



2025 Homecoming Parade Guidelines and Procedures

The South Carolina State University (SCSU) Homecoming Experience Committee invites your organization to participate in the 2025 Homecoming Experience Parade on **Saturday, October 4, 2025**.

A **mandatory participant meeting** will be held on **Monday, September 22, 2025, at 6:00 PM**. Approved registrants will receive meeting details and payment instructions. The registration deadline is **Friday, September 12, 2025, at 11:59 PM**.

Parade Rules and Expectations

1. All participants—including organizations, individual members, and their family members—must comply with directives issued by parade marshals and law enforcement. Noncompliance may result in immediate removal from the parade and disqualification from future participation.
2. Road closures will begin at **6:00 AM**. Participants arriving after this time must check in at the corner of Seaboard St. NW. No vehicle access to the assembly area or Russell Street will be permitted after **8:00 AM**.
3. After dropping off participants, buses must relocate to the designated parking area on SCSU's campus on Baldwin Street. Parking permits will be issued at check-in.
4. All groups must check in by **8:00 AM**. The parade will begin promptly at **9:00 AM**.
5. Participants must remain in their assigned positions as indicated by parade officials.
6. Forward motion must be maintained throughout the parade route to ensure continuous flow. All vehicles must be operated by licensed drivers.
7. Riding on vehicle hoods, trunks, or roofs is strictly prohibited. Convertibles are preferred for visibility.
8. Children under 18 must be supervised by an adult. One adult is required for every 10 children under age 12.
9. All vehicles must be operated safely and at appropriate speeds. Motorcycle groups are permitted only with prior written approval.
10. Burnouts, tire spinning, or any unsafe driving behavior is strictly prohibited.
11. Music must be family-appropriate and radio-edited.
12. Approved horses must wear diaper buckets and will be positioned at the end of the parade. Street sweepers are not acceptable substitutes.
13. Bands and dance units may "break down" to perform only at designated areas for a maximum of one minute.
14. At the end of the parade (Gathers and Lance Street), participants must proceed to designated disband areas. This marks the official conclusion of parade involvement.
15. Use of amplified sound is prohibited unless expressly approved in writing prior to Parade Day. If your group has been approved to use amplified sound, all media files must be submitted to the Parade Organizers no later than **October 16, 2024**.

Application Process

- Registration deadline: **Friday, September 12, 2025, at 11:59 PM**
- Application decisions will be communicated by **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**
- Final line-up positions will be provided at parade check-in



Participation Fees

Category	Fee
Alumni Organization	\$30
Registered Student Organization	No Fee
SCSU College/Department	No Fee
Marching Band	No Fee
Dance/Cheer/Step Team	\$30
Community Partner/Business	\$50
Community Group (Non-Dance)	\$50

Fees are subject to reclassification at the discretion of the Homecoming Committee.

Marching Band Requirements

- Bands are responsible for covering their own travel, accommodations, and participation costs.
- Bands are expected to play throughout the route or as directed at designated breakdown areas.

Liability Waiver, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnification Agreement

By submitting the parade registration, the authorized representative ("Participant") affirms that they have authority to act on behalf of all members of their group, including any minors.

Acknowledgment of Risk:

The undersigned acknowledges and understands that participation in a parade carries inherent risks, including but not limited to, those arising from proximity to animals, motor vehicles, machinery, pyrotechnics, acrobatic performances, weather conditions, and physical exertion. These risks may cause bodily harm, property damage, or death.

Waiver and Release of Liability:

In consideration for being permitted to participate, the undersigned, on behalf of themselves and their group, voluntarily assumes all risks and agrees to release, discharge, and hold harmless South Carolina State University, the State of South Carolina, their officers, employees, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability, claims, demands, or causes of action, whether known or unknown, including but not limited to claims of negligence, arising from or related to participation in the parade and associated activities.

Affirmation of Health and Responsibility:

Each participant affirms that they are in adequate health and physical condition to participate and that, if operating a vehicle or handling animals or floats, they are properly licensed, insured, and experienced to do so safely.

Conduct Requirements:

Participants agree to refrain from smoking, consuming alcohol, or engaging in unsafe behavior during the parade. All applicable public safety laws and University policies must be followed.

**Media Release:**

Participants acknowledge that the University may capture and use images, video, or audio recordings of the parade for promotional purposes without compensation.

Insurance and Indemnification:

Participants confirm that all group members have valid health insurance during the event. The undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold harmless South Carolina State University and its affiliates against all claims, costs, and liabilities (excluding those arising solely from university negligence) arising from the group's participation in the event.

Binding Agreement:

By signing, the undersigned confirms that they have read, understood, and voluntarily accept the terms of this Agreement on behalf of the entire group.

Acknowledgment and Signature

By signing below, I affirm that I have read, understood, and voluntarily agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the **2025 South Carolina State University Homecoming Parade Guidelines and Procedures**, including the **Liability Waiver, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnification Agreement**. I further confirm that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the group I represent and that I will ensure all participants are aware of and comply with these terms.

Organization Name: _____

Name of Authorized Representative (Print): _____

Title/Role: _____

Signature of Authorized Representative: _____

Date: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Return Instructions:

Please return this signed form via email to **homecoming@scsu.edu** or deliver a physical copy to:

Division of University Advancement & Strategic Communications

Attention: Tracy Thomas
Lowman Hall, 3rd Floor
South Carolina State University
300 College Street NE
PO Box 7305
Orangeburg, SC 29117

All forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, September 12, 2025, at 11:59 PM** to complete parade registration.