Greetings Catamount Families!

Welcome Catamount Families,

Friday, August 16 is New Student Move-in Day. This is a time of celebration as it marks a new beginning for your student. When you bring your student to campus, those of us who work and teach on campus as well as our awesome student volunteers will welcome them, literally and figuratively, with open arms. College is a place where your student will learn greater responsibility. We encourage you to stay informed by marking your calendar with important dates in the newsletter. Together we can support your student’s success. Whee look forward to seeing you soon. Go CATS!

New Student Orientation Courses

We are truly honored that you and your student made the decision to join the Catamount Family. We are excited to see you on campus in a couple of days. There are going to be a lot of moving pieces during the first couple of days in Cullowhee. With this said, we need your help with asking your student to complete all of the educational modules that we sent on July 20, 2019. The modules are AlcoholEDU for College, Sexual Assault Prevention, DiversityEDU (sent via email on July 19), and Run Hide Fight. To ensure your student is in good standing all modules must be completed.
before your student arrives on campus. We would like to thank you for helping us get these modules completed. The next few years will be a partnership to ensure your student is successful at WCU.

**Last Minute To-Do List for New Students**

The following are a few last minute items we encourage you and your student to do before the first day of classes on August 19:

- **Health insurance** - Make the decision to enroll in the Student Blue Insurance Plan or complete the waiver process.
- Review the [Residential Living](#) lists of what (and what not) to bring to campus.
- Ask your student to consider creating a FERPA Pin and/or adding you as a Proxy to their student account to allow you access to information.

**Move-In**

At most halls, here is what to expect when you arrive on campus for Friday's Move-in Day:

- Volunteers will approach your car and welcome you.
- Volunteers will ask you for your name and cell phone number to place on a sticky note on your windshield if you are leaving your car unattended.
- Volunteers will ask you if there is anything in the car that should remain in the car and then help unload your car to take items to your room.
- Please make sure you have labeled all of your belongings clearly with your room number so it is delivered to the correct location.
- Please check in, unload your car, and move your car as quickly as possible to continue the flow of traffic.
Office Hours: Opening Weekend

Your student may need to take care of some last minute details prior to classes starting on Monday, August 19. To aid in your planning, here are the office hours for the weekend:

Dining Locations - Hours of Operation

Friday, August 16

**Bookstore** 8:00am-5:00pm

**Brown Hall**
- *CatCard*: 8:00am-5:00pm
- *Residential Living*: 7:00am-5:00pm

**Cordelia Camp Annex**
- *Parking & Transportation*: 8:00am-5:00pm

**Hunter Library**
- *IT Help Desk*: 7:30am-6:30pm

**Killian Annex**
- *Accessibility Resources*: 8:00am-5:00pm
- *Advising Center*: 8:00am-5:00pm
Financial Aid: 8:00am-5:00pm  
OneStop: 8:00am-5:00pm  
Registrar’s Office: 8:00am-5:00pm  
Student Accounts: 8:00am-5:00pm

University Center  
Student Mail Center: 11:00am-5:00pm |  
8:00pm-10:00pm

Saturday, August 17 &  
Sunday, August 18

Bookstore 10:00am-6:00pm  
Brown Hall  
CatCard: 8:00am-5:00pm  
Residential Living: 8:00am-5:00pm

Cordelia Camp Annex  
Parking & Transportation: 11:00am-5:00pm

Hunter Library  
IT Help Desk: 11:00am-5:00pm

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Important Events/Dates

August 16 – Freshmen Move-In
August 16 – New Student Convocation
August 16 – Class of 2023 Photo
August 17 – Valley Ballyhoo
August 19 – First day of classes
August 23 – Drop/Add Ends

Week of Welcome Schedule

Parking Information

In just a few days the incoming class of 2023 will begin their journey here at Western Carolina University. The University is in full “move in” mode. Over the years plans have been developed to make the move-in process as efficient and pleasant as possible. These plans are designed to accomplish the move-in of almost 2000 freshman in a little over 10 hours. We strongly encourage students and their parents to review the move-in maps that can be found at our Parking Operations Website. The maps are to show you where you will be going once you arrive to campus. For some resident halls, you will be staging in specific lots and
then directed on when you can go to unload your vehicle. When you arrive on campus, please follow the directional signs that relate to your hall.

**After unloading your vehicle, you will need to move to another lot.**

- Parents/guests will be directed to park in specific throughout our campus. You will be given a directional map when you arrive to campus that will show you lots that you can park. Please do not park in the same lot as your student!
- Students: Parking rules/regulations will begin the day you arrive. Please park where your permit is valid after unloading your vehicle.

Additionally, our plans and procedures take into account the necessity of allowing ingress and egress to emergency vehicles at the residence halls. We would not wish for emergency services to be delayed due to blocked roadways or access points. Knowing this to be fairly accurate, we would ask that students and parents take a few minutes and review the following:

Those who attempt to use **GPS navigation tools** on campus will find that they will be receiving **incorrect** directions. We encourage you to utilize the **maps** rather than GPS.

- Follow directions of the officers and parking personnel. They are very experienced in assisting you to the right place. Their goal is to get everyone to where they need to be as quickly as they can. For resident halls that will be staging in a parking lot, you will be given a color coded piece of paper to place on your dashboard. This allows Officers and parking personnel to quickly recognize your destination and direct you accordingly.
- Please do not engage in directional conversations with officers at intersections. This distracts the officer and creates traffic safety issues in the resulting backup. There are personnel in parking lots and at the resident halls who can answer any questions that you might have.
- You will be directed to the unloading area for your particular dorm. There will be a large group of volunteers who will help you unload your car, assist in
carrying items to your room, and to help direct you to any services that you might require. Please make sure that all items are labeled with the students room number. Having items pre-labeled makes the move easier and more efficient.

- You will be asked to unload your vehicle at the curb and then immediately move it to your assigned parking areas (maps and passes will be provided at your dorm). Vehicles are not to be left unattended during the unloading process. This allows the process to move forward continuously and maintains ingress for emergency vehicles.

- Unfortunately, there are no “I just need to park here for five minutes” spaces available during move-in. The move-in patterns and traffic direction are based on a thorough knowledge of our campus. A vehicle parked in an unloading zone or traffic pattern can create a significant delay that we know is unintended but which can create significant issues. We will be required to tow vehicles in those instances.

- We strongly urge folks to do their last minute shopping for fans, refrigerators, snacks, etc. prior to arriving at campus. If you must leave to perform these last minute shopping trips please go directly to the designated parking areas or you will have to go back through the move-in lines to get back to the dorm. The Cat-Tran shuttle buses will be working the entire time of move-in and will be concentrating their efforts to the parking lots where you will be directed.

- Due to high volume of extra traffic on campus during move-in, parking rules and regulations will be in effect and enforced throughout the weekend. Tickets and towing will occur if vehicles are noncompliant.

As the Executive Director of Residential Living, Bryant Barnett, spoke about during his orientation presentation, WCU has spent many years developing the move-in processes. They have proven to be very successful. We receive a substantial number of positive comments from parents each year, especially those who have experienced move-in elsewhere. Our goal is to make this experience as safe, quick, and enjoyable as possible. It would not be possible without your assistance and cooperation. We want to welcome you to the Catamount Family!
The parking office will be open move-in weekend from 11am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. For questions related to move-in, please email Chelsea at cbreavis@email.wcu.edu

Thanks,
Parking Operations

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You are receiving this email because you are a member of the extended Western Carolina University community.