACE and similar in format to college transfer transcripts, the documents list personal student data, courses, and occupations evaluated by ACE, including descriptions, learning outcomes, and equivalent college credit recommendations, as well as national college-level exam results. In lieu of the AARTS, SMART or JST documentation, GCU also will accept the DD Form 295, Application for the Evaluation of Learning Experiences during Military Service and DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.

More information is available regarding these transcripts at <http://www.acenet.edu/higher-education/topics/Pages/Transcript-Services.aspx>.

# Graduation Requirements

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The completion of the required minimum of 120 semester credits for a baccalaureate degree usually requires four years of 30 semester hours each. The freshman and sophomore years are usually spent in general or introductory courses in diversified liberal arts areas. During the remaining two years, the student may concentrate in the field of major interest. The work for the entire program consists of General Education (GE) requirements, major and minor subjects, and elective courses. Students completing a graduate program must meet the curricular requirements per the Program of Study.

A Student Services Counselor will help each student select a combination of major, minor, and elective studies appropriate for that individual. However, it is the ultimate responsibility of the student to plan their course of study appropriately.

## Designation of Academic Catalog

University and college programmatic requirements may change. A degree candidate is required to meet the requirements for graduation as outlined in the Academic Catalog in effect at the time he/she begins classes or those of any subsequent changes in the University Policy Handbook, provided the student has remained in continuous enrollment at Grand Canyon University. These requirements are also contained in the student's signed Enrollment Agreement.

### **Nontraditional Student**

Continuous enrollment is defined as being in attendance continuously, with no break in attendance longer than 14 days.

### **Traditional Campus Student**

Continuous enrollment is defined as consecutive semesters; enrollment in the Summer session is not relevant for the traditional campus student.

A student who has been readmitted after a period of non-attendance or after attending an institution other than Grand Canyon University (including an Arizona community college) will graduate under the requirements for graduation as stated in the Academic Catalog at the time of readmission. This provision applies whether the period of non-attendance at Grand Canyon University was voluntary or due to Academic Suspension or Academic Expulsion.

Students who complete one degree program and then wish to pursue a second degree do not do so under the same Academic Catalog as their first degree. These students must meet the Academic Catalog requirements in effect at the time they begin work toward the second degree, unless they remained in continuous enrollment for both degrees and both degrees will be posted at the same time.

## Baccalaureate Graduation Requirements

Students are considered complete once all degree requirements are fulfilled and grades have been posted. Students are eligible for graduation upon submission of the [Graduation Application](#), graduation fee, and clearance of financial responsibilities. All degrees will be posted (formally placed on the student's transcript) approximately 30 days after degree requirements are fulfilled and grades are posted. Students wishing to participate in Commencement will have additional requirements to complete. Please refer to the Commencement section for further details.

### **Program Credit Requirement**

The minimum number of semester credits required for a baccalaureate degree is 120. Students lacking the required minimum 120 credits to graduate from their program, usually due to transfer credit may take one of the University's Service Learning courses to complete the difference in credits either in

the major or elective category. Service Learning courses cannot be used to fulfill credits in the general education category. Students are required to meet the program graduation requirements of their degree including meeting the required coursework and any capstone requirements.

### **Traditional Campus Student**

Traditional campus students who have transferred in a minimum of 24 college level credits and have a 3.0 GPA or higher can waive the University Foundations course, UNV-303. However, College of Education students are required to take University Foundations in College of Education, UNV-108, regardless of transfer credits and GPA. College of Education students who have previously completed a GCU University Success course or satisfied the waiver requirement in some other fashion are not required to take UNV-108.

### **Minimum GPA Requirements**

Undergraduate students must have at least an enrollment cumulative 2.0 GPA for their program of study.

- **Major Grade Point Average:** Undergraduate students must also have at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA in their majors and are not permitted to count any course with a grade below C toward their majors. Higher GPAs are required by specific departments and colleges.
- **Minor Grade Point Average:** Undergraduate students must have at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA in their minors and are not permitted to count any course with a grade below C toward their minors.

### **Residency Requirement**

Undergraduate students must complete at least 30 semester credits of course work in a Grand Canyon University program to satisfy residency requirements.

### **Upper Division Credit Requirement**

For a baccalaureate degree, a student must earn a minimum of 36 semester credits in upper division (300 or above) courses.

### **Writing Intensive Course Credit**

As a graduation requirement for all baccalaureate programs of study, students must successfully complete a minimum of three courses that have been designated as Writing Intensive. These courses must include ENG-105 (or its equivalent) and two courses in the major, one of which must be upper-division. Writing-Intensive courses are designed to provide students with a structured format, within which to learn and to demonstrate mastery of content through effective, discipline-appropriate written assignments. A designated writing-intensive assignment involves multiple submissions that include the following essential elements:

- Research (appropriate source selection, integration, acknowledgment, and citation)

- Pre-writing and Review (may include brainstorming, outlining, annotated bibliographies, peer-review, faculty feedback)
- Revision and Final submission

To ensure a shared focus on content, as well as style, a minimum of 30% of the final writing-assignment grade is based upon mechanics and organization. In all cases, revision is required, and the culminating writing-intensive assignment(s) comprise a minimum of 30% of the course grade.

The University has always accepted comparable courses from other accredited, GCU-approved institutions that, in the judgment of the faculty, meet the intent of the requirements as specified. The faculty teaching a specific discipline will be consulted when the Office of Academic Records cannot establish whether or not a particular transferred course is substantially similar to the GE requirement.

## Major/Core

Undergraduate students are required to select one subject area, a major, in which they must earn at least 36 semester hours of acceptable credit. At least 36 credits of the major must be upper division. Courses with a grade of D or below (2.0 GPA) are not permitted to count toward the major.

## Double Major

### *Traditional campus student*

Students wishing to pursue two majors under a single degree (e.g., Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Bachelor of Arts in History or Master of Science in Leadership and Master of Science in Psychology):

- Must meet the admission criteria for that degree.
- Must submit request form to their Student Services Counselor of the primary major and the desire to seek a secondary major.
- Must fulfill the General Education requirements (for undergraduate programs) and all degree requirements for each major sought.
- Will have a single GPA for the purpose of determining graduation honors (undergraduate programs only).
- 24 semester credits must be unduplicated within each major for the completion of both majors if pursuing a second major.
- Will use the catalog year of the primary major to determine the secondary major requirements.
- Must file a Graduation Application with the Office of Academic Records that notes each major sought.
- Will receive a single diploma with the degree, primary major and secondary major. The secondary major will also be indicated upon the transcript.

## Dual Major

### *Traditional campus student*

- Dual major programs are specifically designed sets of University curriculum and clearly outlined in the Academic Catalog as predetermined by the University (e.g., Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Special Education).
- Fulfill the General Education requirements, degree prerequisites and requirements, and all other University requirements for the dual-major program.
- Will have a single GPA for the purpose of determining graduation honors.
- Will receive a single diploma with the degree, primary major and secondary major. This will also be indicated upon the transcript.

## Minors (Undergraduate Programs)

### *Traditional campus student*

Students wishing to pursue an additional minor under a single degree:

- Minors are a minimum of 16 semester credits, with a minimum of 12 semester credits being unduplicated.
- Must complete at least 12 semester credits of course work at Grand Canyon University to satisfy residency requirement for minor.
- Must submit request form to their Student Services Counselor of their desire to seek a minor.
- Must fulfill the prerequisites and requirements for the minor sought.
- Will use the catalog year of the primary major to determine requirements.
- Will have the additional minors indicated upon their transcripts. Minors will not be listed on the diploma.

## Double Degree

### *Traditional campus student*

An undergraduate student wishing to pursue two degrees simultaneously from Grand Canyon University must meet the following requirements: (e.g.: Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies)

- Must meet the admission criteria for each degree.
- Must submit request form to their Student Services Counselor of the primary degree and the desire to seek a second degree.
- Complete a minimum of 30 credit hours at Grand Canyon University beyond the requirements for the first degree (e.g., a minimum of 150 credit hours if the requirements, for the first degree were completed after 120 hours).
- Must fulfill the General Education requirements, all degree prerequisites and requirements, and all other University requirements for each degree sought.
- 24 semester credits must be unduplicated within each degree for the completion of both degrees if pursuing a second degree.
- Will use the catalog year of the primary degree to determine the secondary degree requirements.
- Must file a Graduation Application with the Office of Academic Records that notes each degree sought.
- Will receive a single diploma for each degree earned. The secondary degree will also be indicated upon the transcript.
- The student will have a single GPA for the purpose of determining graduation honors.

## Second Degree

- A student who has earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited, GCU-approved college, university, or program may be granted an additional baccalaureate degree from Grand Canyon University upon completion of the following:
- Meet the admission criteria for that degree.
- Select a major field not used as a major for the previous degree (see specific major for number of hours required).
- Complete a minimum of 30 additional credit hours in the major area at Grand Canyon University after the conferral of the previous baccalaureate degree(s). (Note: Second Degree students do not qualify for honors at graduation.)
- File a Graduation Application with the Office of Academic Records for the degree sought.

# Baccalaureate Programmatic Graduation Requirements

## Colangelo College of Business

### Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management

Students are required to accumulate 600 hours of paid or unpaid experience in the hospitality industry throughout their program of study. Experience may be in any aspect of the hospitality industry, subject to the Colangelo College of Business approval.

### Bachelor of Science in Business Management with an Emphasis in Golf Management

Students are required to accumulate 100 hours of paid or unpaid experience in the golf industry throughout their program of study. Experience may be in any aspect of the golf industry, subject to the Colangelo College of Business approval.

### Bachelor of Science in Business Management with an Emphasis in Tennis Management

Students are required to accumulate 100 hours of paid or unpaid experience in the tennis industry throughout their program of study. Experience may be in any aspect of the tennis industry, subject to the Colangelo College of Business approval.

## Master Graduation Requirements

Students are considered complete once all degree requirements are fulfilled and grades have been posted. Students are eligible for graduation upon submission of the [Graduation Application](#), graduation fee, and clearance of financial responsibilities. All degrees will be posted (formally placed on the student's transcript) approximately 30 days after degree requirements are fulfilled and grades are posted. Students wishing to participate in Commencement will have additional requirements to complete. Please refer to the Commencement section for further details.

- Graduate students must meet the degree requirements of the degree in which they graduate.
- Requirements include earning the total number of credits required by the program, meeting content requirements, and submitting any capstone activities. If students fail to meet any of the program requirements, a degree will not be conferred until the requirements are met.
- Graduate students must also have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA, with no grade lower than a C.
- Students lacking the required minimum credits to graduate from their program, usually due to transfer credit may take one of the University's Service Learning courses. Students are required to meet the program graduation requirements of their degree including meeting the required coursework and any capstone requirements.

## Dual-Degree Programs

Dual-degree programs are specifically designed sets of University curriculum that will convey two separate degrees (e.g., M.B.A. and M.S.) upon completion of a set of unified curriculum. Dual-degree programs are clearly outlined in the Academic Catalog and predetermined by the University.

A student wishing to pursue a dual degree:

- Must meet the admission criteria for that dual-degree program
- Must complete the requirements for both degrees before being granted either degree.
- Must file a Graduation Application with the Office of Academic Records that notes each degree sought.

- Will receive two separate diplomas, one for each degree in the dual-degree program.

## Additional Emphases

Students wishing to pursue an additional emphasis under a single degree:

- An Additional Emphasis is a minimum of 8 semester credits, with a minimum of 8 semester credits being unduplicated. Graduate students have the option of completing up to two emphasis areas as part of their degree.
- Must submit request form to their Student Services Counselor of their desire to seek an additional emphasis.
- Must fulfill the prerequisites and requirements for the emphasis sought.
- Will use the catalog year of the primary major to determine requirements.
- Will have the additional emphasis indicated upon their transcripts.
- Will receive a single diploma with the degree, primary emphasis and secondary emphasis.

## Doctoral Graduation Requirements

Students are considered complete once all degree requirements are fulfilled and grades have been posted. Students are eligible for graduation upon submission of the [Graduation Application](#), graduation fee, and clearance of financial responsibilities. All degrees will be posted (formally placed on the student's transcript) approximately 30 days after degree requirements are fulfilled and grades are posted. Students wishing to participate in Commencement will have additional requirements to complete. Please refer to the Commencement section for further details.

- Doctoral learners must meet the degree requirements of the degree in which they graduate.
- Requirements include earning the total number of credits required by the program, meeting content requirements, and
- For CDS: Approval of a dissertation by the committee and the Dean as demonstrated by a signed D-80 document (See Appendix A)
- For CONHCP: A signed Direct Practice Improvement Project for DNP learners and a minimum of 1000 Practice Immersion Hours
- If learners fail to meet any of the program requirements, a degree will not be conferred until the requirements are met.
- Doctoral learners must also have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA.

## Posthumous Degrees

In the unfortunate event that a student passes away prior to earning his or her degree, GCU may, if the student qualifies, grant the student's degree posthumously. The qualifications include:

### Baccalaureate Students

- Student was in good academic standing (as measured by GPA) at the time of his or her death.
- The student completed at least 90 credits toward a 120 credit degree; including completion of at least half the credits in the student's major
- A deceased student's cause of death was not due to any unlawful activity on the part of the student.

### **Master's/Post Master's Students**

- Student was in good academic standing (as measured by GPA) at the time of his or her death.
- The student completed more than 75% of the program
- A deceased student's cause of death was not due to any unlawful activity on the part of the student.

### **Doctoral Students**

- Student was in good academic standing (as measured by GPA) at the time of his or her death.
- The student completed more than 75% of the program
- Student's Dissertation or DPI Project Proposal had been approved by the University.
- A deceased student's cause of death was not due to any unlawful activity on the part of the student.

## **Commencement**

### **Eligibility to Participate in Commencement**

A candidate for graduation must meet the criteria listed below for one of the two commencement exercises.

#### **Fall**

##### *Non Traditional Ceremonies*

- Students expected to complete their degree by between 7/1 - 12/31
  - Degree posted or registered through completion with end date of final course ending on or before 12/31

\*Note: The College of Doctoral Studies requires the Dean's signature on the completed committee-approved Dissertation with a signed GCU D-80 form by close of business 60 days prior to the date of the graduation ceremonies.

The College of Nursing and Health Care Professions requires the Dean's signature on the completed committee-approved Direct Practice Improvement Project with a signed project sheet by close of business 60 days prior to the date of the graduation ceremonies and have documented in Typhon a minimum of 1000 Practice Immersion Hours.

#### **Winter**

##### *Traditional Ceremony*

- Expected Fall graduates
  - Degree posted or registered through completion with end date of final course being on or before end of Fall Semester

#### **Spring**

##### *Traditional Ceremony*

- Expected Spring & Summer graduates
  - Degree posted or registered through completion with end date of final course being on or before end of Summer Semester

##### *Non Traditional Ceremony*

- Students expected to complete their degree between 1/1 - 6/30
  - Degree posted or registered through completion with end date of final course ending on or before 6/30

\*Note: The College of Doctoral Studies requires the Dean's signature on the completed committee-approved Dissertation with a signed GCU D-80 form by close of business 60 days prior to the date of the graduation ceremonies.

The College of Nursing and Health Care Professions requires the Dean's signature on the completed committee-approved Direct Practice Improvement Project with a signed project sheet by close of business 60 days prior to the date of the graduation

ceremonies and have documented in Typhon a minimum of 1000 Practice Immersion Hours.

### **Attendance at Commencement**

A candidate for graduation is invited to attend public commencement exercises that are held in the Fall (Non-traditional/Cohort students only), Winter (Traditional students only) and Spring (Non-traditional /Cohort and Traditional students). Information regarding the commencement exercise is available at [Official GCU Graduation Website](#).

### **Academic Regalia for Commencement**

Candidates for graduation participating in the commencement exercises are required to wear the prescribed academic regalia, which consist of a black gown and hood. The gown has distinguished sleeves to indicate the level of academic achievement earned.

- Undergraduate students: pointed sleeves
- Graduate students: oblong sleeves
- Doctoral students: bell-shaped sleeves

The academic colleges are represented by the color of the tassels which hang from the cap. While not an exhaustive list, the following are some of the colors that may be seen on the graduates' hoods:

- Arts, Letters, Humanities - white
- Business - drab
- Education - light blue
- Math and Sciences - gold
- Music - pink
- Nursing - apricot
- Physical Education - sage green
- Public Health – salmon pink
- Religion – scarlet
- Science – golden yellow

Those who hold the Ph.D. degree may choose either the color of their discipline or Ph.D. blue, a royal blue. American Council on Education (2012). Academic Regalia. Retrieved from: <http://www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=39133#Costume>.

## **Graduation with Academic Recognition**

### **Ray-Maben Scholars**

This recognition represents the highest scholarship honor awarded by Grand Canyon University each year at graduation. Established by the faculty, the criteria consist of a cumulative and Grand Canyon University GPA of at least 3.9, with no more than 12 transferable semester credits.

### **Latin Honors**

Undergraduate students who have earned at least 60 credits at Grand Canyon University may qualify for honors at graduation by maintaining one of the following GPAs:

- 3.40 to 3.59 may qualify for graduation cum laude;
- 3.60 to 3.79 may qualify for graduation magna cum laude;
- 3.80 to 4.00 may qualify for graduation summa cum laude.

Second bachelor degree and graduate students are not eligible for honors. In academe, being admitted and completing a graduate degree is considered an honor.

For walking purposes for graduation, honor candidates will be decided by using the GPA at the time graduation registration closes for each scheduled graduation. Walking honors does not guarantee actual honors will be granted and displayed on the student's transcript or diploma. True honors will be determined at the time of the posting of the degree and will be displayed on the student's transcript and diploma.

### **University Honors**

Undergraduate students who have completed less than 60 semester credits at Grand Canyon University may be eligible for University Honors. Students, who complete their degree with a

cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher for credits earned at Grand Canyon University, will be awarded University Honors at Graduation. Honors will be displayed on the student's transcript.

### **Honors College**

Students who complete the Honors program will be given special recognition, which will be determined at the time of the degree posting and will be displayed on the students' transcript.



# Academic Services and Resources

The following section highlights some of the academic services and resources available to students, both traditional and nontraditional. The University strives to provide and introduce additional support for students to achieve their educational goals. As new services are introduced, they will be included in this section of the University Policy Handbook.

## Career Services Department

Career exploration and career planning are available to any Grand Canyon University student or Alumni at the Career Services Center. Students can access the services and resources of Career Services during regular university hours.

### Career Service Areas

Career services offer the following:

- College Major Exploration
- Free College Major Testing Tools
- Talk online or at our Career Services Center
- Career Services
- Career Fairs
- Career Resource Center
- Career Services Advising
- Employer Networking
- Employment Opportunities (on and off Campus)
- Informational interviews
- Internships
- Job Postings
- Job Search Assistance
- Mock Interviews
- Resource Boards
- Resume Review
- Small Discussions and Workshops
- Virtual Career Fair
- Walk-in Appointments

### Career Advisement Appointments

Career advisement is available to assist students in self-assessment, college major exploration, career exploration, resume and cover letter writing, portfolio building, job searching, and interview preparation. Career advisement is available by walk-in, phone, or appointment. Call 602-639-6606; 877-610-5506, or [careerservices@gcu.edu](mailto:careerservices@gcu.edu).

## The Center for Learning & Advancement

The Center for Learning & Advancement (CLA) provides tutoring support services to all students at GCU. It offers several tutoring formats like face-to-face (one-on-one and small group), live online sessions, and content area clubs. Students are also welcome to use the CLA facilities for studying with their peers or alone. Additionally, the CLA supports student success through tutorials and workshops related to reading strategies, time management techniques, study skills, note-taking strategies, test-taking techniques, and APA. As an added resource, ThinkingStorm is an online tutoring service that Grand Canyon University makes available to all its students. ThinkingStorm provides tutoring in mathematics (basic math through Calculus, including Bilingual Math), Biology, Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Statistics, Spanish, and Writing. Students are encouraged to contact the Center for Learning & Advancement for ways to help them become more academically

successful or to connect with a tutor on-ground or online. The Center is open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm (Arizona time), although there are several nights of extended hours which vary. Please contact the Center for Learning and Advancement by calling 602-639-8901, emailing them at [centerforlearning@gcu.edu](mailto:centerforlearning@gcu.edu), or going to their website at [Center for Learning and Advancement website](#).

## GCU Library

The GCU Library serves as the foundation of academic support for all learning and research pursuits of GCU students, faculty, staff and administration, and serves the greater community by providing access to quality research materials. The GCU Library is proud to offer the following library services:

- Ask A Librarian: Ask the GCU Library staff directly for research assistance. Contact us via phone, email or chat. We can help with personalized assistance with creating effective search strategies for research topics, basic database navigation, using the resource tools, including RefWorks & EndNote Web, personalized database accounts, RSS feeds, search alerts, APA formatting, persistent links, and more!
- GCU Library Databases & Resources: Search for journal articles, eBooks and physical books, dissertations, streaming video and streaming music, using our extensive collection of databases and resources. Organize and manage your citations with bibliographic management software tools RefWorks or EndNote Web.
- Help & Tutorials: Find general library, database, and technical support tutorials on the GCU Library's web site: <http://library.gcu.edu>. Sign-up for the GCU Library: Introduction webinar, where you will receive a guided tour of how to access and use the GCU Library's resources:
- Interlibrary Loan (ILL): Need materials the GCU Library does not own? Request an ILL on the GCU Library's web site: <http://library.gcu.edu>. The GCU Library has many reciprocal sharing agreements with libraries throughout the country. As we contact them and make the borrowing arrangements, the process can take a few days up to a few weeks. Usually, there is no cost for this service. However, sometimes a lending library charges a fee. If there are fees involved, the GCU Library will inform you before continuing to order the item.

### Contacting the GCU Library:

Chat live with a GCU Librarian at our web site, <http://library.gcu.edu>  
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm (Arizona Time)

### GCU Library Hours (Arizona Time)\*

Monday – Thursday: ..... 7:00 am – 10:00 pm  
Friday: ..... 7:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Saturday: ..... 9:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Sunday: ..... 1:00pm – 10:00 pm

\*Holidays, summer, and break hours vary. Check with the GCU Library for information.

## Campus Computer Center

There are five computer labs on campus (GCU Library, College of Education Building, Fleming Building and College of Nursing and Health Care Professions Building). All labs are equipped with up-to-date computers and monitors. The computer labs offer Internet access and a host of applications for use outside of the classroom. In addition to the lab computer resources, wireless Internet access is available for students at various points on campus.

## GCU Institutional Review Board

Grand Canyon University (GCU) is committed to quality research, scholarship, and service. All systematic research undertaken by GCU personnel or learners in which human subjects participate is subject to review under the Institutional Review Board (IRB) policy and procedures for protection of human subjects in research. The federal definition for research is “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop and contribute to generalizable knowledge (Federal Regulations 45 CFR 46).” This definition includes any surveys, tests, observations of people, or experiments which involve systematic data collection that could result in knowledge reported in dissertations, publications and professional meetings.

The GCU Institutional Review Board operates under federal policies and procedures mandated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Office for Human Research Protections [www.hhs.gov/ohrp/](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/). Policies governing academic scholarship and research activities conducted at GCU are available on the DC Research Center (<http://dc.gcu.edu/irb>) and the GCU website (<http://www.gcu.edu/College-of-Doctoral-Studies/Institutional-Review-Board.php>) apply to all research conducted at or sponsored by Grand Canyon University.

- All research projects directed by GCU faculty, staff, or learners must receive IRB approval prior to collecting data.
- GCU researchers must complete required training in research ethics CITI Training (<http://www.citiprogram.org>) and adhere to the principles of respect for persons, beneficence, and justice embodied in the Belmont Report.
- Individuals from external institutions who wish to conduct research using GCU data, learners or personnel as participants must submit an application for site authorization to the Office of Academic Research, provide proof of IRB approval from their home institution, and receive approval from the GCU IRB and the Provost.
- Classroom curriculum projects, workshop evaluations, and administrative projects do not need IRB approval if they are not research. If the results will not be distributed outside the classroom, institutional setting, or if they are used solely for program review or evaluation, IRB review is not required. However, if such projects lead to generalizable information, through publication or dissemination of results external to GCU, they must undergo review. Regardless of whether the project is subject to review, all GCU faculty, staff and learners must adhere to ethical guidelines when conducting class or institutional projects with human participants.

Research activities or exercises conducted as part of curriculum for coursework are considered exempt from IRB review when the following criteria are met:

- There is minimal risk, and
- The planned classroom exercise does not involve members of vulnerable populations, and

- Information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to subjects, and
- The information will not be made public in the form of presentation or publication outside of the classroom or education setting.

## International Students Office

The International Students Office, or ISO, is housed on campus in Building 18, Room 104 and houses the International Student Coordinator’s office. The ISO contains an international students’ lounge, which students may use as a meeting place, study space, or area to relax between classes.

The ISO is the storehouse and archive of F-1 student documents. The International Student Coordinator manages F-1 student documents and SEVIS records, issues I-20s, and is the advisor on matters related to maintaining F-1 status.

### Maintaining F-1 Status

International F-1 students are responsible for knowing the rules to maintain their F-1 status. In order to learn the obligations and privileges of being an F-1 student, they may consult with the International Student Coordinator or acquire information from the [Homeland Security’s website “Study in the States”](#).

### Change of Address

Students are required to report a change of residence within 10 days of your move. Contact the staff of the International Students Office, so the University can officially update the SEVIS record.

### Authorization to Work

See the [International Student Employment](#) section of the University Policy Handbook.

### Maintain Full Course of Study

Per federal regulations, International (F-1) students are required to pursue a full course of study; the minimum for an undergraduate is 12 credits per semester and one online class may be taken to satisfy the 12 credit minimum. The minimum for a graduate student’s full course of study follows general campus policy noted above and is verified by the International Student Coordinator.

### Securing a Validating Signature

Students, who need a validating signature for an I-20, should take it to the International Students Office for processing several days before the planned departure.

### Immigration Documents

Students must keep immigration documents valid at all times.

### Passport

Students must know passport expiration date. Do not allow the passport to expire. Students are required to have a valid passport with an expiration date that is no less than six months hence, except in those cases where the student’s home country has an agreement with the U.S. To find out how to extend the validity of your passport, contact your country’s consulate in the U.S. A list of foreign consular offices in the U.S. may be found at <http://www.state.gov/s/cpr/rls/dpl/32122.htm>.

## **F-1 Visa**

The visa is a permit which allows individuals to apply for entry to the U.S. at the port of entry. It shows immigration status (should be F-1), the number of times an individual may enter the U.S. (shown as single, double, or multiple entry), and the last day on which he or she can enter the country. It does not show how long the student may stay in the U.S. While it is not illegal to be in the U.S. with an expired visa, a new visa will be required to leave and re-enter the US. (Exception: If a student travels to Canada, Mexico, or any of the islands in the Caribbean except Cuba and return within 30 days, and he or she has a valid passport, an unexpired I-20 and an I-94 card, the student may enter with an expired visa.) It is not possible to obtain a visa in the U.S. If a student will be traveling outside the US and wishes to re-enter after the visa has expired, he or she should plan to visit a U.S. consulate to apply for a new visa.

## **Form I-20**

The I-20 authorizes individuals to attend Grand Canyon University (GCU). International students are required to read the I-20 and indicate acceptance of its terms by endorsing the document.

## **Form I-94 Arrival and Departure Record**

The I-94 demonstrates that the students have been lawfully admitted to the US. The I-94 is distributed on the airplane prior to landing. When the student passes through the immigration check station at the port of entry, the border agent will make a notation of the date of entry and visa status, and will usually staple the form into your passport. In most cases a notation of "D/S" (duration of status) will be marked on the card, indicating that the student may stay in the U.S. until the student has finished the academic program, as long as the student maintains an acceptable status. If a specific date is noted on this form instead of D/S, notify the staff of the International Students Office because the student must either exit the country by that time or file an extension. Do not lose the I-94. Only one will be issued and replacements are expensive and take a long time to receive. When the student travels overseas, the student must surrender the card at the airport. Few exceptions exist to this requirement, including travel to Mexico, Canada, or the Caribbean Islands (verify this information with the International Students Office). When the student re-enters the U.S., the student will be issued a new I-94.

## **Safeguarding Immigration Documents**

Do not lose or destroy any documents received from the U.S. government or school officials. Keep all issued documents in a safe and accessible place in the event it is necessary to show them to the authorities.

## **Travel in F-1 Status**

Always consult with the Principal Designated School Official (PDSO) in the Center of International Education before planning travel abroad. Since the circumstances of each student will differ, the information in this section is meant to provide general guidelines for students. It may not be all inclusive of the things that the student needs to determine whether or not it is

appropriate to travel or whether or not the student will be readmitted to the United States. Please remember that the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer at the Port of Entry (POE) decides whether or not a person is admissible to the United States. This decision is based upon the facts and circumstances presented at the time that the student applies to enter, therefore it is important to know the situation and carry the proper documentation.

## **Inside the U.S.**

### **On and near campus**

While students are on-campus or in the surrounding area, they do not need to have their passport or I-20 with them. Keep the documents safely stored, however, and know where to get them quickly, if necessary.

### **Away from the campus in the Phoenix area**

Students should carry their passport, I-94 card and I-20 with them in case authorities ask for proof of identity.

## **Outside the U.S.**

Students who travel abroad must show proper documentation to re-enter the U.S. They must not have been gone from the U.S. more than 5 months for the following guidelines. At the port of entry, present:

- Valid passport with expiration date at least six months from the date of entry. For exceptions, see the Passport agreement list below for countries with agreements with the US for shorter expiration dates.
- Valid F-1 visa stamp in passport
- I-20 that has been endorsed by the PDSO in the International Students Office within the last 6 months. (Technically, the signature is valid for one year, but many agents at the port of entry prefer to see the endorsement from the school more frequently.)
- Other recommended documents: Financial guarantee documents showing the student has funds to pay for your educational and living expenses while here, copy of recent transcripts, letter from CIE verifying student status at GCU.
- Exceptions to the travel documentation above apply to travel to Canada, Mexico or adjacent islands with the exception of Cuba. If the student plans to travel to one of these locations for fewer than 30 days, retain your I-94 card. Even if the visa is expired, a student may be readmitted based on an automatic revalidation of the visa.

## **Study Abroad and International Programs**

Study Abroad programs may involve relationships with other colleges, universities, organizations, or countries. Students should contact the Study Abroad Office for more information by emailing [StudyAbroad@gcu.edu](mailto:StudyAbroad@gcu.edu). Weekly group information sessions as well as individual appointments are available. Study abroad students typically enroll at Grand Canyon University in a holding course such as UNV-300 to retain their enrollment and eligibility for financial aid. Upon successful completion of the semester, the specific credit for the experience replaces the holding course. Students are required to affirm with their Academic Advisor how study abroad courses will apply to Grand Canyon University's requirements.

# Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy

Grand Canyon University is committed to providing a drug-free campus and workplace environment. As an institution of higher education, the University recognizes the need to establish a drug and alcohol awareness program to educate faculty, staff and students about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. This policy is established as required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

The sale, offer to sell, purchase, use, transfer, possession and/or manufacture of illegal drugs, including marijuana (medical or otherwise) and alcohol, are strictly prohibited on University premises including parking lots, cafeterias, and other non-work related areas. Employees may not unlawfully possess, consume or be under the influence of alcohol while working, participating in Grand Canyon University events, or present on University Premises (including parking lots, cafeterias, and other non-work related areas), unless pre-authorized by senior management.

## Description of Health Risks

Drugs and/or alcohol use contribute to:

- 65% of all suicides
- 70% of all drowning deaths
- 83% of all fire deaths
- 50% of all motor vehicle accidents
- 70% of all homicides

The following are descriptions of dangerous drugs:

- Alcohol is a potentially addictive drug of significant physical and psychological consequence. Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that affects all neurological functions. At relatively low levels it affects one's judgment and decision-making, and at higher levels it impairs the functioning of one's vital organs and can result in a coma or death. Alcohol is an irritant to the gastrointestinal tract and moderate over-indulgence ordinarily results in nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. In addition to these significant physical consequences, there are a number of less obvious consequences to alcohol use. For example, the effects of alcohol on sleep have been well documented. Consuming several drinks before bedtime has been found to decrease the amount of REM (rapid eye movement) or dreaming sleep. The consequences of being deprived of REM sleep are impaired concentration and memory, as well as anxiety, tiredness, and irritability. Additionally, research has demonstrated that alcohol tends to decrease fear and increase the likelihood that an individual will accept risks. This lack of inhibition and judgment is a major contributor to the extraordinarily high percentage of serious accidents and accidental deaths related to alcohol use. Prolonged and excessive use of alcohol usually causes progressively more serious erosion of the gastrointestinal tract lining ranging from gastritis to ulcers and hemorrhage. Damage to the pancreas is frequent among those who have used alcohol. Interestingly, while 10% of the adult population is estimated to be addicted to beverage alcohol, (i.e., they are alcoholics), this 10% of the population comprises 35% of those hospital in-patients who receive major surgery in any given year. Alcoholism is the third major killer in the United States, second to heart disease and cancer, and acute alcohol intoxication is the second leading cause of death by poisoning.
- Marijuana (cannabis) (nicotina glauca) is an illegal drug that impairs memory, perception, judgment, and hand-eye coordination skills. The tar content in cannabis smoke is at least 50% higher than that of tobacco and thus smokers run the added risk of lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, and other lung diseases. Recently, the medical community has diagnosed the existence of an AA motivational syndrome that affects moderate to chronic users and includes symptoms of loss of energy, motivation, effectiveness, concentration, ability to

carry out long-term plans, and performance in school and work.

- LSD (Lysergic Acid Diethylamide) is a semi-synthetic drug regarded as a hallucinogenic. Short-term effects of this drug are generally felt within an hour of consumption and may last from two to 12 hours. Physiologically the user experiences increased blood pressure, rise in body temperature, dilated pupils, rapid heartbeat, muscular weakness, trembling, nausea, chills, numbness, loss of interest in food, and hyperventilation. Fine motor skills and coordination are usually impaired, as are perception, thought, mood, and psychological processes. Long-term effects may include flashbacks, weeks and even months after taking the drug, mental illness, prolonged depression, anxiety, psychological dependence, and suicidal thoughts.
- PCP (Phencyclidine Hydrochloride) is a white crystalline powder that was originally used as a local anesthetic, but due to extreme side effects, was discontinued in 1967. In humans, PCP is a difficult drug to classify in that reactions may vary from stupor to euphoria and resemble the effects of a stimulant, depressant, anesthetic, or hallucinogen. Short-term effects include hyperventilation, increase in blood pressure and pulse rate, flushing and profuse sweating, general numbness of the extremities, and muscular in coordination. At higher doses it causes nausea, vomiting, blurred vision, loss of balance, and disorientation. It produces profound alteration of sensation, mood and consciousness, and can cause psychotic states in many ways indistinguishable from schizophrenia. Large doses have been known to cause convulsions, permanent brain damage, and coma.
- Psilocybin is a hallucinogenic drug occurring naturally in about 20 species of Mexican mushrooms and is also produced synthetically. It is a white powder made of fine crystals and distributed in tablet, capsule, or liquid form. Shortly after taking psilocybin, a user may experience increased blood pressure, rapid heartbeat, a rise in body temperature, dry mouth, dilated pupils, and some degree of agitation or excitement. This is followed by a decrease in the ability to concentrate or stay in touch with reality. (Hallucinations, as well as altered perceptions of time and space, may occur.) The effects are usually shorter lasting than those of LSD, yet the dangers are very similar.
- Cocaine is a naturally occurring stimulant drug which is extracted from the leaves of the cocoa plant. Cocaine is sold as a white translucent crystalline powder frequently cut to about half its strength by a variety of other ingredients including sugars and cleaning powders. It is one of the most powerfully addictive drugs in use today. Short-term effects of cocaine include constricted peripheral blood vessels, dilated pupils, increased heart rate and blood pressure. It also causes appetite suppression, pain indifference, possible vomiting, visual, auditory, and tactile hallucinations, and occasionally paranoia.

Long-term effects include nasal congestion, collapse of nasal septum, restlessness, irritability, anxiety, and depression. Overdoses or chronic use may result in toxicity which includes symptoms of seizures followed by respiratory arrest, coma, cardiac arrest, and/or death.

- Cocaine Free-Base or Crack is the result of converting street cocaine to a pure base by removing the hydrochloric salt in many of the “cutting” agents. The end result is not water soluble, and therefore, must be smoked. It is much more dangerous than cocaine because it reaches the brain in seconds, and the intensified dose results in a sudden and intense physical reaction. This response lasts a few minutes and is followed by deep depression, loss of appetite, difficulty in sleeping, feeling revulsion for self, and worries and obsessions about getting more crack. Consequently, users often increase the dose and frequency of use resulting in severe addiction that includes physical debilitation and financial ruin. Physiologically, seizures followed by respiratory arrest and coma or cardiac arrest and death may accompany long-term use.
- Amphetamines are central nervous system stimulants that were once used medically to treat a variety of symptoms including depression and obesity. They may be taken orally, sniffed, or injected into the veins. Short-term effects disappear within a few hours and include reduction of appetite, increased breathing and heart rate, raised blood pressure, dilation of pupils, dry mouth, fever, sweating, headache, blurred vision and dizziness. Higher doses may cause flushing, rapid and irregular heartbeat, tremor, loss of coordination, and collapse. Death has occurred from ruptured blood vessels in the brain, heart failure, and very high fever. Psychological effects include increased alertness, postponement of fatigue, a false feeling of well-being, restlessness, excitability, and a feeling of

power. Long-term effects include drug dependence and the risk of drug induced psychosis. Withdrawal includes extreme fatigue, irritability, strong hunger, and deep depression that may lead to suicide.

## Drug and Alcohol Counseling

More information about alcohol and drugs and the risks they pose to health is available in the GCU Cooke Health & Wellness Center. Outside counseling services and support groups are available. The following is a partial list of these sources:

- Alcoholics Anonymous: 602-264-1341
- AI-Anon and Ala-teen Information: 602-249-1251
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline: 800-444-9999
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse: 602-258-7714
- Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center: 800-247-2322
- Drug and Alcohol Treatment Institute: 602-275-3233
- Crossroads (Drug and Alcohol Recovery): 602-279-2585
- Teen Challenge: 602-271-4081
- Terros, Inc.: 602-249-1749

## Institutional Sanctions

The University will impose sanctions (consistent with local, State, and Federal law) upon all faculty, staff and students who violate the standards of conduct set forth in this policy. Such sanctions may include required completion (at the faculty, staff members, or students own expense) of an appropriate rehabilitation program chosen by the University, referral for prosecution, probation, suspension or expulsion of students and suspension or termination of faculty and staff members.

# Living on Campus

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The Living on Campus section is designed to help students settle into their new home at Grand Canyon University. It contains information regarding many aspects of Residential Life and Student Housing. The [Academic Catalog](#), [Housing Operations](#) and Housing Contract provide a more complete understanding of GCU policies and guidelines.

## Housing Policies

### Policies

See the Housing website at [gcu.edu/housing](http://gcu.edu/housing) for polices relating but not limited to:

- Abandonment – Personal Property
- Alterations
- Appliances and Furniture
- Bed Bug Protocol
- Charges and Fines
- Entering Student Rooms
- Fire Safety
- Health and Safety Inspections
- Housing Eligibility
- Housing Eviction
- Housing Appeals
- Housing Application Fee and Prepayment
- Accommodation Requests
- Maintenance, Preservations, and Repairs
- Mercury
- Moisture and Mold
- Movies – Group Rental
- Personal Property
- Personal Property Searches
- Pets
- Roommate Privacy
- Room Switches
- Smoking
- Waitlists
- Housing Cancellation and Reimbursement
- Meal Plan Cancellation and Refund
- Early Move-in and Extended Stay
- Break Housing Closures
- Sales/Solicitation
- Vehicle Inspections

## Immunization Requirement

### Immunization Requirement for GCU Residents

To ensure the health of the student population living on campus, Grand Canyon University requires students to submit documentation that they have received the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine or proof of immunity, and Meningococcal A vaccine prior to registering for student housing. Students can obtain additional information regarding this requirement on the [Canyon Health and Wellness Center website](#)

### Immunization Requirement for Programs

Immunization requirements for the University may differ from the immunization requirements for certain programs of study and their associated placement and/or employment opportunities, (e.g., externships, internships, student teaching, clinical, practica, lab opportunities, school district positions). Students may be required to submit immunization documentation to various third-party agencies and are, therefore, responsible for ensuring they meet their respective requirements.

GCU requires students in the following programs to provide immunization records. Students can waive this requirement by following the guidelines published in the Undergraduate/Graduate Field Experience Manuals; however, students who live on campus are not eligible to waive this requirement unless a medical waiver is provided and signed by a medical provider.

- Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure)
- Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner
- Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Leadership in Health Care Systems
- Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Education
- Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Public Health
- Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner
- Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Nursing Education
- Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Leadership in Health Care Systems
- Master of Science in Nursing with an Emphasis in Public Health
- Master of Public Health
- Post-Master of Science in Nursing: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate
- Post-Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate
- Post-Master of Science in Nursing: Nursing Education Certificate
- Doctor of Nursing Practice

# Community Standards for Ground Campus

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Grand Canyon University is first and foremost a Christian University and as such upholds a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere on campus that honors God. While students do not have to sign a Statement of Faith or be a Christian to attend GCU, they are expected to abide by the Community Standards. The Community Standards uphold certain University values that are believed to enhance the overall moral fabric of the community.

The Community Standards identify essential values that GCU students are expected to show mutual respect and courtesy to one another, faculty and staff. Our expectation is that students would reflect what is known as the “fruit of the Spirit” in their behavior. This includes demonstrating: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Our vision is that students would strive to treat others as they would want to be treated.

Our goal is to develop a community based on the Biblical principles of respect and honor. We as community members will strive to encourage one another, respect one another’s differences, speak truthfully, and create lasting relationships. We understand that these actions are most possible as a result of choosing to put others above ourselves and to look out for the interests of others. To help accomplish this, campus residents will be required to complete a Roommate Agreement, which is designed to proactively facilitate a conversation between roommates at the beginning of each semester. Students may contact their RA for more information.

## Applicability of the University Policy Handbook as it applies to the Community Standards

- The University Policy Handbook as outlined in the Community Standards applies principally to conduct outside the classroom that occurs on University property or at University-related activities or facilities (in-class conduct is addressed in the [University Policy Handbook](#)).
- Likewise, conduct engaged through electronic communication systems, including but not limited to, social media, e-mail and text messaging, is subject to the University Policy Handbook as outlined in the Community Standards section.
- Off-campus behavior may also cause a student to go through the Student Conduct Process or other appropriate administrative action when it is reasonably perceived to pose an imminent threat of harm to the safety of the student or others, adversely affects the University Community and/or the pursuits of its objectives. The Dean of Students or his/her designee will decide whether the Student Handbook will be applied to conduct occurring off campus, on a case by case scenario, in his/her sole discretion. This includes, but is not limited to, remote University Housing.
- Each student will be responsible for his/her conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual awarding of a degree and/or the end of the student’s housing contract, whichever comes last. Each student is responsible for their conduct even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after the classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment.

- The University Policy Handbook as outlined in the Community Standards will apply to a student’s conduct even if the student withdraws from school while a conduct matter is pending.
- The University Policy Handbook as outlined in the Community Standards applies to commuter students as well. It is expected that they are aware of the University policies.
- Any violation of the University Policy Handbook as outlined in the Community Standards will remain on the student’s conduct record for the duration of his/her GCU academic career and will provide context for any future violations.

## Community Standards

Students are held responsible to the following standards and if found in violation will go through the Student Conduct Process. See Sanctions for Conduct Violations for possible sanctions:

### Alcohol

GCU maintains a dry campus and as such alcohol and/or alcohol paraphernalia are not permitted on GCU property (GCU Arena may serve Alcohol for outside events; students will not be allowed to purchase alcohol in the Arena).

Violations of the alcohol policy will be taken seriously and consequences include University-approved sanctions up to and including police involvement, suspension or expulsion from the university. Any alcohol-related offense could be grounds for expedited sanctions that could result in suspension or expulsion from the University. Violations of the alcohol policy include, but are not limited to:

- Consuming and/or possessing alcohol on campus. Alcohol bottles or containers will be treated as alcohol, opened or sealed, even if empty.
- Engaging in underage drinking.
- Providing alcohol to others underage.
- Public intoxication is the use of alcohol, even off-campus, that leads to public or obvious intoxication on campus that includes, but is not limited to, slurred speech, difficulty walking, needing medical assistance, violent behavior or any other behavior that is a disruption to the campus community.
- Refusal to take or successfully complete a breathalyzer test. When University personnel reasonably suspect a student of consuming or possessing alcohol on campus and/or when a student is believed to be publically intoxicated on campus, the student may be required to take a breathalyzer test.
- Students present where alcohol is actively being consumed will be in violation of the alcohol policy for not leaving the immediate area or reporting the violation to a University official.
- Students with knowledge of the presence of alcohol on campus may be considered in violation of the alcohol policy



for not leaving the immediate area or reporting the violation to a University official.

Arizona revised statutes make it unlawful:

1. For a person under the age of twenty-one years, to buy, receive, have in possession or consume spirituous liquor. A.R.S. 4-241.
2. For a person to buy for resale, sell or deal in spirituous liquors in this state without first having procured a license duly issued by the Arizona State Liquor Board. A.R.S. 4-244(1).
3. To consume spirituous liquor in a public place, thoroughfare or gathering as set forth in A.R.S. 4-244(20).
4. For any person to serve or to furnish spirituous liquor to an intoxicated or disorderly person, or for any person to allow or to permit an intoxicated or disorderly person to come into or to remain at an event where spirituous liquor is being served or consumed. A.R.S. 4-244(14).
5. For a person to operate a motor vehicle on any highway while consuming spirituous liquor. A.R.S. 4-244(21).
6. To conduct drinking contests, or to sell or provide to a person an unlimited number of spirituous liquor beverages during any set period of time for a fixed price or to provide more than two spirituous liquor beverages to one person at one time for that person's consumption as set forth in A.R.S. 4-244(23).
7. To sell or give liquor to underage person; illegally obtaining liquor by underage person; violation; classification; definitions A.R.S. 4-241

### **Good Samaritan Policy**

The overall health and safety of our students is of paramount concern to all members of Grand Canyon University. All community members are expected to act out of concern for themselves and others. Recognizing that there are times when students of the community find themselves in positions where medical assistance is needed to ensure the proper care of a person, the University has established this Good Samaritan Policy.

Grand Canyon University wishes to ensure that students at medical risk as a result of alcohol or drug use will receive prompt and appropriate medical attention. Members of the Grand Canyon University community, specifically students, have an ethical responsibility to contact a Residence Life staff member or the Office of Public Safety when they believe that assistance for an intoxicated student is needed.

Students who seek assistance from these sources and the individual(s) assisted, should not fear disciplinary action should they seek help for a friend or themselves who has had too much to drink or impaired. Instead, under the guidelines of this policy, these violations will be dealt with through health and safety education initiatives instead of disciplinary action with respect to the alcohol and drug policies. Students will be considered for a one-time acceptance under the guidelines of the policy through a review of the sequence of events that occurred during their incident.

The Office of Residence Life and Public Safety will record the name(s) of intoxicated or impaired student(s) and any other information that may enable any follow-up deemed necessary to ensure students' overall well-being. In order for this policy to apply, the intoxicated or impaired student(s) must agree to meet with a Student Conduct Officer to discuss the incident and understand the guidelines, process, and expectations. The student(s) will also agree to a timely completion of all the suggested educational and intervention recommendations.

Students who fail to complete any of the requirements assigned will be subject to action under the Student Handbook for failure to complete those initiatives. Furthermore, community members who demonstrate a consistent and repeated pattern of behavior after appropriate intervention and education from the University will not be considered under this policy.

This policy does not preclude the University from taking disciplinary action regarding other violations of the Student Handbook. Students should also be aware that this University policy does not prevent action by local, state and federal authorities.

The spirit of the Good Samaritan Policy is that there is an ethical responsibility to help people in need. This policy is designed to save lives. It is an expectation that our students will take active steps to protect the health and safety and well-being of the community and one another.

### **Alcohol Paraphernalia**

Possession of alcohol paraphernalia is not permitted on campus. Alcohol paraphernalia is defined as any product whose primary function is for containing alcohol, drinking alcohol, or advertising or promoting alcohol (paraphernalia is not actual alcohol bottles or containers). This includes, but is not limited to, beer bong, funnels, decorative alcohol displays.

### **Civility and Respect**

It is expected that all students demonstrate mutual respect and courtesy to one another, faculty and staff. Physical abuse, verbal abuse, bullying, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion, including social media, and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person will not be tolerated. For the purposes of this section, "harassment" means conduct that is directed at a specific person and that would cause a reasonable person to be seriously alarmed, annoyed or harassed and the conduct in fact seriously alarms, annoys or harasses the person.

Arizona revised statutes states that a person commits harassment if, with intent to harass or with knowledge that the person is harassing another person, the person:

1. Anonymously or otherwise contacts, communicates or causes a communication with another person by verbal, electronic, mechanical, telegraphic, telephonic or written means in a manner that harasses.
2. Continues to follow another person in or about a public place for no legitimate purpose after being asked to desist.
3. Repeatedly commits an act or acts that harass another person.
4. Surveils or causes another person to surveil a person for no legitimate purpose.
5. On more than one occasion makes a false report to a law enforcement, credit or social service agency.
6. Interferes with the delivery of any public or regulated utility to a person.

For more information:

<http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ars/13/02921.htm>

Title IX regulations require non-discrimination on the basis of sex or gender. Prohibited sex discrimination includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, and other misconduct offenses when sex or gender is the foundation. All reports of sex or gender-based discrimination are reviewed and resolved using the process outlined in the Gender-Based and Sexual Misconduct Policies and Grievance Procedures.

Grand Canyon University recognizes the rights of current students to dissent as long as it does not limit the freedom of others, damage University property, or delay the opportunity of the student body, faculty or staff to proceed regularly with their work, schooling or scheduled activities. When a rally or other such gathering requires building space or public areas, clearance must be obtained 48 hours in advanced from the Dean of Students.

Grand Canyon University reserves the right to make reasonable restrictions of location, time or format of such events, using the following guidelines in order to:

1. Alleviate potential problems with safety or potential disruption of University activities
2. Facilitate a free exchange of ideas consistent with the academic environment and the University mission.
3. Comply with federal, state, university, or local laws or ordinances.

Grand Canyon University reserves the right to review, cancel, alter or restrict events, demonstrations, speakers or groups whose nature or presentation is contrary to or inconsistent with the University mission or Christ-centered character. Off campus groups, individuals, churches, ministries, former students, or individuals not connected to the University as a current employee or student will not be permitted to use University owned or operated property for demonstrations and may not, at the University's discretion, participate in them.

### **Disorderly Conduct**

Conduct that is disorderly, lewd or indecent will be considered a violation of the Student Handbook. Disorderly conduct includes, but is not limited to, any unauthorized use of electronic or other devices to make an audio or video record of any person while on University premises without his/her prior knowledge or without his/her effective consent when such a recording is likely to cause injury or distress. This includes, but is not limited to, surreptitiously taking pictures of another person in a gym, locker room or restroom.

### **Drugs: Illegal and Unprescribed**

Grand Canyon University is committed to maintain a drug-free community. Being under the influence of, using, possession of or distributing illegal drugs (including, but not limited to, the intent or ability to distribute), un-prescribed medications and/or corresponding paraphernalia on campus or at university-sanctioned events will not be tolerated. This includes distribution of one's own prescription drugs as well as prescriptions not prescribed to the student. Any drug-related offense could be grounds for expedited sanctions that could result in suspension or expulsion from the University. Failure to comply with these policies will result in the notification of Phoenix PD with the possibility of a felony charge(s).

Illegal drugs are defined as any controlled substance banned by the State of Arizona and/or the United States Federal Government. In addition to these banned controlled substances, GCU also prohibits the possession of synthetic marijuana products/ substitutes such as "Spice", "K2" or "Potpourri"; "Bath Salts"; prescription medication not prescribed to the possessor and synthetic substances categorized as a drug by law enforcement. Drug paraphernalia is described as any equipment, product, or material that is modified or used for making, consuming, using, or concealing drugs. This includes but is not limited to the use or possession of a glass smoking pipe or items

altered to assist in the making, using or concealing drugs including the scent of drugs.

### **Medical Marijuana**

Although the state of Arizona has medical marijuana statutes in place, the United States Federal Government does not currently recognize those statutes. The "Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 (20 U.S.C. 1145g)" prohibits illegal possession of controlled substances on the campus of institutions of higher education that receive Title IV funding. As Grand Canyon University is one such institution the possession and use of medical marijuana is prohibited in all campus areas.

### **Electronic and Other Smoking Devices**

The possession of e-cigarettes, vapes and/or other legal smoking devices are allowed in designated areas on campus, but not in residential living areas. These items are not permitted in any living area.

### **Falsification of Information**

Students will be held to a standard of honesty and are not permitted to falsify (verbal or written) information.

### **Failure to Comply**

It is expected for students to promptly comply with a reasonable University directive.

### **Visitation Privileges**

Grand Canyon University strives to remain above reproach in all encounters with members of the opposite gender. For this reason, residential students of the opposite gender and/or significant others are allowed to visit during specified hours listed below and in the living room. Refer to the Guest Privileges section for guidelines related to off-campus guests and GCU-commuter student guests.

- In the halls/dorms, visitation hours for Sunday through Thursday are 12:00 PM (noon) to 11:00 PM.
- In the halls/dorms, visitation hours for Friday and Saturday are between 12:00 PM (noon) to 12:00 AM (midnight).
- In the apartments, visitation hours are 10:00 AM to 12:00 AM (midnight), seven days a week.
- In both apartments and halls/dorms, guests of the opposite gender and/or significant others are required to stay in the common living area of the apartment or dorm suite – they may not enter the bedroom (except for Studio Single Occupancy units in Papago 47).
- The door to the dorm suite must be propped open at 90 degrees for the entirety of the visit.
- Students may continue their visitation with the opposite gender in the main lobby on the first floor of the hall/dorm buildings, but not in the lobby on each floor.

### **Guest Privileges**

The Guest Privileges Policy applies to students hosting off-campus and/or GCU commuter students in the apartment/dorm during guest hours. For policy related to having GCU residential students as guests, please see the Visitation Privileges section.

Students in campus housing are allowed to have guests in their apartment or dorm. Students are expected to observe the following standards:

- Guests are the responsibility of the student who is hosting them, whether the guest is a GCU commuter student or an off-campus guest. The actions of the guests are the actions of the student hosting them. In other words, if a student's

guest brings drugs into the apartment or dorm suite, the student host will assume all responsibility and sanctions for the violation.

- Guests are required to abide by all the policies and rules of the University.
- Guests, whether off-campus guests or GCU commuter students, must sign in and out of the Guest Log found at the RA Desk in the lobby of the halls/apartments and the Hub of the North Rim Apartments.
- Guests must be at least 15-years old or accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.
- In the halls/dorms, guest hours are for Sunday through Thursday are 12:00 PM (noon) to 11:00 PM.
- In the halls/dorms, guest hours for Friday and Saturday are between 12:00 PM (noon) to 12:00 AM (midnight).
- In the apartments, guest hours are 10:00 AM to 12:00 AM (midnight) seven days a week.
- In all living areas, guests of the opposite gender and/or significant others are required to stay in the common living area of the apartment or dorm suite – they may not enter the bedroom (except for the Studio Single Occupancy units in Papago 47). The door to the dorm suite must be propped open at 90 degrees for the entirety of the visit.
- Guests must depart living areas when guest/visitation hours end.

### **Overnight Guests in Campus Housing**

Students living in campus housing are permitted to have guests (on or off-campus guests including GCU commuter students) spend the night with them on campus. Overnight guests must be of the same gender and not significant others. The same standards for Guest Privileges (see above) apply to the overnight guest plus these additional guidelines:

- Off-campus overnight guests are required to complete a Guest Registration Form found at the RA Desk in the lobby of the living areas and the Hub of the North Rim apartments.
- Overnight guests are only permitted to stay no more than six (6) nights per semester in campus housing, regardless of which student they stay with.
- Students are only permitted to have overnight guests no more than six (6) nights per semester in campus housing.

### **Hazing**

Any and all forms of hazing and initiation are illegal whether voluntary or involuntary. The University takes very seriously any alleged forms of hazing and strictly prohibits this behavior. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- All forms of physical activity deemed dangerous or harmful.
- The application of foreign substances to the body.
- Scavenger hunts involving illegal activities, kidnapping, or ditching a member of the community.
- Depriving students of sleep.
- Not providing decent and edible foods.
- Depriving student's means of maintaining personal hygiene.
- Forcing, coercing, pressuring, or requiring a student to consume alcohol, or foreign or unusual amounts of substances.
- Nudity or forcing a student to dress in a degrading manner.
- Psychological hazing: any act which is likely to compromise the dignity of a student; cause embarrassment or shame to a student; cause a student to be the object of ridicule or malicious amusement; or inflict psychological or emotional harm.

### **Housing Guidelines**

- Students, including GCU commuter students, who are found residing in other on-campus housing units other than is listed in their StarRez housing profile, will be considered as a squatter and may be held liable for the pro-rated charge for semester housing.
- Students are not permitted to loan out their keys and passpoint, Student ID, or Parking Permit to another individual, even if it is a fellow GCU student.
- Students and/or their guests may not enter/exit a dorm room or apartment through a window.

### **Modesty**

Modesty is showing the maturity to act and dress in a manner that reflects a person's maturity and faith, does not inhibit an atmosphere of learning and shows respect and professionalism. The University chooses not to define what constitutes modest dress but expects all student to dress appropriately for a learning and living community.

### **Fire Alarms**

Students are not allowed to tamper with or adjust the fire alarm/smoke detector in any way. All students and their guests are expected to immediately evacuate any living space once a fire alarm is sounded.

### **Identifying Oneself**

It is expected of students to identify him/herself when requested to do so by a University official, including resident assistants (RAs).

### **Inappropriate Language**

Students are expected to avoid the use of inappropriate language (profanity and vulgarity).

### **Pets**

Pets, other than fish or turtles in a small aquarium, are not allowed in residential facilities or on adjacent grounds. Aquariums may not be larger than 10 gallons and can be used only for fish or turtles.

Residents having pets for any length of time on campus will be subject to disciplinary action, a contract violation fine, and excessive cleaning fees.

Pets of visitors are not permitted on campus. The same rules apply regardless of pet ownership. It is the resident's responsibility to make sure guests are aware of the rules and policies of the University.

Students who need to have a service animal reside with them should contact the Student Disability Services Office to arrange for accommodations.

Students who need a service animal should contact the Student Disability Services Office to arrange for accommodations. Violating the pet policy may result in prolonging the approval of an emotional support animal on campus.

### **Pranks**

Students who participate in any activity on or off campus that threatens and intimidates and/or endangers the health, physical, or emotional well-being of a community member; results in damage; malicious or non-malicious vandalism, or general disregard for University or private property; or involves a violation of University policy is strictly prohibited.

## Quiet Hours

In all living areas, quiet hours are from 10:00 PM to 10:00 AM, seven days a week.

## Smoking

Smoking is permitted in designated areas only. No smoking is permitted in any building, including all living areas including apartment balconies. Violators are subject to University sanction.

## Standards of Respectful Behavior

Grand Canyon University is first and foremost a Christian university and as such upholds a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere on campus that honors God. Regardless of religious affiliation all members are expected to abide by Grand Canyon University's Standards of Respectful Behavior. The Standards uphold university values that are believed to enhance the overall relational fabric of the community.

The Standards identify essential values that GCU community members are expected to show mutual respect and courtesy to one another. Our expectation is that members would reflect what is known as the "fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23) in their behavior. This includes demonstrating: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Our vision is that community members would strive to treat others as they would want to be treated.

Our goal is to develop a community based on the Biblical principles of respect and honor. We as community members will strive to encourage one another, respect one another's differences, speak truthfully and create lasting relationships. We understand that these actions are most possible as a result of choosing to put others above ourselves and to look out for the interest of others. To help accomplish this community members may be directed to these Standards when applicable.

## Theft and Vandalism

Attempted or actual theft of and/or damage to property of the University community or other personal or public property, on or off campus will be considered a violation of the Student Handbook.

## Weapons

Weapons as defined by GCU's Weapons-Free Campus Policy and hazardous materials are not allowed on campus. Banned weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, live ammunition, BB guns, water-balloon launchers, paintball guns, airsoft guns, bows and arrow, blowguns and knives longer than four inches when open.

## Student Conduct Process

As a Christian university, GCU strives to offer loving accountability and to be redemptive in its approach to students who have violated the Student Handbook.

Every situation is handled on a case-by-case basis.

The student will be referred to one of the following processes:

- Meet with a RD
- Visitation Violation process
  - For the first three violations, the student will be emailed their sanctions upon being written up.
  - The student may appeal the visitation sanction as outlined in the sanction letter or make an appointment with a Student Conduct Officer. This must be done within 5 calendar days after receiving the email.

- If necessary, due to multiple infractions or the need to expedite the visitation violation process, the Student Conduct Officer will require a face to face meeting.
- Meet with a Student Conduct Coordinator.
  - If the student accepts responsibility that may be resolved informally with a hearing, the Student Conduct Coordinator will issue the student a letter defining the sanctions within seven calendar days.
  - If the student denies responsibility, the student will be referred to the Student Conduct Board.
  - If a student fails to attend the Student Conduct Coordinator meeting, it will be up to the discretion of the Student Conduct office to determine the next action which may include holds being placed on both the academic and housing accounts until the student attends the meeting.
- Meet with the Student Conduct Board
  - Student will be given the opportunity to further discuss the incident in order to determine involvement and possible sanctions. Sanctions can be enhanced all the way up to being banned from campus housing
- Meet with the Code of Conduct Committee
  - If the Student Conduct Board deems it appropriate based on the circumstances, a student can be referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.

The Student Conduct Manager will determine the composition of the Student Conduct Boards and determine which Student Conduct Board will be authorized to hear each matter. Any student serving on the Student Conduct Board is bound by a strict confidentiality agreement. The Student Conduct Manager will develop policies for the administration of the Student Conduct Board Hearings that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Student Handbook. Decisions made by the Student Conduct Board or the Student Conduct office will be final, pending the normal appeal process. If a student fails to report to an assigned conduct officer and/or hearing, a fine may be assessed up to \$50.00 for the first occurrence.

Serious offenses for which the Dean of Students may recommend suspension or expulsion from the University will be heard and decided by the University Code of Conduct Committee.

If a student is subject to State or Federal court fines and/or community service hours, a Student Conduct Officer will make the decision to whether or not to allow those fines and hours to replace that of the Student Conduct Board.

Any question of interpretation or application of the Student Handbook will be referred to the Dean of Students or his/her designee for final determination.

## Student Conduct Board Hearing

At a Student Conduct Board Hearing, the technical rules of evidence, process and procedure used in a civil or criminal court will not apply.

Students who are subject to meet with the Student Conduct Board are notified at the time of the corresponding incident by the Student Conduct Office. The student will be notified of the date, time and place of their hearing through text or email.

If a student fails to appear before the Student Conduct Board, the Board will discuss the sanctions they feel are appropriate for the student. In most cases the absent student will be given the same sanction as other students who were involved in the same incident. If a student is the only person involved in the incident, the Board will base appropriate sanctions on the facts found in

the RD or Public Safety report and as they appear in the guidelines for sanctions.

During the Student Conduct Board Hearing, students are not permitted to be accompanied by third parties or attorneys and may not document the hearing by the use of a recording device. The University will record the hearing and the recording will be University property. Students are introduced to the Board members and informed of the hearing’s agenda. The students will then have chance to speak about the incident, give their account for the incident and accept or deny responsibility for the incident. Students then will be asked any pertinent questions that the Board may have and then the student will then be told the minimum sanctions, if any, for the corresponding incident. Before the student is dismissed, the student is informed of a timeline when they can expect to hear the Board’s decision and to pick up their sanction letter, if applicable.

After the student is dismissed from the hearing, the Student Conduct Board will decide whether to hold the student responsible or not for the incident. The determination of the Board is made on the basis of whether it is more likely than not that the student violated the Student Handbook.

As a rule, the student will be informed of the Student Conduct Board’s decision in person and in writing. If a student fails to appear for the follow-up meeting with a Student Conduct Officer or is off-campus for a semester break, then any sanction letter and documentation will be mailed, emailed or placed on the student’s door, whichever is deemed appropriate by the University.

A student may be referred to a restorative justice process, where there will be dialogue between the responsible party and the harmed party/community.

### Appeals of Student Conduct Sanctions

Appeals of sanctions given by the Student Conduct Board, a Student Conduct Officer or a Resident Director (RD) are only accepted within 72 hours of when the student is informed of the decision, either verbally or in writing, whichever is first (except for fines related to missed Hall Meetings, as noted below). Appeals are not accepted after this time. Appeals must include the student’s reason for the appeal, personal contact information, and the sanctions the student is disputing. Appeals not including all this information will not be accepted.

Appeals will only be accepted for the following reasons:

- There was a procedural error in the Student Conduct Process that unfairly and materially affected the outcome of the Student Conduct Board’s decision.
- Evidence has been discovered that was not reasonably available at the time of the hearing.
- The sanctions that were assigned were substantially disproportionate to similar violations.

If a student wishes to appeal sanctions imposed by the Student Conduct Board or a Student Conduct Officer, they can do so by completing the appeals form online at [gcu.edu/studentconductappeals](http://gcu.edu/studentconductappeals).

Reason for Appeal	Time to Appeal	1st Appeal Level	2nd Appeal Level
Visitation	5 days	Student Conduct Manager or designee	Director of Resident Life or designee

Reason for Appeal	Time to Appeal	1st Appeal Level	2nd Appeal Level
Student Conduct Board or Officer decision	72 hours	Director of Res. Life and Res. Life Mgr. or designee	Dean of Students or designee
Fine/Charges given by office of Residence Life	30 days	Residence Life Appeal Committee	Res. Life Mgr. or designee

### Suspension or Expulsion from the University

It is always the goal of the Student Conduct Board to restore and redeem a student who violates a school policy. However, there may be times when a student’s suspension or expulsion from the University may be necessary for the health and safety of the entire community. In such cases, suspension or expulsion from the University will occur with a recommendation is made by the Student Conduct Board and the Dean of Students to the University Code of Conduct Committee.

### Students Who Fail to Complete Sanctions

If a student fails to complete an assigned sanction by the given deadline as outlined in a sanction letter, a hold will be placed on the student’s academic account and housing account. Making changes to a student’s schedule or their ability to choose housing will not be permitted until the sanctions have been completed.

### Abuse of the Student Conduct Process

Abuse of the Student Conduct Process is strictly prohibited and includes, but is not limited to:

- Failure to obey the notice from the Student Conduct Board or a Student Conduct Officer to appear for a hearing or meeting as part of the Student Conduct Process.
- Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a Student Conduct Board or Residence Life staff member.
- Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a Student Conduct Board meeting.
- Attempting to discourage an individual’s proper participating in, or use of, the Student Conduct Process.
- Harassment (verbal, physical, social media) and/or intimidation of a member of a Student Conduct Board prior to, during, and/or after a Student Conduct Board meeting.

### Sanctions for Conduct Violations

Every conduct situation is handled on a case-by-case basis. Sanctions (consequences) can be enhanced all the way up through being banned from housing and, if the Student Conduct Board deems it appropriate based on the circumstances, being referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University. The following are examples of sample sanctions that may be given to the student found to have violated the Student Handbook.

#### Alcohol

##### First Violation

In addition to legal consequences from the Phoenix PD if a minor is involved, sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Up to \$75 fine to be charged to the student’s account.

- Community service to be determined by the Student Conduct Board, of which five hours must be completed in Chapel and/or the Gathering.
- If the student is under the age of 21, a parent or guardian will be required to call and speak with a Student Conduct Officer or his/her designee regarding the incident.
- Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator

### Second Violation

In addition to legal consequences from the Phoenix PD if a minor is involved, sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Up to \$150 fine to be charged to the student's account.
- Community service to be determined by the Student Conduct Board.
- If the student is under the age of 21, a parent or guardian will be required to call and speak with a Student Conduct Officer or his/her designee regarding the incident.
- Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator

### Third Violation

In addition to legal consequences from the Phoenix PD if a minor is involved, sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- The student will lose campus housing privileges and will be banned from all residential areas on campus.
- Possible referral to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension from the University.
- Any additional offenses may result in being referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.
- Complete an Evaluation by a Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor (LISAC) and allow the facility to freely communicate with the Student Conduct Office.

### Providing to underage

In additions to being held to an alcohol violation, any student of legal age providing alcohol to underage students may receive loss of housing and/or referral to Code of Conduct.

### Civility and Respect

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Mediation with both parties involved.
- Written warning
- Possible community service hours.
- Loss of on-campus housing, potential removal from Grand Canyon University and possible law enforcement involvement.

### Physical Violence

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Up to \$125 fine.
- Community Service Hours
- Counseling
- Relocation
- Removal from Housing
- Possible recommendation to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.

### Physical One-on-One Fight

Students involved in a one-on-one fight will be sent through the Student Conduct Process. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Fine

- Community Service Hours
- Counseling
- Relocation
- Ban from campus housing at the discretion of the Student Conduct Board
- Involvement of the Phoenix Police Department depending on severity of physical harm.

### Extreme Physical Fight

Students involved in an extreme physical fight which includes, but is not limited to, multiple people vs. one person fight and hate crimes will be sent through the Student Conduct Process.

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Fine
- Community Service Hours
- Counseling Assessment
- Housing suspension
- Referral to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University
- Involvement of the Phoenix Police Department

### Drugs: Illegal and Un-prescribed

Any drug-related offense could be grounds for expedited sanctions that could result in suspension or expulsion from the University. Every situation involving illegal and/or un-prescribed drugs is handled on a case-by-case basis. Sanctions can be enhanced all the way up through being suspended from housing and, if the Student Conduct Board deems it appropriate based on the circumstances, being referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.

### Selling/Distribution of Illegal and Un-prescribed Drugs

In addition to legal consequences which may result from the involvement of the Phoenix PD, sanctions are:

- Student will be immediately removed from campus housing.
- Student will be referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.

### Illegal and Unprescribed Drugs Policy: First Violation

In addition to legal consequences which may result from the involvement of the Phoenix PD, sanctions may include but are not limited to:

- The student found violating the University drug policy will temporarily lose his/her student status for a specified period of time (usually a week), with resulting loss of all student rights and privileges. During the entire duration of a University Furlough, the student is not to attend class, University functions and/or to be on University property. The student must vacate the campus at the date and time noted in the sanction letter given to the student. The student will not be permitted to make up missed academic work prior to, during or after the stated period of furlough. If the University Furlough were to fall on the week of mid-terms or final exams, the student will be furloughed for the subsequent week the student is enrolled.
  - If seen or found on GCU property during the given furlough, the student will be referred to Code of Conduct for possible suspension or expulsion from the University
- Once the University Furlough has been completed and in certain situations, the student may also lose his/her campus housing privileges and be banned from all residential areas on campus for an extended duration. This will be determined

on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the Student Conduct Board.

- Up to \$250 fine to be charged to the student's account.
- Community service to be determined by the Student Conduct Board, of which five hours must be completed in Chapel or the Gathering.
- Random drug tests at the time, location and in the manner of the University's choosing and at the student's expense until graduation or no longer a student at GCU.
- If the student is under 21, a parent or guardian will be required to call and speak with a Student Conduct Officer or his/her designee regarding the incident.
- The student may also be required to complete a drug assessment, at his or her expense, to determine the level of dependency or abuse plus any resulting treatment.
- Students with extended housing bans may be reinstated to housing if conditions are met, which may include, but are not limited to, drug testing, treatment, and counseling.
- Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator

### **Illegal and Un-prescribed Drugs: Second Violation**

In addition to legal consequences which may result from the involvement of the Phoenix PD, sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Student will lose on-campus housing privileges and be banned from all residential areas.
- Student will be referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.
- If the student is under the age of 21, a parent or guardian will be required to call and speak with a Student Conduct Officer or his/her designee regarding the incident.

### **Electronic and Other Smoking Devices**

Students in possession of electronic or other smoking devices in living areas may be sent through the Student Conduct Process. Minimum sanctions include but are not limited to:

- Confiscation and destruction of devices by Public Safety.
- At the sole discretion of the Student Conduct Officers these items may be viewed as drug paraphernalia and treated as such. (See Illegal and Un-prescribed Drug section).

### **Visitation Violations**

Examples of visitation violations include, but are not limited to:

- Suite door is closed
- Visitation hours are over which includes the study rooms or floor lobbies
- Being in the bedroom (suite door open or closed)
- Past hours as determined by the Resident Director
- The intent to spend the night
- Spending the night
- Sexual activity as determined by the RD.

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- 1<sup>st</sup> violation: Recorded incident
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation: Community Standards Class
- 3<sup>rd</sup> violation: \$75 fine and loss of visitation privileges for three weeks
- 4<sup>th</sup> violation: Meet with a Student Conduct Officer and receive sanctions that may include but not limited to:
  - Community Service
  - Loss of Visitation Privileges
  - Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator

- Fine up to \$150
- Removal from Housing
- 5<sup>th</sup> violation: Student Conduct Board and possible removal from housing
- 6<sup>th</sup> violation: Removal from housing

Intent to spend the night, sexual activity, or being in a room significantly past hall hours may result in an acceleration of the sanction process. During this time of changes to the sanctioning of visitation the Student Conduct Office reserves the right to align last year's sanctions given with placement into this year's process.

### **Guest Privileges**

Violations of the Guest Policy may result in a \$50 fine to the student's account.

### **Guest-Overnight in Campus Housing**

Violations of the Overnight-Guest Policy may result in a \$50 per night/per guest fine to the student's account.

### **Hazing**

Minimum sanctions for hazing include, but are not limited to:

- Sent through the Student Conduct Process.
- \$100 fine
- Community Service
- Possible counseling
- Possible suspension from campus housing at the discretion of the Student Conduct Board
- Possible involvement of the Phoenix Police Department depending on severity of physical harm
- Possible referral to the Code of Conduct Board for suspension from the University.
- Suspension from campus housing, possible involvement of the Phoenix PD and possible referral to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.

### **Housing Guidelines**

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- \$50 Fine up to the pro-rated charge for semester housing

### **Fire Alarms**

Any students and their guests who do not immediately evacuate any living space once a fire alarm is sounded will be fined \$250.00.

Any student or room that has tampered with the smoke detector/fire alarm (covering, disabling, etc.) will be charged a \$250 fine. In addition, any student with non-approved items (including, but not limited to appliances and electronic smoking devices such as a vape) present in the room when the smoke detector is triggered, will be charged a \$500 fine for the first offense, and \$750 for the second offense. A third offense would be sent before the Student Conduct Board for possible removal from housing.

### **Pets**

Minimum fines start at \$150 for the initial violation and may be as much as \$25 per day above and beyond the initial fee.

### **Pranks**

Sanctions may include but are not limited to:

- Sent through the Student Conduct Process.
- Fine

- Community Service
- Possible suspension from campus housing at the discretion of the Student Conduct Board.
- Possible involvement of the Phoenix Police Department depending on severity of the prank.
- Possible referral to the Code of Conduct Board for suspension or expulsion from the University.

### Smoking

Smoking in undesignated areas may result in a verbal warning or a \$50 fine. Student may also have to pay cleaning & damage fines if they have smoked in their room/apartment. Triggering a fire alarm due to smoking cigarettes in a living area will result in a \$500.00 fine and \$750.00 for the second offense

### Theft and Vandalism

In addition to legal consequences which may result from the involvement of the Phoenix PD, the sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Repayment of stolen and/or damaged goods.
- Community service.
- If theft took place in his/her room, the student may be required to change rooms and live in and pay for a single room.
- Student may lose housing privileges and be banned from all residential areas on campus.
- The student may be referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension from the University.
- Any additional offenses may result in being referred to the Code of Conduct Committee for suspension or expulsion from the University.
- Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator

### Weapons

Students possessing weapons on campus in violation of GCU's Weapons-Free Campus Policy may face sanctions up to and including referral to the Code of Conduct Committee and/or the Threat Assessment Team for possible suspension or expulsion from the University. Students possessing a firearm on campus are subject to immediate expulsion from the University.

Violation of the Weapons Policy (Non-Firearm) may result in:

- Verbal Warning
- Fine
- Confiscation
- Educational sanctions given by Student Conduct Coordinator
- Community Service

## Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Grand Canyon University Behavioral Intervention Team (GCU BIT) is to implement timely interventions that protect the safety and well-being of the student and the University community at large. The GCU BIT was established to identify, assess, and monitor students displaying moderate to extreme levels of concern, disruption, and/or behavioral dysregulation, including homicidal, suicidal, or self-injurious threats. The primary goal of the GCU BIT is to provide

risk assessments and early intervention in order to identify appropriate resources and referrals before a crisis arises.

### Membership

The GCU BIT is composed of the following individuals from various university departments:

- Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students
- Case Management
- Clinical Counseling
- Academic Compliance
- Residence Life
- Public Safety

As appropriate, depending on the student's various roles at the University, the GCU BIT may consult with other departments if necessary.

### Reporting Procedures

The GCU BIT utilizes various reporting methods to gather information regarding concerning or disruptive behaviors, including but not limited to Wellness Checks, staff and faculty reporting, and incidents that are reported through GCU Residence Life and GCU Public Safety. These reports and the students' overall GCU experience are reviewed as needed by a delegation of the GCU BIT to determine an initial level of concern and appropriate responses as necessary.

### Meeting Schedule and Protocol

During the academic semester, the GCU BIT meets weekly to review new incidents and to monitor student progress. When notified of an incident, the team will conduct an investigation, determine the level of concern, and recommend appropriate responsive action and is considered on a case by case basis. These actions may include connecting the student to campus resources, referrals to off campus resources, and contacting the Emergency Contact on file with the University to include them in the process.

### Potential Outcomes

The GCU BIT may recommend any of the following outcomes, based on the cumulative level of concern and urgency to ensure the safety and well-being of the student of concern.

#### Case Management

The team may recommend that a student of concern participate in a case management appointment. This appointment will include a screening for mental health supports, as well as referrals for applicable campus and community resources.

#### Crisis Counseling and Crisis Response Network

The team may utilize GCU Crisis Counseling or the Maricopa Crisis Response Network to efficiently determine the student's current lethality and risk to self or others. These actions will include a clinical recommendation for the appropriate level of treatment for the student of concern.

#### Mandated Assessment

The GCU BIT may require the student to participate in a mandated assessment through GCU clinical counseling services. This assessment will review the student's psychosocial information as well as the student's presenting concern and level of risk. This assessment will provide a clinical recommendation for a care plan.

#### Health Management Contract

The GCU BIT may implement a Health Management Contract for the student of concern. This contract will outline the student's



care plan. This care plan may include academic accommodations through Student Disability Services, as well a mental health care plan to include psychiatric and counseling parameters (frequency of visits, level care, medication management assistance, etc.). Students must adhere to the terms of the contract and failure to comply is seen as a failure to comply with a reasonable University directive and may result in a Code of Conduct violation. Please see the University's policies for Code of Conduct in the University Policy Handbook.

### **Emergency Contact**

Upon determination of elevated level of risk, the GCU BIT will contact the student's listed emergency contact in compliance with FERPA and HIPAA laws. This contact will include a brief notification of the student's presenting concern as well as an overview of the GCU BIT process. The only exception to this responsive action will be when the emergency contact is contraindicated to create greater risk for the student of concern.

### **Interim Suspension**

The GCU BIT may implement an interim suspension from campus life during the BIT decision-making process. This may include Emergency Contact notification, academic accommodations, or housing restrictions.

### **Emergency Mental Health Policy**

The GCU BIT may enact the University Emergency Mental Health Policy found in the University Policy Handbook.

### **Records**

Each GCU BIT meeting will be documented and records are maintained to track students' progress and compliance. This documentation will include a summary of each student of concern discussed, including the initial incident, departmental interactions, level of concern, and departmental response actions, as well as the cumulative level of concern and cumulative recommended response. All records are confidential and access is limited to GCU BIT members.

## **Emergency Mental Health Policy**

There are times when the University may require a student to seek a professional mental health evaluation and/or treatment if there is sufficient evidence that the student is engaging/likely to engage in behavior that represents a danger to her/himself or others, or substantially disrupts the learning environment and activities of the campus community. There are limits to the University's ability to care for students with serious psychological conditions and the University reserves the right to decide, in certain circumstances, when it cannot provide educational and/or other services to a particular student who creates an emergency situation.

In emergency situations, the University reserves the right to do any or all of the following:

- Consult with the student and refer her/him to a mental healthcare facility or provider (GCU Counseling Services, an area hospital, licensed mental health or healthcare professional, or Urgent Psychiatric Care Center)(hereinafter "GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider") for a mental health evaluation. The cost for any off-campus referral will be at the expense of the student.
- If a student refuses to voluntarily seek help, the Empact – SPC Crisis line (480-784-1500) and/or Urgent Psychiatric Care Center (602-416-7600) will be called. They will assess the student and determine if transportation to a facility is necessary.

- Remove the student from campus (including on-campus housing) until such time that a full mental health and/or medical evaluation is completed and the Dean of Students and/or Registrar approves the student's return to campus.
- Require the student to sign appropriate release forms allowing designated staff at Grand Canyon University to consult clinician(s) serving the student.
- Refer the student to the University Student Conduct Process if the student's behavior has violated any rules, policies or procedures.

Any of the foregoing emergency decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, and in alignment with the recommendation(s) of the applicable GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider.

In a non-emergency situation, if a student experiences serious psychological difficulties that become chronic, dangerous, or excessively disruptive, the Dean of Students and/or Registrar (or their designees) may require the student to be assessed by a GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider. The purpose of this assessment is to determine:

- Whether the student is safe to remain on campus and does not pose a threat to him/herself or others and is able to adequately care for him/herself.
- Whether the student is able to function both socially and academically and will not cause any disruption to the community or normal functioning of the University.

After receiving the written assessment, the Dean of Students and/or Registrar (or their designees) will make a decision about the student's status, which may include any of the emergency actions detailed above.

In the event of a suicide attempt, the student will be immediately removed from campus. The determination whether a suicide attempt occurred will be made by a GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider.

If removal from campus is deemed necessary under the terms of this policy, GCU will contact the student's Emergency Contact, and the student will be remanded to that person's care. GCU will notify the student and the student's Emergency Contact that the student will not be permitted to return GCU's campus until the student receives approval from the Dean of Students and/or Registrar (or their designees) in accordance with this policy. The Emergency Contact will be responsible for making immediate housing arrangements for the student at this time (or upon release from emergency medical care, if applicable). Upon request, GCU will refund prorated housing costs for the time the student is not permitted to live in GCU's residential facilities. If, after a student has been notified that he or she has been removed from campus under this policy, he or she violates the prohibition by visiting campus, such violation may result in review with the University Code of Conduct Committee.

A student removed from campus pursuant to this policy may return to campus only after a follow-up assessment has been performed by a GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider. After receiving the follow-up assessment, the Dean of Students and/or Registrar (or their designees) will make a decision about the student's status, which may include the following options:

- Immediate return to the campus, provided the student signs and follows a Health Management Contract with the SDS Office, Office of Residence Life, and the GCU Counseling Services Office. Failure to follow the contract will result in review with the University Code of Conduct Committee.
- Student's return to campus limited to class attendance, with residence hall restriction remaining in place.

- Student's return to campus deferred until additional assessment or treatment can be obtained.
- Student's return to campus deferred indefinitely due to significant and specific concerns about continued danger to him/herself or others and/or disruption to the community

All decisions made pursuant to this policy will be on a case by case basis and aligned with recommendations made by a GCU-Approved Mental Health Provider.

In the best interest of a removed student, SDS will work with her/him and faculty to offer the student the ability to continue in

his or her Traditional campus classes online, where available, at no additional cost. If the student is enrolled in classes which are not available online, the student will be dropped from the course(s) and the student may submit a grievance to receive a refund for the portion of the class(es) not completed.

In some circumstances, Grand Canyon University reserves the right to notify the parents of the student and appropriate University officials, including academic deans and faculty, due to the potentially serious nature of the situation, as permitted by law.

# Glossary

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The following is a glossary of commonly used terms:

**Borrower-based Academic Year:** A financial aid year based on each student's enrollment. The year for undergraduate programs is defined as a minimum of 24 earned credits and 30 instructional weeks. The academic year for graduate programs is defined as a minimum of 16 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks. The academic year for doctoral programs is defined as a minimum of 12 earned credits and 32 instructional weeks. All nontraditional students use this type of financial aid year.

**Doctoral student:** A learner who is currently taking courses that has not yet earned a doctoral degree, but already holds a master's degree.

**Enrollment:** A student's program of study

**Enrollment Cumulative GPA:** GPA earned on a program of study or enrollment

**Masters student:** A student who is currently taking courses that has not yet earned a master's degree, but already holds a baccalaureate degree.

**Nontraditional Student:** Any student who is not attending campus courses. This includes online and professional studies students.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress:** Students are required to maintain two measurements of satisfactory academic program, GPA and % progression as measured by attempted versus completed courses. If either of these are not maintained, a student is said to not be making satisfactory academic progress.

**Semester-based Academic Year:** A financial aid year based on terms, specifically the semester. All traditional campus students use this type of financial aid year.

**Traditional Campus Student:** Any student who is taking courses on GCU's traditional campus.

**Undergraduate Student:** A student who is currently taking courses that has not yet earned a baccalaureate degree.

**Unencumbered license:** A license that is in good standing. The formal rule definition is that " 'good standing' " means that the license or certificate is not presently subject to any disciplinary action, consent order, or settlement agreement". This means that the nurse is not under current discipline (does not include Decree of Censure as once the nurse signs, the decree is in the past). Would not include "under investigation" because there is no PRESENT disciplinary action--may be one in the future but not in the present.

# Appendix A

## Dissertation Milestone Table

Review Levels and Final Approval	Learner Submitted Document(s) for Review	GCU Dissertation Form Required	Reviewing and/or Approval Authority	Optimal Progression Point	Minimum Progression Point
<b>Level 1 Review: Prospectus Review and Recommendation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(GCU D-20)-Initiated by chair after Methodologist Approval of Prospectus</li> <li>10 Strategic Points</li> <li>Research Prospectus</li> </ul>	D-20 – Dissertation Prospectus Approval	Chair and Methodologist	RES-885 PSY-825 RES-871	DIS-955 PSY-955 DBA-955
<b>Level 2: Proposal Review and Recommendation by Academic Quality Review (AQR) Reviewer for Proposal Defense Conference Call</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Reviewed Dissertation Proposal (Chapters 1-3) with Scored Criteria Tables</li> <li>Committee Reviewed Dissertation Proposal (Chapters 1-3) without Criteria Tables</li> </ul>	No Form: Email sent with AQR Reviewer’s approval for Defense Call	Chair loads required documents to initiate this review.  Dissertation Committee AQR Reviewer	DIS-955 PSY-955 DBA-955	DIS-960 PSY-960 DBA-960
<b>Level 3 Review: Proposal Defense and Dissertation Committee Approval of Proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 2 AQR Approved Dissertation Proposal (Chapters 1-3)</li> <li>Updated 10 Strategic Points document</li> <li>Dissertation Proposal PowerPoint Presentation for Defense Call</li> </ul>	D-35 - AQR Dissertation Proposal Approval	Dissertation Committee	DIS-960 PSY-960 DBA-960	DIS-965 PSY-965 DBA-965
<b>Level 4 Review: Institutional Review Board (IRB) Review and Approval</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed GCU D-20 Form</li> <li>Completed GCU D-35 Form</li> <li>Approved Research Prospectus</li> <li>Updated 10 Strategic Points document</li> <li>Committee Approved Dissertation Proposal (Chapters 1-3) Clean Copy</li> <li>Data Collection Instruments</li> <li>Site Approvals</li> <li>Final IRB documents (updated from Level 2/3 reviews by the Learner/approved by Chair if applicable)</li> </ul>	D-50 – Approval to Conduct Research	IRB Director  Learner loads required documents into IRB system. Chair approves and submits documents from IRB system to initiate this review.	DIS-960 PSY-960 DBA-960	DIS-966 PSY-966 DBA-966

Review Levels and Final Approval	Learner Submitted Document(s) for Review	GCU Dissertation Form Required	Reviewing and/or Approval Authority	Optimal Progression Point	Minimum Progression Point
<b>Level 5 Review: AQR Review and Recommendation for Dissertation Defense Conference Call</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Reviewed Dissertation Manuscript (Chapters 1-5) with Scored Criteria Tables</li> <li>Committee Reviewed Dissertation Manuscript (Chapters 1-5) without Criteria Tables</li> </ul>	No Form: Email sent with AQR Reviewer's approval for Defense Call	Chair loads required documents to initiate this review.  Dissertation Committee AQR Reviewer	DIS-960 PSY-960 DBA-960	DIS-967 PSY-967 DBA-967
<b>Level 6 Review: Dissertation Review and Recommendation by Full Committee for Level 7 Review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 5 AQR Approved Dissertation Manuscript (Chapters 1-5)</li> <li>Dissertation PowerPoint Presentation</li> </ul>	D-65 – AQR Dissertation Defense Approval	Dissertation Committee	DIS-965 PSY-965 DBA-965	DIS-968 PSY-968 DBA-968
<b>Level 7 Review: Form/ Format Review &amp; Approval Recommendation of Dissertation for Level 8 Review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee and AQR Approved) Dissertation with all final editing and revisions from Dissertation Defense completed and approved by Chair</li> <li>Form and Format Checklist Completed by Learner and Reviewed/Signed by Chair</li> <li>IRB Closeout Form</li> </ul>	D-75 – Form and Format Approval of Dissertation	Chair loads required documents to initiate this review.  Form & Format Reviewer	DIS-965 PSY-965 DBA-965	DIS-970 PSY-970 DBA-970
<b>Level 8 Review: Dean's and Final Approval of Dissertation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Dissertation Manuscript for Dean's Approval and Signature</li> </ul>	D-80 – Final Approval and Dean's Signature on Manuscript	Chair submits required documents for Dean's Review to initiate this review  Dean, College of Doctoral Studies Director, Office of Academic Research	DIS-965/ After courses completed. PSY-965/ After courses completed DBA-965/ After courses completed	DIS-970/ After courses completed. PSY-970/ After courses completed. DBA-970/ After courses completed.
<b>ProQuest Publication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PDF of Dean Signed Dissertation Manuscript with Signature Page Inserted</li> </ul>		CDS administrative staff	After courses completed.	After courses completed.