



Warren
Wilson
COLLEGE

ORIENTATION GUIDE

SPRING 2026



See you soon!

Welcome to Warren Wilson College!

Your journey of purpose and discovery awaits!

This is an extraordinary time in your life as you begin a transformative journey that extends far beyond traditional classroom walls. At Warren Wilson College, you won't just expand your knowledge—you'll discover your purpose through meaningful, hands-on experiences that shape who you're becoming. Through your academic pursuits, work crew responsibilities, community engagement opportunities, student organizations, residence hall connections, and the relationships you'll build, you'll uncover what truly matters to you and how you want to make your mark on the world.

Warren Wilson's unique approach challenges you to think critically while growing as a whole person through experiential learning that connects mind, heart, and hands. Every experience on our campus is designed to help you find meaning and develop the skills to create positive change. You'll discover that learning happens everywhere: in the garden, workshop, classroom, and through service to others.

New Student Orientation will immerse you in the Warren Wilson way from day one, providing all the resources and connections you need to thrive. Our schedule weaves together Academic, Community, and Social experiences through both large gatherings and small group activities. This intentional blend ensures you'll meet classmates, upperclass mentors, faculty, and staff who will walk alongside you as you discover your passions and purpose.

By the end of Orientation, you'll have experienced firsthand what makes our community so special: learning is active, relationships are authentic, belonging is valued, and every person is empowered to find their unique way of contributing to the world. We'll answer your questions, ease your concerns about starting college, and, most importantly, help you see the incredible potential that lies ahead.

This guide will help you prepare for move-in day and understand what to expect. We've included the first day's schedule for both you and your support network. Remember, transitioning to college is a team effort—it includes parents, grandparents, siblings, chosen family, and others who have supported your journey. This milestone belongs to all of you, and we're honored to celebrate it together as you begin this meaningful chapter of growth, discovery, and purpose-driven learning.

To assist you, we will include any updates, the full Orientation schedule, and any new information on the New Student webpage: **warren-wilson.edu/new-students-spring**. Please check it, especially as it gets closer to move-in day. If you have not yet registered for orientation, please sign up on that page, too.

See you soon!



Gilbert Hinga
Vice President, Student Engagement



We look forward to welcoming you to campus on Friday, January 16, for Move-In and New Student Orientation!

COVID-19 Update

Face masks are optional for both indoor and outdoor spaces while on campus. For questions about COVID policies, please reach out to Student Engagement at studentengagement@warren-wilson.edu.

What to expect when you arrive.

Unpack the car, find your room, meet new friends and families — Move-In Day is exciting! Let's talk about specifics of what you'll be doing on this special day. Students will check in with the New Student Orientation team and complete any remaining processes with Student Accounts, Financial Aid, and the Health Center. Once you have checked in, you will pick up your keys from Residence Life and be directed to a drop-off location near your residence hall.

Move-In crew volunteers will be there to help you get all of your belongings out of your vehicle. You will follow the move-in crew to your new room to unlock the door and unload. Your family in the car will then be directed to a parking space. Golf carts will be available to help families get back to the residence hall. We want to make this process easy. Returning students, faculty, and staff will be buzzing around all day. Please feel free to stop any of our Move-In Day staff or volunteers, and they will be glad to help you in any way!

Your other important activities on that first day include turning in your Health and Immunization Form. The Work Program Office will hold sessions where you will need to bring your completed I-9 Form along with accompanying documents and state issued driver's license if you have one.

Students who register for orientation will be able to upload a photo for their WWC ID this winter before you get to campus! Skip the ID Center line on Move-In Day by registering for orientation at warren-wilson.edu/new-students-spring and uploading your ID photo by January 5th. All other students will need to stop by the ID Center and get their ID made during Move-In.



Friendly reminder: If you haven't done so already, please be sure to pay your bill before traveling to campus.

WWC Orientation

— New Student Schedule

Please note: Some event locations are subject to change. Students and families will receive digital access to the final schedule prior to arriving and will receive printed copies at Check-In.

Pro Tip: Deborah Braden is your source for academic support, tutoring, and more:

Deborah Braden, Director of Academic Engagement and Disability Access
Phone: 828.771.3791
Email: dbraden@warren-wilson.edu

Friday, January 16

Activities highlighted in BLUE are mandatory.

9:00am — 10:30am • Residential & Day (Non-Residential) Student Check-In

Location: Canon Lounge, Gladfelter

All students, whether living on campus or commuting, will begin Orientation by checking in at Canon Lounge in Gladfelter Hall, where you'll receive your welcome bag and important information. Residential students will also pick up their residence hall keys. Additionally, all students will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from Financial Aid, Student Accounts, and the Health Center. After check-in, all students can visit the ID Center in Gladfelter to get their student ID cards, with residential students continuing on to unpack and settle into their rooms.

I-9's and the Work Program

Location: Lower Gladfelter

Each student is required to see the Work Program Office to complete the federally required work authorization form (I-9). Please bring your original, unexpired identification documents — Either 1 List A document or 1 List B and 1 List C document.

Student ID photos

Location: ID Center, Lower Gladfelter

Drop by the ID Center located next to the mailroom during this time to make sure you get your ID card, which will give you access to everything you need at Warren Wilson, including dining locations and the library! The ID Center will be open from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

11:30am — 1:00pm • Lunch

Location: Gladfelter Dining Hall

Lunch is provided for students and families. Enjoy the Gladfelter Dining experience!

11:30am — 12:00pm • Disability Access & Support

Location: Boon 110

A meeting for students and their family members who may be requesting academic accommodations. Individual appointments can be set up ahead of time or at the end of this session. Please contact Deb Braden at dbraden@warren-wilson.edu.

11:30am — 3:00pm • Campus Passport (Self-Guided)

Location: Various Locations

We invite all new students and their families to embark on a campus passport tour! As you journey across campus, you'll visit key departments, meet our dedicated staff, and collect valuable resources to support your success. Each stop along the way offers a chance to learn more about the services available and discover how our campus community is here to help you thrive throughout your college journey. As part of the adventure, be sure to collect stamps in your passport. Once you've gathered five stamps, you'll be eligible to pick up a free WWVC shirt at the end of your tour in Canon Lounge, a fun keepsake to celebrate the start of your journey with us.

Adventure Programs

Location: Bryson Gym

Outdoor student events, rock climbing wall, German wheel, aerials, and more! The Rock Climbing wall is open during this time to try out!

Athletics

Location: DeVries Gym

Varsity sports, intramurals, recreation activities, work out equipment, and more!

The Center for Academic Engagement & Writing Studio

Location: Jensen 1st Floor

Academic support, learning strategies, course tutoring, and writing support.

Center for Experiential Learning & Careers

Location: Log Cabin

Work, Community Engagement, Global Engagement, Career & Internships, resumes, service trips, and other volunteer opportunities.

Counseling Center

Location: Murden

Short term counseling, assessment, crisis intervention, and referrals.

Financial Aid

Location: Laursen 113

FAFSA, verification, financial literacy.

Health Center

Location: Murden

Basic healthcare, referrals, over the counter medication, and some prescriptions.

Housing & Residence Life Office

Location: Dodge House

Hall programming, roommate questions, room work orders.

Mailroom & ID Center

Location: Gladfelter 127

Combinations, mailing services, mailbox issues, ID cards.

Office of Inclusive Excellence

Location: Ransom House

Inclusive programming and student support.

Pew Learning Center & Ellison Library

Location: Pew/Ellison Library

Library resources, sound lab, archives.

Public Safety

Location: Ogg 104

Contact info, emergencies, lockouts, safety escort.

Queer Resource Center

Location: Sunderland Hall 007, Lower Level

LGBTQ+ resources for everyone, social and educational programming, library, and cozy center space.

Spiritual Life

Location: Ransom House

Spiritual & religious opportunities for all worldviews.

Student Accounts

Location: Ogg 204

How to read your billing statement, general billing/refund questions.

Student Center

Location: Lower Gladfelter

Campus engagement opportunities, WWVC signature programs, and support for student clubs and organizations.

Wellness Center

Location: Vining C

Wellness programming, substance issues, gender, relationships, and more!

1:15pm — 1:30pm • Welcome Session

Location: Canon Lounge, Gladfelter Hall

Gilbert Hinga, Vice President for Student Engagement, will extend a warm and formal welcome to new students and their families as they begin their journey at Warren Wilson College.

**** 1:30pm — 3:00pm • Rotating Sessions for Students ****

Meet Your Pre-Major Advisor

Various Locations

All students are assigned a Pre-Major Advisor who will support you in registering for classes, assist with any final changes to your spring schedule, and answer any academic questions in between. At this time, you will be directed to academic buildings to meet your assigned PMA so you know where to find them when you need them. OWLs will escort students to these sessions.

Transfer Session: Growing Your Skills (Transfer Students Only)

Location: Boon Hall 110

Your time at Warren Wilson College will be filled with opportunities to practice and develop key skills you need to be successful after graduation. In your classes, on your crews, and through community engagement you will hone your abilities in communication, teamwork, critical thinking, and more. In order to track your growth, all students participate in a brief survey called Career Launch. This survey bookmarks your Warren Wilson experience and shows you the depth of your growth during your time here. During this required session you will complete the baseline survey. You will complete this survey again prior to graduation. OWLs will escort students to Boon. **Please plan to bring a laptop or smartphone to this session. This session is for transfer students only.**



Inclusive Excellence at Warren Wilson College

Location: *Ransom House*

Join the Inclusive Excellence staff for an informative session on Warren Wilson College's vision for fostering inclusion and how you can contribute to this vital work on campus. You'll learn about the various areas across campus that offer programming and support systems, helping students explore and celebrate their faith, spirituality, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and gender identity. OWLs will escort students to Ransom House.

**** 3:00pm — 4:30pm • Rotating Sessions for Students & Families ****

Partnering for Student Success (Session 1)

Location: *Canon Lounge, Gladfelter Hall*

Families and students will connect with administrators from Academic Engagement, the Work Program Office, and Wellness to learn how these areas enrich and support your student's experience at Warren Wilson. Each department will share resources and answer questions, helping families understand the many ways we collaborate to foster student growth, balance, and success. OWLs will escort students & families to Canon.

Partnering for Student Success (Session 2)

Location: *Lower Gladfelter, Cowpie Patio*

Meet with administrators from Housing, Facilities, and Public Safety, who will support your student during their time at Warren Wilson. Each area will be available to answer questions from family members as we work together to create a comprehensive network of support. OWLs will escort students & families to Cowpie.

4:30pm — 5:00pm • Family Farewell

Location: *Canon Lounge, Gladfelter*

A time for families to say their goodbyes before leaving their student to embark on the remainder of the Warren Wilson College Orientation experience.

5:00pm — 6:00pm • Dinner Social

Location: *Gladfelter Dining Hall*

Dinner is provided for students.

OPTIONAL EVENING EXCURSIONS

6:30pm — 7:30pm • Warren Wilson Kahoot! Trivia

Location: *Lower level Lounge, Gladfelter Hall*

Make sure your electronic device is charged, because you are about to experience three rounds of Kahoot! Trivia! In this session you will learn about the history, lore, and quirks that make WWC the special place it is!

WWC Orientation

— Family Schedule

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Location: Lower Gladfelter

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11:30am — 3:00pm • Campus Passport (Self-Guided)

Location: Various Locations

Families are encouraged to join their students in exploring our campus through self-guided tours. As you make your way across campus, you'll have the chance to visit important departments, meet staff members, and collect helpful resources. Each stop is designed to highlight the services available to your student and the ways they can support academic, social, and personal success. Together, you'll discover how our campus community partners with families to ensure students thrive throughout their college journey.

Adventure Programs

Location: Bryson Gym

Outdoor student events, rock climbing wall, German wheel, aerials, and more! The Rock Climbing wall is open during this time to try out!

Athletics

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Varsity sports, intramurals, recreation activities, work out equipment, and more!

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Short term counseling, assessment, crisis intervention, and referrals.

Financial Aid

Location: Laursen 113

FAFSA, verification, financial literacy.

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Public Safety

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Contact info, emergencies, lockouts, safety escort.

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1:30pm — 2:00pm • Student Success: How Families/Parents Can Assist

Location: Canon Lounge, Gladfelter Hall

This session is an opportunity to discuss ways that families/parents and WWC can partner together to support students to succeed at WWC; facilitated by Dr. Gilbert Hinga, Vice President for Student Engagement.

2:10pm — 2:55pm • Experiential Learning at WWC | Parent Session

Location: Various locations

Parents are invited to take part in an engaging session that highlights WWC's unique culture of experiential learning. Through an interactive walk around campus, you'll explore key spaces, meet faculty and staff, and gain insight into how hands-on learning shapes the student experience. This session offers a meaningful way to connect with the WWC community.

**** 3:00pm — 4:30pm • Rotating Sessions for Students & Families ****

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Warren Wilson College

Campus Map



Revised July 2025

- BUILDINGS**
- Academic
 - Administration
 - Athletic
 - Campus Facility
 - Student Residence

- PARKING**
- Staff
 - Student
 - Visitor
 - Visitor & Staff
 - Handicap Parking
 - Emergency Tel.



Helpful Hints:

Here's a great resource that we encourage new students and their families to check out as a way to open lines of communication on a variety of topics that students may be confronted with during their college years. Check it out!

www.settogo.org

What to Bring:

Go to the following link to access a list of items that students should pack for college.
warren-wilson.edu/what-to-bring



Service Day

Community Engagement starts during orientation—new WWC students, faculty, and staff will engage in service projects throughout the local community on **Monday, January 19 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**. Bring your closed-toe shoes, water bottle, and can-do spirit! This day is an invitation for you to think more intentionally about your new community. You'll have the opportunity as a Warren Wilson student to delve deeper and learn about systemic issues affecting our local and global communities through your ongoing programs, break trip experiences, community engaged courses, and much more!

Your I-9 form is available on the New Student Website

Don't leave home without it!

ID for the Work Program

Remember to bring your identification!

In order to participate in our Work Program, you must show us the following original, unexpired forms and documentation (no photocopies accepted) on the first day of Orientation, Friday, January 16th:

- ☐ I-9 Identification
 - ☐ One List A or
 - ☐ One each List B & C

Bring copies to check-in, if you haven't already mailed them in:

- ☐ Final transcript with proof of graduation
- ☐ Official AP/IB scores
- ☐ Health and Immunization Form

LIST A – Documents that establish both identity and employment authorization, i.e. a passport or passport card

LIST B – Documents that establish identity, i.e. a drivers license, school ID, state ID, etc.

LIST C – Documents that establish employment authorization, i.e. a social security card, birth certificate, tribal enrollment card, etc.

If you have a valid state-issued driver's license, please bring it with you to Orientation. The College must keep a copy of your license on record, regardless of whether you are bringing a car with you to campus or not.



Remember...

1. Bringing a car to campus? Make sure to swing by Public Safety in Ogg to fill out your Parking Permit Application and pick up your permit—it's a quick and easy first step to getting settled!
2. Remember to fill out your Health and Immunization Form and get your doctor to sign it! You need to be cleared by the Health Center in order to move in for Orientation.
3. Remember to check your **Warren Wilson email** frequently — that is our campus-wide form of communication, and you'll get lots of emails!
4. **STUDENTS** – If you would like to give your parents access to your billing and/or academic information (bills, grades, transcripts, etc.), go into myWWC and click the Billing & Aid section, then Parent/Family Access.





Here are some general notes:

Parking on Campus

REMINDER: All vehicles must have a valid parking permit by the end of the first week of classes. To get yours, stop by the Public Safety Office in Ogg during your first week on campus to complete the application and pick up your permit.

Workout

DeVries Gymnasium is a great area to enhance your physical health by using the weight room, athletic courts, and fields. Every student is required to fill out the following liability form in order to access these facilities:

warren-wilson.edu/athletics-waiver

Your new address:

701 Warren Wilson Road • CPO _____
Swannanoa, NC 28778

Your specific mailbox number (CPO) can be found in your myWWC portal – give it to all of your family members!

