



2026-2027
Residential Academic Calendar
Faculty and Staff Edition
Updated 4/14/2026

FALL SEMESTER

Notes

- *This calendar is the general calendar for 2026-2027 and not an exhaustive list of events at GSSM.*
- *LWE stands for Long Weekend, which start after a student's last class on Thursday. Students need to return from LWE no later than 7:00pm on Sunday.*
- *OCCA is the Office of College Counseling and Advising.*
- *Monday and Tuesday November 23, 24 will be used as emergency makeup class days if necessary in fall semester.*
- *Thursday January 21 will be used as an emergency makeup class day if necessary in spring semester.*
- *All school or large group meetings should try to schedule these types of meetings during the following two times:*
 - *Tuesday, 4:00 – 5:00pm*
 - *Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00pm*

AUGUST

Monday, August 3	10-month state employee appointments begin.
Tuesday, August 4	New faculty orientation
August 10, 11	GSSM Opening of School Institute
Wednesday, August 12	Natural Helpers and Ambassadors Move-In
Friday, August 14	Junior Move-In Day
Saturday, August 15	National Test Date: SAT
Sunday, August 16	Senior Move-In Day
August 17 & 18	First days of class: orientation to classes/labs and GSSM community building
Wednesday, August 19	First full day of classes for academic content Copies of current course syllabi due to Department Chair Class of 2027 OCCA meeting in the gym, 1pm
Thursday, August 20	Research Advisor Orientation
Saturday, August 22	National Test Day: SAT
Tuesday, August 25	Faculty Professional Development Workshop, 4pm
Wednesday, August 26	Last day to drop/add a course Last day to drop/add a Coker dual-enrolled course (not on transcript) Class of 2028 OCCA meeting in the gym, 1pm
Thursday, August 27	First Research Advisor/Advisee Meeting for seniors, 4pm Joint Board Retreat
Friday, August 28	Last day to drop/add an FMU dual-enrolled course (not on transcript) Board of Trustees Meeting

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, September 2	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym
Thursday, September 10	Convocation, 2pm (Classes as usual until noon); LWE begins after Convocation & ends Sun. at 7pm
Saturday, September 12	National Test Day: SAT
Wednesday, September 16	Last day to drop a class that is an overload without it appearing on the transcript
Friday, September 18	Five-week progress report grading period ends, and grades due from faculty in PowerSchool.
Saturday, September 19	National Test Day: ACT
Monday, September 21	Progress reports emailed to students and families.
Saturday, September 26	Parents' Day
Sunday, September 27	GSSM College Fair in the gym 1-3pm
Wednesday, September 30	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym
TBA	Governor's School Endless Opportunities



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OCTOBER

Thursday, October 1	Letters of Recommendation by Faculty must be uploaded into SCOIR LWE begins after class & ends Sun. at 7pm. Around the World Event GSSM Lawn
Saturday, October 3	National Test Day: SAT
Tuesday, October 6	All Faculty/Staff Meeting, 4pm
Wednesday, October 7	PSAT (no classes all day; shifted schedule for the rest of the week)
Thursday, October 8	Wednesday class/lab schedule
Friday, October 9	Thursday class/lab schedule
Thursday, October 15	Final day to withdraw from an overload course with a WP/WF
Friday, October 16	Midterm grading period ends.
Saturday, October 17	National Test Day: ACT Preview Day
Monday, October 19	Midterm grades due by noon in PowerSchool. Day 45 for state reporting
Wednesday, October 21	Midterm grades emailed home.
Monday, October 26	Last day to withdraw from a Coker dual-enrolled course with a W (any drop after this date is a WF)
Thursday, October 29	LWE begins after classes & ends Sun. at 7pm.
TBD by OCCA	Campus visits to USC, Clemson University, College of Charleston

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 3	Faculty Professional Development Workshop, 4pm
Wednesday, November 4	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym
Friday, November 6	Networking Dinner
Saturday, November 7	National Test Date: SAT
Tuesday, November 10	Notice of Potential Unsatisfactory Grade given to students by faculty Last day to withdraw from an FMU dual-enrolled course
Thursday, November 12	Board of Trustees Meeting
Saturday, November 14	Preview Day
Thursday, November 19	Fourteen-week progress report grading period ends, and grades due from faculty in PowerSchool
Friday, November 20	Annual Research Colloquium: no classes all day Thanksgiving holidays begin after Colloquium & end 11/29 at 7pm.

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 1	All Faculty/Staff Meeting, 4pm
Wednesday, December 2	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym
Saturday, December 5	Winter Formal
Friday, December 11	National Test Day: SAT
Saturday, December 12	Last day of fall semester classes Review/Reading Day
December 14-18	National Test Day: ACT
Friday, December 18	Exams (Students may not sign out for this weekend)
Monday, December 21	End of fall semester. Break begins after last exam. Non-satisfactory grade reports due for all students by noon
Monday, December 28	Course grades due by noon in PowerSchool 1st semester report cards mailed home.

JANUARY INTERIM AND SPRING SEMESTER



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JANUARY

Sunday, January 3	Students return to GSSM by 7pm.
Monday, January 4	Interim session begins with GSSM Community Meeting at 9am in the gym.
Saturday, January 9	Parents and Friends Seminar Day (Academic Saturday, no sign outs)
Friday, January 15	Last day to drop/add an FMU dual-enrolled course (not on transcript)
Wednesday, January 20	Interim presentations. Break begins after presentations & ends Sunday at 7pm. OCCA Junior Parent Meet and Greet (2-4, College Resource Room)
Friday, January 22	Interim grades due in PowerSchool by noon.
Monday, January 25	Spring semester begins Copies of current course syllabi due to Department Chair
Wednesday, January 27	Junior Kick-Off to College Planning, Gym 1 pm

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 1	Last day to drop/add a course Last day to drop/add a Coker dual-enrolled course (not on transcript)
Tuesday, February 2	All Faculty/Staff Meeting, 4pm
Wednesday, February 3	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym Final course catalog due from Curriculum Committee.
Saturday, February 6	Preview Day
Monday, February 8	Course catalog sent to rising seniors.
Wednesday, February 10	Academic Course Fair 1-2pm
Thursday, February 11	LWE begins after classes & ends Sunday at 7pm.
Monday, February 15	Last day to drop an overload class without it appearing on the transcript
Monday, February 22	1 st day for rising seniors to submit course requests forms to the registrar
Tuesday, February 23	Faculty Professional Development Workshop, 4pm
Friday, February 26	Last day for rising seniors to submit course requests forms to the registrar Five-week progress report grading period ends, and grades due from faculty in PowerSchool.
Saturday, February 27	National Test Date: ACT

MARCH

Thursday, March 4	LWE begins after classes & ends Sun. at 7pm
Friday, March 5	Sand Hills Regional Science Fair & Engineering Fair
Saturday, March 6	National Test Date: SAT
Monday, March 8	Ratings and Review Week
Tuesday, March 16	Interim course proposals due to DCI Day 135 for state reporting Townes Award Dinner, Columbia
Wednesday, March 17	Annual INSIDE GSSM Day
Saturday March 20	Final day to withdraw from an overload course with a WP/WF
Tuesday, March 23	Midterm grading period ends.
Wednesday, March 24	Midterm grades due by noon in PowerSchool.
Friday, March 26	Invitation for senior graduation speaker sent out. GSSM Spring Break begins after classes & ends Sunday, April 4 at 7pm SCJAS at Furman
Monday, March 29	Midterm grades emailed home.

APRIL

Wednesday, April 7	GSSM Community Meeting 1pm in the gym
Friday, April 9	Departmental academic award and institutional award nominations due
Saturday, April 10	National Test Date: ACT



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Monday, April 12	Interview Day Last day to withdraw from an FMU dual-enrolled course Last day to withdraw from a Coker dual-enrolled course with a W (any drop after this date is a WF)
Tuesday, April 13	All Faculty/Staff Meeting, 4pm
Saturday, April 17	Prom
Monday, April 19	Notice of Potential Unsatisfactory Grade given to students by faculty
Thursday, April 29	LWE begins after classes & ends Sunday at 7pm. Fourteen-week progress report grading period ends, and grades due from faculty in PowerSchool.

MAY

Saturday, May, 1	National Decision Day for Colleges National Test Day: SAT
May 3-14	AP Exams with abbreviated class schedules TBD
Saturday, May 15	New Student Orientation
Sunday, May 16	Academic Awards Program, 2pm
Wednesday, May 19	Last day of spring semester classes
Thursday, May 20	Review/Reading Day
May 21-22 24-26	Exams (Students may not sign out for the weekend during exams)
Wednesday, May 26	Senior Banquet, 6pm (All seniors and any juniors remaining on campus)
Thursday, May 27	Graduation practice at 9:30am Non-satisfactory grade reports due for all students by noon Course grades due by noon in PowerSchool
Friday, May 28	Graduation at 11am

JUNE & JULY

Thursday, June 3	10-month state employee appointments end.
Thursday, June 3	Final report cards mailed home.
Saturday, June 5	National Test Day: SAT
June 6–July 16	Summer Research & Inquiry Experiences for Rising Seniors
Saturday, June 12	National Test Day: ACT
Saturday, July 10	National Test Day: ACT