



FAQ

1. Where do I go to pick up my race packet before the event?

Race packets will be available for pick-up on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Relays Health and Fitness Expo at the Drake University Knapp Center, located at 2601 Forest Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50311.

2. Can I pick up my packet the day of the event?

Yes, race packets will also be available for pick-up on Tuesday, April 24 from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Athlete Services Tent, located at 13th Street & Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309.

3. Can I register on the day of the event?

Yes, you can register at the Athlete Services Tent on race day.

4. What is the location of the start line?

1700 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309

5. What is the location of the finish line?

1330 Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50309

6. Can I walk the Grand Blue Mile?

Yes, you can walk, jog, skip or strut your way to the finish line. Your race. Your pace. Your mile.

7. What is the Bulldog Double, and how do I become a Bulldog Double participant?

The Bulldog Double requires participants to complete the Drake Road Races 5K, 10K or half-marathon on April 22, in addition to the Grand Blue Mile on April 24. To become a Bulldog Double participant, register and complete both events and you'll receive a Bulldog Double medal at the finish line of the Grand Blue Mile as well as a complimentary Drake Relays ticket.

8. What is the Mascot Madness Charity Challenge?

Iowa's most beloved mascots race against each other in friendly competition. The race is divided into two divisions — the fast and the furriest. The winning mascots will be awarded a \$1,000 prize for their school/organization's charitable foundation.

9. What is the Set the Pace Challenge?

The Grand Blue Mile-Healthiest State Initiative Set the Pace challenge awards \$10,000 to the community with the highest percentage of residents participating in the Grand Blue Mile — measured by the number of registrants for a given ZIP code against the community's total population. The award supports a project that promotes safe and accessible places in which to be active, such as a park, playground or trail.

10. What is Iowa Kidstrong?

[Iowa Kidstrong](#), an official beneficiary of Grand Blue Mile proceeds, is committed to promoting healthy and active lifestyles among Central Iowa children through school-based fitness programs. To date, the Grand Blue Mile has raised over \$60,000 for Iowa Kidstrong, including nearly \$5,000 in 2017.

11. What is the Iowa Kidstrong Fun Run?

This is a non-competitive quarter-mile fun run for Iowa Kidstrong program participants. Iowa Kidstrong teamed up with the Grand Blue Mile to create the KidStriders program which encourages and incents students to run or walk the cumulative distance of a marathon (26.2 miles), the last quarter-mile of which is run as a special, celebratory kickoff for the Grand Blue Mile.

12. Which Grand Blue Mile division is right for me?

If you're looking for a relaxing walk or jog with your friends and family, the recreational division is the perfect fit. If you feel confident running a sub-8-minute mile and enjoy a little competition, the competitive division is for you.

13. Can I change divisions the day of the event?

Yes, even if you register to participate in the recreational division, you're free to run in the competitive division if you choose—your tag will automatically register your time.

14. What kinds of activities will be at the post-race party?

After the mile, enjoy all the finish-line festivities, like face painting, balloon twisting, mascot races, inflatables and more.

15. Where do I find my results?

Preliminary race results will be available on-site at the results tent following the completion of your mile. Final and complete results will be posted to GrandBlueMile.com soon after the event.

16. What if I registered and can no longer participate?

You can still pick-up your race packet which includes your Grand Blue Mile race shirt and other promotional items.

17. What happens if there is inclement weather?

The Grand Blue Mile is a rain or shine event. Accordingly, there is no rain date and refunds of entry fees will not be issued. In the event of severe weather, event management reserves the right to cancel or modify the race/course to ensure the safety of all registrants and participants.

18. Where can I find you on social media?

Twitter: [@DrakeRelays](https://twitter.com/DrakeRelays)

Facebook: [@DrakeRelays](https://www.facebook.com/DrakeRelays)

Instagram: [@DrakeRelays](https://www.instagram.com/DrakeRelays)

Hashtag: #GBM2018

Be sure to take advantage of our Snapchat Geofilter on race day!

19. Where do I find event photos?

Photos will be posted to the [Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield Facebook page](#) and a select few will be posted to the Grand Blue Mile website and other Grand Blue Mile social media accounts.

20. I have a question that is not answered here. Who do I contact?

If you have further questions, contact us [here](#) and we'll reply as soon as possible. We're always happy to help.