

RIDE-ALONG APPLICATION

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT
 4393 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
 FAIRFAX, VA 22030
 703-993-2810
www.gmu.edu/police



The ride-along program provides members of the public the opportunity to observe and experience, first-hand, various functions of the police department. "Ride-along" includes riding as a passenger with an officer on patrol, walking foot patrols, or observing the workday of members engaged in other functions within the Department, such as the Police Communications Center.

Eligibility

To participate, you must be at least 18 years old* **AND** meet at least one of the following criteria:

- A George Mason University student/faculty/staff
- A member of federal, state, or local law enforcement
- Current or prospective applicant of the Department
- A guest of a Police Department employee

*If you are under 18 years of age, you must have a parental waiver signed and verified (see addendum).

Application Instructions

Send the completed application to dispatch@gmu.edu at least **14 calendar days** prior to your requested ride-along date. An entry in all fields is required. Write "N/A" if a field does not apply to you.

Applicant Information					
Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
Home Address — Street			Home Address — City		Home Address — State
Phone Number	Email Address		Date of Birth	Driver's (D/L) License #	D/L State
Desired Date of Ride-Along	Desired Time (Duration is Usually Four Hours)		Name of Officer You Would Like to Ride With		
	Start:	End:			
Emergency Contact Name			Emergency Contact Relationship		Emergency Contact Phone

Eligibility Requirements			
Which best describes you? (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> GMU Student/Faculty/Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Law Enforcement Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Police Department Guest	
<input type="checkbox"/> Current or prospective police job applicant (specify):			
Why do you want to ride along?			
Have you previously ridden with this department?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, specify date:	
Have you previously been refused participation in this program?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, specify date:	
Are you currently involved in any traffic or criminal legal process as a defendant, plaintiff, or witness?			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, explain:			

Ride-Along Rules

1. Compete Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) training before your ride-along by using the link that will be emailed to you. Bring your completion certificate with you to your ride-along.
2. Report to the George Mason University Police Department at least 15 minutes early on the date of your ride-along. Bring your driver's license or other photo identification with you.
3. Wear a collared shirt, blouse or jacket, slacks, and shoes. Wear appropriate outerwear based on the weather. Sandals, t-shirts, tank tops, shorts, sweatpants, and ripped or torn pants are not permitted. Hats and ball caps will not be worn without the express consent of the supervisor overseeing the ride-along. Personal hygiene, grooming standards, and professional demeanor must also be compliant with Policy 1023 Personal Appearance Standards in order to participate.
4. Do NOT bring prohibited items, including weapons of any kind (including legally-concealed weapons and pocket knives), restraint devices, portable video/audio recorders, transmitters, or two-way communication devices. Mobile phones are permitted.
5. Do NOT audio or video record, broadcast, or livestream. Photographs are allowed when permitted by the department member.
6. Do NOT intentionally involve yourself in any investigation, including handling evidence, conversing with victims or suspects, or reading an individual's criminal history or other protected information. You will be allowed to continue the ride-along during an arrestee's transportation and booking process, provided it does not jeopardize your safety and is permitted by jail staff.
7. Do NOT handle any police equipment unless expressly authorized by the department member.
8. Do NOT interfere with the performance of the member's duties. Immediately follow all directions.

Notwithstanding these rules, a supervisor may terminate your ride-along at any time. Your ride-along may only be extended past its designated time with supervisory approval.

Parental Release (Participants Under Age 18)

The undersigned, being the parent, guardian, or person having the care and custody of _____ (the Participant) does hereby consent that he/she, my **son/daughter/ward**, may participate in the police ride-along program offered by the George Mason University Police Department and in consideration of the agreement by George Mason University that the Participant be allowed to take part in the said program, does hereby consent to the Participant's signing the Waiver of Liability for any injury or damage to his/her property arising out of, or incidental to his/her participation in the said course, and in addition, the undersigned does hereby release George Mason University from having the care and custody of the said minor Participant arising out of the aforementioned activity and does further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the said George Mason University from any claim or claims which the Participant may have arising out of the aforementioned police ride along program for injury or property damage.

In witness whereof, the undersigned has hereunto set his/her hand and seal this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Parent or Guardian

**** STOP! DO NOT SIGN THIS WAIVER NOW ****

You will sign this waiver in the presence of a Public Notary, which requires you to provide a valid and legal form of identification.

Waiver of Civil Liability and Indemnification Agreement

In consideration of the George Mason University Police Department of Fairfax, Virginia (“the Department”) granting me permission to accompany a member of the Department as an observer in the Ride-Along Program (“the Program”), I hereby waive any and all rights and claims of liability for damages, losses, personal injuries or death which I might suffer, sustain or cause while participating in the Program. I further waive any and all claims, demands, actions, damages, or suits at law or equity of whatever nature which I have or may hereafter acquire against George Mason University, the Department, its elected officials, officers, agents or employees, as a result of my voluntary participation in the Program; and I hereby hold harmless such persons and entities. In the event that a demand or claim, whether groundless or otherwise, is made against the entities and/or persons set forth herein, I agree to indemnify those persons and/or entities for all damages, attorney fees and costs incurred in defending said demand or claim. I further agree to comply with all rules and regulations of the Program and any instructions or orders issued by members of the Department in connection with the Program. I certify that I am aware of the potential risk involved in accompanying a police officer during the performance of his or her duties.

I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law. I have read, understand, and am willing to comply with the ride-along rules. I further affirm that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Signatures		
Applicant Signature	Printed Name	Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

Verification of Identification

You will sign in the presence of a police officer when you report for your ride-along. Please bring your driver's license or other form of photo identification and your CJIS training certificate with you.

Signatures		
Applicant Signature	Printed Name	Date
Signature of Verifying Officer	Printed Name	EIN

OFFICIAL USE ONLY—DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Application Status					
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied		If <i>denied</i> , explain:			
Approving Supervisor	Ride-Along Supervisor	Scheduled Date & Time (Default: Four Hours)			
		<i>Date:</i>		<i>Start:</i>	
				<i>End:</i>	

Verification of Program Participation			
Completion Status			
<input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> No-Show <input type="checkbox"/> Canceled			
If Ride-Along was <i>Completed</i>	Start Time	End Time	Assigned Officer
If Ride-Along was <i>Canceled</i>	Reason for Cancellation		