



**From:** Dr. Gregory Washington, President

**To:** All Faculty, Students, and Employees of George Mason University

**Subject:** Compliance with US Export Controls and Economic Sanctions

**Date:** July 9, 2025

George Mason University promotes and conducts research to advance knowledge, enhance student learning experiences, and build its reputation in the scientific community. While the University endorses the principles of freedom of inquiry and open exchange of knowledge, it is the policy of the University to comply with all laws applicable to research, including laws and regulations relating to export controls and economic sanctions.

The U.S. Government regulates the export of certain technologies, software, and hardware, and the provision of services, technology, or other items outside of the United States to protect national security and foreign policy interests, prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and ensure competitive trade. The University and all its employees are required to comply with the laws and implementing regulations issued by the Department of State, through its International Traffic in Arms Regulations (“ITAR”), the Department of Commerce, through its Export Administration Regulations (“EAR”), and the Department of the Treasury through its Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”) regulations (collectively, “Export Control and Sanctions Regulations”). In addition, George Mason University’s work involving exports of certain technology to foreign nationals on campus and anywhere in the United States (“deemed exports”) generally is subject to Export Control and Sanctions Regulations.

While most research conducted on U.S. college and university campuses is excluded from these regulations under the Fundamental Research Exclusion, university research involving specified technologies controlled under the EAR and/or ITAR, or transactions and exchanges with designated countries, individuals, and entities may require the University to obtain prior approval from the appropriate agency before allowing foreign nationals to participate in controlled research, collaborating with a foreign government, company, university, or other organization, and/or sharing research (verbally or in writing) with persons who are not U.S. citizens, permanent residents, asylees, or refugees.

Under no circumstances will George Mason University engage in any exports or deemed exports contrary to Export Control and Sanctions Regulations, including provision of services or export of technology or products to entities or individuals in countries that are subject to U.S. economic sanctions.

Every George Mason University faculty member, student, and employee shares responsibility for ensuring that George Mason University complies with U.S. Export Control and Sanctions Regulations. Failure to abide by the export policies adopted by George Mason University can result in disciplinary action up to, and including, termination and/or expulsion.

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Penalties for violations of Export Control and Sanctions Regulations can include substantial fines, imprisonment, and debarment from receiving federal funding. Further, the negative publicity resulting from a serious breach can cause irreparable damage to George Mason University's reputation.

The University has developed training, policies, and procedures that are designed to give our faculty, students, and employees additional tools and information to assist in understanding and complying with these legal requirements. We encourage everyone to access these resources at Export Controls - Office of Research Integrity and Assurance ([gmu.edu](http://gmu.edu)).

If you have any doubt about the applicability of Export Control and Sanctions Regulations to a specific activity, questions about ongoing controlled activities, or would like to report a possible violation of Export Control and Sanctions Regulations, please contact Suzanne Alfaro, Director of Export Compliance and Secure Research in the Office of Research Integrity and Assurance at (703) 993-1856, [salfaro5@gmu.edu](mailto:salfaro5@gmu.edu), or [export@gmu.edu](mailto:export@gmu.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gregory Washington", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Gregory Washington  
President