



Letter from the Homecoming Chair

To the students, faculty, and alumni of East Tennessee State University, Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to plan and oversee Fall Homecoming this year. I am so excited for this year, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to help bring it all together. Our 2023 Homecoming theme is *Saddle Up, Bucs* so get ready to break out your cowboy boots and hit the dance floor for our Hogslop String Band Square Dance! I hope you all enjoy everything we have planned for this year and use this time to come together and celebrate the wonderful university that we get to call home.

A special thank you to Carter Warden for all his help during the Homecoming planning process. I also want to give a special shout out to Campus Rec, Buctainment, Party Bucs, Leadership and Civic Engagement, Bucky's Food Pantry, Black Affairs, NPHC, and the Farmers Market for allowing us to partner with them for events. Thank you to the Student Government Association for all their help! Lastly, I want to say thank you to the homecoming committee and the volunteers for all their help, I could not have done it without you! Let's make Homecoming 2023 the best yet. Godspeed and Go Bucs!

Sincerely,
Cadee Warren – Student Government Association Secretary of State

Overview of Homecoming

Two Categories for Student Organizations: Each event is a standalone competition with winners awarded for each event. There are two major categories for competition: fraternities and sororities (those that belong to the [Fraternity and Sorority Life Office](#)) and all other student organizations. There will not be one overall competition winner based on cumulative points.

General homecoming questions should be directed to Cadee Warren, warrencj@etsu.edu.

Individual events will have a dedicated homecoming chair who you may contact listed below each event.

Student Homecoming Event Schedule

September 12: Mandatory Homecoming Captains Meeting

September 25 – 29: Banner Painting *

September 29: Banners Due

September 26 – 27: Homecoming Court Campaigning *

September 28 - 29: Homecoming Court Online Voting *

October 2: Blood Drive *

October 2: Homecoming Pep Rally and Roll Call *

October 2: Cowboys vs. Aliens Afterparty with live music from SaxSquatch

October 3: Cornhole Tournament *

October 3: Hogslop String Band Squaredance

October 4: Canned Food Creations *

October 4: Petting Zoo and Goat Yoga

October 4: Required Skit and Dance Practice

October 5: Western Themed Farmers Market

October 5: Zip-N-Smores

October 5: Skit and Dance *

October 6: Western Movie Night

October 7: Student Tailgate and Homecoming Football Game

October 7: Comedy & Step Show

October 8: Gospel Choir

*Indicates a competitive point event

General Guidelines

All participants and organizations are expected to adhere to all current ETSU policies and the student code of conduct.

Participants and organizations should not make disparaging or derogatory comments toward or of other teams or participants including in-person events and on social media.

During competitive events, participants and spectators are expected to always conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

It is against university policy to smoke or use tobacco outside the confines of a personal vehicle. Alcohol and other illegal substances are prohibited on the ETSU campus.

Each team is responsible for keeping the spaces used for these events free of trash.

Due to the increase of fraternity and sorority life organizations on campus, there has been a change in the guidelines for pairings regarding ETSU Homecoming 2023. Groups of three organizations will be allowed; however, to maintain a fair and equitable experience for all involved, one of the three organizations can have no more than 25 registered members. Please also keep in mind that the pairings can be made up of organizations within the College Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Violations may result in disqualification and possible referral to the Dean of Students Office.

There will be a mandatory captain meeting on September 12th, 2023, at 4:30 pm in the Culp Auditorium.

**Homecoming Registration [Form](#)
Homecoming Court Application [Form](#)**

Both Due: Monday, September 11th at 11:59pm.

Homecoming Court

Homecoming Court Schedule:

September 11, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.: Submit Registration, Essay and Campus Community Involvement Resume

September 12, 2023: Attend Homecoming Captains & Court Info Meeting

September 13 and 14, 2023: Candidate Photos from 9am-11am and 1:30pm-3:30pm

September 26, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.: Campaigning Begins

September 27, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.: Campaigning Ends

September 28, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.: Voting Begins (ETSU Voting System)

September 29, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.: Voting Closes

October 7, 2023 at football halftime: Announcement of Homecoming Court Winner

Eligibility:

- Candidates must be in good academic standing with the university.
- Candidates may not hold a position on the Student Government Association Executive Board (President, Vice President, and Vice President for Finance and Administration).
- Candidates may not currently be chairing any Homecoming event or serving on the Homecoming Committee.
- Candidates must represent a student organization but are not required to have a running companion.
- Participants may participate in one category. Participants can self-select based on their gender identity. Non-binary students can register as either “king” or “queen.”
 - Candidates who are male identifying should register in the “king” category.
 - Candidates who are female identifying should register in the “queen” category.

Registration & How to Enter:

- All eligibility requirements must be met to enter the competition. Candidates are required to submit a [registration form](#), including an essay and campus and community involvement resume.
- Campus and Community Involvement Resume:
 - Candidate's name at the top of the resume
 - One page long
 - Format and style are determined by the candidate.
 - Submitted as a PDF
 - Resume with a summary highlighting campus and community involvement including, but not limited to leadership positions, service projects, scholastic achievements, involvement in organizations, as well as any other relevant information.
- Essay:
 - A two-page essay answering: "What does ETSU Pride mean to you, and how have you experienced this pride through school spirit, campus involvement, and campus traditions?"
 - Typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, and in Times New Roman.
 - Candidate's name at the top of the essay

Candidate application is due Monday, September 11, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. through this online [form](#). Candidates who fail to submit any of the required documents will forfeit their opportunity to participate in the competition.

Candidate Requirements:

- Candidate Information Meeting: September 12
 - The purpose of this meeting is an opportunity for candidates to meet one another, to review the rules and guidelines for campaigning, and to ask any questions.
 - If the candidate cannot be present at this meeting, there must be a representative present on behalf of the candidate.
 - Official campaign photos: September 13 and 14. [Photo sign-up link can be found here](#). Candidates must sign up for a day and time to get a photo taken by Monday, September 11, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. with applications.
 - Photos taken by a university staff photographer is used for the Homecoming Court Press Release and the online ballot.
 - Candidates must sign up for their photo session and will be responsible for being at the ETSU Photo Lab at the correct time and on the correct date.
 - No other photos will be taken or allowed for university announcements. However, any photos can be used for candidate campaign use.
- Homecoming Week Appearances:
 - Homecoming Court Candidates will be announced at the Pep Rally on October 2.
 - Homecoming Court Winners will be announced at the halftime show on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at the Homecoming Football Game

Campaigning Guidelines:

All candidates are given permission to campaign and ask for support from fellow students and must follow the following rules:

- Campaigning Timeline: September 26, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. through September 27, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.
 - No candidates, or the organizations they are representing, will be permitted to campaign before or after this time.
- Approved Campaigning Locations: Borchuck Plaza, Quad, University Commons, and social media.
 - All other areas are considered off limits for campaigning including the library, classrooms, all residential areas, CPA, and the D.P. Culp Student Center.
- Policies: Candidates are encouraged to be creative and to have fun while campaigning
 - Allowed: Posters, social media, vehicle decorations, candy, T-shirts, buttons, and other promotional items.
 - Any items given to others, such as candy, must be individually packaged and should not be placed near the flow of pedestrian traffic. Self-serve giveaways (including food items) are prohibited. All items for distribution should be kept behind tables for table representative(s) (wearing gloves) to hand out individually.
 - Not Allowed: Chalk, iPads, laptops, and tablets.

Scoring Breakdown:

- The candidate in the queen and king categories with the highest scores will be crowned Homecoming Queen and King
- 70% Online Votes, 30% Essay and Campus & Community Involvement Resume
- Judges will include alumni, staff, and faculty.
- Points
 - 1st Place - 300
 - 2nd Place - 200

Homecoming Court questions should be directed to Megan Carlton, carltonm@etsu.edu.

Banner Painting Competition

Banner Painting Schedule:

Monday, September 25th starting at 8 a.m. - Banner pickup

Friday, September 29th from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Banner return

Location: Banners will be picked up and returned when completed at the Carrier Center, Culp, 2nd floor.

Guidelines:

- Groups will paint their banners on their own schedule between September 25th and September 29th, picking up and dropping off during the allocated timeframes. Groups are welcome to pick up their banners at any time between September 25th and September 28th.
- Students and organizations will decorate a banner that will be displayed on campus showing ETSU pride, representing their organization using the theme “Saddle Up, Bucs” • Groups will be provided with one 8’ tall by 3’ wide waterproof vinyl banner.
- Groups must supply their own acrylic paint and brushes.
- The banners must be painted to hang vertically.
- The following materials are prohibited: glitter of any sort, glue, non-waterproof paints, and temporary items such as shaving cream, strings, and foam art. Organizations will be disqualified for the use of any of these items.
- The use of prohibited materials, use of obscene words or graphics, professionally made banners, groups/organizations copying other’s ideas, alumni or inactive members participating in events or being absent from events will result in disqualification.
- Design and resulting artwork must comply with TBR Policy 3:01:01:00 Organizations and Policy 3:02:00:01 General Regulations on Student Conduct.

Scoring Breakdown:

- Judging will be based on originality, creativity, appearance, ETSU spirit, and adherence to the theme.
- Judges will include alumni, staff, and faculty.
- Points:
 - 1st Place - 300
 - 2nd Place - 250
 - 3rd Place - 200

Banner Painting questions should be directed to Peyton Gentry, gentrypal@etsu.edu.

Pep Rally & Roll Call

Monday, October 2nd, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Location: Amphitheater

To celebrate homecoming, athletics, and homecoming candidates.

Guidelines:

- Get Creative. Go all out in your costumes! Show us how much blue and gold you own and support our candidates and athletics. Western and alien attire are also encouraged.
- Be loud. We want you to have a headache when we are finished. Let the entire campus know that we are excited for football! Bring noise makers, horns, etc. We will take a roll call of all organizations registered for pep rally participation.
- Show your ETSU PRIDE! We want you all to be decked in Blue and Gold and incorporate western attire. Use paint, beads, and whatever else you want to show pride. Just be appropriate!

King and Queen Candidates will receive pep rally instructions at the captains meeting.

Score Breakdown:

- Judging will be based on the creativity of your organization's group chants, as well as overall attendance, and blue and gold dress shown by members.
- Judges will include alumni, staff, and faculty.
- Points
 - 1st Place - 300
 - 2nd Place - 250
 - 3rd Place - 200

Pep Rally & Roll Call questions should be referred to Dhara Patel, pateld6@etsu.edu.

Blood Drive Competition

Blood Drive Schedule:

Monday, October 2, 10am – 6pm.

Location: Pride Walk / Upper Pride Lawn

Community Partner: Marsh Regional Blood Center

Guidelines:

Every 3 seconds someone needs a unit of blood & most of us will need blood in our lifetime. One pint of blood saves up to 3 lives. Please consider taking time to donate on Monday, October 2 and help provide the blood and blood products required to meet local needs. Walk-ins welcome, but priority is given to those registered for an appointment.

To be eligible for points listed below, all appointments must be scheduled online by 11:59 p.m., September 25.

Schedule your appointment today!

Scoring:

- 50 + Units of Blood Donated - 100 Points
- 36-49 Units of Blood Donates - 75 Points
- 26-35 Units of Blood Donated - 50 Points
- 13-25 Units of Blood Donated - 35 Points
- 1-12 Units of Blood Donated - 20 Points



Blood Drive questions should be referred to Cadee Warren, warrencj@etsu.edu and/ or Volunteer ETSU serve@etsu.edu.

Canned Food Creation

Canned Food Creation Schedule:

October 4, 2023 from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Canned Food Creation can drop-off

October 4, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.: Canned Food Creation Construction

October 4, 2023 at 3:35 p.m.: Canned Food Creation Judging

Location: William B. Greene Stadium Roundabout

Guidelines:

- Build a sculpture with canned food to commemorate ETSU and our theme, Saddle Up, Bucs! Canned food will be donated to Second Harvest Food Bank
- Groups can use up to 20,000 items (canned goods) in their creation. Items must meet the following criteria:
 - Items with dents or damage to the packaging are NOT acceptable.
 - Water will not be accepted.
 - Cereal or dried goods in undamaged packages will be accepted.
 - Check or money orders in place of food items will be accepted. For every 5 dollars given, the organization will be awarded 1 pound toward their total weight.
- Food delivered after 3 p.m. will not count toward weight total.
- Construction ends at 3 p.m. No organization will be permitted to continue working on the creation after that time.
- A space of 5' x 5' will be assigned for each organization's construction.
- Structures must stay within these boundaries and cannot exceed six feet tall.
- You may not use paper to wrap the cans or other foods in.
- Additional materials used in creations (flags, wooden blocks, etc.) must be pre-approved by the event chair before September 13th, 2023, at 11:59pm.
- Each organization will be responsible for loading and labeling their own boxes of cans at the conclusion of the event. Any cans collected that will not be used in the creation should be boxed and labeled prior to the event.
- Each group participating must have at least 3 representatives present after judging is complete to load food from creations into respective trucks.

Delivery of food that will not be used in the canned sculptures can be taken to Second Harvest Food Bank before this event. **To do so you must set up an appointment with Second Harvest.** Food delivered early will be tagged and weighed for each organization in advance. Information on how to set up an appointment will be given at the mandatory captains meeting.

Scoring Breakdown:

- Two awards will be given for this event:
 - The largest amount of food/heaviest weight award will be given to the group that collects the largest amount of food/heaviest weight, as per the list provided by Second Harvest Food Bank. The creations are limited to the use of no more than 20,000 cans; however, teams may collect more cans than will be used in the creation in order to increase weight totals for this award.
 - The creativity award will be given to the group that scores the highest according to judging for their creation.
- Creations will be judged based on the following criteria:
 - Ingenuity/Creativity o Relevance to the Homecoming theme
 - Size and Sturdiness of Construction
- Judges will include alumni, staff, and faculty.
- Points for Creativity
 - 1st Place - 400
 - 2nd Place - 325
 - 3rd Place - 250
- Points for weight
 - 1st Place - 400
 - 2nd Place - 325
 - 3rd Place - 250

Canned Food Creations questions should be directed to Reagan Sparks: sparksr@etsu.edu

Bucky's Food Pantry Bonus

Bucky's Food Pantry Schedule:

October 4, 2023 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Food and/or monetary donations are due

Location: William B. Greene Stadium Roundabout

Guidelines:

- For every 100 items given you will receive 50 pounds credit toward food weight (up to maximum of 500 items / 250 pounds weight credit).
- A full list of eligible items can be found below:
 - Soups (canned or ramen)
 - Small cans of coffee
 - Small bottles of coffee creamer
 - Boxes of tea
 - Sugar
 - Flour
 - Cereal
 - Oatmeal
 - Mixed vegetables
 - Salsa
 - Jell-O/ Pudding
 - Juice
 - Cake Mix & Icing
 - Evaporated milk
- Monetary donations in place of food items will be accepted. For every 5 dollars given, the organization will be awarded 1 pound toward their total weight. The donation link is on the Bucky's Food Pantry website. Please forward the email receipt of your donation to the chair.
- It is up to the organization to separate and label the Bucky's Bonus from the donations for Second Harvest.

Bucky's Food Pantry questions should be directed to Reagan Sparks: sparksr@etsu.edu

Cornhole Tournament

Cornhole tournament schedule:

October 3, 2023 from 11:30 – 1:30; Cornhole Tournament

Location: University Commons

Guidelines:

- Rules have been adapted from the American Cornhole Association. Modifications have been made to suit ETSU Campus Recreation programs.
- Detailed rules will be provided by ETSU Campus Recreation after event sign up.
- Scoring Breakdown:
 - 1st Place - 300
 - 2nd Place - 250
 - 3rd Place - 200

Cornhole Tournament questions should be directed to Trey Potter: potterld@etsu.edu

Skit Night Competition

Skit Night Schedule:

Pre-Recording: Date and Time is TBD, will have sign ups at the Captains Meeting

October 4, 2023 from 4pm-9pm - Skit Technical Rehearsal

October 5, 2023 at 7pm - Skit Night Competition

Location: D.P. Culp Auditorium

Guidelines:

- The skit should be based on your interpretation of the ETSU Homecoming theme, and will be judged on: originality, performance, ETSU spirit and relationship to the theme.
- Your organization's skit should be appropriate and respectful of all audiences. These guests are looking forward to taking part in skit night, so please put forth your best effort and performance. This includes music, lines, costumes, dance moves, etc. Groups failing to follow this rule will be disqualified. If you are questioning the appropriateness of a particular aspect of your performance, just be safe and don't do it.
- Each organization will create an original skit script using active members as the cast. A designated Homecoming Staff member will record all skits. Further recording information will be provided at the mandatory informational meeting. To rehearse, each group will receive a copy of your individual audio dialogue.
- Teams of two organizations are allowed 25 active members and groups of three organizations are allowed 30 active members to participate in their skit night performance.
- Inactive or alumni members of your organization will not be permitted to perform in your organization's skit night performance.
- Skits can be no longer than 6 minutes in length. Groups will be given no more than 2 minutes for set up. Take this time limit into consideration when choosing props. Points will be deducted for exceeding the time limits.
- The audio version of skits must be pre-recorded. You must sign up for a time to prerecord your skit.

Skit Pre-Recording:

- Groups must sign up using this link here by September 12th at 11:59 p.m. with the homecoming registration.
- Groups need to arrive early enough, so they are ready to start recording at the beginning of their allotted time.
- Groups need to be prepared with scripts for everyone and have any music or sound effects on a flash drive available at the time of their session.
- The student helping you get your prerecording can edit music to fit their timings and add your voice overs. However, editing out words or altering the songs in any other way is not permitted during these sessions.
- For the best results, groups should be well rehearsed with the script.

Rehearsals:

- Organizations must sign up for a rehearsal at the captains meeting on September 12.
- These times are available on a first come, first serve basis. No exceptions will be granted.
- Technical rehearsals will be by appointment only on October 4 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- No other group(s) will be permitted in the practice facility during a scheduled organization's practice.
- On October 4th, technical rehearsal times are twenty (20) minutes in length.
- Only one rehearsal time slot per group will be permitted.
- Your group must be present at their scheduled rehearsal time. Groups arriving late or missing members will be asked to leave and will lose their rehearsal time.
- No "make-up" rehearsals will be scheduled.
- No other group(s) will be permitted in the practice facility during a scheduled organization's rehearsal.
- Your rehearsal should be the exact routine, setup, and performance of the skit that will be performed on October 5th.
- These are technical rehearsals, NOT practice. Please come prepared.

What to bring to rehearsal on October 4th:

- A list of all participants along with their current and valid E-numbers.
- A copy of your organization's skit.
- Props/Costumes as well as a list of props and costumes that are to be used. (Props will be approved at rehearsal. If additional props are used on skit night, twenty (20) points will be deducted from your final score.
- A brief biography of the involved organization. This will be announced before your performance.

Score breakdown:

- Judging will be based on creativity, quality, uniqueness, and how well the Homecoming theme is incorporated into the design and the organization's display of ETSU pride.
- Judges will include alumni, staff, and faculty.
- Points
 - 1st Place - 400
 - 2nd Place - 325
 - 3rd Place - 250

Skit Night questions should be referred to Emily Wendling, wending@etsu.edu

Closing Remarks

Thank you again to everyone who has worked to make this year's 2023 Fall Homecoming a success. I hope all the students, faculty, and alumni enjoy the events that are planned and make great, new memories here at ETSU! Thank you in advance for your participation and for everything you are doing to make this the best homecoming yet!

XOXO,

Cadee Warren