Program Requirements

Do I qualify for STEP?
In order to participate in STEP, students must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a Virginia resident;
- Be accepted into and plan to attend George Mason University as a freshman for Fall 2019;
- Qualify for in-state tuition;
- Be a first-time first-year student;
- Be a first-generation college student, meaning your parent(s)/guardian(s): (1) did not receive or complete any level of post-secondary education, (2) enrolled at or earned a two-year degree from a community college, and/or (3) earned any level of post-secondary education outside the United States. These students may have older siblings who have completed a degree;
- Earned a 2.75 GPA or higher while in high school; and
- Have a desire to achieve success in college academics and as a student leader in the Mason community.

Can I make the summer commitment to STEP?
STEP summer prepares students for their transition to George Mason University. To successfully complete the summer program, students critically engage in academics and leadership development opportunities.

Over the course of the six weeks in the summer, you will be expected to:

- Move onto campus on Sunday, June 16th, 2019;
- Attend New Student Orientation on Monday June 17th and Tuesday June 18th, 2019;
- Participate in the full program, from Sunday June 16th through Saturday July 27th, 2019, including weekends;
- Live on campus with a roommate in the housing STEP provides;
- Accept our No Cars on Campus policy and secure rides to and from campus at the beginning and end of STEP summer portion (STEP will provide all necessary transportation for trips and excursions);
- Make a commitment to excel in one general education requirement class;
- Meet with STEP Mentor, Mason Mentor, and ODIME + LGBTQ Resources staff as needed to discuss your challenges and successes;
- Attend STEP workshops, leadership series, socials and receptions as require;
- Attend STEP field trip(s) to Washington D.C., etc.; and
- Stay within George Mason University’s campus grounds AT ALL TIMES unless attending a STEP field trip or accompanied by STEP staff.

What happens after the summer STEP program?
Students who successfully complete the summer portion of STEP transition into the fall semester as STEP Scholars. As STEP Scholars, you will be expected to:

- Attend one of the two STEP sections of University 100 in the Fall 2019 semester.
- Regularly meet with ODIME + LGBTQ Resources staff for check-ins, support, and guidance.
- Attend STEP social events, networking opportunities, group meetings, etc.

Please contact us via email with your questions or to set up an phone appointment: Step@gmu.edu

Priority Deadline: Monday, April 15, 2019 by 11:59 pm; Students who apply by this deadline receive priority consideration.

Final Deadline: Monday, April 29th, 2019 by 11:59pm; No applications or recommendations will be accepted after this date.