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## Mason Autism Support Initiative (MASI)

### Program Information

Thank you for your interest in the **Mason Autism Support Initiative (MASI)** at George Mason University. MASI provides individualized services beyond standard accommodations for students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Through the program, students will engage with a Learning Strategist, Peer Mentors, and attend skill-building classes, and social events. Qualified applicants must already be admitted to George Mason University. Services provided to program participants are individualized and based upon disability documentation and a collaborative assessment of needs. Students also have access to standard accommodations provided through Disability Services (DS). Please note: if you are already connected with DS, the documentation you have already submitted may be sufficient for considered enrollment into MASI and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

To be considered for admission into MASI, the following information must be submitted:

- MASI Application (to be completed by the student).
- \$25.00 [MASI application fee](#)
- Current and comprehensive documentation of disability to include appropriate written evaluation by a licensed professional, according to established documentation guidelines (described on the next page).
- Copy of most recent Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan, if applicable.
- Copy of most recent academic transcript from high school/college (official or unofficial).
- At least two (2) completed Educational Overview forms from someone that has worked with the student in an academic setting (to be submitted by applicant in sealed envelope or mailed/emailed directly from recommender).
- Student Self-Reflection Form (to be completed by student)
- Parent/Guardian Response Form (to be completed by parent/guardian)
- Copy of acceptance letter into George Mason University, if you are an incoming student.
- Personal essay (prompt included in application).

Email the complete application packet by **March 15, 2025** to [masi@gmu.edu](mailto:masi@gmu.edu) or by mail to:

ATTN: MASI  
Disability Services  
4400 University Dr., MSN 5C9  
Student Union Building 1, Suite 2500  
Fairfax, VA 22030

## **MASI Documentation Guidelines**

MASI is a part of Disability Services (DS) and collaborates with students to provide support and reasonable accommodations that are individualized and based on current documentation, current functional limitations, and a collaborative assessment of needs.

Criteria for the source, scope, and content of documentation varies with each individual situation. Helpful information may include medical documentation, evaluations (e.g., psychological, psychoeducational, neuropsychological, educational), or a detailed assessment from a diagnosing/treating healthcare provider.

Documentation should include:

- Credentials of evaluator or licensed professional in the field related to specific diagnosis or impairment, on official letterhead with contact information.
- Diagnostic information that identifies the impairment, condition, and/or disability, and provides information about the current functional impact on the student's ability to participate in academics, programs, and services.
- Details regarding typical progression or prognosis of the condition.
- A description of the diagnostic methodology used (e.g., criteria, methods, procedures, clinical narrative, observation, specific results).
- Any description of current and past accommodations, services, medications, auxiliary aids, assistive devices, and support services that are logically related to functional limitations.

Students should include any supplement documentation, if available, such as an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a 504.

Contact MASI at [masi@gmu.edu](mailto:masi@gmu.edu) or call 703.993.2474 with any questions about documentation.

# Mason Autism Support Initiative

## Application for Admission 2025-2026 Academic Year

Students should complete the following information and submit this form as part of your application packet. This application for admission will be used to assist the MASI team by providing valuable information to assist in understanding your strengths, needs, concerns, and goals. Please complete all questions accurately and to the best of your ability. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. The information requested will be held in complete confidentiality and will only be reviewed by MASI/Disability Services staff or application committee members.

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Name:  G#:

Nickname (if applicable):

Date of Birth:  Age:

Preferred Pronouns:

Address:

City:  State:

Zip Code:

Student Cell Phone:  Student Email:

### **PARENT(S)/LEGAL GUARDIAN(S):**

Name:  Phone:

Email:

Name:  Phone:

Email:

**SUPPORTS & SERVICES PREVIOUSLY UTILIZED:**

- ☐ IEP ☐ 504 Plan ☐ Tutoring Services
- ☐ Speech & Language Therapy ☐ Occupational Therapy
- ☐ Group Therapy ☐ Individual Therapy/Psychological Services
- ☐ Other:

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

Anticipated Major:

**High School Students:**

High School Name & Location:

Diploma Received: ☐ Advanced ☐ Standard ☐ Other:

**Transfer Students:**

Institution Name & Location:

Credits Earned

Degree Received

**Current GMU Students:**

Academic Year

Credits Earned

**How did you hear about the program?**

- ☐ Parents
- ☐ Counselor
- ☐ Mental Health Professional
- ☐ Teacher/Professor
- ☐ Individual Research
- ☐ Other

### **PERSONAL ESSAY:**

The Mason Autism Support Initiative (MASI) empowers students in the areas of self-advocacy, independence, and career exploration. Through the program, students will work with a Learning Strategist and Peer Mentor as well as attend skill-building classes, and social events. Learning strategists and peer mentors provide support with academics and social engagement. The curriculum in the skill-building classes focuses on campus resources and acclimation to college, identity development, and career readiness. Student-initiated social events provide an opportunity for students in MASI to connect with each other and the larger campus community. With all of the program components in mind, please legibly write or type a minimum of a 400-word essay responding to the following prompt:

Why would participation in MASI shape or positively contribute to your overall college experience? How do you think MASI would support you in your personal and academic growth needed for college and post-college success? Please include information about your academic/social strengths and challenges.

### **ADMISSION INTO THE UNIVERSITY:**

#### **Received GMU Acceptance Letter:**

- ☐ Yes, it is included with application packet
- ☐ No, I have submitted the application, but currently waiting for a decision

\*Applications may be submitted before a student receives a GMU acceptance letter, however application packets are not marked as complete until we receive official notice a student has been accepted into the university.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE:**

I certify that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that to falsify information may be grounds for discontinuation of the application process or dismissal from the program without refund should I be accepted.

Applicant's Signature

Date

***Your complete MASI application packet is due by March 15, 2025.  
Decisions will be made by April 11, 2025.***

***Please send application materials to Disability Services by email  
at [masi@gmu.edu](mailto:masi@gmu.edu) or by mail at the address below.***

*If you have questions, please contact Disability Services at 703-993-2474, or  
[masi@gmu.edu](mailto:masi@gmu.edu).*

ATTN: MASI  
Disability Services  
4400 University Dr., MSN 5C9  
Student Union Building 1, Suite 2500  
Fairfax, VA 22030