Welcome to the George Washington University! As a faculty member, you are eligible for a myriad of benefits and perks offered by the university, which are outlined in this document. Also available to you are additional resources, including a New Employee Summary, Benefits Guide and New Employee webpage, all of which may be accessed on the GW Benefits website at benefits.gwu.edu. If you have any additional questions regarding your benefits, please contact GW Benefits at (571) 553-8382 or benefits@gwu.edu.

Retirement
Fidelity Investments & TIAA
GW offers two primary retirement plan options:
• 403(b) Plan - you are immediately eligible and may contribute on a pre- and/or post-tax basis.
• 401(a) Plan - you are automatically enrolled after two years of service at the university*; GW makes a base contribution of 4% of your eligible salary. If you participate in the 403(b) Plan, GW will also match 150% of the first 4% of your contributions, up to a maximum match of 6%.

GW offers two retirement providers: Fidelity Investments and TIAA. You may select one or both, depending on your investment and service needs.

*Note: The two-year service requirement may be satisfied in whole or in part by service at another educational organization described in IRC Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) or 511(a)(2)(B), or with a college or university located outside the United States with accreditation or similar designation from the country where it is located.

If applicable, please complete the 401(a) Prior Employment Verification Form, which is available at benefits.gwu.edu/benefits-forms.

A year of creditable service is a 12-consecutive month period during which you were credited with at least 1,000 hours of service. Credit will be granted for full years of service only.

Don’t wait!
If you are credited with two years of service under the Plan, you will be eligible to receive university contributions effective the first of the month following receipt of your form in good order.

Note: If your hire date is the first of the month, and your prior service is certified by GW Benefits within 30 calendar days of your hire date, contributions will be effective the first of the month.

Medical
UnitedHealthcare (UHC)
GW offers two medical plan options:
• GW Health Savings Plan (HSP) - a lower premium, high deductible health plan, which means you pay less out-of-pocket each paycheck and more at the point of care before the plan pays for services that are not considered preventive.
• GW PPO - higher premiums, lower deductible and out-of-pocket maximum
Both plans include prescription drug coverage through CVS Caremark.

Dental
Aetna
GW offers three dental plan options:
• Low PPO - lower premium, with basic and preventive coverage
• High PPO - higher premium; Low PPO offerings + coverage for Major Care (e.g., crowns, dentures)
• DMO - lowest premium, with no deductible (requires PCD election)
All GW dental plans are standalone - you can enroll in dental coverage even if you don't have medical coverage through GW.

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs)
PayFlex
With FSAs, you may set aside funds through pre-tax payroll deductions to cover qualified expenses. GW offers two FSAs:
• Health Care FSA (HCFSA) - for eligible health care expenses that are not covered by insurance
• Dependent Day Care FSA (DCFSA) - for eligible dependent care expenses, such as daycare (child/adult), summer day camp, before- and after-school care (not tuition)

Tuition Remission
GW offers tuition remission benefits for eligible faculty, dependent children and spouses/domestic partners to attend GW.

Tuition Exchange
GW participates in a national tuition exchange program that administers tuition remission scholarships for dependents of eligible employees for baccalaureate degree programs at participating institutions.
Legal

Legal Resources
GW offers a group legal program through Legal Resources, which provides access to a nationwide network of highly qualified legal firms comprising over 11,000 professional attorneys. Legal matters covered at 100% include traffic violations; will preparation, review and updates; real estate; civil actions as plaintiff or defendant in District Court; landlord and tenant issues; uncontested domestic adoptions and more.

Wellness

Quit For Life - smoking cessation program for eligible employees and dependents.
Healthy Pregnancy Program through UnitedHealthcare (UHC) - provides 24/7 support from experienced nurses, educational materials, individual consultation, financial incentives and more
Capital Bikeshare - discounted $25 annual membership
Fitness Discounts - free group exercise classes, discounted gym memberships

Discounts

GW collaborates with vendors to provide university employees with discounted rates on a variety of products and services, such as car rentals, Castlight healthcare transparency tool, dining, Group Home and Auto insurance (through Liberty Mutual), hotels and lodging, personal mobile device plans, shuttles, travel, Verizon Fios and more.

Support

Wellbeing Hotline - GW’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP); provides 24/7 assistance ranging from life event planning to personal counseling
Health Advocate - assists with resolving healthcare and insurance issues, comparing and clarifying plan offerings
Child and Elder Care - GW’s Backup Family Care program provides up to five days per year of discounted backup care for children, adults and elders. You also receive discounted tuition rates and preferred access at select childcare centers.

Educational Seminars

GW employees have access to an array of health and financial seminars conducted online and in-person throughout the year. The annual Open Enrollment fairs in October allow you to speak directly with GW’s benefit plan providers as well as receive assistance with the enrollment process; as an added perk, flu shots are administered on-site at no cost to faculty.

Transportation

Metro
With the SmartBenefits program, you may set aside funds through pre-tax payroll deductions to cover work-related expenses on public transportation (Metrorail and Metrobus) as well as Metro parking.
Parking
You may set aside funds through pre-tax payroll deductions to cover off-campus and occasional on-campus parking expenses.

Disability

Short-Term Disability (STD)
Full-time faculty with less than two years of benefits eligible service and part-time faculty are eligible for Voluntary STD. After two years, full-time faculty are eligible for GW Paid STD. *See eligibility criteria at benefits.gwu.edu/short-term-disability.

Long-Term Disability (LTD)
Full-time faculty receive basic LTD after one year. You may also be able to purchase additional (optional) LTD coverage. *Learn more at benefits.gwu.edu/long-term-disability.

Life and AD&D

Basic Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance
GW provides basic life and AD&D insurance equal to your benefits salary (up to $500,000) for all benefits eligible faculty at no cost.

Optional Life, Dependent Life and AD&D through Liberty Mutual
You may purchase additional (optional) life and AD&D coverage for yourself and/or for your spouse/domestic partner or children.

Easy Access to Benefits Information
GW employees may receive updates, reminders and benefits information through the following resources:
- Website: benefits.gwu.edu
- Twitter: @gw_benefits
- Blog (GWell): blogs.gwu.edu/gwbenefits

For additional assistance regarding the university’s health and welfare benefits, you may contact GW Benefits at (571) 552-8382 or benefits@gwu.edu.