Current First-Year Students Required to Live in Residence Halls Next Year

On September 28, 2021, the Department of Residential Living communicated with the current first-year class who entered in Summer/August of 2021 that, per Policy 96, they will be required to live in on-campus housing during their second academic year (AY 2022-23). The decision to enforce the second-year requirement for the current first-year class was made based on several pieces of information including a significant drop in the freshman retention rate. Historically, WCU undergraduate students living in the residence halls perform better academically than their peers living off-campus. Residential Living is proud of the communities they facilitate throughout the residence halls and trust that the residential experience will provide students the best opportunity to be personally and academically successful.

WCU students subject to the Policy 96 two-year residence requirement should not sign a lease for an off-campus apartment or rental property. Students subject to the two-year residence requirement will be charged for a room and meal plan per
Policy 96 procedures (see section IV. Procedures, paragraph #2) if they move off-campus without authorization from Residential Living. Details about the two-year residence requirement, the exemption process, residence hall room selection, and appeals are included in Policy 96. Please read this information carefully and do not allow your student to sign an off-campus lease without first getting authorization in writing from Residential Living!

If you have questions about the policy, please contact the Department of Residential Living at housingquestions@email.wcu.edu or 828-227-7303.

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Homecoming 2021

"Roaring with Pride"

Congratulations to Sydney Spivey a Junior from Gainsville, FL, and Colton Graham a Junior from Franklin, NC who were crowned Homecoming King and Queen on Saturday, October 9th.
Catamount Dining Update

Reflecting national and regional trends, Catamount Dining has experienced challenges with filling our vacant positions and disruptions to our supply chains. We understand and share the frustrations around these challenges and the resulting inconvenience.

Accordingly, Catamount Dining is still hiring! If your student or their friends are looking for a job on-campus, we would love to have them on our team. They can apply on the Catamount Dining website.

Currently, 16 out of 19 campus dining venues are open, albeit on a rotating, dynamic schedule. There are 3 venues that remain closed (the Lodge at Brown Hall, Steak and Shake, and Which Wich). Catamount Dining plans to open the Lodge at Brown over Fall Break and continue to serve dinner at Brown afterward. Which Wich is also scheduled to open after Fall Break. Catamount Dining regularly seeks feedback from students during Dining Service Advisory Board meetings on current operations and options to deliver the most value to students possible under these difficult conditions. We will continue to work hard to open locations and expand services as quickly as possible.

Health and Wellness Corner

Fall break is upon us! Your student may be visiting home or traveling for the first time since they left for college.

- It is important to remember that their habits may have changed, as well as yours, now that they have been away. This may be a period where communication is even more important as it relates to expectations.
COVID-19 has been tough for students, and mid-semester testing can be demanding for students. We hope that fall break can be a time for rest and catching up for your student; whether that be sleep, school work, time with friends from home (safely, of course), and time with you!

BECOME A CATAMOUNT WELLNESS AMBASSADOR

Get Vaccinated or Get Tested
All unvaccinated faculty, staff, and students are now subject to regular testing. Up to 500 individuals are being randomly selected each week to participate in testing. Selected individuals are notified via their university email each Friday along with a link to schedule an appointment at one of the University-sponsored testing locations for free.

2021 – 2022 Holiday Ornament

The 2021 – 22 Holiday Ornament is now available for purchase. Manufactured by incredibly talented WCU engineering students, this ornament was created in partnership with the Cherokee Studies Program and Cherokee Center Staff. The Cherokee syllable Ꮻ is a symbol of place for the Cherokee people. This ornament was made in honor and recognition of the sacred homelands of the Cherokee people, who once resided in the town known as “Two Sparrows Place,” which was located on what is now the campus of Western Carolina University.

Proceeds from this holiday ornament help support scholarships for currently enrolled or accepted students who are children of SHRA and EHRA non-faculty employees and Staff Senate initiatives.
Fall Break Data Center Outage

The IT Division staff will perform system maintenance to ensure the reliability and safety of the data center. Work is scheduled for Saturday, **October 23rd**, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

During the maintenance work, system access may be sporadic or unavailable; there will be rolling outages of systems throughout the day, which will affect the availability of all critical and non-critical systems located in the data center. Some of the services **WILL NOT** be affected by this outage including Banner, the university’s main WCU.edu website, myWCU, and Office 365 (e.g., email).

Contact Information: Please contact the IT Help Desk or visit the Technology Commons if you have any questions or concerns. Check the status of your requests at any time at [http://ithelp.wcu.edu/](http://ithelp.wcu.edu/)

* [http://doit.wcu.edu](http://doit.wcu.edu)  
* 828.227.7487 (local)  
* Available 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., weekdays (Mon.-Fri.)
Cat Camp Counselor Applications open NOW!

Apply before Oct. 15
On Engage
The 2022–2023 FAFSA is OPEN!

Complete today at fafsa.gov.

Need assistance? WCU FAFSA Day is Saturday, October 23.
9:00AM–12:00PM
Cordelia Camp Computer Lab 139

The 2022–2023 WCU Scholarship Application is open in your myWCU account.
Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

October 1 - FAFSA opened for 2022-2023
October 9 - Homecoming
October 18-22 - Fall Break, no classes
October 23 - FAFSA Day

Schedule of Campus Events

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