

Document Title

James Madison University Annual Executive Summary
January, 2025 – December, 2025

Author

James Madison University

Enabling Authority

§23-2.05

Executive Summary

James Madison University was established in 1908 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg and became James Madison University in 1977. The Board of Visitors was established in 1964 and currently has fifteen members who serve on the board. Dr. James C. Schmidt serves as the seventh president of the university. The Board of Visitors met eight times in 2025: February 13-14, 2025; February 28, 2025; March 6, 2025; March 26, 2025, to announce the selection of Dr. James C. Schmidt to serve as new president of James Madison University; April 10-11, 2025; June 5-6, 2025 (retreat); September 18-19, 2025, and November 13-14, 2025. At the board's retreat, they heard a presentation from EAB on the State of the Sector Address and the board received an updated SWOT Analysis, participated in visioning with President Schmidt and reviewed self-evaluations and master planning material. The board also held a public comment period on the proposed tuition and fees on April 2, 2025.

The Board has the following committees: Academic Excellence; Philanthropy and Engagement; Athletics; Audit, Risk and Compliance; Executive Committee; Finance and Physical Development; Governance; Strategic Planning and Student Affairs. All committees, with the exception of the Executive Committee, meet during the two-day board meeting. The committees hear reports from various staff regarding current issues, new initiatives, and compliance with requirements and/or regulations. Committee minutes are available at this link:

<https://www.jmu.edu/visitors/meetings/committee-minutes/index.shtml>

The Board approved the following items during the 2025 calendar year:

- Bachelor of Arts in Dance and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance;
- Master of Education in Transition Services in Special Education;
- Master of Arts on Physical and Health Education Teacher Education;
- Graduate Certificate Program in Data Science
- Graduate Certificate Program in Entrepreneurship and Leadership in the Arts and Design;
- Board Manual charter revisions;
- Six-Year Capital Plan;
- 2025-26 Tuition and fees; 2025-26 Summer Tuition and fees;
- 2025-26 Budget;
- Discontinuation of Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training;
- Discontinuation of the Master of Arts Degree in Art;
- Discontinuation of the Master of Health Education;
- Electronic Meeting Policy

- Real Estate transactions; and
- Personnel Action reports.

The Board heard updates and provided feedback on the following topics during the board meetings:

- Student Aid Index;
- General Assembly Updates;
- Admissions Updates;
- JMU's Future - Strategic Plan;
- Presidential Listening Tour;
- Vision Teams;
- Civil Discourse;
- Philanthropy and Partnerships;
- Career Outcomes;
- National Reach of JMU Athletics;
- APLU Designation- IEP Designation

In addition, at each board meeting the President provides an update on events, accomplishments, trends and issues and significant recognitions. A summary of his presentation can be found at this link: <https://www.jmu.edu/visitors/meetings/summaries/index.shtml>. The representative from the Faculty Senate shares a report at the Academic Excellence Committee meeting and the student representative to the Board and the president of the Student Government Association share a report at the Student Affairs Committee meeting.