



WKU HOMECOMING 2025

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Homecoming Committee, I invite you to participate in this year's full schedule of Homecoming activities. The committee very much hopes your organization/residence hall/campus ministry will participate in one or more of the events. Help us celebrate being a part of the "Western" family.

The committee believes this year's schedule provides ample opportunities for groups to express their Big Red Spirit!!! Your group may not want to participate in all of the festivities, but we certainly hope your members will find at least one that will prove exciting and enjoyable.

Speaking for the 2025 Homecoming Committee, I wish all the students and organizations good luck in this year's program. We hope you enjoy the variety of activities being sponsored and look forward to seeing you at the Festival of Friends on Homecoming Day.

Sincerely,

Charley Pride

Dr. Charley Pride, Co-Chairman
Homecoming Committee



Western Kentucky University

HOMECOMING 2025 • SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE		EVENT	TIME/LOCATION		CONTACT INFO.
10/3/25	Friday	Homecoming Queen Candidate Nomination Form	All Day	DSU 2059	Taryn Neal, 745-2459 Taryn.neal@wku.edu
10/13/25	Monday	Homecoming Queen Info Meeting	4:30 PM	DSU 2081	Taryn Neal, 745-2459 Taryn.Neal@wku.edu
10/25/25	Saturday	Homecoming Queen Activity TBA	TBD	TBD	Lilly Pottlitzer, 745-2459 Lilly.Pottlitzer021@topper.wku.edu Lauren Berg, 745-2459 Lauren.Berg627@topper.wku.edu
10/27/25	Monday	Banner Contest	9 AM	DSU 2059	Andrew Rash, 745-2459 Andrew.Rash@wku.edu
10/27/25	Monday	Homecoming Queen Election	All Day	TopNet	Taryn Neal, 745-2459 Taryn.Neal@wku.edu
10/28/25	Tuesday	Homecoming Queen Interviews*	Varies	DSU	Taryn Neal, 745-2459 Taryn.Neal@wku.edu
10/29/25	Wednesday	Homecoming Games	3 PM	Colonnade	Andrew Rash, 745-2459 Andrew.Rash@wku.edu
10/29/25	Wednesday	Homecoming Queen Candidate Banquet*	6:30 PM	TBD	Taryn Neal, 745-2459
10/30/25	Thursday	Homecoming Queen Volunteer Project*	TBD	TBD	Lilly Pottlitzer, 745-2459 Lauren Berg, 745-2459
10/31/25	Friday	Homecoming Parade	4:30 PM	Downtown Bowling Green Area	Charley Pride, 745-2459 charley.pride@wku.edu
10/31/25	Friday	Big Red's Roar	Post Parade	Fountain Square	Charley Pride, 745-2459 Charley.pride@wku.edu
11/1/25	Saturday	Festival of Friends	8 AM	Campus Area	Charley Pride, 745-2459 Charley.pride@wku.edu
11/1/23	Saturday	WKU v. New Mexico State	Kick-off: 2:30 PM	Houchens-LT Smith Stadium	
11/1/25	Saturday	HC Candidate Pinning Ceremony	10:00 AM	DSU 3020	Taryn Neal, 745-2459 Taryn.Neal@wku.edu
11/1/25	Saturday	Homecoming Queen Coronation*	Half-Time	Houchens-LT Smith Stadium	Taryn Neal Taryn.Neal@wku.edu
11/1/25	Saturday	NPHC Step Show	7:00 PM	Van Meter	Ameila.kolb@wku.edu Amelia Kolb, 745-2459

*Homecoming Queen Candidates Only



Western Kentucky University
Homecoming 2025

Memo

To: All Student Organizations
Campus Ministries
Residence Halls

From: Andrew Rash

Topic: **2025 Homecoming Games**

The Homecoming Games will be held on **October 29, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. The Colonnade**. Our designated rain location will be at the Preston Health & Fitness Center. The Homecoming games are open to all WKU organizations. Up to 4 organizations may join together for these events. The events are co-ed. The games will consist of 6-8 events that will test the participant's skill, agility, and flexibility.

Winners will be announced for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place at Big Red's Roar. **Deadline for entry is October 22, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.** Entry forms are to be turned in to the office, located in the Student Activities Suite (DSU 2059). If you have any questions, please contact me at 745-2459.

Thank you,

John

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**2025 Homecoming Games
ENTRY FORM**

Organization(s) name: ***Note: GROUPS PAIRING UP MUST SUBMIT ONLY (1) FORM!**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return to Student Activities by October 25, 2025



Western Kentucky University
Homecoming 2023

Memo

To: Fraternity/Sorority Presidents
Residence Hall Association
Campus Ministries
Student Organizations

From: Andrew Rash

Topic: **2025 Homecoming Banner Contest**

This year's Homecoming activities will include a banner contest. These banners are to hang in Downing Student Union (DSU) throughout Homecoming week. The rules of the contest are as follows:

1. All banners must be dropped off in the Student Activities Office, DSU 2059, between **9 AM – 10 AM on Monday, October 27, 2025**, in order to be judged. Judging will take place during Homecoming Week.
2. Maximum size is **4' x 4'**. Each banner must have a note card attached to it that includes the name of the organization, contact person, and phone number.
3. Arrive at 9 AM Monday, October 24th to receive assistance from the Student Activities staff in hanging your banner. Banners must be hung using zip-ties; no tape will be allowed. **You may not hang your banner without staff assistance.**
4. All banners must be picked up on **Monday, November 3, by 5:00 p.m.** from the Office of Student Activities
5. Banners will be judged on the following criteria:

****Use of Theme*******Creativity*******Originality*******Color***
6. Winners will be announced in the following categories:
fraternities/sororities, residence halls, student organizations/campus ministries.

For more information, contact Andrew Rash at 745-2459



2025 HOMECOMING TENT RESERVATIONS POLICIES

Tents (excluding pop-up and mini tents) will be allowed only in designated areas on the South Lawn/Guthrie Tower area, Bates Runner Lawn. Reservations must be made in advance and will be taken on a first-come-first-serve basis.

All university entities and student groups and/or organizations (Greeks/service/other) are responsible for reserving their own tents.

- **ACADEMIC AREAS / DEPARTMENTS** will reserve tents through the Campus & Community Events Office.

****THESE TENTS WILL PRIMARILY BE LOCATED ON SOUTH LAWN AREA AND WILL BE LIMITED IN SIZE.***

- **STUDENT GROUPS** will reserve tents through Student Activities and payment must be received in advance.

****THESE TENTS WILL PRIMARILY BE LOCATED ON SOUTH LAWN AREA AND WILL BE LIMITED IN SIZE.***

SORORITY AND FRATERNITY REQUESTS: PLEASE SEND TO CHARLEY PRIDE'S OFFICE IN STUDENT ACTIVITIES: 270 745-2459.

Each party is responsible for the cost of the tent and the attached tent agreement **must be completed and received** at least one week prior to homecoming or the reservation may be voided.

Deadlines for university groups are as follows:

University on-campus group deadline.....October 20, 2025

Student tent reservation deadline.....October 20, 2025

All reservations after above deadlines will be taken on first-come-first-serve basis.

A general tent is typically a 20' x 20' size, unless otherwise arranged and approved through Campus & Community Events Office



2025 HOMECOMING EVENT/ TENT USAGE INFORMATION GUIDELINES, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

****Sorority & Fraternity Requests:**

Send to the office of Dr. Charley Pride, Student Activities, DSU 2059**

In consideration of the approval of the Agreement, the undersigned officer agrees on behalf of the Sponsor to the following guidelines, terms, and conditions:

- A. Individuals participating in Sponsor's event may only engage in such activity in the designated tent areas.
- B. Beer, wine, and wine coolers are the only alcoholic beverages that may be possessed or consumed in the designated area. The service, possession, or consumption of hard liquor is strictly prohibited.
- C. Individuals engaging in the event who are serving and/or consuming beer or wine are also required to have available / on hand sufficient food items and non- alcoholic beverages (beverages other than water) for the number of persons who are present at the event.
- D. Beer and wine (including wine "coolers") may not be served in or consumed from original containers (bottles/cans) and must only be served in opaque (non-clear) soft plastic or paper cups. Persons possessing and serving beer are responsible for appropriately disposing of empty bottles/cans and cups.
- E. Kegs or other bulk dispensing or alcoholic beverages are specifically prohibited. No alcoholic beverages, glass, or other containers are permitted inside Houchens-Smith Stadium or outside the parameters of the designated area. In addition, sponsor is also required to ensure that containers are disposed of properly in appropriate trash containers.
- F. No alcoholic beverages may be served, provided to, or consumed by persons under the age of twenty-one (21). Any person present on campus property, including the designated area, consents to and shall produce appropriate picture identification upon the request of any University Official.
- G. All university entities and student groups and/or organizations (Greeks/independent/service/other) are responsible for reserving their own tents. Space is limited and reservations for tents will be taken on a first-come-first serve basis. Deadlines are listed below. Non-student groups will reserve tents through the Campus & Community Events Office and student groups will reserve them through Student Activities and must payment must be received in advance. Each party is responsible for the cost of the tent. Reservations must be turned in by set deadline.
- H. External groups/organizations will be allowed to make tent reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis through the Campus & Community Events Office. Cost for the tent will be determined after tent rental agreement is made.
- I. **No private tents** will be allowed without prior authorization through the Campus & Community Events Office.
- J. All requests for tables/chair/electricity must be included with tent reservation. Needs will be assessed and tables/chairs provided in conjunction with other activities scheduled on campus. Each tent will be provided at least one trash bag with the responsibility to assist in the pickup of trash in their tent area. Any tent that has a litter under and or around it will be charged a fee of \$75, so please be sure to place trash in appropriate containers. Trash cans will be located throughout the South Lawn and tent area.
- K. Tent location placement and assignments will be made in coordination with Office of Student Activities, WKU Facilities, and Office of Alumni with final location and placement decisions made by Campus & Community Events Office.
- L. Specific tent assignments will be provided the week of Homecoming.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

M. All catering must be through WKU Office of Conference and Catering. Any exceptions must be approved in writing by the office of Conference & Catering.

N. In addition to the applicable provisions of Kentucky law, the Event Sponsor agrees to the following:

- a. Any person(s) violating this policy will be subject to immediate removal from the premises, confiscation of the alcoholic beverages in their possession, and/or suspension of future use privileges by the event Sponsor;
- b. All persons participation in the event will be subject to all applicable university policies;
- c. The serving of alcoholic beverages at this event will be conducted as described in this Request for Approval and in compliance with these guidelines (a copy which has been reviewed and is understood) and will be conducted in compliance with state law.
- d. The Event Sponsor agrees to identify and hold harmless the University and the Commonwealth of Kentucky for any and all losses, including legal fees, resulting from the Event Sponsor's use of alcoholic beverages at the sponsored event.

O. **ADVANCE PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED FOR TENT CONFIRMATION BY ALL OFF-CAMPUS AND STUDENT GROUPS.**

P. **ANY GROUP THAT DESTROYS WKU PROPERTY FORFEITS THE RIGHT TO USE OTHER CAMPUS FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR AT LEAST THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

I agree to all terms and provisions above and confirm that information provided in form below is correct.

Authorized person signature

Date

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN ALL FORMS
AND TENT SIZE INFORMATION TO:

Dr. Charley Pride

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – DOWNING STUDENT UNION, RM 2059



2025 HOMECOMING EVENT/ TENT USAGE INFORMATION

An annual event hosted by the Alumni Association at Western Kentucky University for graduates.

Event Sponsor and Supervising Official Information

Organization Name: _____

Name of Designated Officer: _____

Officer Title (Example: President, Chair) _____

Is the Officer at least 21 years of age? (Circle): **YES** **NO**

Contact Information (address and phone number): _____

Method of payment (for on-campus accounts, please provide banner index number of foundation acct. number)

User Information

If alcohol will be allowed, please provide times that alcoholic beverages will be consumed:

- **Start time:** _____ **End time:** _____

What arrangements have been made to provide food and non-alcoholic beverages at the event?

Will any person under the age of twenty-one (21) be invited to attend?

(Circle one) **YES** **NO**

If the answer to the above question is "yes," describe the steps / precautions that will be taken to ensure that persons under the age of twenty-one (21) are not permitted to consume alcoholic beverages at the event.

Costs for 2025

Homecoming Tent Rentals

NOTE: Due to space limitations in some areas, tent sizes will be restricted to 20 x 20 maximum size unless otherwise approved.

Please circle desired tent size and return with AGREEMENT & PAYMENT

<u>Tent Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Table/chairs included</u>
15 x 15	\$410	1 tables/ 5 chairs
20 x 20	\$535	2 tables/ 10 chairs

- Prices for larger tents quoted upon request
- Could be additional rental costs for tables/chairs for certain games based on University resources availability



Western Kentucky University
Homecoming 2025

To: WKU Student Organizations
Residence Hall Councils

From: Taryn Neal, Coordinator of Leadership and Volunteerism, Student Activities

Subject: **Homecoming Queen Nominations**

Date: **August 2025**

The Office of Student Activities has established the following policies and requirements for nominating a Homecoming Queen candidate. Only recognized university student organizations and residence hall councils and departments shall be eligible to nominate a queen candidate subject to the following requirements:

1. A candidate, to be eligible, must be a full time student in good standing with the university, possess a minimum of a 2.3 GPA, and not be on disciplinary probation.
2. No more than two organizations, two residence halls or one residence hall may jointly sponsor the same candidate.
3. Queen candidate nomination form must be **submitted on October 3, 2025, 12:00 pm.**
4. Candidate entry fee of \$125.00 (checks made payable to WKU Student Activities) is due to the office of Student Activities, DSU 2059, at info meeting, October 13, 2025. The entry fee pays for (4) banquet tickets, plaques and other candidate activity costs.
5. The form must contain all requested signatures and information.
6. Queen candidates should be able to attend scheduled events. Reasonable exceptions will be made.
7. There is an information meeting on **October 13, 2025, 4-5 pm, DSU 2123.**
8. **Guidelines for Candidates**
 - Candidates shall hang no more than 50 posters (11" x 17" maximum size).
 - Posters may be hung on bulletin boards ONLY.
 - Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
 - No campaign materials may be distributed **prior** to the Homecoming Queen informational meeting.
 - Candidates may post their flyers after the **October 13, 2025**, informational meeting.
9. All voting will be done on TopNet. Voting guidelines will apply.
10. Student voting WILL factor into the interview process. Point values will be assessed to placement according to number of votes.
11. Rules and regulations will follow once all forms are complete.

12. Homecoming Elections will take place on TopNet on Monday, October 27, 2025, 12:00 am – 11:59 pm.
13. Interviews for all contestants will take place on Tuesday, October 28, 2025.
14. No Late Forms
15. Due to the significant growth of the Homecoming Queen program in recent years, it may not be feasible for all the candidates to participate in the on-field presentation during the Homecoming game. Upon submission of all candidate forms, Student Activities and WKU Athletics will review the number of participants and determine the appropriate course of action.

The Homecoming Queen and her Court will be announced at half time of the football game. If you have any questions, please contact Taryn Neal at 745-2459 or Taryn.Neal@wku.edu



Western Kentucky University
Homecoming Queen 2025
Candidate Information Form

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____

Payment: _____

Sponsoring Organizations(s) Information—Please type or write legibly

Name of Sponsoring Organization(s): (no abbreviations, sponsoring organization must be SPELLED OUT) _____

President(s): _____

Queen Candidate Information

Name: _____

Candidate's Parent's Name(s): _____

WKU ID #: _____ - _____ Hometown & ST: _____

Major: _____ Minor: _____

Cell Phone: _____

WKU E-mail: _____

Escort Name: _____

This Homecoming Queen Candidate Registration Form and fee must be submitted by **12:00 p.m., Friday, October 3, 2025**, to Taryn Neal in the Office of Student Activities, DSU 2059.

Signature of Organization President

Signature of Queen Candidate

- 1.0 I understand that to qualify as the 2025 Homecoming Queen Candidate I must be in good standing with the university and possess a minimum of a 2.3 GPA.
- 2.0 I realize that my sponsor(s) must pay a \$125.00 entry fee as a condition for me to participate in the homecoming queen selection.
- 3.0 I agree to attend all queen candidate sessions being held prior to the crowning of the queen.
- 4.0 I hereby grant approval for the Student Activities office to examine my academic and disciplinary records.
- 5.0 I understand that I must be a full-time student to qualify.

Candidate Signature



Homecoming Parade 2025

FLOAT RULES

Procedures:

- A. The Homecoming Director shall be responsible for calling a meeting to assign places and to call a meeting of the representatives of the participating groups. **This meeting will be held on October 20, 2025, in the Student Activities Workroom (DSU 2059), at 5:00 PM.** Representatives of each organization can get ideas and learn about the regulations.
Attendance is mandatory. PENALTY: Disqualification.
- B. Up to (4) organizations may combine their efforts to build a float. However, residence halls will be grouped according to area. For example, residence halls in the valley can combine efforts to build a float. Group participation is not mandatory.
- C. Organizations building floats are also welcome to accept donations from businesses and alumni; however, certain advertisements that are ruled as offensive by the Homecoming Committee can cause the organization to be disqualified from the competition. If an organization wishes to post a sign thanking a sponsor, they may do so on a sign on the float or on the vehicle pulling the float.
- D. No device deemed by the Homecoming Parade Director as an unnecessary fire hazard shall be allowed in the parade.
- E. ***Work on the floats must not begin prior to 12 noon on the Saturday prior to the Homecoming football game.*** Work will be completed by 4 p.m. on the Friday before the parade.
- F. Each organization's name must appear legibly either on the float or on the vehicle pulling the float.
- G. Floats must be **NO TALLER THAN 10 FEET** with proper support. Any float that poses a danger to the participants or spectators will be disqualified.
- H. Each organization will be responsible for procuring its own trailer and vehicle for the parade. The Parade route is State Street around Fountain Square to College Street and back up to Cherry Hall. Thus no float can be over 12 feet wide, and the vehicles pulling the float must be able to fit in the roadways of these streets.
- I. All vehicles participating in the parade must have valid proof of insurance.
- J. All applicable Kentucky vehicular and trailer laws will be obeyed at all times.
- K. Also, there will be no unlawful behavior during the parade. Any major disruption will be cause for immediate disqualification.
- L. Each float will have a fire extinguisher available for the parade and parade activities on Friday, November 1, 2025.



Homecoming Parade 2025

FLOAT RULES

(continued)

Pre-judging Presentation

Organizations entering the parade must submit in writing an application that guarantees that organization a place in the parade.

Judges:

The Homecoming Committee will select judges in conjunction with the WKU Alumni Office and the Student Activities Office.

Judging Criteria:

- A. The theme of each display will promote the spirit of Western Kentucky University. Each theme must go along with the overall theme of Homecoming.
- B. The following criteria will be used for judging each float:
 - 1. Color (quality as well as selection)
 - 2. Theme (title and uniqueness)
 - 3. Carrying out the theme to the fullest
 - 4. Workmanship (completion and attention to detail)
 - 5. Originality
 - 6. Overall Effect/Street appeal

Any questions, comments, or concerns can be directed to the Student Activities Office at 745-2459.

**The application must be submitted by 5:00 PM on October 20, 2025,
to the Office of Student Activities, DSU 2059**



Homecoming Parade 2025 **FLOAT APPLICATION**

Organizations involved:

Student Representatives

(Each organization must submit a student representative. Should two or more organizations combine their efforts, each group must send a student representative):

Organization	Student Representative

Faculty Advisor/Sponsor(s)

This application must be turned in to the Student Activities Office, DSU 2059,
no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

There will be a **MANDATORY** meeting for all float participants on
October 20 2025, at 5:00 PM in the Student Activities Office,
Student Activities Workroom (DSU 2059)
ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

If you have any questions please call the Student Activities office at 745-2459.



Western Kentucky University Homecoming 2025

Memo

TO: W.K.U. Student Organizations
Residence Hall Councils
Campus Ministries
Student Activities

FROM: Charley Pride, Director, Student Activities

TOPIC: **Big Red's Roar Annual Spirit Festival Award**

DATE: October 31, 2025

OVERVIEW

The 1995 Big Red's Roar marked a turning point in this annual program's ever growing popularity. Moving away from a format that resembled more of an elaborate Broadway production, "The Roar" has since turned into a major pep rally where turn outs of over 3,000 students come to pump up the student interest in Homecoming. For the past several, numerous campus organizations have been fighting for the 3ft. tall, red and white spirit stick that designates the group that displayed the most energy and enthusiasm at the Roar. We invite your group to do the same.

WHEN: Friday, October 31, 2025, immediately following the Homecoming Parade

WHERE: Fountain Square Park

WHO CAN ENTER: The spirit contest will be **open to any WKU Student, Student Organization or Residence Hall** that wishes to participate. It is recommended, however, that your group be organized so that you may be more noticeable to the judges who will be evaluating the spirit contest.

JUDGING PROCEDURE: The Campus Activities Board Leadership Team Members will decide upon (2) winners after a brief meeting following the pep rally performance.

AWARDS TO BE GIVEN: 1) **Spirit Award** for best Greek organization
2) **Spirit Award** for best student organization, residence hall, or campus ministry.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. Overall spirit, not "Spotty Spirit"
2. Banners, t-shirts, face-painting, etc.
3. Use of Homecoming theme
4. Festivity in showing spirit. (i.e. noise makers, party hats, etc.).
5. Noise alone will not guarantee your chances of winning. Original uses of spirit, festivity and enthusiasm can greatly enhance any organization's chance of winning.

****Please Note: No Confetti or confetti-like materials can be used this year.****