As students prepare to return to campus for Fall 2023, we want to make sure that both you and they are aware of changes to several Residential Living policies and procedures that can be found in the “Residential Living Guidelines” on our website. We highly encourage students and parents to read these guidelines fully by clicking here: https://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/2023-24ResidentialLivingGuidelines.pdf

The most important changes that we would like to point out include:

- **Motorized Modes of Transportation** - Any motorized mode of transportation (including but not limited to electric scooters and e-bikes, motorcycles, mopeds, hoverboards, self-balancing scooter boards, Segways, etc.) is prohibited in the residence halls (which includes charging purposes). This does not include motorized wheelchairs and other ADA vehicles.

- **Open Flame Items and Flammable Liquids** - Open Flame Items (including but not limited to candles, incense, candle warmers, scent warmers, plug-ins, and scent pot burners) are prohibited in all residence halls for fire safety purposes. This includes decorative candles with burned or unburned wicks. The residence halls do not permit flammable Liquids and solvents (butane, gasoline, kerosene, lighter fluid, propane, etc.).

- **Cameras in the Residence Halls** - Students are permitted to use cameras in the residence halls for virtual meetings, academic
assignments, presentations, etc., but students are not permitted to install or use cameras for security or surveillance purposes. Only WCU-owned and managed cameras may be installed in the residence halls for security purposes.

- Lofting Beds - All students living in the residence halls are provided with a bed system that can be lofted. The system includes two headboards, two footboards, a mattress with a mattress platform, stabilizing bars, a safety rail, and a ladder. Lofted beds must have stabilizing bars installed. For student safety, beds may not be lofted using any materials beyond the bed system provided for each resident. A roommate’s unused bed components may not be used to extend a lofted bed.

- Sports Activities in the Residence Halls - Participating in sports activities in areas not designated for that purpose is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, playing with sports balls, Frisbees, nerf guns, splat guns, and other thrown or projected objects indoors.

- Guests – This policy was updated to provide detailed expectations for students and their guests. Please read it thoroughly.

- Prohibited Items – The list has been updated to include items that have changed due to these policy revisions.

If your student has questions before they arrive, please don’t hesitate to contact us at housingquestions@wcu.edu. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Catamount Dining

Hello Catamount Families!

Catamount Dining has been working hard to prepare for the Fall semester with new dining concepts, facility upgrades, and exciting events for our students. We wanted to take a moment to share some information and reminders with you:

- The first few weeks of the Fall semester are particularly hectic, with thousands of students trying to figure out their schedule and the best times to eat. While students work through this process, there will be long lines at dining options across campus. We appreciate your and your student’s patience as the semester starts and students figure out what works for them.

- Retail locations and dining options will open across campus in a staggered fashion as returning and new students join the Catamount Dining team. Catamount Dining will share information regarding any temporary service adjustments with your students via in-person signage, Catamount Dining social media accounts, and dining.wcu.edu.
And last but certainly not least, **Catamount Dining is hiring!** We offer competitive wages, on-campus convenience, flexible schedules, bonus incentives, and great perks. Encourage your students to apply at [https://westerncarolina.campusdine.com/Careers](https://westerncarolina.campusdine.com/Careers), or reach out to jlarem@wcu.edu with any employment questions.
Hello, Catamounts!

The WCU Bookstore is now issuing rental books for the Fall term. Come and get your books as early as possible (when you move in!) to avoid the lines that occur on opening weekend and the first week of instruction. All you need is your CatCard and your student account to be reconciled. We look forward to seeing you in Cullowhee.

**New Student Convocation**

New Student Convocation is an important event that marks the official welcome to the university. WCU’s Chancellor, Provost, Deans, Faculty, and staff convene to help mark the significance of this occasion to congratulate and celebrate the arrival of WCU’s new students.

Guests can expect the Academic Processional led by WCU Chancellor Dr. Kelli Brown, the Pride of the Mountains Marching Band, and to hear from key campus leaders.

Afterward, students will enter the E.J. Whitmire Stadium to take part in the WCU tradition of a class photo. This year, each new Catamount will join their peers in forming the numbers of their cohort’s anticipated graduation year, Class of 2027!

**Official Transcripts**
New, returning, and continuing students need to make sure that they have requested submission of final official transcripts or test results from any other college or testing source (e.g., AP, IB, or CLEP subject exam results). Responsibility rests with the student to ensure that all final official documents are received. Receipt of those documents can have a bearing on numerous things (e.g., admission eligibility, financial aid or scholarship status, class standing, athletic eligibility, the accuracy of a student's degree audit, course prerequisite satisfaction, and ability to register for specific courses or future terms). For new first-year students, the final official high school must reflect senior year course completions and verify that the student graduated. Students who were enrolled in early college or dual enrolled in high school and college courses must submit a final official high school transcript and a final official college transcript. WCU course credit cannot be awarded based on work only reflected on a high school transcript. Similarly, credit cannot be awarded for AP or IB courses or grades posted on a high school transcript. Scores results must be requested from the respective testing organization in order for credit to be awarded at WCU. For students who have attempted coursework at multiple colleges or universities, an official transcript must be submitted from each institution attended. Numerous WCU students enroll in summer courses back home before returning to WCU in the fall. Please help ensure that WCU receives those official transcripts as well.

**Athletics Update**

**Saturday, August 19**

Head Coach Kerwin Bell and the WCU football team would like to invite WCU students to attend our football scrimmage at E.J. Whitmire Stadium / Bob Waters Field. The scrimmage is from 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm. The west side of the stadium will be open, as will restrooms. For questions, please contact the Catamount Ticket Office at 828-227-2401. Admission is free.

Head Coach Karen Glover and the 2023 Catamount volleyball team take on USC Upstate at 6 pm in the Ramsey Center. Admission is free.

**Sunday, August 20**

Head Coach Chad Miller and the 2023 Catamount soccer team take on Queens in the first regular season match of the year. The match begins at 1 pm at the Catamount Athletic Complex.

**Important WCU Student Ticket Information**

All full-time, fee-paying WCU students receive free admission to all Catamount home athletic events by showing their valid WCU Student Cat Card at events. WCU students can purchase up to two student guest tickets for $16 per ticket to any home football game. To purchase guest tickets, CLICK HERE. These guest tickets will be in the WCU student sections.

September 9, Samford 2:30 pm (White Out Whitmire, Freshmen Run, High School Band Day 1983 Football Reunion). Help us pack the stadium for this huge home opener!

**Student Tailgate Lot/Cat Walk**

The student tailgate lot is located in the Bardo Arts Center. Join us for the Cat Walk as the football team cheer, dance, and drum line make their way toward the stadium. The walk starts approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes before kickoff.

**Parking on Game Day**

$10 single-game parking is also available on the Catamount Ticket Office site or by calling 828-227-2401.

Call the Catamount Ticket Office at 828-227-2401 or visit CatamountSports.com for any ticket questions.
2023 Legacy Pinning Ceremony

If you have a new WCU student with a family member who is an alum of one of WCU’s undergraduate or graduate programs – JOIN US for our 2023 Legacy Pinning Ceremony to be held September 23, 9:30 am during Family Weekend!

The legacy pinning ceremony is held annually to honor incoming Western Carolina University legacy students and their family members during WCU’s Family Weekend. It offers an alumnus(a) the opportunity to “pin” their incoming student with a special legacy pin that denotes their WCU heritage. A legacy student is “Any incoming student with at least one parent, stepparent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling, or active mentor who is an alum of WCU’s undergraduate or graduate program is considered a Legacy student.”

Legacy students and three guests are invited to attend this event at no charge. Additional guests may also attend the event for $10.

For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@wcu.edu!
The Catamount Shopping Shuttle runs one day a week at 5:30 pm from the Cat Tran hub at the University Center to Walmart and Ingles. The last shuttle returning to campus from Walmart departs at 7:40 pm.

- Wednesday, August 23
- Thursday, August 31
- Wednesday, September 6
- Thursday, September 14
- Wednesday, September 20
- Thursday, September 28

Western Carolina University
Go to Engage.wcu.edu or WOW.wcu.edu for more information!
LEAVE YOUR MARK ON THE LEGACY WALK

Dear Catamount Family,

Show your Catamount spirit by donating to the Legacy Walk. Each $250 donation will be recognized with a custom brick paver that will be placed in the Legacy Walk by the Alumni Tower. Donations to the Legacy Walk support the Student Emergency Fund which supports students experiencing financial hardship.

Jane Adams-Dunford
Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Dates and Deadlines

- **August 11 - 20** - Residence Hall Move-In
- **August 18** - New Student Convocation
- **August 18** - Class of 2027 Photo
- **August 21** - Catamount Community Courses due for new students
- **August 21** - First Day of Class/Fall Tuition Due
- **August 25** - Last Day of Drop/Add
- **September 4** - University Holiday/ No Classes
- **September 5** - Financial Aid Refund Day

Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723
StudentAffairs@wcu.edu

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