



FULL POTENTIAL PLAYBOOK: THE FIRST-YEAR GAME PLAN

Welcome to McNeese State University, where everyone begins as a rookie- ready to grow, learn, and lead. This is your season to build your skills, find your team, and rise to the challenge. No pressure... but it's game time. This playbook will explore important resources for your first year.

WELCOME TO McNEESE



Dr .Wade Rousse
University President

"To Ride for the Brand means committing to becoming the best version of yourself- not just for you, but for your family and your community. This is your moment. Get connected. Make it count."
-Dr. Wade Rousse



FALL 2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

DESIGNED FOR FRESHMAN, OPEN TO ALL

AUGUST - Howdy Rowdy Welcome Week

Date	Time	Event	Location	Host
Aug. 24	11:30am	Panhellenic Orientation	Stokes	FSL
Aug. 24	4pm	Freshman Convocation (<i>class of 2029 only</i>)	Bulber Auditorium	FYE
Aug. 24	9pm-12am	Beats, Bites, and Strikes Bowling Night	Petro Bowl	SLC
Aug. 25		<i>First Day of Classes</i>		
Aug. 25	9am-12pm	Cowboy Concierge	Quad	SS
Aug. 25	9am-12pm	Ministry Monday + Resource Roundup	New Ranch	SS
Aug. 25	5-8pm	SPUR Meet & Greet (<i>invite only</i>)	Legacy Center	FYE
Aug. 26-29	Various	Panhellenic Formal Recruitment	LC Event Center	FSL
Aug. 26	9am-12pm	Cowboy Concierge	Quad	SS
Aug. 26	11am-1pm	Orgstravaganza	Quad	SLC
Aug. 26	8pm	Housing Meeting (<i>on-campus residents only</i>)	Bulber Auditorium	RESL
Aug. 27	11am-1pm	Welcome Back Wednesday	Quad	SLC
Aug. 28	9am-12pm	Community Day	New Ranch	SU
Aug. 28	5-6pm	International Student Assoc. Meet & Greet	Drew Hall	OISS
Aug. 29	3-5pm	Bayou Bash on the Bricks	Quad	SEL
Aug. 29	6pm	Cowboy Block Party - Wayne Toups	Legacy Center	ATH
Aug. 30		Panhellenic Bid Day	Greek Street	FSL
Aug. 30	2-5pm	Student Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Aug. 30	6pm	Football v. Louisiana Christian	Navarre Stadium	ATH



Event Host

FYE = First-Year Experience - 337-475-5618
SEL/FSL = Student Engagement & Leadership - 337-475-5613
SA = Student Activities - 337-475-5295
SS = Student Services - 337-475-5609
SUL = Student Union and Log - 337-475-4212
SLC = Student Life Coalition - 337-475-5295
SGA = Student Government Association - 337-475-5618
MREC = McNeese Recreation Sports Complex - 337-475-5371

CS = Career and Student Development Center - 337-475-5181
CCC = Campus Compliance and Civility - 337-475-4526
RESL = McNeese Res Life - 337-475-6505
OISS = International Student Services - 337-475-5243
CC = Counseling Center - 337-475-5136
RO = Recruiting Office - 337-475-5504
CL&SS = Center for Learning & Student Success - 337-562-4587
CARE = CARE Mentorship Program - 337-562-4599
Events are subject to change

[MCNEESE.PRESENCE.IO](https://mcneese.presence.io)

For more events, details and to connect with organizations, check out Poke Portal!





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September

Date	Time	Event	Location	Host
Sep. 1-29	All month	FYE Scavenger Hunt - Ride for Resources	FYE Office	FYE
Sep. 2	10am-1pm	SGA/SLC Day - A Cowboy Cookout	New Ranch/Quad	SGA/SLC
Sep. 3	9am-12pm	Wellness Wednesday	New Ranch	MREC/CC
Sep. 3	4pm	First SGA Meeting	Parra Ballroom	SGA
Sep. 4	TBA	Pop Into Careers - Career Service	Library- Career	CS
Sep. 4	5:30pm-8:30pm	ACSA Meet & Greet	TBA	OISS
Sep. 4	6pm	NPHC Caucus - \$2 Entry Fee	Parra Ballroom	FSL
Sep. 5	12-3pm	Freshman Fest	Quad	FYE
Sep. 6	TBA	Bus Trip to UL	To Lafayette	SEL
Sep. 8	6pm	Intramural Volleyball Season Begins	MREC	MREC
Sep. 8-12	Various	IFC Recruitment Week	Various	FSL
Sep. 10	10am-1pm	World Suicide Prevention Day	New Ranch	CC
Sep. 10	12-1pm & 4-5pm	How to do College	Parra Ballroom	FYE/CL&SS/CARE
McNeese Parents and Family Weekend				
Sep. 12	6pm	Cowboy Block Party - Molly Ringwalds	Alumni Pavilion	ATH
Sep. 13	2-5pm	Student & Parents Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Sep. 13	6pm	McNeese V. Weber State	Navarre Stadium	ATH
Sep. 16	12-1:30pm	Tacos & Tutoring	Library	FYE/CL&SS
Sep. 17	5:30pm-6:30pm	International Student Career Workshop	Library -Career	CS/OISS
Sep. 18	3-4:30pm	Let's Talk About Sex & Healthy Relationships	Parra Ballroom	FYE/HS
Sep. 19	7-10pm	Game Night	Res Life Clubhouse	ACSA/OISS
Sep. 22	8am	Rowdy Rider Applications Open	Online	SEL
Sep. 23	3:30-5pm	Pokes Professionalism	BBC 121	CS
Sep. 25	10-2pm	Free Fits for the Future-Cowboy Closet	BBC 2 nd Floor	FYE/CS/CARE
Sep. 27	9am	Preview Day	Bulber Auditorium	RO
Sep. 28	3pm-6pm	JCPenney Suit-Up	JCPenny Prien Lake	CS
Sep. 30	5-6pm	Study Skills for First-Year	Parra Ballroom	FYE

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October

Date	Time	Event	Location	Host
Oct. 1	1-4pm	Career Expo	MREC	CS
Oct. 2	6pm	Intramural Volleyball Championship	MREC	MREC
Oct. 3	6pm	Cowboy Block Party - Flamethrowers	Alumni Pavilion	ATH
Oct. 4	2-5pm	Student Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Oct. 4	6pm	McNeese v. Southeastern	Navarre Stadium	ATH
Oct. 6	6pm	Intramural Flag Football Season Starts	MREC	MREC
Oct. 7	4-6pm	FYE Leadership Immersive	Frasch 130	FYE
Oct. 8	10am-1pm	Pause for Paws	The Quad	CC
Oct. 9-10		Fall Break		
Oct. 10	11:59pm	Rowdy Rider Applications close	Online	SEL
Homecoming Week - Oct 13-18				
Oct. 15	TBA	Oozeball	Frasch Lawn	SLC
Oct. 16	7-10pm	Parade & Pep Rally	Ryan St & Navarre Stadium	SS
Oct. 17	6pm	Cowboy Block Party - LA ROXX	Alumni Pavilion	ATH
Oct. 18	2-5pm	Student Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Oct. 18	6pm	McNeese v. Houston Christian	Navarre Stadium	ATH
Oct. 23-25	Various	McNeese Rodeo Classic	Burton Coliseum	Rodeo
Oct. 23	4-5pm & 6-7pm	Advising 101	Stokes Auditorium	FYE/CARE
Oct. 25	9-4pm	FYE Leadership Lab	TBD	FYE
Oct. 24	7-10pm	Game Night	Res Life Clubhouse	ACSA/OISS
Oct. 28	5pm-7pm	Internship Soiree	SEED Center	CS
Oct. 30	6-9pm	FYE Halloween Movie & Craft Night	Parra Ballroom	FYE
Oct. 31	6pm	Cowboy Block Party - Chee Weez	Alumni Pavilion	ATH

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November

Date	Time	Event	Location	Host
Nov. 1	2-5pm	Student Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Nov. 1	6pm	McNeese v. Northwestern State	Navarre Stadium	ATH
Nov. 3-6		Spring Registration Opens		
Nov. 3	10-12pm & 5-7pm	Registration Rodeo	FYE Office/Library	FYE/AO/CARE
Nov. 6	TBA	First Generation Day	TBA	FYE
Nov. 8	9am-11am	Out of the Darkness Walk: Event	Burton Coliseum	CC
Nov. 10	10-12pm & 5-7pm	Registration Rodeo	FYE Office/Library	FYE/AO
Nov. 11	3:30-4:30pm	Pokes on the Geaux (Study Abroad)	BBC	OISS
Nov. 12	6pm	Intramural Flag Football Championship	MREC Fields	MREC
Nov. 13	10-12pm & 5-7pm	Registration Rodeo	FYE Office/Library	FYE/AO/CARE
Nov. 13	12:30-1:30pm	Handmade Ties (Bracelet Making Fundraiser)	New Ranch	OISS
Nov. 13	5pm	Mr. LeBeau Pageant	Bulber Auditorium	SLC
Nov. 14	5pm	Miss Labelle and Teen Pageant	Bulber Auditorium	SIC
Nov. 14	7:30pm	Cowboy Block Party- Steel Shot	Alumni Pavilion	ATH
Nov. 15	2-5pm	Student Tailgate	Legacy Lot	SEL
Nov. 15	6pm	McNeese v. UTRGV	Navarre Stadium	ATH
Nov. 15	9am	Preview Day	Bulber Auditorium	RO
Nov. 18	10-2pm	Freshman Hangout & Pick the Table	FYE Office/Library	FYE
Nov. 18	4-9pm	Nepali Night	Parra Ballroom	NSA/OISS
Nov. 19	6-8pm	Pokesgiving	TBA	SLC/SGA
Nov. 20-23	TBD	LCIRSA Intramural State Championships	UNO	MREC
Nov. 21	TBA	NPHC New Membership presentation	TBA	FSL
Nov. 24	7-9pm	Line Dancing & Campfire Vibes	Housing Quad	FYE
Nov. 25	12-1pm & 4-5pm	How to do College	Parra Ballroom	FYE/CL&SS

Nov. 26-28

Thanksgiving Break

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December

Date	Time	Event	Location	Host
Dec 1	6-7:30pm	Spur Spotlight (Invite only)	TBA	FYE
Dec 8	9am-12pm	Pause for Paws	Quad	CC
Dec 8	9am-12pm	Fuel up for Finals	Quad	SLC
Dec 8	8:15pm	Late Night Breakfast	Rowdy's Cafeteria	SS
Dec 9		Study Day		
Dec 10		Finals Start		
Dec 13		Finals End	Legacy Center	
Dec 19		Fall 2025 Commencement		
Jan. 20		Spring 2026 Semester Starts		

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

	8-10	10:30-12:30	1-3	4-6	6:30-8:30
Tuesday December 9				T 4:00-6:40 pm TR 3:30-4:45 pm TR 4:00-5:15 pm	T 5:30-8:10 pm T 7:00-9:40 pm
Wednesday December 10	MWF 8:00-8:50 am MW 8:00-9:15 am	MWF 10:00-10:50 am	MW 2:30-3:45 pm	W 4:00-6:40 pm MW 5:30-6:45 pm	W 5:20-8:10 pm W 7:00-9:40 pm MW 7:00-8:15 pm
Thursday December 11	TR 8:00-9:15 am	TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm	TR 2:00-3:15 pm	R 4:00-6:40 pm TR 5:30-6:45 pm	R 5:30-8:10 pm R 7:00-9:40 pm TR 7:00-8:15 pm
Friday December 12	MWF 9:00-9:50 am MW 9:30-10:45 am	MWF 11:00-11:50 am MW 11:00 am-12:15 pm	MW 1:00-2:15 pm	M 4:00-6:40 pm MW 4:00-5:15 pm	M 5:30-8:50 pm M 7:00-9:40 pm
Saturday December 13	TR 9:30-10:45 am	TR 12:30 am-1:45 pm	MWF 12:00-12:50 pm		

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CAMPUS RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Office of Student Success and Retention

☎ 337-562-4587
☎ 337-562-4599
✉ studentsuccess@mcneese.edu

📍 FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR

Office of First Year Experience Programs

☎ Call: 337-475-5618
☎ Text: 337-467-8611
✉ fye@mcneese.edu
✉ jclark@mcneese.edu

📍 FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR
FRESHMAN LOUNGE AND OFFICE

Write to Excellence Center

☎ 337-562-4205
✉ writetoexcellence@mcneese.edu

📍 FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR

Math and Science Tutoring Center

☎ 337-475-5812
✉ mast@mcneese.edu

📍 FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR

Poke Pantry

☎ 337-475-5609
✉ pokepantry@mcneese.edu

📍 HOLBROOK STUDENT UNION ANNEX



McNeese Police & SAFE App

☎ 337-475-5711
✉ mcneesepd@mcneese.edu

📍 4497 PHILIP WILLIAMS DR



Scan for SAFE APP

McNeese Counseling Center

☎ 337-475-5136
✉ mcneesecounseling@mcneese.edu

📍 4100 RYAN ST.

Shmoody App

SCAN FOR SHMOODY

Fun Mental Health App for students, faculty and staff.



Student Health Services

☎ 337-475-5748
✉ studenthealth@mcneese.edu

📍 4100 RYAN ST.

McNeese Crisis Hotline

☎ 337-614-4357

24/7 Support & Guidance
No Matter the Situation
Available for students, parents of students, faculty & staff.





CAMPUS RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Cowboy Closet



Career Services

☎ 337-475-5181

✉ careers@mcneese.edu

📍 **BURTON BUSINESS CENTER 211B**

☎ 337-475-5181

✉ careers@mcneese.edu

📍 **FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR**

International Student Services

☎ 337-475-5243

✉ internationaloffice@mcneese.edu

📍 **FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR**

Office of Student Services

☎ 337-475-5609

✉ studentservices@mcneese.edu

📍 **HOLBROOK STUDENT UNION-NEW RANCH**

Office of Campus Compliance & Civility

☎ 337-475-5428

✉ compliance@mcneese.edu

📍 **BURTON BUSINESS CENTER ROOM 407**

Online Reporting

Scan for Reporting
forms



Accessibility Services

☎ 337-475-5916

✉ accessibility@mcneese.edu

📍 **BURTON BUSINESS CENTER ROOM 205**

Testing Services

☎ 337-475-5181

✉ testingservices@mcneese.edu

📍 **BURTON BUSINESS CENTER ROOM 205**

CARE Mentorship

☎ 337-562-4599

✉ smalveaux3@mcneese.edu

📍 **FRAZAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, FIRST FLOOR**

Recreation & Wellness

☎ 337-475-5277

✉ jowens11@mcneese.edu

📍 **RECREATION COMPLEX**



CAMPUS RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Residence Life

- ☎ 337-562-6505
- ✉ jmarsaw@mcneese.edu
- 📍 565 JOE DUMARS DR

Campus Housing

- ☎ 337-475-5606
- ✉ live@mcneesereslife.com
- 📍 565 JOE DUMARS DR,

Student Engagement & Leadership

- ☎ 337-475-5618
- ✉ glandry12@mcneese.edu
studentlife@mcneese.edu
- 📍 HOLBROOK STUDENT UNION-NEW RANCH

Student Activities

- ☎ 337-475-5295
- ✉ bsimmons2@mcneese.edu
studentlife@mcneese.edu
- 📍 HOLBROOK STUDENT UNION-NEW RANCH

McNeese Team Store

- ☎ 337-475-5524
- ✉ teamstore@mcneese.edu
- 📍 501 E. SALE RD. LAKE CHARLES

Student Government Association

- ☎ 337-475-5641
- ✉ lmontelibano@mcneese.edu
- 📍 HOLBROOK STUDENT UNION-OLD RANCH

Student Central

- ☎ 337-475-5065
- ✉ studentcentral@mcneese.edu
- 📍 4205 RYAN ST - CHOZEN HALL

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

- ☎ 337-475-5065
- ✉ financialaid@mcneese.edu
scholarships@mcneese.edu
- 📍 CHOZEN HALL (STUDENT CENTRAL)

Office of Advising

- ☎ 337-475-5065
- ✉ freshmanadvising@mcneese.edu
- 📍 CHOZEN HALL (STUDENT CENTRAL)

IT Help Desk

- ☎ 337-475-5995
- ✉ helpdesk@mcneese.edu
- 📍 IT BUILDING - BACK SIDE OF MREC



HOW-TO PLAYBOOK!

How to use MyMcNeese

In order to access your MyMcNeese you will need to log into your McNeese account. Once you logged in, there will be a page filled with resources that you can use. There is a link for you to access your outlook, banner, academic schedule, and calendar. There are also resources incase you need to report something to campus police or need to visit the counseling center.

How to send an email to your professor

When Sending an email to your professor you want to make sure to include your name, McNeese ID, and which class you are in. This will help the professor identify you and the class you are associated with. you also want to make sure your email is clear. For example if I had a question about an exam coming up in the subject it would say Exams and it would read "Hello, I hope this email finds you well. My name is....ID Number is 000123456. I am a student from your...class and I was wondering when our next exam would be?"

How to read your syllabus

When you open up your syllabus on Canvas, there will be a lot of information so try not to get overwhelmed. The most helpful tip for keeping up with your syllabus is writing down all your important dates (test dates, homework deadlines, drop deadlines, etc.) . Your professors' emails and office hours will also be found in the syllabus. Some professors are very particular about how you email them so be on the lookout to see if they state how they prefer how emails are formatted.

How to join an org or club

There are many different processes to join an organization. One of the best ways to get yourself involved is by talking to a member of the organization or even a member of the executive team. Many organizations are on presence so that is a great place to get started with familiarizing yourself with the different orgs and clubs available at McNeese.



First 6 Weeks Checklist

KICK OFF STRONG! CHECK THESE OFF TO BUILD SOLID HABITS, MEET NEW PEOPLE, AND START YOUR COLLEGE JOURNEY WITH CONFIDENCE.



- ☐ Download Canvas app for classes
- ☐ Download Outlook app for emails
- ☐ Explore the campus library
- ☐ Attend your first FYE event (Freshman Fest)
- ☐ Go to at least one tutoring session at CL&SS
- ☐ Introduce yourself to a professor
- ☐ Use McNeese Banner to check your schedule
- ☐ Read syllabi for all classes in Canvas
- ☐ Study in a new campus spot
- ☐ Make a budget or check out financial aid resources
- ☐ Join or visit a student organization
- ☐ Attend welcome week or campus tradition events
- ☐ Explore campus mental health resources
- ☐ Visit the FYE office or say hi to a mentor
- ☐ Complete a career assessment in the FYE Office
- ☐ Establish a study group in difficult classes
- ☐ Start your Vector orientation trainings

"There was never a rule that said you had to finish college in four years. Take the time to seize every opportunity and explore passions that truly reflect who you are. The workforce isn't going anywhere - what matters is growing into the person you're meant to be."

- Lianne Montelibano (McNeese Student Body President)

PAY LIKE A

Poke



WITH **BLUE & GOLD**

SMART CHECKING FOR MCNEESE STUDENTS



**FREE
DEBIT
CARD**

**CASH
REWARDS**

**ONLINE &
MOBILE
BANKING**

**FREE
eStatement**

**\$5 TO
OPEN***

**NO
SERVICE
CHARGE**

* TO OPEN: Make a \$25 minimum deposit in a Smart Savings Account (to start your credit union membership), then open your Blue & Gold checking account with a \$5 minimum deposit upon presentation of your McNeese student ID.

Southwest
LOUISIANA CREDIT UNION



Learn more.



Ask us how!

swlacu.com • 337-477-9190

Member Since 1996
NCUA

