



**JAMES MADISON  
UNIVERSITY®**

## COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM APRIL 2021



### WE ARE TRYING THIS AGAIN... **WE NEED YOUR INPUT!**

Please take a brief moment to share your thoughts on the format and timing of our Counselor Open House by completing this one question [survey](https://jmu.questionpro.com/t/AQsuhZIS3W). We thank you in advance for your input.

<https://jmu.questionpro.com/t/AQsuhZIS3W>

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# THAT'S A WRAP

## Decision Packets

On Wednesday, March 17th, the Office of Admissions mailed each high school counseling department the decisions of their deferred Early Action applicants and Regular Decision applicants. Each packet was addressed to the Director of Counseling.

If you have not yet received this mailing or if you simply would like a digital copy of this packet for your high school, please email your [regional counselor](#).

## Admissions Cycle Statistics

- Total Applications: **22,004**
- Acceptance Rate: **81%**
- Students who submitted standardized test scores: **29%**
  - Average SAT: **1241**
  - Average ACT: **27**



Aerial view of the Quad on a beautiful sunny day.

## ADMITTED STUDENT NEXT STEPS

### **Decision made, deposit paid**

Is your student ready to commit to JMU? While all admitted students have until the deposit deadline of May 1st, students are encouraged to pay their deposit now. The given selection slot for choosing first-year residence halls is determined by when the student paid their JMU admission deposit.

If your students have financial need or are unable to pay the \$400 amount, have them reach out to their [regional counselor](#). We will work with students to secure a partial or full deposit waiver.

Instructions on paying the admission deposit can be found [here](#).

### **Defer Admission - Gap Year Policy**

If you have students that have expressed a desire to defer their admission, please refer them to our Gap Year Policy.

To be approved for a deferral of admission, the admitted student would need to provide a detailed explanation of their proposed plan for the gap year in the form of a letter addressed to the Dean of Admissions and sign an acknowledgment of our gap year guidelines. Students who have been awarded a scholarship from JMU and wish to take a gap year should contact the awarding department to discuss eligibility and process for scholarship deferral.

\*It is important to note that students may not enroll full-time at another college or university during their deferral period.

**The deadline to submit a gap year request is June 15.**

Please refer to the [Gap Year Policy website](#) for submission instructions.

### **Decide not to attend JMU?**

Please encourage students who have made the decision not to accept our offer of admission to fill out the [application withdrawal form](#). This will notify us of their intent to enroll elsewhere and stop all communication from our office and our campus partners.

## ORIENTATION 101

For your students that have paid their deposit to JMU, we are excited to officially welcome them into the JMU Community! The next step is for matriculated students to work through our three-phrase orientation process.

### **The One Book**

The [One Book](#) is a one-stop-shop that contains all of the important steps, details, and information students need to begin the transition to JMU. The One Book and its companion website will guide students through a series of tasks to complete in preparation for Summer Springboard and their arrival to campus in August.

Some of the steps on the to-do list include:

- Creating a JMU student email account
- Emergency notification and contact information
- Preparing for class enrollment
  - confirming or changing major
- Math Assessment & Foreign Language Placement Exam
- First Year Housing
  - finding roommate and suitemates
  - signing housing contract
  - room selection
- JMU Access Card (student ID card)
- Immunization Forms
- And more!



### **Summer Springboard**

This is a one day summer orientation program that provides each student with the opportunity to meet with their academic advisor, connect with other students, and engage with their Orientation Peer Advisor (OPA). This is a required step and there will be both in-person and virtual options for students and families to attend.

### **1787 Weeks of Welcome**

This is the official beginning of each student's JMU experience...students will move into their residence hall, reconnect with their OPA, meet their First year Orientation Guides (FROGs), and be immersed in several academic and social programs throughout the first few weeks to help them become acclimated to campus.

**As your students have questions about this process, please direct them to the Orientation Office at 540.568.1787 or [orientation@jmu.edu](mailto:orientation@jmu.edu).**

# EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT

## Advanced Placement Program

- The Advanced Placement program, administered by the College Board, provides an opportunity for students to complete college-level course work at secondary schools. Prospective students who complete the AP examinations, and achieve an appropriate score, are eligible to earn college credit. The JMU credit hour equivalencies are reviewed annually by academic departments.
- JMU will accept these scores electronically from the testing agency. Please contact the agency to request that scores be sent directly to JMU. Student score report copies will not be accepted.
- For more information and the most recent scores, refer to the [Advanced Placement Program](#).

## International Baccalaureate Program

- JMU recognizes the International Baccalaureate diploma and individual IB courses by awarding credit on IB higher-level examinations in essentially the same manner in which credit is allowed for Advanced Placement courses. Some standard-level examinations will also be considered for credit. The JMU credit hour equivalencies are reviewed annually by academic departments.
- JMU will accept these scores electronically from the testing agency. Please contact the agency to request that scores be sent directly to JMU. Student score report copies will not be accepted.
- For more information and the most recent scores, refer to the [International Baccalaureate Program](#).

## Cambridge International Program

- Students who participated in the Cambridge International Examination program may be awarded general education or other credit. Evaluation of credit will be directed by University Studies in coordination with the appropriate departmental office.
- For more information and the most recent scores, refer to the [Cambridge International Program](#).

## Dual Enrollment

- Transfer credits are only accepted from institutions accredited by a regional accrediting body.
- Students will earn credit for all transferable courses in which they have earned a **grade of "C" or better**, but their grade point average for those courses does not transfer to their JMU record. Their JMU cumulative grade point average is calculated only based on grades earned for course work completed at JMU.
- Students can find currently accepted courses on the [Transfer Credit Equivalency Guide](#).
- Official transcripts should be sent to the Office of the Registrar (MSC 3528, 738 S Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22807) via mail or via email to [transfer\\_credit@jmu.edu](mailto:transfer_credit@jmu.edu) for review.
- For more information, refer to the [Transfer Policies](#).

# TRANSFER ADMISSIONS 101

JMU considers a student a [transfer applicant](#) if they have taken *any college courses after high school graduation*. As a part of the transfer application review process, we consider transfer applicants' college courses, grades in those college classes, strength of high school curriculum, and high school grades. The more credit hours a student has earned in college, the less emphasis will be placed on their high school record.

## **Competitive Transfer Applicants should have:**

- Successfully completed one course in each of the four core subject areas:
  - Math (equivalent or higher than a pre-calculus level)
  - Lab science
  - Social Science
  - Language (English, speech and communications, or foreign language)
- Cumulative GPA above a 3.0

A student with less than 24 credit hours earned in college will typically be evaluated similarly to how we would review an applicant for freshman admission.

Whether a student attends a four-year institution or a community college, *there are many pathways to JMU*, including:

- The Guaranteed Admission Agreement
- Regular Admission with an Associate Degree
- Regular Admission without an Associate Degree

## **Helpful resources:**

- Guaranteed Admissions Agreements from [Virginia Community Colleges](#) and [non-Virginia Community Colleges](#)
- Transfer [Application Process](#)
- [Transferology](#) - transfer course equivalency tool
- JMU specific [Virginia Community College Advisors](#)
- Dates and [Deadlines](#)

Please have your student reach out to their [regional counselor](#) with questions. We can advise students on course selection and how to build a competitive application for transfer admission.



## WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Check out our [counselor web page](#), stay tuned for next month's newsletter, and check out our [helpful resource guides](#).

Your students can stay connected with our office as well. They can check out our [virtual visit options](#), [join JMYou](#), [download our virtual tour](#), and watch the [Open House recordings](#). JMYou is our social media platform for prospective students to learn more about majors and campus life and is a place where they can connect with other prospective students and current JMU students.

We invite you and your students to follow us on Instagram [@JMUadmissions](#), too. If you have not already, please consider joining our counselor [mailing list](#) to stay up to date on all things JMU!



Beautiful spring flowers off of the sidewalks of the Quad.

## UPCOMING WEBINAR:

April 20th, 10-11:15 AM JMU Mock Committee Experience:

[Register Here](#)

Ever want to know how the admissions decision process works at JMU? Join Admissions Counselors for a mock committee experience on Tuesday, April 20th at 10:00 AM to do just that. First, you'll learn how we review applications and make decisions. Then, participants will be split into small groups and given mock applications about which your group will recommend an admissions decision.

\*Due to the nature of this session, we will be unable to record this and post on our website. We hope you are able to join us live!

\*\*Please also note the **change of date and time** for this session. We apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused.

## RECORDED WEBINARS:

Miss one of our previous webinars?

[Check out all past webinars on our website.](#)

Get caught up on Understanding JMU Admissions Decisions, Crafting Strong Class Schedules, Financial Aid 101, Admissions 101, and more!

Please feel free to email the Counselor Education Program at [counselored@jmu.edu](mailto:counselored@jmu.edu) or reach out to your [regional admissions counselor](#) with any questions or concerns.

### HAVE WE MISSED ANYTHING?

Do you have ideas for new content, questions, or concerns?

Please let us know! We are always looking for ways to improve and to provide the most current and helpful information possible. Your opinions and ideas are valuable to us.