

Professional Development Opportunities at Mason

The list below includes internal opportunities at Mason that are free and open to staff. If you know of others that could be added to this list, please contact the Staff Council at cehdstaff@gmu.edu.

Fundamentals of Advising at Mason (FOAM)

This [series of trainings](#) is *required* for all new advisors at Mason. Any staff member who works with students in some capacity can benefit from this.

Assistive Technology Initiative (ATI)

This office provides resources and training for faculty and staff on a wide variety of topics related to digital accessibility and inclusion. Sign up for the [Digital Accessibility Updates \(DAU\)](#) newsletter for announcements of drop-in hours, webinars, and brown bag events. Topics include how to make Word, PowerPoint, and PDF documents and websites accessible.

Career Influencers Network

Mason [Career Influencer Training](#) is a workshop series where faculty and staff can learn how to best support students in becoming career ready and achieving postgraduate success in today's quickly evolving world of work. In times of uncertainty, we can expect to discuss job and career plans with Mason students even more than before.

Upon completion of the training, participants will receive a certificate, the Career Readiness Toolkit, invitations for on-going professional development, and updates on career related programs and services. Find more information about this training on their [website](#).

Questions? Contact Kristin Leonato for more information at kleonato@gmu.edu.

LinkedIn Learning

Access a wide array of over 9000 video tutorials and courses on topics including Excel, web development, project management, data analysis, leadership, and more. You can identify your target growth areas and the system will provide you with recommendations. Learn more [here](#).

Mason 101

Mason 101 is a one-time, two-hour workshop for Mason staff and faculty to learn more about the history, organization, resources, and future of Mason. It is an excellent opportunity for newer members of the Mason community, as well as longtime employees looking to learn more about resources and the latest information.

Sign up is available at masonleaps.gmu.edu.

Mason Academic Advisor Network (MAAN)

MAAN offers multiple opportunities for advisors and other staff who work with students in some capacity to develop their skills and knowledge: Advisor Mentorship Program (AMP), Developing Advising

Practice (DAP), and Learn Over Lunch (LOL) events are the big ones. Learn more, join, and sign up for their listserv [HERE](#).

Mental Health First Aid

[Mental Health First Aid](#), offered at Mason since 2014, provides information about the signs and symptoms of common mental illnesses and a strategy for connecting with those demonstrating such indicators. Participants who complete this 8-hour training earn a 3-year certification through the National Council for Behavioral Health. Open training sessions for the George Mason University community (faculty, staff, and students) are offered throughout the year. Typically, the 8-hour training is split into two 4-hour sessions.

Organizational Development & Learning

Mason's HR offers several workshops and training series on various topics from search committee training to supervisor boot camp to administrative professional certificate program and more. They also offer **workplace coaching** for faculty or staff who are looking for a way to make positive changes and grow professionally. [Learn more here](#).

Rx Racial Healing Circles

[Rx Racial Healing Circles \(RHCs\)](#) are a collaboration between the [Center for Advancement of Well-being](#) and [Mason's Campus Center for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation \(TRHT\)](#).

Rx Racial Healing Circles (RHCs) are founded on the principles of jettisoning the hierarchy of human value and narrative change through storytelling. The uniqueness of RHCs comes from their focus on health, well-being, agency, inclusion, and our common humanity. Everyone in the Mason community — students, faculty, staff, and alumni — can join RHCs.

Safe Zone Workshops

Offered by Mason's [LGBTQ+ Resource Center](#), the primary mission of Mason's [Safe Zone Program](#) is to create a safer, more welcoming & inclusive campus environment, to strengthen community and encourage networking among faculty, staff, and students toward the goal of supporting the well-being of LGBTQ people. To register for a workshop, [click here](#) and fill out the interest form.

Additionally, this Center sponsors the [LGBTQ+ Faculty/Staff Alliance](#), an HR-recognized Employee Resource Group. It's open to faculty, staff, and students at Mason. To stay informed about this Center's work and the resources and trainings they offer, sign up for the [listserv](#).

Staff Senate

Mason's [Staff Senate](#) represents all classified and non-student wage employees. Senators are elected annually each summer. The Senate holds monthly meetings that are open to all staff and sends periodic newsletters. Please email staffsenate@gmu.edu to be added to the Staff Senate mailing list.

UL Student Success Symposium

This annual event sponsored by University Life is open to faculty, staff and grad assistants. Learn more [here](#).

UndocuAlly Training

UndocuMason provides [UndocuAlly Training](#) which teaches about the history of undocumented people, educates on past and present immigration related legislation, and sheds light on the lived realities and barriers that undocumented people face.

UNIV Course Instructor

The Office of Undergraduate Education offers a wide range of UNIV courses to students, and they need people to teach them. You must have a master's degree or at least 18 credits of graduate coursework and permission of your supervisor to be eligible to teach one of these courses. UNIV 100 *Introduction to Mason* is the most common, but there are other courses, too, that range from career readiness to financial literacy to transitioning out of Mason. [Learn more here](#).