



Aerial view of Mason's Fairfax, VA campus

Nestled in the National Capital Region, **George Mason University** stands as Virginia's largest public research university, enrolling over 40,000 students from more than 130 countries and all 50 states. Mason has grown rapidly over the past half-century and is recognized for its entrepreneurship, remarkable diversity, and commitment to accessibility. With over 200 degree programs, Mason empowers students to align their education with their career aspirations and personal interests. Notably, Mason boasts a six-year graduation rate across demographics, exceeding the national average and demonstrating its commitment to student success.

George Mason University is one of the National Security Agency's original seven Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education and earned its CAE-R designation since it was first

introduced in 2008. Mason is currently designated as CAE-CD through 2027 and CAE-R through 2028. Its academic programs in cyber security include a BS in Information Technology (BS IT), with a concentration in Cyber Security (CYBR), and a BS in Cyber Security Engineering (BS CYSE). BS IT CYBR is Mason's NACE-C-validated cybersecurity Program of Study (PoS). The Center for Secure Information Systems (CSIS), established in 1990 as the first academic center in security at a U.S. university, leads cyber security research at Mason.

Renowned for its groundbreaking research, Mason holds the distinction of being one of the youngest universities to achieve R-1 research status in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Recognized by U.S. News and World Report as Virginia's top institution and ranked 9th nationally for innovation among public universities, Mason continually pushes the boundaries of knowledge and fosters an environment that values disruptive thinking.

With 88% of graduates reporting positive career outcomes, Mason's commitment to excellence transcends the classroom, as alumni make significant contributions across various sectors, including business, technology, and healthcare. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and innovative programs, Mason's faculty and students continue to lead the charge in addressing societal challenges and driving meaningful change.

## DESIGNATIONS

- CAE-Cyber Defense
- CAE-Research

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