Western Carolina University
Division of Student Affairs

Connections
Parent & Family Newsletter

November 2023
Fall Illness Prevention for a Healthy Semester

As the fall season begins, so do the sniffles, coughs, the Cullowhee Crud, and the spread of other illnesses on our campus. This guidance can help prevent the spread of infectious diseases, such as influenza (flu), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and COVID-19. If your student has symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea, they should stay home.

Please review the Student Documented Absence Notification Protocol with your student. It is designed to serve as a resource and central point of contact if they encounter a situation that keeps them from attending classes for four consecutive days.

New Cat Statue Installed

Early Registration Open
Undergraduate students’ registration time-tickets are set based on the minimum number of hours required to complete their degree program rather than the hours a student has earned. Students with less than 15 hours remaining to complete their degree will be given an earlier registration time-ticket than students with more than 50 hours remaining to complete their degree.

The Registrar’s Office will notify enrolled students of their earliest registration time via email and all time-tickets begin at 9:00 p.m. You may use the button below to see registration times.

![Early Registration Times](button)

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**Career Closet Now Available to Students**

The Center for Career and Professional Development is excited to announce our brand new Career Closet! Students may now borrow professional interview attire at no cost. This endeavor, made possible by a grant through Enterprise Rent-a-Car and purchased through Belk of Asheville, is a game-changer for students who do not have access to professional clothing for interviews, conferences, networking events, etc. The Career Closet is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in the CCPD, Reid 150. Students may swing by to try on the clothes before checking items out.
Have a concern? Let us know.

1. Whether your concern is about behavior on campus, a specific student’s wellness, or a general comment about university processes or procedures, you can find our reporting forms by scanning the QR code here or visit dsa.wcu.edu/report to get started.

2. Select your report type and complete as much information as you can. Be as detailed as possible.

3. Attach any documents that you feel are relevant to the incident you are reporting, such as photos, videos, screenshots of text messages, etc.

4. Our caring staff will take it from here! We will follow up appropriately on every report.

NOTES: Confused about what kind of report to submit? Do your best! As long as we get the information, we will route it appropriately. Under most circumstances, WCU staff cannot disclose any information about a case after a report has been submitted. We may not be able to keep your identity anonymous.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

THE WCU

Scholarship Application is OPEN!

APPLY NOW
After submitting your scholarship application come by the University Scholarships Office to receive $10 WCU BOOKSTORE BUCKS!

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS FEBRUARY 1, 2024
Financial Aid

2024–2025
Free Application for Federal Student Aid/

FAFSA DELAYED
What You Need to Know:
The 2024–2025 FAFSA will not open until December 2023, a delay from the usual date of October 1.

Western Carolina University

HOMECOMING
Congratulations to **AJ Johnson** 2023 Catamount Noble and **Corbin Richardson** Catamount Noble Runner-up
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.

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 available on the Catamount Ticket Office site. Call the Catamount Ticket Office at 828-227-2401 or visit CatamountSports.com for any ticket or parking questions.

2023 WESTERN CAROLINA HOME FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

We don't want unexpected expenses to keep you from being a successful student!

If you're facing unexpected, unforeseen, & urgent expenses you may be eligible for the Student Affairs Emergency Fund.

For more details and to apply, visit DOS.wcu.edu
Staff Senate and the Rapid Center have continued their partnership to provide another holiday ornament. The umbrella is a symbol of the WCU community, representing compassion and unity. The WCU campus theme for the 2023-2024 academic year is “Community and Belongingness.”

In designing this year’s Staff Senate ornament, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians was recognized, whose ancestral homeplace is also home to our university and whose identity and culture we work to honor. Students, staff, faculty, and visitors alike have also learned when touring campus that WCU has long stood not only for Western Carolina University but also for “Whee Carry Umbrellas!” To purchase an ornament, please use this link.

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**Catamount Shopping Shuttle**

![Catamount Shopping Shuttle Image]
The Catamount Shopping Shuttle runs one day a week at 5:30 p.m. 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 p.m.

Thursday, November 9 | Wednesday, November 15 | Wednesday, November 29

More Information

Schedule of Campus Events
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

November 5 - 14 - Early Registration
November 22 - 24 - Thanksgiving Break
December 8 - Last Day of Classes

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