

EMBARK ORIENTATION

PARENT & FAMILY SCHEDULE | SUMMER 2026



DAY ONE: ARRIVE & CONNECT

9 - 10:30 A.M.

CHECK-IN

FOUNDERS
RESIDENCE HALL

Students and families will check in for EmBark Orientation at Founders Hall. Students will pick up their room keys and drop off their items for their overnight stay. Parents can pick up orientation materials and head over to Highsmith Student Union to kick off the day.

PRO TIP: Parking will be reserved in lots P20 and P21.

10:30 - 11 A.M.

BULLDOG WELCOME

BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION

Hear opening remarks from campus leaders and prepare for the day ahead. This is your family's official welcome to UNC Asheville.

11 - 11:30 A.M.

**FINANCIAL AID & STUDENT
BILL EXPLAINED**

BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION

Representatives from Financial Aid and Student Accounts will walk your family through how to read your student's financial aid award and student bill. They will review specifics like when the bill is due, how to pay it, and what to do if something doesn't look right.

PRO TIP: Students, parents, families, and supporters will stay together for this session. Missing a payment deadline can affect your student's enrollment. This session is the fastest way to make sure your family understands your student bill and how to pay it before classes start. Financial Aid representatives will be available to answer questions on Day Two.

11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

**YOUR STUDENT'S
ACADEMIC JOURNEY**

BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION

The Academic Success Center will speak to family members about important academic processes, key dates in the academic calendar, and resources to help you support your student with their studies.

EMBARK ORIENTATION: PARENT & FAMILY SCHEDULE | DAY ONE

12:30 - 1:30 P.M.

LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL

**BROWN
DINING HALL**

Take a break and enjoy a nourishing meal before continuing with your day! This is an opportunity to check in with your student before they head off to their next session at 1 p.m.

1:30 - 2:30 P.M.

YOUR STUDENT'S FIRST YEAR

**BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION**

Learn about what comes after Orientation, including Move-In, Weeks of Welcome, and IGNITE. We will walk you through all the support, resources, and programming designed to help your student through their first year at UNC Asheville.

2:30 - 3 P.M.

BREAK

REED PLAZA

Take a break, stretch, and grab a cup of coffee before our next session begins.

3 - 3:30 P.M.

CAMPUS SAFETY

**BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION**

Hear from the University Police about safety tips and resources for students, including SafeZone, the University's campus safety app. Learn how you can sign up to receive Bulldog Alerts, UNC Asheville's emergency notifications.

3:30 - 4:15 P.M.

**MAKING THE TRANSITION
AS A UNCA FAMILY MEMBER**

**BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION**

Meet the Dean of Students and members of the Health and Counseling team who will provide insight and recommendations on how best to support your student as they transition to life in college. We will also introduce you to opportunities to get involved on campus through our Parents Council.

4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

FAMILY RECEPTION

**MOUNTAIN VIEW ROOM
KIMMEL ARENA**

Celebrate the first day of EmBark with your fellow Bulldog Family members and staff from our campus community. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and one of UNC Asheville's most stunning campus views from our basketball arena.

DAY TWO: EXPLORE & ENGAGE

1 - 3:30 P.M. CHOOSE YOUR PATH

Use this time however is most useful to you and your student. Multiple sessions run simultaneously.

Student Athlete Meeting

Highsmith Student Union 114

**required for student athletes. Arrive at 1 P.M.*

Review key dates, expectations, and important processes with Athletics staff.
Family members are welcome to attend.

Accessibility & Accommodations

Highsmith Student Union 225/226

Meet staff from the Office of Accessibility to learn about available accommodations and walk through the application process. If your student has a disability or is wondering whether accommodations might help, start here.

Academic Advising Drop-In *1:30 - 3:30 P.M.

Ramsey Library 011

Have questions about your student's schedule, academic plan, or course adjustments? Advisors in the Academic Success Center are available to assist students and families.

Financial Aid & Scholarship Drop-In

Highsmith Union 228/229

Receive one-on-one assistance with understanding your student's fall bill and applying for university scholarships.

Residence Life Open House

Mills Plaza

Explore residence hall options, ask questions about different communities, and figure out where your student would most like to live.

Campus Tours

Reed Plaza

Take a guided tour with an Orientation Assistant and find the buildings, shortcuts, and hangout spots your student will use every day.

2 - 4 P.M. STUDENT CHECK-OUT

FOUNDERS
RESIDENCE HALL

Students will collect their belongings from their residence hall room and check-out in the lobby of Founders Hall to return their key and temporary access card.

