

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM FEBRUARY 2022



SAVE THE DATE: COUNSELOR VISIT OPPORTUNITY

Friday, April 22nd - Visiting Counselor Day

Join us on campus for a campus tour and
mock-committee experience.

More information and
registration coming soon.

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EARLY ACTION APPLICATION NUMBERS

James Madison University is experiencing a historic increase in applications from the Class of 2026. Early Action decisions were posted by JMU's Office of Admissions on Thursday, January 13—beginning another exciting season for new Dukes.

JMU received 18,533 Early Action applications before the November 1 deadline, a 40% increase from fall 2020's 13,190 total. There was remarkable growth in both the out-of-state EA applicant pool (50% increase) and the in-state EA applicant pool (44% increase).

In joining the Common Application this year, JMU has become more accessible to many students. We saw a 106% increase in our EA applicants who identified as first-generation college students (2,644 this year) and a 49% increase in our EA applicants who identified as non-white/under-represented minority (4,786 this year).

Even with the increase in applications, we were pleased to maintain the same approach in our admissions process as we have in past years. Our goal continues to be to admit students that we believe are academically prepared for the rigors of a JMU education. The quality of the early applicant pool was very strong this year, and we were able to offer admission to approximately 75% of Early Action applicants.

Our enrollment goal is holding steady as we are targeting a freshman class size of 4,750.

We look forward to sharing additional insights on the entire applicant pool as that information becomes available. We also encourage you to watch last month's webinar [recording](#) on this same topic.

CHOICES

CHOICES, our Admitted Student Open House, is the best way for students to explore JMU and begin their Madison Experience.

Our main events occur *in person* on **February 19, April 1, and April 4**, starting at 8 a.m. (EST). Your students are encouraged to [register here](#) to attend.

The main event includes the following programs:

- CHOICES Welcome
- Academic Sessions (each academic department will be presenting)
- Campus and Residence Hall Tours
- Student Life Showcase
- And more!

Over the next two months, we will offer additional in-person and virtual events for admitted students to learn more about JMU.

Check out these events and share the excitement with admitted students on our [Class of 2026 site](#).



HONORS COLLEGE UPDATE

The JMU Honors College is also experiencing an increase in applications this year. They had over 1,400 Early Action applicants and around 275 Regular Decision applicants. EA decisions were posted at the end of January and RD decisions are expected in mid/late-March.

Understanding Their Decisions:

- Admit – Your student was offered admission to JMU’s Honor College for the fall!
- Waitlist – Depending on available space, your student may be offered admission to the Honors College for the fall.
- Deferred Enrollment – Your student has the opportunity to enter the Honors College Spring 2023, dependent on academic performance in the student’s first semester at JMU.
- Deny – Your student was not selected for admission into the Honors College at this time.

Questions about the JMU Honors College can be sent to honors@jmu.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS

As a public university with a relatively small endowment, scholarships to JMU are extremely competitive. In fact, less than five percent of our Early Action admitted students received a scholarship directly from the university this year.

Our freshmen recruitment scholarships are awarded as part of the admissions process, however, that does not mean that Admissions is awarding the scholarships. Instead, academic colleges and departments use data from the admissions application to determine who to offer scholarships to.

In JMU’s process, the various departments across campus make all offers **upfront** in the preliminary financial aid award notice that is available in the MyMadison Applicant Center. If you have a student who was not awarded a scholarship in their preliminary award notice, they were unfortunately not selected.

As students look at comparing JMU to other schools, we encourage them to compare the net costs of the schools versus just looking at scholarship offers. For example, it can be less expensive to attend JMU without a scholarship than it is to attend other comparable schools that may be offering them a scholarship.

UPCOMING WEBINAR: CRAFTING STRONG CLASS SCHEDULES (RISING 9TH-11TH)

Tuesday, March 15th, 10-11 AM

Join Jason Gochenour, current Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and a former Director of High School Counseling, as he shares information on creating a strong high school schedule that makes your students competitive for admission. He will provide recommendations on the courses students should take in each of the core areas for each year of high school.

*Please feel free to invite any of your colleagues who would benefit from this session, too! [Register Here](#)

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Check out our updated [counselor website](#), including the [downloadable resources section](#). This is a great place to find additional information on various academic programs, our admissions process, and other topics of interest.

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!

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.

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