

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY ESPORTS



THE DESTINATION FOR COLLEGIATE ESPORTS
WHERE PASSION MEETS PERFORMANCE

PLAY YOUR PASSION

BE A PART OF A NATIONALLY-RANKED PROGRAM

Grand Canyon University's quickly expanding Esports program has over 1,200 members across 11 active teams who play for fun, compete and attend events. The student-led organization's members contribute to a supportive gaming community that fosters a competitive spirit, creates a casual social environment and sets up opportunities for student leaders to grow professionally.

PROGRAM ACCOLADES

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate

- GCU Storm, 1st place, Pure Smash #41
- GCU Keeganners, 1st place, FireFox Friday 67
- GCU Bright, 1st place, Thunder Summit 1 Invitational

Rocket League

- NECC Champions, 3rd Place (Fall 2023)
- NECC Champions, Runner-Up (2024)
- Collegiate Conference Series, Top 25 (2024)
- NASCAR Invitational, 1st Place (2023)

Overwatch

- ESPN Collegiate Esports Championship, Top 8
- Overwatch Collegiate Championship, West Region Swiss, 19th Place (2022)
- DreamHack San Diego, 3rd Place (2023)
- Intel Inspires Collegiate West Regional, 5th Place

- Overwatch Collegiate Championship, Top 16 (2024)
- Overwatch Collegiate Varsity Series 2020 Invitational, 14th Place

League of Legends

- NECC Fall 2022, 1st Place
- College League of Legends, Top 64

VALORANT

- NECC Champions, 1st Place (2024) – 1st Place
- College VALORANT Winter, 4th Place (2024)
- Western Cactus League, 1st Place (2024)
- NECC Nationals, 1st Place (2024)
- Collegiate Esports Commissioners Cup Texas, Top 12 (2024)
- College VALORANT Championship, 17th-32nd Place (2024)



PROGRAM BENEFITS

Esports members have access to the GCU Esports Arena featuring high-end gaming PCs with i7 CPUs and RTX-series graphics cards, dedicated Discord access, luxury gaming chairs, tournament viewing areas and current-generation consoles stationed around the facility.

There are numerous events focused on different titles and communities that members can participate in throughout the academic year. Varsity players receive a jersey, one-on-one support, mentorship, additional facility access and more!

COMMUNITY

GCU Esports invites beginner, advanced and competitive gamers to join a large and fast-growing student organization. This club is an inclusive community that you can join at no cost and supports all forms of gaming including both PC and console. No matter how you play, you will feel right at home!

GCU Esports is also a social hub where players meet like-minded students who can turn into lifelong friends. Numerous community events and social nights occur throughout each semester, from holiday events to tournament viewing parties. We're always ready to bring the thunder!

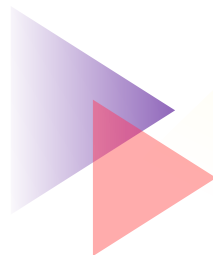
COMPETITIVE

GCU Esports players prepare for tournaments with high-intensity training. One of our greatest success stories has been sending four teams to the May Madness tournament in Arlington, Texas in 2024, following our win of three conference championships!

Varsity teams commit to 10-20 hours of practice a week. Gamers who wish to compete at a higher level must attend tryouts at the start of every semester or be scouted online through recruiting hubs such as Stay Plugged In. These talented and committed teams strive to play at their best and make it to the national stage while still maintaining a sense of comradery and fun. As the club continues to grow and evolve, it's open to helping students form new teams and leagues based on interests and skill level.

EVER-EXPANDING GAMES AND TITLES:

- Overwatch
- Super Smash Bros. Ultimate
- Rocket League
- League of Legends
- VALORANT
- And many more!





ESPORTS ARENA

GCU's Esports Arena provides a competitive and welcoming virtual space where students connect, compete and grow as a team using the latest in gaming technology. The facility will continue to expand to serve the needs of students and meet the demands of the growing club. Newcomers and those who just want to play their favorite game for fun are welcome!

ESPORTS ARENA IS HOME TO:

- High-end gaming desktops, professional-grade peripherals, gigabit internet and the latest consoles.
- The newest console exclusives on Xbox, PlayStation and Nintendo platforms.
- Tournament viewing area to watch exciting matches and events, as well as a lounge space for meeting up with friends.
- An accessible experience; pricing is by the hour with affordable rates compared to other LAN centers.

GCU ESPORTS ARENA EXPANSION: SHAPING THE FUTURE

Our Esports Arena works diligently to stay up to date with ever-changing technology and gaming standards! Our facility now includes a varsity competition and training module with full production capabilities for all streaming platforms and features 72 high-performance gaming desktop stations. Recent renovations also include dedicated scholarship-team stations, a restructured console area and a mobile gaming lounge space that is perfect for gaming or hanging out with the Esports community. A visual and graphic overhaul helps provide a great experience for all gamers on campus!

The Esports Arena, located in Technology Building 57, room 221, is open to all students and creates a high-energy gaming environment where friends can team up, play and cheer each other on. Come experience it for yourself!

ABOUT GCU

GCU is Arizona's premier, private Christian university helping students find their purpose. As of September 2024, GCU offers 349 academic programs, across ten distinct colleges for the over 24,600 students enrolled on campus in Fall 2024.¹

¹ Includes all traditional students who have a last date of attendance at least three weeks into the Fall 2024 semester or participated in a campus evening class in August or September of 2024.



AFFORDABILITY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The average traditional campus student in 2024-25 qualified for approximately **\$7,300 in GCU-funded scholarships** for the academic year, which reduced tuition by almost half to \$9,100.²

ESPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

GCU now offers scholarships for varsity athletes in Esports which further helps to reduce tuition costs. For additional details on scholarships contact Director of Esports Operations, Jay DeShong at jay.deshong@gcu.edu

² Scholarships may be awarded based on sixth semester transcripts (high school transcripts submitted after Junior year of high school). When final official transcripts are received, GCU reserves the right to rescind or modify the scholarship if it is determined that eligibility was not achieved. GCU reserves the right to change or decline scholarship awards for any reason. If a student does not meet the minimum renewal criteria, their scholarship will be forfeited. Prices are based on the 2024-25 rate and are subject to change.

A person is shown from the side, wearing a black and red headset, looking at a computer monitor. The monitor displays a colorful, futuristic game environment with various structures and lights. The background is dark with some blue and purple ambient lighting. The overall scene suggests a gaming or esports environment.

In 2024, GCU's traditional campus students received approximately **\$176 MILLION** in institutional aid.

NEXT STEPS

1. Apply at gcu.edu/ApplyNow and upload your transcripts. No application fee!
2. Make an appointment with your university counselor to review scholarships and programs.
3. Upon acceptance, visit campus (all-expenses paid³ programs available).
4. Register early for courses and secure on-campus housing.
5. Pack your sunglasses and move to Lope Country!

To find out more about GCU, undergraduate programs offered on campus, available scholarships and more, contact a university admissions counselor.

855-428-7884 | gcu.edu/CampusAdmissions

JOIN OUR SERVER

-  [Discord.gg/GCU](https://discord.gg/GCU)
-  [@Esports_GCU](https://twitter.com/Esports_GCU)
-  [@GCU_Esports](https://www.instagram.com/GCU_Esports)
-  [GCU Esports](https://www.youtube.com/GCU_Esports)

Learn more at GCUEsports.com
or by using the QR code below:



³ Travel reimbursement is only available to students who demonstrate their ability to meet admissibility for the traditional campus, plus one legal guardian, from a student's home city/state to Phoenix, Arizona. School/district/organization staff, faculty and/or personnel are also eligible. To participate, the program requires a signed MOU by both the student and parent/guardian or personnel, approval of travel dates by GCU and receipts submitted per GCU requirements. Travel reimbursement thresholds vary based on location and education sector. Only one form of travel will be reimbursed (air or ground). GCU does not reimburse hotel expenses, baggage costs, early check-in or travel insurance fees. Travel reimbursement usually occurs within 45 days.



Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLCCommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Program availability varies and are not offered in all states or modalities. Policy information is available in the University Policy Handbook at gcu.edu/academics/academic-policies.php. Scholarship information is available on gcu.edu. Approved and verified accurate by the Director, Esports Operations January 10, 2025. ©2025 Grand Canyon University 24ACSC0012