

# IGNITE: INFORMATION PACKET 2025

## WHERE THE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE BEGINS

The Ignite Program is a unique opportunity for incoming first-year students to develop their leadership skills, build relationships with freshmen and upperclassmen Vols, learn about involvement opportunities, and discover what it means to be a Tennessee Volunteer. Ignite has a proven impact on first-year students' transition to the university with a record-high retention rate. As a summer leadership and service experience, Ignite will instill a passion for the University of Tennessee, inspire a commitment to student success, and ignite the leadership potential of new Volunteers.



## IGNITE: 865

Ignite: 865 is a three-day community engagement, service-oriented leadership experience that introduces students to our Scruffy City through cultural, outdoor, and service experiences. We hope that students see Knoxville as a home and not just a four-year destination for college.

The program's home base is on campus. Students participating in the June sessions will live in a residence hall with their leaders, while students participating in the August session can move into their fall housing assignment early.

### Program Dates

June 22 – June 24\*

June 27 – June 29

July 9 – July 11

August 13 – August 15

\*Business and Engineering  
Students Only

## IGNITE: SUMMIT

Ignite: Summit is a three-day, off-campus experience for incoming first-year students that concentrates on developing leadership and finding community as Volunteers. Students will take part in engaging team-building activities, participate in longstanding Tennessee traditions, and enjoy bonfires, games, and dance parties.

### Program Dates

August 11 – August 13

# IGNITE: OUTDOORS

## Program Dates

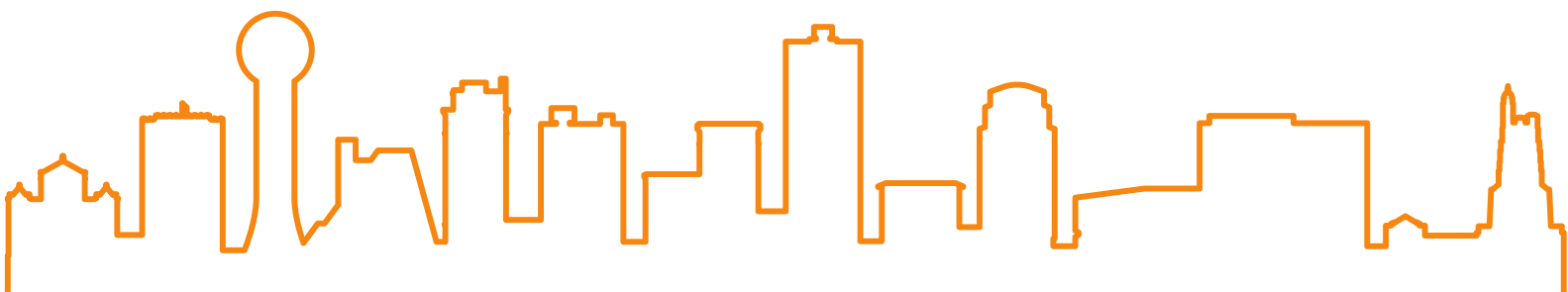
August 6 - August 8  
August 10 - August 12

Ignite: Outdoors is a three-day, outdoor adventure of leadership, learning, and rafting on the Ocoee River. All skill levels are encouraged to join our well equipped student trip leaders on this adventure. The natural environment provides many amazing opportunities to learn about how to cope with new challenges both on and off campus. Students will meet other incoming students, gain skills in whitewater rafting, leadership, and problem solving while experiencing the beauty of East Tennessee.



Students can register for Ignite: 865 and Ignite: Summit at [leadserve.utk.edu/ignite](https://leadserve.utk.edu/ignite)

Students can register for Ignite: Outdoors at [recsports.utk.edu/igniteoutdoors](https://recsports.utk.edu/igniteoutdoors)



# REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS

Registration closes two weeks before each session or when a session has reached capacity. Please review all registration and program information before registering for an Ignite session. Students may participate in any version of Ignite (865, Summit, and Outdoors). Students can allow participate in multiple sessions. Registration is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Please note that **Ignite does not replace Orientation**. All incoming students are required to complete online Orientation modules and meet with an advisor. Registering for an Ignite session enhances their experience as they explore traditions at the university, serve the Knoxville community, and develop their leadership skills. **Ignite: 865 sessions in June are purposefully scheduled to coincide with optional Vol 103 dates**, where students and families can participate in a traditional in-person Orientation experience.

## 865 \$225

Transportation to  
and from community  
activities

On-campus housing

Program Meals

Community events  
and city excursions

Ignite T-Shirt

Program Materials

## SUMMIT \$225

Transportation to and  
from Carson Springs  
Retreat Center

Cabin-style lodging  
with air conditioning

Program Meals

Challenge Course

Ignite T-Shirt

Program Materials

## OUTDOORS \$300

Transportation to and  
from outdoor activity  
site

Tent camping

Program Meals

Ignite T-Shirt

Program Materials

# FEE WAIVERS

Ignite registration fees are **required** at the time of registration. If you need financial assistance, a fee waiver application will be available on our website at the beginning of March.

Applicants will be notified via email at the office's earliest availability regarding the status of their application. If a student is awarded a fee waiver, **they must respond to the acceptance email to confirm their attendance for the requested session.** Failure to attend the session will result in the registration fee being charged to the student's UTK account.

**Students wish to apply for a fee waiver should visit**  
**[leadserve.utk.edu/ignite-fee-waiver](https://leadserve.utk.edu/ignite-fee-waiver)**

---

## SESSION SWITCHES

**If a student wishes to switch their Ignite: 865 or Summit session, they must email [leadserve@utk.edu](mailto:leadserve@utk.edu)**

**If a student wishes to switch their Ignite: Outdoors session, they must email session, they must email**  
**[recsports@utk.edu](mailto:recsports@utk.edu)**

Students should include the following information in their email:

- Participant's full name
- Participant's UTK Student ID number
- Ignite session they are currently registered for
- Ignite session they wish to switch to



**Students will be charged a \$25 processing fee if space is available in the desired session. The fee must be paid at the time of the program switch. All program switches must be made by June 1, 2025 for June & July programs. All switches must be made by July 28th for August programs.**



# CANCELLATION POLICY

If a student wishes to cancel their Ignite: 865 or Ignite: Summit session, they must email [leadserve@utk.edu](mailto:leadserve@utk.edu).

If a student wishes to cancel their Ignite: Outdoors session, [recsports@utk.edu](mailto:recsports@utk.edu).



Students should include the following information in their email:

- Participant's full name
- Participant's UTK Student ID number
- Ignite session they are currently registered for
- Ignite session they wish to switch to

Due to the nature of the Ignite program and the necessity for early planning and supply purchasing, **no refunds are available 14 days in advance** of a session. If a student has a medical or family emergency that requires them to cancel their Ignite session, documentation must be submitted to [leadserve@utk.edu](mailto:leadserve@utk.edu) in order for a refund to be considered.



# TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is provided to and from Ignite: 865 and Ignite: Summit sites from the University of Tennessee's campus.

**It is the participant's responsibility to arrange transportation to Knoxville.**

Participants may choose to take advantage of our shuttle service from the following locations between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm.

- Knoxville Airport: Tyson McGhee Airport (TYS)
- Greyhound Bus Station (100 East Magnolia Ave.)

To request transportation to and from the Knoxville airport or the Greyhound Bus Station, please email [leadserve@utk.edu](mailto:leadserve@utk.edu) with the following information:

- Participant's full name
- Ignite session they are registered for
- Pick-up/drop-off location
- Arrival date and time
- Departure date and time.

Due to safety protocol and minimal parking at program sites, participants are not allowed to drive themselves directly to the Carson Springs Retreat Center for Ignite: Summit.



**Ignite: Outdoors will not provide transportation before or after the session.**

# PARKING

Ignite: 865 participants for June sessions will receive **official Participant Information to their UTK email 10 days before their session.** It will include a information about where to collect their parking permit upon arrival to campus and parking location directions. Please only park in designated areas and keep your permit visible through the front windshield at all times to avoid a parking ticket.

Ignite: Outdoors participants may purchase a parking permit upon registration for \$40. It will be waiting for the student on the morning of the trip. If a student does not wish to purchase a permit, there is street parking on the edges of campus that is easily accessible.

All Ignite program participants for **August sessions must purchase a UTK parking permit to park on-campus during the program.** Students may purchase a UTK parking permit online through the registration and confirmation process.

**Ignite and the University of Tennessee is not responsible for cars that are towed or ticketed while parked in non-designated areas or without a visible permit.**

---

# HOUSING

## 865

Participants of the June Ignite: 865 sessions will stay in a co-ed, on-campus residence hall for the duration of the program.

Participants of the August Ignite: 865 session will move into their assigned residence hall early on August 12th, 2025.

## SUMMIT

Ignite: Summit participants will stay in air-conditioned cabins at the Carson Springs Retreat Center. Before leaving for the session, students will move into their assigned residence hall early on August 10th, 2025.

## OUTDOORS

Ignite: Outdoors participants will sleep in 3-4 person tents.



**If a student's roommate also wishes to move in early, they must also participate in the August session of Ignite. Parents and guests are not allowed to stay in the residence hall, per the University of Tennessee housing policy.**



# ADDITIONAL HOUSING

Housing is available before and after all Ignite: 865 and Ignite: Summit sessions.

If a student decides they need additional housing after completing registration, please email

with the following information:

- Participant's full name
- Participant's UTK student ID number
- Date(s) housing is needed



Ignite: Outdoors will not provide on-campus housing before or after a session.

---

## MEALS

Meals will be provided throughout the program. If a student has any special dietary needs, please indicate those requirements on their program registration form.





# RULES AND POLICIES

**Students who participate in Ignite are required to abide by the following rules and regulations. If a student does not comply with the rules, they may be asked to leave the program without a refund. All Ignite participants are subject to the University of Tennessee Code of Conduct.**

---

## ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND SMOKING

No alcohol or illegal drugs will be tolerated for any reason. If a student requires a lifesaving medication or device, they should carry them at all times (i.e., inhaler).

No smoking, vaping, or chewing tobacco is permitted during the session. If a participant is found smoking, vaping, or using chewing tobacco, they will be asked to leave without a refund.

---

## CELL PHONES

There may not be cell service at the Ignite: Outdoors site. Students may be encouraged to turn in their cellphones to Ignite: Outdoors staff upon check-in for safekeeping. Cellphones will be returned to students on the final day of each program.

There will be limited cell service at the Ignite: Summit site. Students will have access to W-Fi at varying times throughout the session.

We ask that all students are respectful of our staff, guests, and presenters by refraining from using their cellphone except during breaks and free time. They must ensure their cellphone is set to vibrate or silent during scheduled activities.

**In the event of an emergency, students can be reached at the following:**

- **Ignite: 865 at the Jones Center for Leadership and Service - (865) 974-1039**
- **Ignite: Summit at Carson Springs Retreat Center - (877) 704-6336**
- **Ignite: Outdoors at the UT RecSports Outdoor Programs - (865) 974-0429**

**Questions? Email [leadserve.utk.edu](mailto:leadserve.utk.edu).**