

# AppScoutU: An Apptainable New Student Orientation Adventure



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# 3,906

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The number of first-year students enrolled at Appalachian State University (App) during the 2020-2021 school year.

<https://www.appstate.edu/about/facts/>

# 55%

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of classes delivered fully remotely in fall 2020.

<https://today.appstate.edu/2020/12/22/reflections>

# 45%



of classes delivered in a hybrid or face-to-face format in fall 2020.

<https://today.appstate.edu/2020/12/22/reflections>

# Why AppScoutU?

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Because of COVID-19, our first-year students have not had the opportunity to experience all Appalachian State and Boone, North Carolina have to offer. To welcome these students to campus for the first-time, or prepare them to return, AppScoutU will provide students an opportunity to interact and engage with their classmates while exploring campus and the local community. Upon completion of AppScoutU, students will feel confident in their abilities to not only navigate campus, but also take full advantage of all the university, Boone, and the surrounding region has to offer.

# Learning Outcomes

Participation in AppScoutU will enable students to:

1. Connect and engage with their classmates through interactive and collaborative exercises and activities; and
2. Explore and discover campus and the community, empowering them to confidently navigate campus upon their return.



# Logistics

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- 1) AppScoutU is open to first-year students (2020-2021 school year) regardless of enrollment status (fully remote, hybrid, or face-to-face);
- 2) AppScoutU will be offered throughout the summer, prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year;
- 3) AppScoutU will be publicized on various social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat; special Snapchat filters and Instagram and Twitter hashtags (#AppScoutU) will be designed for use by participants;
- 4) AppScoutU will be delivered via Zoom and will last approximately 4 hours;
- 5) Enrollment in each AppScoutU session will be limited to 10 students;
- 6) Participating students will receive a t-shirt, cloth face coverings, hand sanitizer, a car decal/sticker, and a campus map; and
- 7) Students will have a chance throughout the orientation to win prizes, including a Hydroflask water bottle, Eno Hammock, and a gift card to ComeBack Shack.

# AppScoutU Program Agenda

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Ice Breakers
- 3) Break
- 4) Virtual Campus  
Tour/Scavenger Hunt
- 5) Panel
- 6) Break
- 7) Are you an AppScout?
- 8) Final Questions and  
Wrap-Up

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# Introduction

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During this portion of AppScoutU, students will be introduced to the program leaders and welcomed to the Appalachian State community and campus. They will also be congratulated on their near completion of their first year at Appalachian State University. Students will also hear messages from the Chancellor, the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, as well as specific departments such as academic advising, financial aid, career development, and student life/activities.

This introduction will include important information that students need to be aware of before coming, or returning, to campus such as course registration, organizations and activities available on campus, financial aid information, housing, and mental health and academic resources offered by App State.

# Let's Break the Ice

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Using a software like Padlet or Google Jamboard, students will be asked a series of questions to encourage conversation and dialogue:

- 1) How many of you have set foot on campus?
- 2) How many of you have visited Boone?
- 3) What are your best, and worst, quarantine moments?
- 4) Did you pick up a quarantine hobby or skill? If yes, what is it?
- 5) Did any of your attempt to bake your own bread?
- 6) How about make whipped coffee?
- 7) Did you tie-dye any of your belongings?
- 8) Did you adopt or get a puppy/dog?
- 9) Did you take up cross-stitching? Knitting?
- 10) How many of you tried the Peloton app?
- 11) Are you now a proud plant parent?
- 12) How many of you learned a TikTok dance? How many of you got your family members or friends to learn a Tiktok dance?



6 Grace Sykes • 3d

# AppScoutU

Breaking the Ice: Quarantine Edition

Any new quarantine hobbies and/or skills? ⋮



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## Bread Making

After several failed attempts, I finally nailed a load of sour dough.



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Add comment

Become a proud plant parent?! ⋮



6 Grace Sykes 1m

## Succulents

I can't, I have plants.



0 0

6 Add comment

Favorite Quarantining Trend? ⋮



6 Grace Sykes 3d

## Whipped Coffee

It was not worth the effort.



Join Peloton Nation? ⋮



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## Obsessed with Ally Love...

and @pelocats



0 0

6 Add comment

Did you attempt a TikTok Dance or Challenge? ⋮



6 Grace Sykes 3m

## Do we have your attention?



The Best TikTok Dances of 2020 So Far From the WAP Challenge to the Savage time

0 0

6 Add comment

# AppScoutU Program Agenda



# Campus Tour

Students will be assigned to breakout rooms to explore and complete a virtual scavenger hunt using Appalachian's Interactive Campus Map. At the end of the scavenger hunt, the group will be brought back together to review.

<https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329#!t/2943:1>



# Scavenger Hunt

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- 1) In this building, you'll find admissions, online and transfer services, financial aid and scholarships, the registrar, career development, and more.

Hint: You'll be leaving on a JET plane, and don't know when you'll be back again.

- 2) In this building, you can watch some of your favorite Mountaineers compete, you can catch a concert, and you will turn your tassel.

Hint: You and App go together like Sherlock and Watson.

- 3) In this building, they are "serving up" BFD.

Hint: BFD = Breakfast for Dinner

- 4) This building is named after one of the founders of "Watagua Academy," what is now Appalachian State University, and it houses academic resources to help students succeed.

Hint: No need to panic at the Disco.

# Scavenger Hunt

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- 5) At this area of campus lots of action takes place, like at a mall. You can see a variety of activity from students and faculty alike. It's very popular and you can do things here at any time of the year.

Hint: The name is also part of a television show revived in the early 80's (...CLEARLY before your time as Gen Z'ers!).      & Son, starring a popular comedian named Redd Foxx.

- 6) Considered the centerpiece of campus that offers a unique experience for App State college life & campus diversity.

Hint: It houses legendary entertainment for anyone that visits

- 7) In this building, a lot of things come to "mind," but you can always find the support you need to succeed.

Hint: Help and support are closer than you think.

# Scavenger Hunt

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- 8) Struggling with a paper?! Never heard of the APA, let alone the fact that there are 7 editions? This is place that will help you develop your writing and research skills.

Hint: This building shares the name with a very popular department store, which is where you could find pretty much everything before Amazon.

- 9) You're friends are going bouldering at the end of the month, you want to go but you've never bouldered before. You aren't even sure what bouldering is! Stop by this building to learn how to boulder.

Hint: Breaking a sweat is one form of recreation.

- 10) Here, you'll don your black and gold and join 30,000 of your closest friends to sing "Hi Hi Yikas!"

Hint: You'll have so much fun, you'll feel like a kid in a candy shop.

- 11) Looking for the perfect spot to take a photo and share with your fans, look no further!

Hint: He's the OG mountaineer.



# Scavenger Hunt (Answer Key)

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- 1) John E. Thomas Hall <https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329#!t/2943:2>
- 2) Holmes Convocation Center <https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329#!t/2943:3>
- 3) Roess Dining Hall <https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329#!t/2943:6>
- 4) D.D. Dougherty Hall (Disco Student Learning Center)  
<https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329#!t/2943:9>
- 5) Sanford Hall <https://today.appstate.edu/webcams/sanford-mall>
- 6) Plemmons Student Union <https://engageandlead.appstate.edu/plemmons-student-union>
- 7) Miles Annas Student Services Building <https://wellness.appstate.edu/>
- 8) Belk Library and Information Center <https://library.appstate.edu/>
- 9) Student Recreation Center <https://urec.appstate.edu/student-recreation-center>
- 10) Yosef Statue <https://maps.appstate.edu/?id=1329%23!m/415828>

# Off the Beaten Path

Following the virtual campus tour and completion of the virtual scavenger hunt activity, students will be introduced to Boone and the surrounding area via a software application like Padlet.



*Best Coffee:* Stick Boy Bread Company, Espresso News, Crossroads Coffee House, Wired Scholar, Hatchet Coffee | *Winter Activities:* Polar Plunge, Skiing, Sledding, Holiday Scholarship Concert | *Best Bites:* Cafe Portofino, Our Daily Bread, Black Cat Burrito, Comeback Shack, CoBo Sushi Bistro, Melanie's, Macado's, Proper

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# AppScoutU Panel

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The AppScoutU Panel will consist of 2 to 3 current students, 2 staff members, and at least one faculty member. The panelists will discuss the biggest challenges and obstacles that either they have faced themselves, or that they have observed in first-year students, when acclimating to life on-campus. The current students will also be asked to name their favorite places to study, things they wish they'd known upon arrival to campus, and what resources - academic, social, and emotional - they've found most helpful. Staff and faculty will be asked to share the common mistakes they see first-year students make, how to avoid and learn from those mistakes, and strategies that will help students adjust to life on campus.

# AppScoutU Panel Questions

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1. What were some challenges that you personally faced as a first-year student or witnessed from others?
2. What made you want to attend App State?
3. What advice would you give to current first-year students trying to navigate campus life?
4. What made your time as a freshman fun while on campus?
5. What are some on-campus resources that first-year students need to make themselves aware of EARLY on in their academic journey as they make their way on the trail of success toward graduation?

# AppScoutU Program Agenda



# Are you an AppScout?

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Following the AppScoutU panel, Students will play a friendly game of Kahoot. Students have a chance to win prizes including a Hydroflask water bottle, Eno hammock, and a Comeback Shack gift card, and the winner will be crowned the “Ultimate AppScout.”



# Kahoot Questions

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- 1) This event takes place before classes end & involves all bands/choirs from the school. What is it?
- 2) What dining hall opened in 2009 & had a name change in 2014?
- 3) Pulled an “all-nighter”? Name two of App State’s popular campus coffee shops
- 4) Name four of the eight outdoor programs available through University Recreation.
- 5) Where is App State located?
- 6) Out of the departments listed, which ones were participants in the orientation today?
- 7) How much is Undergraduate App State Tuition?
- 8) How many majors does App State offer students?

# Final Questions and Wrap-Up

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After the game of Kahoot, student prizes will be announced and the winners will receive an email and either be given their prize in person or it will be mailed to their remote location.

Event speakers will do a final wrap up and the orientation will end with a 10-15 minute optional question/answer session where students can ask questions that might not have been addressed during the orientation.



# References

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