

## SPECIAL EDITION

### Spring Operations and Move-in

Dear WCU Campus Community:

This week, senior campus leaders and I have reviewed state and regional COVID-19 activity with UNC System leadership, public health officials, and local hospital representatives in anticipation of the beginning of the spring semester. Due to record COVID-19 cases, strain on critical health care resources related to COVID-19 hospitalizations, and a projected peak in cases in Western North Carolina within the next two to three weeks, we have made the decision to adjust our spring operations with the health of our campus and surrounding community as our guiding principle.

**Classes will begin on Jan. 25, as scheduled, but all classes will be delivered via remote instruction through Feb. 12. On Feb. 15, classes will resume as originally scheduled through in-person or hybrid instruction.** Classes already scheduled to meet remotely will continue that mode of instruction.

There is no change to the academic calendar. The spring semester will conclude on May 14 as originally scheduled.

**To further safeguard the greater campus community, the return of students to our campus residence halls will be delayed. Move-in will begin Feb. 6.** Students scheduled to move in to the residence halls will receive information from Residential Living with information on reentry testing, prorated refunds/credits, and move-in instructions.

Additional information on spring operations, including a FAQ about changes to the beginning of the spring semester, can be found [HERE](#).

I continue to urge all of us to remain vigilant against COVID-19. Follow the [Catamounts Care Community Standards](#), use community testing sites and vaccine sites as they become available, and maintain a period of quarantine where appropriate.

We take these steps with the health and safety of all members of our community in mind. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we navigate through these most challenging times together, as Catamounts.

Sincerely,

Kelli R. Brown  
Chancellor

## SPRING 2021 OPERATIONS

**Division of Student Affairs**  
Western Carolina University  
227 HFR Administration Building  
Cullowhee, N.C. 28723

828-227-7147 | [dsa.wcu.edu](http://dsa.wcu.edu)  
[Privacy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)



Division of  
Student Affairs



February 2021

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**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**

# BLACK EXCELLENCE

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of

# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

02.21.21 —  
02.27.21

**SUNDAY, FEB. 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**MLK MARCH (UNITY)**

Poster Making: 9:30 am /  
UC Multipurpose  
TIME: March begins at 11 am  
LOCATION: Catafountain & the UC

**MONDAY, FEB. 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
**DRESS FOR SUCCESS (ALPHA)**

TIME: All day  
PHOTO OPT: 5:30 pm / Catafountain  
LOCATION: Western Carolina University

**TUESDAY, FEB. 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**JEOPARDY:**

**BSU EDITION (BSU)**  
TIME: 7pm-8:30 pm  
LOCATION: Zoom:  
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/88902197404>

**WEDNESDAY, FEB 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**"I HAVE A DREAM"**

**BOARD (ICA COUNCIL)**  
TIME: 6pm-7pm  
LOCATION: Zoom:  
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/83620936279>

**THURSDAY, FEB. 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**BLACK LITERACY VOICES**

TIME: 12:00pm-1:00pm  
LOCATION: For details  
email: [diversity@wcu.edu](mailto:diversity@wcu.edu)

**HOW BLACK IS BLACK ENOUGH (SGA)**

TIME: 5:30pm-6:30pm  
LOCATION: Zoom:  
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/83170696312>

**FRIDAY, FEB. 26<sup>TH</sup>**  
**COMMITTEE REVIEW AND SELECTION FOR THE BLACK EXCELLENCE AWARD**

*Details on [mlkjr.wcu.edu](http://mlkjr.wcu.edu)*

**SATURDAY, FEB 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
**BLACK EXCELLENCE AWARD CEREMONY (UNITY)**

TIME: 7:06pm  
LOCATION: Instagram / MLK Website  
Winners will be announced on multiple media platforms.

[mlkjr.wcu.edu](http://mlkjr.wcu.edu)



Campus Partners: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Black Student Union, Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, ICA Council, Intercultural Affairs, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, Student Government Association  
**DEGREE PLUS & R&R APPROVED**



## WCU Parents Society

In partnership with Student Affairs, Western Carolina University's Office of Alumni Engagement is excited to present the WCU Parents Society. Western Carolina University's Parents Society's mission is to foster extraordinary relationships between the university and all WCU families. Western Carolina University's Parents Society promotes and cultivates student success while engaging parents and families with the university. Throughout the year, Parents Society members will have the opportunity to host, attend, and volunteer at several events to improve student and family experiences, deepen family connections with WCU, and help WCU achieve its mission and goals.

If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parents Society, please contact Elizabeth Qualls, Coordinator of Affinity Programs, at [equalls@email.wcu.edu](mailto:equalls@email.wcu.edu) or 828-227-3766.

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## Health and Wellness

This is a good time to talk to your student about activities and lifestyle choices they can make to help maintain a healthy heart. And, while you are at it, think about modeling all of these activities for them!

1. Encourage your student to follow the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) [physical activity guidelines](#) and encourage them to utilize the Campus Recreation Center's in-person and virtual resources at [reccenter.wcu.edu](http://reccenter.wcu.edu).
2. Talk to your student about smoking and tobacco use. If they don't use tobacco, still have the conversation. If they are using tobacco, encourage them to seek treatment. WCU's Health Services ([healthservices.wcu.edu](http://healthservices.wcu.edu)) and Counseling & Psychological Services ([caps.wcu.edu](http://caps.wcu.edu)) have treatment options available.
3. Encourage your student to have regular check-ups with their medical provider. Routine preventative care is important throughout our lifetime. You can help your student get in that habit now. Students can see the providers at WCU Health Services for this care throughout their academic career at WCU.
4. Finally, ask your student about the quality of their relationships so you can assess their emotional heart health. This may be uncomfortable for both of you. Opening this conversation tells your student that you care about all aspects of their life and provides them the emotional support they need. If they are struggling with their relationships, remember CAPS ([caps.wcu.edu](http://caps.wcu.edu)) is an important resource for them.

Learning and practicing these heart habits now are important for life-long heart health.

# LOVE YOUR BODY WEEK

Feb. 15-19, 2021



Health and  
Wellness Education

## MONDAY, 2/15/21: VIRTUAL INFORMATIONAL SESSION & Q&A WITH SEXUALITY PROFESSIONALS

Join us for sex-positive, inclusive education and answers to any questions you may have about sex and sexuality.

7:00pm | Register on Engage

## TUESDAY, 2/16/21: RAD EXPRESS COURSE

This course is designed as a brief overview of the R.A.D. program. This course includes discussion on awareness and risk reduction followed by a self-defense component.

3pm-4pm | Register on Engage

## WEDNESDAY, 2/17/21: YOGA

Practice mindfulness through yoga with a body positive focus.

6pm-7pm | CRC STUDIOS 1 & 2 (Free to all wcu affiliates) & IG Live @wcu\_campusrec

### WEEKLONG:

**BODY LOVE BLOG TOPICS:** **Monday:** Sexual Health, **Tuesday:** Loving Your Black Body, **Wednesday:** Loving Your LatinX Body, **Thursday:** Loving Your Native American Body, **Friday:** Loving Your Queer Body

**BETTERYOU APP PHYSICAL CHALLENGE**



## 2021-2022 Room Selection

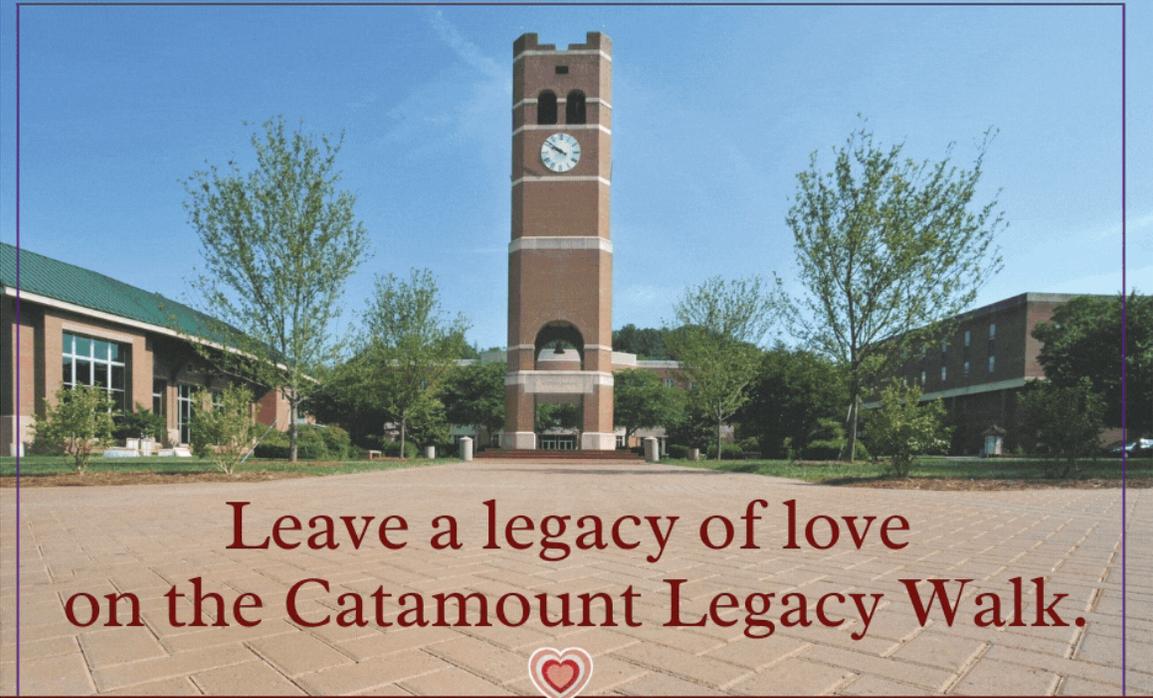
Will your student need on campus housing for the 2021-2022 Academic Year? More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to Spring 2021. Below are some important items to remember:

- 1st Step: Pay the non-refundable housing deposit of \$150 through their MyWCU account
- 2nd Step: Submit a Residence Hall Agreement beginning **February 24, 2021**
- 3rd Step: Select a room during Room Selection which begins in March 2021
- Information will be online at [roomselection.wcu.edu](http://roomselection.wcu.edu)
- Information has been sent to your student's Suite box
- Emails will be sent to your student's WCU email account
- Being requested as a roommate does not qualify as submitting a Residence Hall Agreement

**Students wanting to live on campus should pay their deposit and submit their Residence Hall agreement as early as possible.**

Questions? Please call the Department of Residential Living at 828.227.7303.

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**Leave a legacy of love  
on the Catamount Legacy Walk.**



**SHARE YOUR CATAMOUNT SPIRIT WITH A LOVED ONE!**  
Purchase a custom brick paver that will be placed by the Alumni tower. Donations to the legacy walk support the student emergency fund. To purchase using payroll deduction or for more information visit:

**legacywalk.wcu.edu** **I LOVE WCU**

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## Important Notice from IT

The IT Division is witnessing a surge in social engineering activities, especially vaccine-related phishing attempts. Experts predict malicious cyber actors will continue trying to exploit the evolving remote learning environment, especially related to COVID and tax season.



Please remain watchful for social engineering attempts, and follow the same basic investigation tips as for phishing in general:

- Watch for suspicious sender addresses such as *helpdesk.wcu.edu@gmail.com* or *hr.wcu.edu@gmail.com*
- Pay attention to generic greetings, such as "Dear Valued Customer" or "Sir/Ma'am."
- Look for spoofed hyperlinks and websites: if you hover your mouse cursor over links in the email body, and the links do not match the text that appears when hovering over them, the link may be spoofed. Malicious websites may look identical to a legitimate site, but the URL may use a variation in spelling or a different domain, such *.com* vs. *.net*.
- Remember that suspicious attachments which you are asked to download and open is a standard delivery mechanism for malware.

If you think you are a victim:

- If you believe you might have revealed sensitive information about yourself or WCU, report it to the appropriate personnel at WCU. When in doubt, contact the IT Help Desk at 828.227.7487 or email [ithelp@wcu.edu](mailto:ithelp@wcu.edu).
- If you believe your financial accounts may be compromised, contact your financial institution immediately. Watch for any unrecognized charges to your account.
- Immediately change any passwords you might have revealed. If you used the same password for multiple resources, make sure to change it for each account, and do not use that password in the future.



## The Western Carolinian

Your source for news at WCU since 1933. The Western Carolinian provides coverage of news, sports, entertainment and culture relevant to current themes, topics and trends within this community.



## Slow COVIDNC App

Help Slow the Spread: Protect yourself, your loved ones and your community - simply by using your phone.

## Important Dates

February 15 - Face-to-face and Hybrid classes begin

February 15 - 19 - Students can pick up PPE from the University Center

February 24 - Reading Day (no classes)

February 24 - Residence Hall Agreement opens for 2021-2022

March 1 - 5th Week Grades Due

March 9 - Advising Day (no classes)



Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

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**Western  
Carolina**  
UNIVERSITY

Division of  
Student Affairs



March 2021



## Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds

WCU students now have access to financial assistance through the second round of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). These emergency grant funds will be available to eligible WCU students who are experiencing emergency needs or financial hardships due to the pandemic. The application is now live. Please visit the below link for more info.

[More Information](#)





## Advising Day

Advising Day marks the beginning of the official Advising and Registration period. No classes are held on this day so academic departments and their faculty advisors can assist students in planning for next semester's classes and provide the Alt PIN required for registration. Many departments have students schedule appointments to meet one-on-one with their primary advisor on that day or during that week.

[More Information](#)

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## Campus Police Department Forms Community Advisory Committee

Western Carolina University's Police Department recently instituted a standing advisory committee to help officers better understand and serve the community.

On the heels of an initial meeting on Feb. 19, Chief Steve Lillard said the committee has already established an open dialogue and is ready to look at local issues.

[Read the Full Article](#)

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## Free Surveillance Testing

*Open to all current WCU students, faculty, and staff*

Scientific research suggests that COVID can be spread by individuals with no known contact to positive COVID, nor experiencing any symptoms. Surveillance testing help to identify those cases.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons from 1:00pm – 4:30pm  
Location: Madison Residential Hall.

Schedule online through the [Health Services Patient Portal](#)

If you are feeling sick, or concerned about a recent exposure, call Health Services at 828.227.7640 to discuss your situation with the COVID Triage Nurse.



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## Health and Wellness

**March is National Nutrition Month**, so we wanted to feature some information from our campus food service, Aramark, regarding how you can help your student fuel their body for success.

As part of Aramark's Healthy for Life® initiative, they are proud to be working with the American Heart Association to improve the health of Americans. Aramark chefs are finding creative ways to include more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains into menus. Below are two initiatives/resources Aramark has in place to help you guide your student toward healthy choices.

### ***Plant-forward***

- Aramark defines plant-forward as a style of cooking and eating that emphasizes fruits, vegetables and whole grains but may contain a small amount of animal protein.

- To make it easier to find these plant-forward options, Aramark launched a plant-forward icon as part of their national menu labeling menu templates. Consumers can use this icon to identify recipes that are plant-forward. Get ore information at the link below

- Check out the Nourish Blog linked below

### ***Feedyourpotential365***

- Eating habits directly impact the energy and focus needed to reach our every-day goals, including academic and physical activity goals. Discovering and choosing the right food propels us forward, helps us succeed and keeps us healthy. ***Feed Your Potential*** is about discovering what healthy food can do for your student.

-The link below includes several educational articles and recipes from the chefs and dietitians at Aramark.

[Plant Forward](#)

[Nourish Blog](#)

[Feed Your Potential](#)



2021-2022 Room Selection

Premier Level Selection | March 15 | 9am - 10pm

Current students who want to keep their current room

Platinum Level Selection | March 17 | 9am - 10pm

Current students who have completed the premier level selection and want to request a roommate

Honor's Level Selection | March 22 | 9am - 10pm

Honor's College students who wish to select a room in Balsam or Blue Ridge

Gold Level Selection | Begins March 27 @ 8am

Remaining currently enrolled students who have not gone through a previous selection will be assigned a time based on the date and time they completed their Residence Hall Agreement. Selection will remain open until all buildings are filled.

Questions? Call the Department of Residential Living at 828.227.7303.

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Slow COVIDNC App

Help Slow the Spread: Protect yourself, your loved ones and your community - simply by using your phone.

[More Information About Slow COVIDNC](#)

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## Important Dates

March 9 - Advising Day (no classes)

March 15 - Last day to apply for HEERF II Grant

March 15 - Room selection begins for current students

March 19 - Last day to withdraw from a class

April 1-5 - No Classes

April 2 - University Closed



## Campus Events

Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

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**Western  
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Student Affairs



**April 2021**





## The Western Carolinian

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**CHANCELLOR'S CORNER**  
FEATURING  
DR. KELLI R. BROWN

MARCH 2021 EDITION

PRESENTED BY:

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY

THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN  
CULLOWHEE'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1933



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## Free Surveillance Testing

Scientific research suggests that COVID can be spread by individuals with no known contact to positive COVID, nor experiencing any symptoms.

Surveillance testing help to identify those cases.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons from 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm  
Location: Madison Residential Hall.

Schedule online through the [Health Services Patient Portal](#)

If you are feeling sick or concerned about a recent exposure, call Health Services at 828.227.7640 to discuss your situation with the COVID Triage Nurse.

## Covid-19 Vaccine for Students

Western Carolina University's regional COVID-19 vaccine clinic received a delivery of 1,700 Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccines that will be earmarked for students living in on-campus student housing and off-campus shared residences.

The clinic will be open to students first April 7-9.

**Students must register for these appointments by calling 828.227.8222.**

For additional information please contact the vaccine clinic at 828.227.8222 or [vaccinequestions@wcu.edu](mailto:vaccinequestions@wcu.edu).



## 2021 Family Weekend

Join your student in Cullowhee on September 17-19, 2021 for Family Weekend. Visit with your student, enjoy campus activities, and cheer on the Catamounts as they face Samford. More information will be available on the Family Weekend website soon.



## Health and Wellness

For the past year, health concerns have largely focused on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Yet this worldwide pandemic has been taxing in so many ways that individuals may be experiencing new physical and/or physiological responses that are not being addressed. Now is a good time to check in with your student about their overall health and determine if any steps are necessary to ensure

minimization of long-term health or academic impacts. You can use the talking points below as a starting place.

- Ask your student if they have been experiencing any of the common physical responses to stress, which includes headaches, muscle tension, fatigue, and sleeplessness.
- Help your student identify the last time they had a physical and talk to them about the importance of routine health checks. Remember that [WCU Health Services](#) is available to serve the healthcare needs of WCU's campus community.
- Talk to your student about the health benefits of getting outside as the weather warms up. Being outside can help lower your blood pressure and resting heart rate, improve your mood, and promotes an opportunity for greater socialization. These are just a few of the benefits!
- During the final part of the semester, academic distress usually becomes more prominent. Remind your student to take regular study/wellness breaks. They can use the following resource for some great ideas to break up a study session:

Study Break Resource

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## A Recent Message from Chancellor Brown

Dear WCU community,

It has been more than a year since COVID-19 transformed our university and our world. Although initially there was much uncertainty about how to navigate a global pandemic, I have been so impressed by the way our students, faculty and staff demonstrated their strength, resilience and creativity. Despite the challenges we faced, WCU continued to exceed all expectations. There is so much to reflect upon - so much to process, so much to understand, and so much change to absorb. Yet, this is also a time to look ahead with hope for the future.

During the past year, there has been no documented transmission of COVID-19 in our classrooms, and that is a direct result of our public health protocols and strong adherence to our [Catamounts Care Community Standards](#). Additionally, vaccinations become available to all members of the WCU community on April 1, which will allow all of our students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated over the next few months.

With that understanding and as we look ahead, our top priority is to resume a fully in-person residential program for the upcoming fall semester. Residential, in-person instruction and support services are cornerstones of the WCU mission. We want students, faculty and staff fully integrated into campus life so that teaching and learning can return to our classrooms, studios and labs. We also want students engaging in as full a residential life program as possible, taking part in extracurricular and co-curricular activities that allow them to learn and build community.

To accomplish this goal, we are committed to bringing all WCU students, faculty and staff back to campus for the fall 2021 semester to fully engage our vibrant learning community. In order to best position ourselves to meet this goal, the time for planning is now. To facilitate the planning process and based upon current trends and the guidance currently available to us from the [UNC System](#), you should expect the following:

- Undergraduate and graduate students should plan to be on campus for in-person instruction for the fall 2021 semester.
- Faculty should assume a return to in-person instruction on campus for the coming academic year.
- Staff currently working remotely will be expected to return to campus on a rolling basis, beginning this spring and continuing through the summer, as determined by operational progress and needs of their division. All staff members should anticipate being back at work on campus no later than the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.
- Any exemption from in-person teaching or onsite work will require appropriate documentation and approval through a formal request process. Contact your supervisor or Human Resources for more information.
- Students, faculty and staff will be expected to continue to adhere to all health and safety guidelines outlined by the university, the CDC, and local and state health officials to ensure that the transition to being on campus more frequently is done in a safe manner.
- As guidelines evolve, information will be shared with the campus community and updated on the [Catamounts Care](#) webpage.

I know that many of you have continued to work on campus throughout the pandemic and I want you to know that your commitment has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Thank you for your dedicated service. And thank you to those

who have diligently worked remotely to ensure our university remained open and operations continued.

As we plan for our future, I encourage grace, flexibility, patience and empathy for overall wellbeing as we take steps to fully integrate everyone back to campus. Additional guidance around workforce planning (to include scheduling and leave guidance) will be provided by Human Resources within the next few weeks.

Please be assured that we will continue to closely monitor conditions and continue to set our policies based on guidance issued by the CDC, the University of North Carolina System, and the State of North Carolina.

I am confident that WCU can safely return to the residential, in-person education that has long defined and elevated the campus experience for our students. Thank you for your collaboration and dedication as we pursue this goal.

Sincerely,  
Kelli R. Brown, Chancellor

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## Catamount Athletics



### Cats Beat the Dogs

[Donnavan Spencer](#) rushed for a career-high 220 yards and two touchdowns, with [Mikai Stanley](#) adding a third score on the ground as Western Carolina built a 21-6 halftime lead and held off The Citadel to earn a 21-14 victory in Southern Conference football action...

[Read the Full Article](#)

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## Catch Up on Your Favorite Sports Team

[Baseball](#)

[Basketball Women's](#)

[Cross Country Women's](#)

[Golf Men's](#)

[Basketball Men's](#)

[Cross Country Men's](#)

[Football](#)

[Soccer](#)

[Golf Women's](#)

[Tennis](#)

[Softball](#)

[Track & Field Women's](#)

[Track & Field Men's](#)

[Volleyball](#)



## Student Government Association

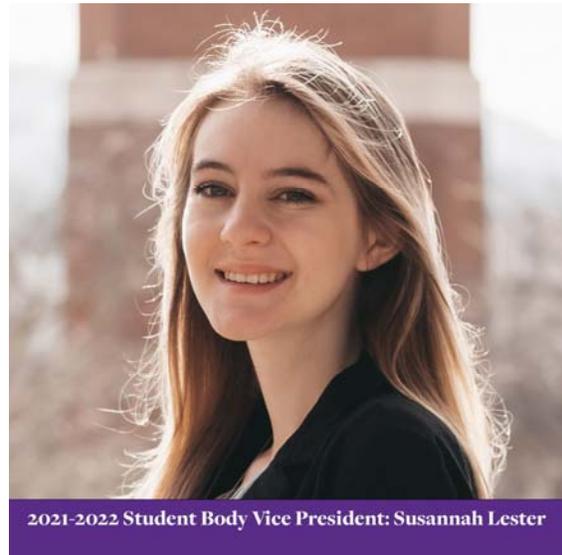
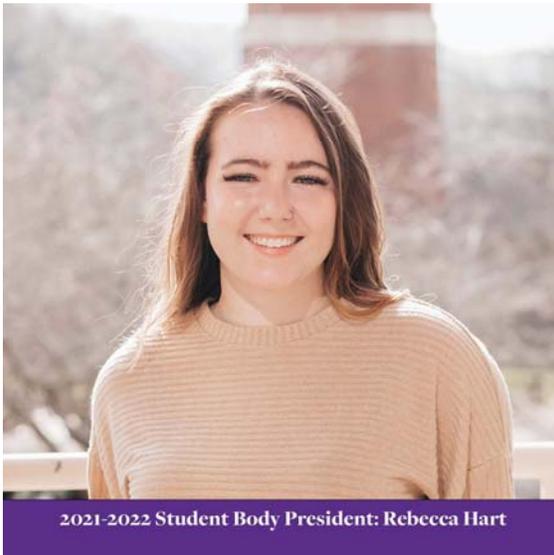
### Election Results

**Rebecca Hart**

2021-2022 President-Elect

**Susannah Lester**

2021-2022 Vice President-Elect



The following individuals will serve as 2021-2022 Senator Elects

Angela Cambridge

Anna Shronce

Baily Beebout

D Germain

Diana Gabriel

Diego Valenzuela

Ethan Williams

Evelyn Voegeli

Harold Sarmiento

Isabella McMahan

James Pointer

Jonathan Dalton

Kaleb Watson

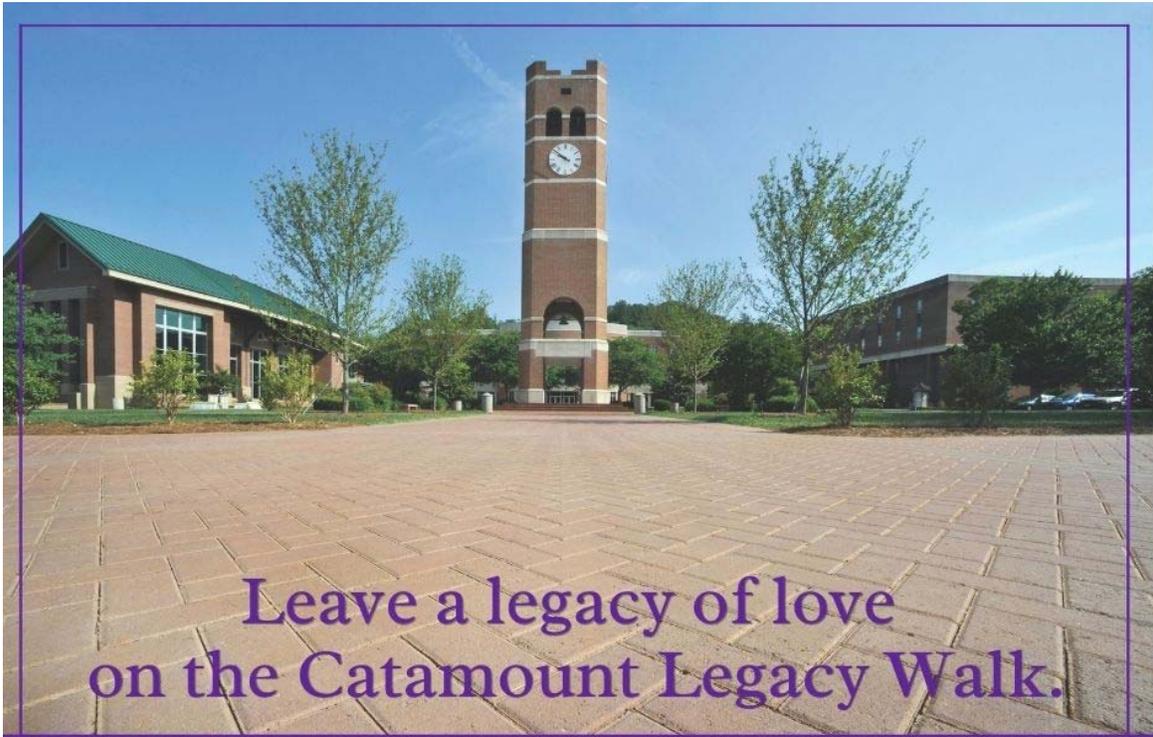
Madeline King

Malaika Newsome

Olivia D'Angelo

Rae Suber

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If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parents Society, please contact Elizabeth Qualls, Coordinator of Affinity Programs, at [equalls@email.wcu.edu](mailto:equalls@email.wcu.edu) or 828-227-3766.

Parent Society Interest Form

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## Important Dates

May 7 - Last day of classes

May 8-14 - Final Exams

May 14 - Doctorate & Masters Commencement Ceremony

May 15 - College of Education & Allied Professions, David Orr Belcher College of Fine & Performing Arts, and College of Arts & Sciences Commencement Ceremonies

May 16 - College of Business, College of Engineering & Technology, and College of Health & Human Sciences Commencement Ceremonies



Campus Events

Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

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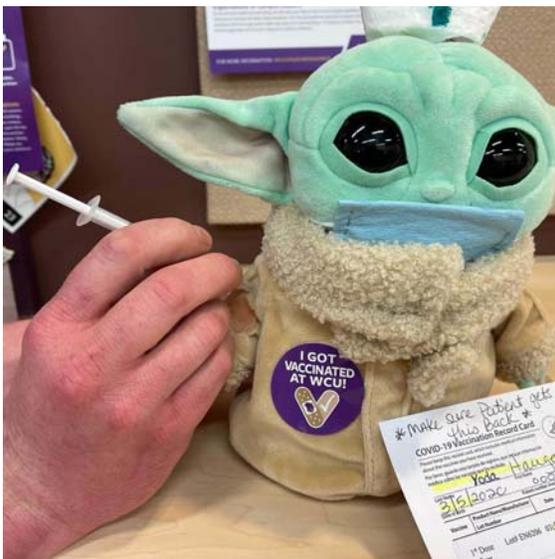
## May 2021





## The Western Carolinian

Your source for news at WCU since 1933. The Western Carolinian provides coverage of news, sports, entertainment, and culture relevant to current themes, topics, and trends within the community.



## WCU Vaccine Clinic Expands Hours

Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic.

The American College Health Association urges college students to schedule their COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible and not to delay initiation until they reach their summer destination.

The regional COVID-19 vaccine clinic will now operate with extended hours, including evenings and weekends. Your student has the option to schedule an appointment to receive the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine, which requires two doses with the second dose taking place 21 days after the first dose, or the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine, which requires one shot. To schedule an appointment visit, [vaccine.wcu.edu](https://vaccine.wcu.edu) or call 828.227.8222 to schedule an appointment.

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## Residence Hall Move-Out Procedures

Residence hall check-outs will take place between April 30th and May 14th. Here is what you need to know:

- Students will sign up for a check-out time if checking out with an RA. **Two guests** will be allowed to assist with moving out, but only during the day they are signed up to move out.
- Students will have the option to sign-up on any RA door.
- Students have a second option of completing an express check-out if they do not wish to have an in-person check-out. *NOTE: If utilizing an express check-out option, this will waive the student's right to appeal charges for damages.*
- We ask that students check out of the residence halls within 24 hours of their last exam.

- The residence halls will close at 5 pm **on Friday, May 14th**. If a student requests an extension (graduation or another reason), they need to do so by emailing the person in charge of their building by 5 pm on May 12th. Simply emailing a request is not a guarantee. They must receive a confirmation that the request is approved.



## Spring 2021 Commencement

May 14, at 6:00 p.m. – The Graduate School

May 15, at 10:00 a.m.

College of Education and Allied  
Professions and the David Orr Belcher  
College of Fine and Performing Arts

May 15, at 4:00 p.m.

College of Arts and Sciences

May 16, at 10:00 a.m.

College of Business and College of  
Engineering and Technology

May 16, at 4:00 p.m.

College of Health and Human Sciences



## Spring Rental Textbook Return & Summer Pickup

COVID-19 operations require additional time for processing. **ALL SPRING SEMESTER RENTAL TEXTBOOKS MUST BE RETURNED BY 5 PM FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021 TO AVOID PAYING A PENALTY.**

As a reminder, the Spring 2021 semester concludes May 14, 2021. Rental textbooks should be returned as soon as they are no longer needed for instruction or finals. The Bookstore will provide a socially distanced return method for a quick and easy return.

Summer 2021 rental textbooks will be available for pickup when Spring 2021 books are returned.

If your student is unable to return their textbooks in person, they may be mailed to the bookstore. Please visit the Bookstore website ([books.wcu.edu](https://books.wcu.edu)) for additional details. If your student is enrolled in summer classes and cannot pick up their Summer 2021 rental textbooks in person, they may request shipping using this link:



## Health and Wellness Services Available Over the Summer

Students enrolled in summer courses or the upcoming fall semester are eligible for care.

### CAPS

Students can engage in therapy if they are signed up for classes in the fall and *physically located in North Carolina.*

Call CAPS @ 828.227.7469 for an appointment.

### Health Services

Face-to-face visits and telehealth visits are available by appointment. COVID testing will continue to be offered throughout the summer.

Call Health Services @ 828.227.7640 for an appointment.

## Pride of the Mountains Marching Band

### New Director Announced

Jack Eaddy, Jr. comes to WCU after serving as the assistant director of bands at McNeese State University and the University of South Carolina. Prior to that, he was a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Georgia and the University of North Texas and the director of bands at Oak Ridge High School and Westridge Middle School, both in Orlando, Florida.



[Read the Full Article](#)

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## New Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

The Western Carolina University Board of Trustees appointed David A. Kinner as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences as part of its special-called meeting on April 27. Kinner, who served as the interim dean, began his new position effective May 1.



Read the Full Article



## Opportunities for Your Student

Expand your horizons and pursue the NEXT step in your life here in AVL with this 9-month professional mentorship program.

Applications due May 15th.  
Info at [www.nextavl.org](http://www.nextavl.org)

OPPORTUNITY	CONNECTION
NETWORKING	MENTORSHIP

### NEXT AVL

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors have the opportunity to connect with a mentor to help them explore the world of work. In this 9-month program (aligns with the academic year) your student will work on their resume and interview skills, shadow professionals, grow their network and learn more about professional possibilities after graduation.

Students may attend virtual information sessions at 7 pm on **May 11, 12, and 13**. To learn more about the program, register for a session, or apply, go to [NextAVL.org](http://NextAVL.org). Applications are due **May 15**, the program starts in the Fall.



**Register at [myrec.wcu.edu](https://myrec.wcu.edu)**

Is your student ready to challenge themselves and connect with other new students while exploring the wild places near campus? First Ascent, Wilderness Orientation program is for them!

This year for 2021, we are excited to bring back the popular First Ascent, Wilderness Orientation! We will be offering a program that includes a base camp model, which will allow students to base out of their WCU residence halls for the week of outdoor activities and programming. Students will get a chance to experience their new backyard of Cullowhee and surrounding mountains by getting to rock climb, canoe, stand up paddleboard, raft, and more. Students will build community and get a chance to connect with like-minded students.

For more information, visit [firstascent.wcu.edu](https://firstascent.wcu.edu) or contact Jeremiah Haas at [jhaas@wcu.edu](mailto:jhaas@wcu.edu).

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# P.A.W.S. Professional Alumni Working with Students

Is your student looking for an experience that prepares them for life after graduation? University Advancement is excited to invite students to apply for the P.A.W.S. Mentor Program! This opportunity allows the talented WCU alumni base to connect with current students through guided mentorship and goal-based activities. Receive professional and personal development, build relationships, and participate in a networking event to conclude the mentorship term! Students are encouraged to submit applications for our upcoming Fall group by **July 12, 2021!** The fall session will start on August 16, 2021. Apply at <https://www.wcu.edu/engage/alumni/get-involved/paws.aspx>. For questions contact Toni Nelson at [nelsona@wcu.edu](mailto:nelsona@wcu.edu).

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## Catamount Athletics



Softball Clinches Spot in Championship

WCU softball punched its ticket to the 2021 SoCon Championship with a 5-1 win over Furman Sunday at the Catamount Softball Complex on Senior Day. Before the game, [Danielle Chapman](#), [Kailey McNeil](#), and [Addie Pate](#) were honored.

[Read the Full Article](#)

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## Kerwin Bell, New Head Football Coach

Bell comes to Cullowhee after having served as the offensive coordinator at the University of South Florida under head coach Charlie Strong in 2019. He most recently walked off the field as a head coach following the 2018 NCAA Division II national championship, leading the Valdosta State Blazers where he coached for three seasons, twice making playoff appearances.

[Read the full article...](#)



Fall 2021 Football Schedule

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New Men's Basketball Coach, Justin Gray



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## Catch Up on Your Favorite Sports Team

[Baseball](#)

[Basketball Women's](#)

[Cross Country Women's](#)

[Golf Men's](#)

[Soccer](#)

[Tennis](#)

[Track & Field Women's](#)

[Basketball Men's](#)

[Cross Country Men's](#)

[Football](#)

[Golf Women's](#)

[Softball](#)

[Track & Field Men's](#)

[Volleyball](#)

## Important Dates

May 8 -14 - Final Exams

May 14 - 16 - Commencement Ceremonies

May 10 - 15 - Residence Hall Move-out

May 21 - Rental Textbooks Due



### Campus Events



Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)

# Connections

PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER | 2020-2021

## September 2021

### Chancellor Brown Inspires Hope During Fall Opening

If you had to choose one word to describe the strength that Western Carolina University faculty, staff, and students harnessed during the last academic year to navigate through a historic pandemic, it would be resiliency.



Resiliency and flexibility are what

Chancellor Kelli R. Brown

highlighted in her address to faculty and staff Wednesday as she outlined her priorities for the new academic year during the Fall Opening 2021 ceremony in the Performance Hall of the Bardo Arts Center.

The event saw faculty and staff watch both in attendance and online via live-stream. Brown began her remarks by recognizing WCU's land acknowledgment.

[Read the Full Article](#)



## Get Vaccinated or Get Tested Regularly

All faculty, staff, and students who have not submitted valid proof of vaccination against COVID-19 prior to September 15th will be subject to regular testing. Up to 500 individuals will be randomly selected each week to participate in testing, which will begin on September 20th. Selected individuals will be notified via their

university email the Friday prior to the assigned testing week of their requirement to test along with a link to schedule an appointment.

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## Health and Wellness Corner

### Did you know September is Friendship Month?

Social interactions are a great way for your student to feel more connected at Western! "[WCU Engage](#)" is a great resource for students to see what events are happening, as well as search for clubs and organizations they may be interested in! Another way to get involved and stay active is through our [Campus Recreation Center](#).



## Get Your Tickets

Join us for Family Weekend on Saturday, September 18, as WCU football takes on Samford at Whitmire Stadium. Kickoff is at 2:30 pm.

Football tickets for Family Weekend not in Student Section – WCU student family members can purchase tickets that are reserved near the student section in Section D, E, and F for just \$30 and can be purchased online (fees apply) by clicking on this link: [CLICK HERE](#)

**Guest tickets in the student section** – students can purchase (2) student guest tickets for any game. The tickets are \$13 and can be purchased online by WCU students through their account (fees apply) by clicking on this link: [CLICK HERE](#) or on game day at the ticket booths. On game day students can present their Cat Card at any ticket booth to purchase the guest tickets. All student guest tickets are general admission in the student sections: A, AA, B, BB, C, CC.

You can also call the ticket office at 828-227-2401 to purchase tickets to any game. We look forward to seeing you at Whitmire Stadium.

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## On-Campus Quarantine and Isolation Space Update

Students living in WCU residence halls are already strongly encouraged to quarantine and isolate at home, but in the event that the specified on-campus quarantine and isolation residence hall spaces are unavailable and/or become fully utilized, students living on-campus will be required to return home for quarantine and isolation with limited exceptions. WCU currently has 125 residence hall beds (located in Madison Hall and the Village) which are available for on-campus student quarantine and isolation. The utilization of these spaces is documented on the WCU Reporting COVID-19 data dashboard.

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## WiFi Update



The Cullowhee campus WiFi network experienced some stability issues during the first week of classes. These issues seem to have been caused by an overload of network traffic in the WiFi environment.

Photo by **Castorly Stock** from **Pexels**

The Cullowhee campus WiFi network experienced some stability issues during the first week of classes. These issues seem to have been caused by an overload of network traffic in the WiFi environment. Changes were made Thursday (August 26, 2021) to reduce the load, and the WiFi network appears to have stabilized. If your student is still having issues connecting to the campus WiFi, please have them contact the IT HelpDesk (<https://ithelp.wcu.edu> or x7487) or visit the TechCommons.

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## WCU Videos

See Catamount Country in a different way. Subscribe to the Western Carolina University YouTube channel. The latest video releases include New Student Convocation, WCU Opening Assembly, and Base Camp Cullowhee - Bear Safety. Coming Up: watch the Grand Opening Ceremony of the new Apodaca Science Building.

[WCU YouTube Channel](#)

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## Class of 2025 Official Photo

Download a copy of the photo for printing or to add to your digital frame. Browse through the gallery to see photos of other events from opening and perhaps catch a glimpse of your student. Just click on **Gallery Password** on the right side and type **2025** for the login.

[Download the Photo](#)

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**September 17-19**

# FAMILY WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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## Western's Got Talent

Come and watch our talented Catamounts compete for Catamount gold in our largest talent competition. Prizes will be award to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. The performances will be in the Bardo Arts Center at 7:30pm on September 17th. The event is free to all!

---

## Family Weekend Movies

In honor of Family Weekend, Last Minute Productions will host a double feature! Cruella will be showing on Sat, Sept. 18 at 6 pm and Sun, Sept. 19 at 9pm. Mulan will be showing Sat. Sept. 18 at 9 pm and Sun. Sept. 19 at 6pm. RSVPs will be open on Engage 1 week prior to event date.

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## Legacy Pinning Ceremony

On Sept. 18, Alumni Engagement will be hosting a Legacy Pinning Ceremony for those that are forever Catamounts. The ceremony will be 10:00 am-12:00 pm in the Ramsey Center Arena.

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## Open Climbing Wall

Basecamp Cullowhee will host Open Climbing Wall Hours for Family Weekend on Saturday, Sept. 18th from 10:00 am- 1:00 pm. Face coverings are required indoors. There is an age restriction for the wall, 4 years or older. The event is first come, first served with a max of 25 individual at a time.

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## Special Guest Passes at the CRC

During Family Weekend, guests (18yrs or older) can purchase a pass to use the Campus Recreation Center for \$5 (1 day), \$10 (3 days) or \$15 (7 days) at the CRC front desk. Call the CRC at 828.227.7069 for more information.

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## Fill the Truck

In partnership with Pride of the Mountains marching band and the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, WCU is proud to sponsor a relief drive to help our neighbors in Haywood County who have been impacted by Tropical Storm Fred. During the Catamount football game on Saturday, September 18th volunteers will be collecting donations (water, non-perishable food items, and cleaning supplies) at the main entrances to the stadium from 1:30-3:30 pm. If you have any questions, email Lane Perry for assistance.

---

## Family Weekend Glaze-a-thon

Come decorate a mug or plate! 10-1 pm under tents by Clock Tower. No-pre-registration, first-come, first serve. Cash/check only please---ATM is nearby! \$15 per plate or mug. Wares will be fired and mailed to student boxes in UC within a week. This event is sponsored by WCU Ceramics Club (Mudcats) and WCU Art Education Club. For more information, email Erin Tapley.

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[Family Weekend Information](#)

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## Mountain Heritage Day

The annual festival of Southern Appalachian traditions returns on Saturday, September 25th. Renowned as a showcase of bluegrass, old-time and traditional music, as well as family activities, vendors, and the region's finest arts and crafts.

### **The Blue Ridge Stage Schedule**

- Summer Brooke and Brayden at 10 a.m.
- Whitewater Bluegrass Company at 11 a.m.
- Apple Blossom Cloggers at 12:00 p.m.
- Presentation of the Mountain Heritage Awards at 12:15 p.m.
- The Queen Family at 12:45 p.m.
- Phil and Gaye Johnson at 1:30 p.m.
- The Grascals at 2:15 p.m.
- The Bailey Mountain Cloggers at 3:30 p.m.
- Merle Monroe at 3:45 p.m.

There will also be the Circle Tent, Stickball Field, and the Children's Tent with continual performances, including workshops, sing-alongs, storytelling, and a community square dance, along with children's play-party activities.

[More Information](#)





## Relief for Haywood County

In partnership with the Pride of the Mountains Marching Band and the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, WCU is proud to sponsor a relief drive to help our neighbors in Haywood County who have been impacted by Tropical Storm Fred. During the Catamount football game on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> volunteers will be collecting donations (water, non-perishable food items, and cleaning supplies) at the main entrances to the stadium from

1:30-3:30 pm. If you have any questions, email [laneperry@wcu.edu](mailto:laneperry@wcu.edu) for assistance.

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## Family Society

The WCU Office of Alumni Engagement, in partnership with the Division of Student Affairs, is excited to announce the recent establishment of the *WCU Family Society*. The mission of the *WCU Family Society* is to foster extraordinary relationships between the university and all WCU families. To find out more information about the *WCU Family Society*, join us on Family Weekend, Saturday, September 18, 2021, from 1:00-2:00 pm at the WCU Alumni Association Tailgate Headquarters in the football stadium parking lot prior to the WCU vs Samford football game. Complimentary food, beverage, and WCU swag will be available as well as the opportunity to learn more about the society and meet other WCU families. Please rsvp to Hugo Sanchez at [hsanchez@wcu.edu](mailto:hsanchez@wcu.edu) or call 828-227-7335 by Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

We hope to see and connect with you soon!

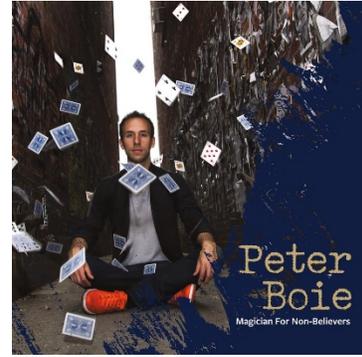
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## Recent Events

**Here are a few events your student recently had the opportunity to participate in.**



Week of Welcome  
Events kept  
students  
entertained.



We want students to find  
their niche. Encourage your  
student to step outside of  
their comfort zone and try  
something new!

# HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1  
WCU FOUNTAIN | 12 AM-2PM  
RAIN LOCATION: CRC COURT 1



Western Carolina University

• COME AND LEARN ABOUT THE 7 ELEMENTS OF WELLNESS!  
• FREE T-SHIRTS & GIVEAWAYS AVAILABLE!

ARTS.WCU.EDU/BACPARTY



## BARDO ARTS CENTER PIZZA & ICE CREAM PARTY

August 26, 2021 | 5-7PM | Bardo Arts Center

Enjoy food, giveaways, a chance to walk on the BAC stage, and Museum Hack Tours – radical, non-traditional, tours for people who think they don't like museums.



## Scott and Walker Replacement

The new Residence Halls are coming along. Watch a time-lapse of the demolition and real-time construction of the replacement.

Construction Camera



## Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

September 10 - Health insurance waiver deadline

September 17-19 - Family Weekend

September 27 - 5th week grades due

October 1 - FAFSA opens

October 9 - Homecoming

October 19-22 - Fall Break, no classes

## Schedule of Campus Events

Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

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Division of  
Student Affairs



## Special Edition - September 2021

### Residential Living - Policy 96 Update

Under [WCU Policy 96](#), all First-Year students are required to reside in on-campus housing for two academic years, and, given current considerations related to student academic success and wellbeing, the Department of Residential Living will require the current first-year class who entered in Summer/August 2021, to live in on-campus housing during their second academic year (AY 2022-23).

We bring this to your timely attention because this is a change in practice. In previous years the [Department of Residential Living](#) chose, as allowed per policy guidelines, that the second-year requirement would not be in effect for the following year for that particular first-year/transfer class due to positive student success metrics and limited housing availability.

The decision to enforce the second-year requirement for the current class was made with several pieces of information in mind, including a significant drop in the freshman retention rate and the impact this can have on a student's long-term academic success. Historically, WCU undergraduate students living in the residence halls perform better academically than their peers living off campus. We are confident that this decision will provide students the best opportunity to be personally and academically successful.

Residential Living is proud of the communities that we help facilitate throughout the residence halls. We trust that the residential experience, coupled with the overall convenience of living on-campus, our investment in your safety/security, the broad range of amenities we provide, and our programming aimed at your personal and academic growth and development, provide an ideal living-learning environment for your university experience.

The full text of the [policy](#) is available for your review. If you have questions or concerns regarding Policy 96, please contact the Department of Residential Living at [housingquestions@email.wcu.edu](mailto:housingquestions@email.wcu.edu) or at 828-227-7303.

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## Upcoming Dates and Deadlines



October 1 - FAFSA opens for 2022-2023

October 9 - Homecoming

October 19-22 - Fall Break, no classes

## Schedule of Campus Events

Division of Student Affairs  
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**Connections**  
PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER

**October 2021**

## 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](mailto:housingquestions@email.wcu.edu) or 828-227-7303.

## Homecoming 2021

### *"Roaring with Pride"*



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



## Catamount Dining Update

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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**



**APPLY NOW!**  
*Promote health & wellness on campus while developing leadership skills!*

Western Carolina University | Health and Wellness Education

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.



Photo by Olga Lioncat from Pexels

## 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 Ꮚ 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.

Order An Ornament

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## 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.

Photo by Cyttonn Photography from Pexels

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://doit.wcu.edu>

\* 828.227.7487 (local)

\* Available 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., weekdays (Mon.-Fri.)

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**Cat Camp Counselor  
Applications open NOW!**



**Apply before Oct. 15  
On Engage**

# The 2022-2023 FAFSA is OPEN!

Complete today at  
[fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).

Need assistance? WCU  
FAFSA Day is Saturday,  
October 23.

9:00AM-12:00PM  
Cordelia Camp Computer Lab 139

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The 2022-2023 WCU Scholarship  
Application is open in your myWCU  
account.





**WE ARE  
HIRING!**

Catamount Dining is Looking for  
students to join our team!  
Benefits include:

- Career Development
- Incentives through out encore program
- Flexible Schedule
- FREE meals on full shift days

**APPLY TODAY**



## 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  
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Division of  
Student Affairs



**November 2021**

## **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](mailto:housingquestions@email.wcu.edu) or 828-227-7303.

*Join*  
**THE  
SCHOLARCATS**

on Engage to stay updated  
about ***scholarship*** and  
financial aid events on  
campus!



Information and details about upcoming Scholarship Workshops can be found on the WCU ScholarCats ENGAGE page <https://wcu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scholarcats>.

- Follow the Scholarship Road Wednesday, November 10 at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM in Killian 102
- Not Another Scholarship Essay Thursday, November 11 at 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM in Killian 102

## Family Society Tailgate

### Greetings WCU Families!

As part of the launch of our *WCU Family Society*, it is my pleasure to invite you to our *WCU Family Society* tailgate on Saturday, November 13, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm before the 2:00 pm kickoff vs. ETSU. The *WCU Family Society* tailgating tent will be located in the Stadium Lot parking lot across from Gate 1 (look for the WCU Alumni Association wind flags). Complimentary food/beverages and free WCU swag will be provided for the first 50 people.

We hope to see you November 13 and GO CATS!



RSVP Here



The mission of the WCU Family Society is to foster extraordinary relationships between the university and all WCU families.

Throughout the year, WCU Family Society members will have the opportunity to host, attend, and volunteer at events to improve student and family experiences and deepen family connections with Western Carolina University.

Go Cats!

Hugo R. Sanchez '19  
Coordinator of Alumni Affinity Programs  
Alumni Engagement  
o: (828) 227.3766 | [hsanchez@wcu.edu](mailto:hsanchez@wcu.edu)

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## COME CHEER ON THE CATAMOUNTS IN NOVEMBER!

It's a busy month of home WCU athletic events. Below is a summary of the sports action in Cullowhee this month. For more information or tickets, visit <http://CatamountSports.com>

**Catamount Football** – Whitmire Stadium / Bob Waters Field  
Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> vs East Tennessee State University – 2 pm (Blue Ridge Border Battle and Senior Day)

**Catamount Women's Basketball** – Ingles Court at the Ramsey Center  
Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> vs Emory & Henry – 4 pm (Home Opener)  
Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> vs UNC Asheville – 7 pm (Admission Free with a November 13 football ticket)

Tuesday, November 16 vs Presbyterian – Noon (Admission Free – Education Day)

Friday, November 20 vs Charleston Southern – 4 pm

Monday, November 29 vs Mars Hill – 7 pm

**Catamount Men's Basketball** – Ingles Court at the Ramsey Center

Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> vs Bowling Green – 7:30 pm (Home Opener)

WCU has a clear bag policy for all home events at Whitmire Stadium and the Ramsey Center.

## WCU STADIUM PUBLIC SAFETY CLEAR BAG POLICY

### APPROVED BAGS

• BAGS THAT ARE CLEAR PLASTIC, VINYL OR PVC AND DO NOT EXCEED 12"W X 12"H X 6"D.

• ONE-GALLON CLEAR PLASTIC FREEZER BAG (ZIPLOC BAG OR SIMILAR)

• SMALL CLUTCH BAG APPROXIMATELY THE SIZE OF A HAND, WITH OR WITHOUT A HANDLE OR STRAP. THIS CAN BE CARRIED SEPARATELY OR WITHIN A PLASTIC BAG.

• DIAPER BAGS – INFANT FOR WHICH BAG IS BEING CARRIED MUST BE PRESENT.

• BAGS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES WILL BE CHECKED UPON ENTRY.

ALL OTHER BAGS ARE PROHIBITED WHEN ENTERING



### NON-APPROVED

#### EXAMPLES

- BACKPACK
- BINOCULAR CASE
- CAMERA CASE
- CINCH BAG
- TINTED PLASTIC BAG
- PRINTED PATTERN PLASTIC BAG
- FANNY PACK
- OVERSIZED TOTE BAG
- MESH BAG
- PURSE



All prohibited items will be deemed surrendered and will be disposed of. Subject to change.



Weapons



Umbrellas



Smoking or  
Vaping



Balls or  
Flying Disks



Non-Service  
Animals



Metal, Glass or  
Hard Plastic Bottles/Cans



Alcohol



Outside Food  
and Beverages



## Health and Wellness Corner

### Shots

Health Services has flu shots available. The best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get a flu vaccine annually. Your student can take advantage of the convenience of getting their flu shot on campus. Call Health Services at 828-227-7640 to schedule an appointment.

### COVID-19 Vaccines

Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are available through Health Services. If your student needs an initial dose or is interested in getting a booster, they can check eligibility and schedule at <https://www.wcu.edu/experience/health-and-wellness/health-services/vaccine-info.aspx>.

### Mental Wellness

Beginning in November, seasonal depression can kick in. Here are some quick tips for your student:

- Let in natural light when possible.
- If possible, try to get in some exercise outside to stay in touch with nature (safely, of course). Additionally, attempt to routinely get some exercise to boost mood; Campus Recreation & Wellness offers many indoor options!
- Reading and journaling are great indoor activities to combat seasonal depression.

- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is free to your student.

**BECOME A  
CATAMOUNT  
WELLNESS  
AMBASSADOR**



**APPLY NOW!**

*Promote health & wellness on campus while developing leadership skills!*

Western Carolina University | Health and Wellness Education

## Mentoring and Persistence to Success (MAPS) Office

### Student Tip of the Month

The academic course load is more hectic as papers and exams are due before the Thanksgiving break.

Remind your student of tutoring services (the [Math Tutoring Center](#) for Math, the [Writing and Learning Commons](#) for other course tutoring, and writing assistance) offered on campus, or encourage your student to visit their professors during office hours to get help or discuss academic performance.

---



*You*

**MATTER**

*WCU Week of Kindness  
November 15th - 19th*

*#WeekOfKindness*

CATAMOUNT  
LEGACY WALK



## Catamount Legacy Walk

Now is a good time to start holiday shopping. Leave a Legacy for your student by purchasing a brick on the [Catamount Legacy Walk!](#) Located by the Alumni Tower, the walk features bricks engraved with a name or personal message that honors members of the Western Carolina University family.

- Celebrate a special occasion such as a graduation or birthday

- Honor a friend or loved one from WCU who has impacted your life
- Recognize a graduate, student, professor, or friend
- Celebrate a graduate's educational and athletic successes as a Catamount

Funds raised by the Catamount Legacy Walk support the Student Emergency Fund. Donors receive a commemorative certificate for each brick commissioned.

For more information please contact the Office of Student Affairs at (828) 227-7147 or visit [Catamount Legacy Walk](#).



**Registration Information**

<b>Registration Group / Category</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
<i>Advising Day (No Classes)</i>	Tuesday, November 02, 2021
Graduate students, and approved undergraduate students	Wednesday, November 03, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
	Thursday
--	Friday
--	Saturday
0-15 Hours Remaining	Sunday, November 07, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
16-30 Hours Remaining	Monday, November 08, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
31-45 Hours Remaining	Tuesday, November 09, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
46-60 Hours Remaining	Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
61-75 Hours Remaining	Thursday, November 11, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
--	Friday
	Saturday
76-90 Hours Remaining	Sunday, November 14, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
91-105 Hours Remaining	Monday, November 15, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
106-120 Hours Remaining	Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
Non Degree	Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
Re-Admits & New Admits	Thursday, November 18, 2021, 9:00 p.m.
All Eligible / No Groups Restrictions	Monday, November 22, 2021, 9:00 p.m.



# The Last Lecture Award

NOV. 18 AT 5:30 PM UC THEATRE  
DR. CANDY NOLTENSMeyer

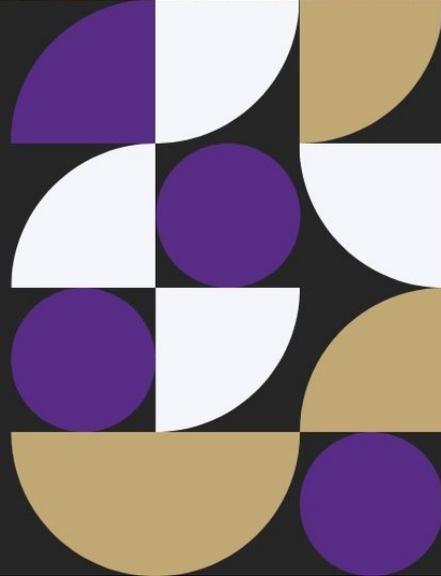
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Application available now on [jobs.wcu.edu](https://jobs.wcu.edu)

***JOIN THE  
ORIENTATION TEAM  
FOR SUMMER 2022!***

Housing and Meal Plans provided by the  
Orientation Office during summer sessions. Be  
the first to welcome in new Catamounts and their  
families this Spring and Summer!





**HIRING FOR:**

SPRING 2022,  
SUMMER 2022,  
& 2022-2023  
ACADEMIC YEAR

# INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN RA?

Check out our  
**RESIDENT ASSISTANT RESOURCE GUIDE**  
for more information!  
(Link in bio)

Western  
Carolina  
UNIVERSITY

Residential  
Living

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON [JOB CAT.WCU.EDU](https://jobcat.wcu.edu) IN SEPTEMBER**

# WE ARE HIRING!

Catamount Dining is Looking for  
students to join our team!

Benefits include:

- Career Development
- Incentives through out encore program
- Flexible Schedule
- FREE meals on full shift days

## APPLY TODAY



## Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- November 15 - 19 - Week of Kindness
- November 24 - 26 - Thanksgiving, No Classes
- December 10 - Last day of classes
- December 11 - 17 - Final Exams

### Schedule of Campus Events

Division of Student Affairs  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
[StudentAffairs@wcu.edu](mailto:StudentAffairs@wcu.edu)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)



Division of  
Student Affairs



**December 2021**

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

Per **Policy 96**, students 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](mailto:housingquestions@email.wcu.edu) or 828-227-7303.



**Health and Wellness Corner**  
**Mental Wellness**  
**Tips for Managing the Transition Back Home**

Transitions can be difficult for everyone. Thus, the Health and Wellness unit has some good tips to help you support your student's return to campus after the semester break.

- Recognize the emotions your student may be experiencing and be willing to talk to them about their feelings. This will help your student know you continue to support them.
- At WCU, we use the seven dimensions of wellness, which include emotional, environmental, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual. Help your student evaluate their overall self-care using our [self-care assessment tool](#). This tool will help your student identify areas of self-care they may want to prioritize moving forward. It also provides an opportunity for you to have a conversation with your student about setting realistic goals to help them remain balanced and well as they transition back to WCU.
- Have a conversation with your student about easing back into an academic schedule. The semester break provides time for your student to get out of a routine, such as wake-up times, meal times, and bedtimes. A week before classes begin, help your student re-establish a routine that will simulate the one they will have when back in academic classes.
- Help your student find tools to help them stay organized as they enter a new semester. This will help your student prioritize their time, helping to ensure self-care remains a priority.

### **Transferring Medical Records**

Students graduating in December are encouraged to schedule a wrap-up visit with Health Services. Take this opportunity to work with a medical team member to transition your medical records to your new healthcare provider.

**CONGRATULATIONS DECEMBER  
GRADUATES**



*'Until justice rolls down like water'*  
— MLK Jr., Amos 5:24

DR. MARTIN LUTHER  
**KING**<sup>JR.</sup>  
CELEBRATION WEEK

**JAN. 17-22, 2022**

[mlkjr.wcu.edu](http://mlkjr.wcu.edu) 



# UPCOMING

**JANUARY 1**

FAFSA Priority Filing  
Deadline. FAFSA  
required for need-based  
aid and scholarships.

**FEBRUARY 1**

WCU Undergraduate  
Scholarship Application  
Deadline

# DEADLINES

**Wishing you and your family a Joyous  
and Safe Holiday Season!**



# THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,

Give a Legacy of Love on the Catamount Legacy Walk

Purchase a custom brick paver that will be placed by the Alumni tower.

Donations to the legacy walk support the student emergency fund.



For more information visit:

[legacywalk.wcu.edu](http://legacywalk.wcu.edu)

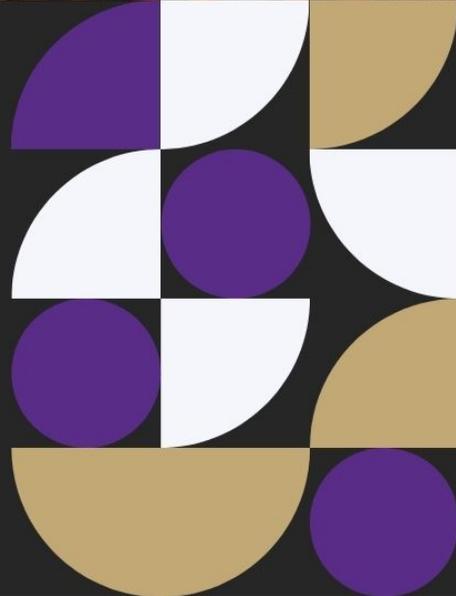




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## Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- December 10 - Last day of classes
- December 11 - 17 - Final Exams
- December 18 - Commencement
- January 8 - Residence Halls Open
- January 10 - First Day of Classes
- January 17 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, No Classes
- February 1 - Scholarship Applications Due

[Schedule of Campus Events](#)

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