



FOR PARENTS

WOFFORD

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APRIL 2021 PARENT NEWSLETTER

What a difference a year makes on the Wofford campus. While it hasn't always been easy, we've arrived at the end of the spring semester and are preparing for a unique April/May Interim. Plans are being made for in person Commencement in May and for the return of in person activities this fall. I want to thank you for your patience, your support and expressing your concerns. I hope you will continue to do so.

Thom Henson '96
Director of Parent Engagement

2021 COMMENCEMENT

Plans are underway for an in-person, on-campus Commencement weekend, May 14-16. A brief schedule and a link to information about the weekend is below.

wofford.edu/academics/registrar/commencement

Friday, May 14 at 5 p.m. - Class of 2021 Honor's Convocation, Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium.

Saturday, May 15 at 5 p.m. - Interfaith Baccalaureate worship service, Gibbs Stadium.

Sunday, May 16 at 9:30 a.m. - Commencement exercises, Gibbs Stadium (rain or shine).

LATEST COVID INFORMATION

A notice that we are returning to pre-pandemic academic schedules in the fall. The college intends to resume pre-pandemic operations in the fall of 2021 now that COVID-19 vaccines are readily available and eligibility is expanding.

COVID-19 vaccines strongly encouraged

Many states, including South Carolina, are expanding eligibility for COVID-19 vaccines. All South Carolinians age 16 and up are eligible. Students are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated. Our campus community will be able to resume pre-pandemic activities and traditions safely and responsibly by having a higher percentage of students, faculty and staff vaccinated. You can find a vaccine site at

VaccineFinder. Students should upload proof of vaccination to the Wellness Center's Patient Portal.

Funds to offset COVID-19 hardships

Wofford College qualified for federal funds through Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Both intend to assist students with components of the cost of attendance or emergency costs that arise due to COVID-19. Parents received emails from the college's President Nayef Samhat on April 1 detailing the payments and when students can expect delivery.

COVID-19 testing

As we approach spring break and the last weeks of this academic year, students have been reminded to continue to follow guidelines (physical distance, smaller groups, handwashing and mask wearing). It's also recommended that students be tested before returning home for spring break and again before coming back to campus for Interim. The college looks forward to celebrating the Class of 2021 during Commencement on campus, and an outbreak of COVID-19 could change the plans being made.

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

Summer School registration and drop/add has reopened. Students may register or drop/add for both terms of summer school and drop/add will remain open until June 8 for the first term and until July 13 for the second term. Visit wofford.edu/academics/registrar/summer-school for additional information pertaining to tuition, fees, meeting times, schedule, etc.

Drop/add for the fall semester is open and will remain open until May 31, 2021.

Spring semester ends on Friday, April 9, and final grades will be available for viewing Wednesday, April 14 through myWofford. Students with questions about grades should contact the professor of the course.

Interim 2021 will begin on Monday, April 19 and end on Thursday, May 13.

FROM THE OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE

Spring break hall closing information – Residence halls and apartments will close for spring break at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 9. Students will not be permitted to return to residence halls until they reopen at noon on Sunday, April 18. Students with extenuating circumstances will be able to request a late check-out or early return, more specific information has been sent to students via email.

Summer hall closing – Residence halls and apartments will close for the summer at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 13. All students except graduating seniors must check-out by that time. Specific information about the check-out process has been

communicated with students.

Summer storage partner – Our office is once again partnering with Storage Scholars, an independent student-led business, to assist interested students in the move-out process. Students can contract with this company individually to have them move and store their belongings for the summer. More information is available at storagescholars.com.

FROM INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Advising for Spring 2022 study abroad – Students interested in studying abroad during the spring 2022 semester can meet with international programs staff virtually via Zoom or in-person. Students can sign up for an **advising appointment**. The spring 2022 application deadline is October 1.

Interim 2022 travel/study projects – The list of available travel/study programs from interim 2022 will be announced mid-April. Program options will be advertised on our website, through Daily Announcements, and on social media. Be sure to follow International Programs on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@wocostudyabroad) for updates.

Interim 2022 Travel/Study Fair – The Interim 2022 Travel/Study Fair will take place on Tuesday, April 20 from 12 – 1 p.m. Faculty will be available either in person or on Zoom to provide information and answer questions about upcoming Interim travel/study projects. More details will be announced via Daily Announcements and social media.

Interim 2022 travel grant application deadline – There are several travel grants available to students pursuing off-campus study during interim. Learn more about available **travel grants for interim**. The first round deadline for Interim 2022 travel grant applications is Thursday, April 29 at midnight.

Interim 2022 application deadline – Students interested in participating in a travel/study Interim during 2022 must complete an application online. Learn more about the **travel/study Interim application process**. Note: The application deposit for Interim 2022 has decreased from \$1000 to \$500 due to continued uncertainty regarding COVID-19. The first round deadline for Interim 2022 applications is Thursday, May 6, at midnight.

FROM THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

Students on SCICU campuses across South Carolina are busy penning thousands of letters to members of the South Carolina General Assembly expressing their thanks for the S.C. Tuition Grants program. Wofford College held a four-day event (March 16 and 18, March 23 and 25) for student letter writers and promoted the events on social media.

S.C. representatives and senators know that budget time in the Statehouse means student letters. Over the years, members of the General Assembly have grown to expect many letters from students to cross their desks, all with a common theme: Tuition Grants make it possible for me and approximately 12,000 other S.C. resident students to stay in-state and attend the private college or university of choice in South Carolina.

S.C. resident students attending SCICU's 20 member colleges and universities have been sending Tuition Grants thank-you letters to members of the General Assembly for many years. Although the COVID-19 pandemic put a damper on 2020 student letter-writing and canceled the 2020 Statehouse Day, SCICU students hit a grand slam in 2019 with a letter-writing campaign record exceeding 9,000 letters.

Preparation for the student letter-writing campaign begins before each legislative session with a December gathering of SCICU's campus legislative coordinators. In December 2020, the kickoff shifted to a virtual meeting due the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our previous years' in-person kickoff meetings were high-energy gatherings of legislative contacts from SCICU member campuses," said Jeff Perez, SCICU president and CEO. "COVID-19 may have changed the venue for our kickoff, but it did not steal our group's enthusiasm for student-led grassroots advocacy."

In December 2020, **campus legislative coordinators gathered via Zoom** and heard a from-the-ranks legislative overview from Rep. Chandra Dillard (D-Greenville), newly appointed to the House Ways and Means Committee. Senate Finance senior budget analysts Brenda Hart and Jake Scoggins presented the FY 2021-22 budget outlook.

Legislative coordinators and public information officers on many campuses collaborate and organize special events that encourage Tuition Grants recipients to write thank-you letters to their Representatives and Senators.

FROM THE OFFICE OF DONOR RELATIONS

Last month's newsletter included the honor roll of parent giving. We inadvertently excluded several names from our list and would like to extend our apologies. Please find attached the most up-to-date copy of the 2020 honor roll of parent giving.

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