

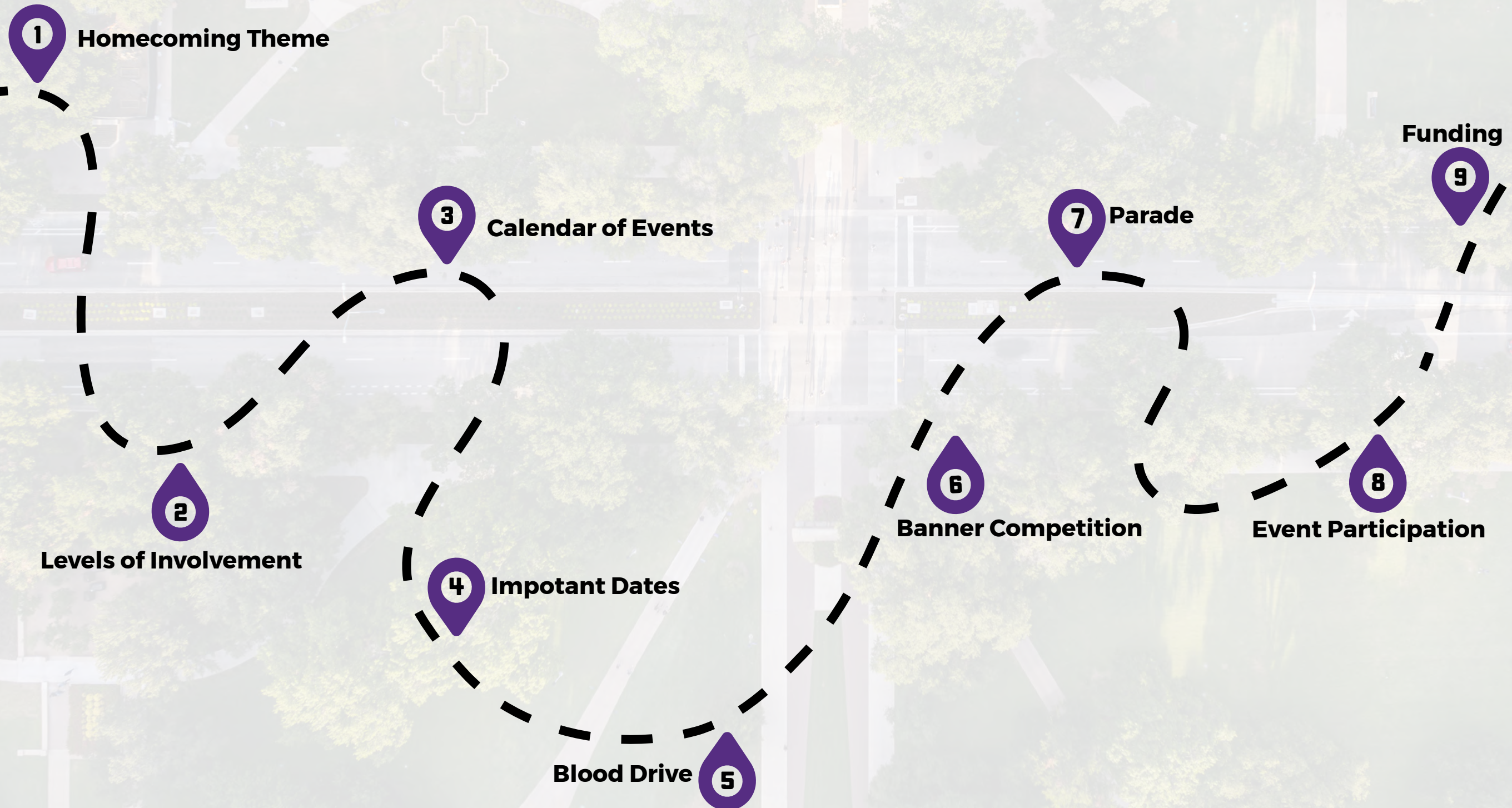
TCU 2026 HOMECOMING

Rulebook



*All Roads
Lead to*
TCU

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HOMECOMING THEME

This year, TCU Homecoming is all about honoring tradition, celebrating excellence, and fueling our fiercesThis year, TCU Homecoming is all about honoring the journey that made Fort Worth our home. From our beginnings in Thorp Spring, to an interim chapter in Waco, and finally finding our place in Fort Worth, TCU knows the power of a road trip. Today, Horned Frogs can be found across the globe, so wherever you go, no matter the distance, direction, or destination, you can travel with pride knowing that “All Roads Lead to TCU.”

“**All Roads Lead to TCU**” should feel like a road trip with your favorite people. Open roads. Windows down. Aux blasting. With a road-trip style parade and destination-worthy events throughout the week, Homecoming will feel like a journey worth taking. Every event becomes a “pit stop” along the way, all building up to the TCU Horned Frogs versus the West Virginia Mountaineers football match up on Saturday.

Participating student organizations will compete across multiple Homecoming categories, using the theme as their creative foundation throughout the week (banners, floats, and more). Organizations may interpret the theme literally or creatively through pop culture references, iconic symbols, or storytelling.

- **Pick a Mode of Transportation:** Choose a specific mode of transportation to build your theme around or choose a pop culture reference (movies, music, etc.) that centers around road trips, driving, or travel. Example themes: “Cars” the movie, trains, planes.
- **Represent a Landmark or Pit Stop:** Pick a landmark or pit stop to build your theme around. Example themes: Route 66, Buccees, Grand Canyon.

Themes will be on a first come, first serve basis. If we discover that 2 or more groups have a similar theme during the registration process, we will notify your group to allow you the opportunity to change your theme.



LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT



SILVER

(MODERATE COMMITMENT)

- Blood Drive
- Banner
- Parade (non-float)
- Event Participation

RED

(LOW COMMITMENT)

- Blood Drive
- Banner
- Event Participation

PURPLE

(HIGH COMMITMENT)

- Blood Drive
- Banner
- Parade Float
- Event Participation

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REGISTRATION



All student organizations interested in participating in TCU Homecoming must complete the official registration form to confirm their involvement.

1. Access the Registration Form
 - The Homecoming 2026 Participation Form can be found at studentactivities.tcu.edu/homecoming
2. Identify a Homecoming Liaison
 - Each organization must designate one Homecoming Liaison who will serve as the main point of contact.
 - This liaison is responsible for attending info meetings, receiving important updates, and coordinating your group's involvement.
3. Choose a Partnering Organization (optional)
 - Organizations are encouraged to collaborate with additional student group(s), if desired.
 - List any partnering organization(s) on the form. Homecoming groups may include no more than three total organizations.
 - If your organization partners with another, you will be scored as one group.
4. Select Your Level of Involvement
 - On the form, indicate which Involvement Level your organization plans to participate in: Red, Silver, or Purple.
5. Submit the Form by the Deadline
 - All registration forms must be submitted by Sunday, September 13 at 11:59pm. Late submissions will not be accepted.
6. Attend the Homecoming Liaison Meetings
 - Liaison Meeting #1: September 14 or 15 6:30pm-7:30pm
 - Liaison Meeting #2: October 5 or 6 6:30-7:30pm





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Homecoming Banners

Monday, October 18 –
Saturday, October 24

Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 20 &
Wednesday, October 21
10:00AM - 5:00PM

Homecoming 5k Walk & Run

Sunday, October 18

Homecoming Trivia

TBA

Homecoming Parade

Friday, October 23
5:30PM

Frog Fest

Friday, October 23
6:30PM

Mario Kart Competition

TBD

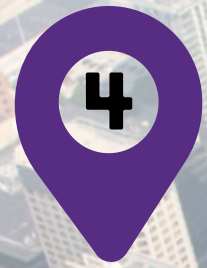
Outstanding Senior Recognition

Saturday, October 24
During the Football Game

TCU Football vs West Virginia

Saturday, October 24

For the full Homecoming
schedule, please visit:
studentactivities.tcu.edu/homecoming



IMPORTANT DATES



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HOMECOMING LIAISONS

Each organization must designate one Homecoming Liaison who will serve as the main point of contact for their group. Homecoming Liaisons will be responsible for attending both liaison meetings and communicating all homecoming related information with their groups.

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW

Homecoming Registration Form Closes

Sunday, September 13

Liaison Meeting #1

Monday, September 14 or Tuesday, September 15

Liaison Meeting #2

Monday, October 5 or Tuesday, October 6

Outstanding Senior Applications Due

Wednesday, October 7

Parade Registration Due

Wednesday, October 7

Float Video Due

Wednesday, October 14

Banners Due

Wednesday, October 14

Homecoming Parade Safety Check

Friday, October 23

Pick Up Banners

Monday, October 26 - Friday, October 30

OVERVIEW:

Get ready to show your school pride in the most meaningful way, by saving lives! In this spirited rivalry, it's not just about touchdowns and trophies, it's about generosity, community service, and the power to make a difference.

RULES & GUIDELINES:

Due to a limited number of donation slots, scoring will be based on a capped point system to ensure fairness for all organizations.

Each organization can earn points for up to five (5) verified donation attempts. Donations beyond the cap are still encouraged but will not count toward competition points.

- Sign up for the blood drive through the link sent by your Homecoming Liaison
- Check-in at the donation site at your designated time
- Indicate the organization you are with when you check-in

What counts as an attempted donation?

- Sign up, show up, and successfully donate blood
- Sign up, show up, and are deferred on-site by Carter BloodCare for medical reasons (e.g., low iron, fever)

What does NOT count toward participation?

- No-show (signed up but did not attend)
- Didn't bring proper identification

Point Breakdown (50 points):

Contribution	Points
Verified donation attempt (up to 5)	10 points each (max 50 pts)
Deductions	Points
No Show	5 Point Deduction/no show



BLOOD DRIVE



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BANNER COMPETITION

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OVERVIEW:

Let's kick off the Homecoming Week by filling campus with banners to showcase school spirit and pride while incorporating the Homecoming theme.

RULES & GUIDELINES:

- Banners must be done on the sheet provided by Student Activities. Sheets must be portrait (vertical) orientation. Banners that are not portrait-style will be disqualified from the competition and risk not being displayed on campus due to their size.
- Banners must be designed and created by students (and staff advisors/hall directors) of that residence hall/organization. No outside parties can be consulted or used for the design or creation of the banner.
- Only paint/drawing tools can be used on the banner. Absolutely no attachments (glitter, sequins, feathers, metal, fringe, paper, etc.). Please note, paint will likely seep through the banners during the production process. Therefore, we recommend covering surfaces using newspaper or other means of protection. Any damage to personal or University property is the responsibility of the individual(s).
- Banners containing inappropriate designs, language, or references may be disqualified at the discretion of Student Activities.
- Banners (completely dry) must be submitted to the Leadership & Student Involvement office (2nd Floor of the BLUU, Suite 2003) by 5:00pm on the date listed below. No exceptions.
- Following the competition, banners will be available for pick up in the Leadership & Student Involvement office starting on the Monday following Homecoming Week. If your banner is not retrieved by Friday of that week, it will be discarded.



Banner Point Breakdown (50 Points - Score will be doubled for overall Homecoming Competition for a total of 100 Points):

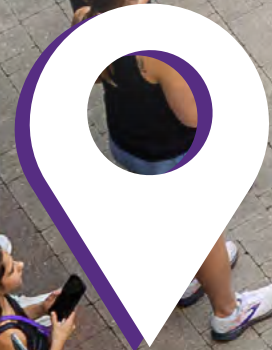
Category		Description
Theme Integration	/10	How well does the float reflect the 2026 theme, “All Roads Lead to TCU”? Does it clearly reference road trips, modes of transportation, or landmarks?
School Spirit	/10	Does the banner showcase TCU pride through use of colors, mascots, slogans, athletic references, or other Horned Frog symbols?
Attention to Detail	/10	Is the banner clean, polished, and free of noticeable mistakes? Does it show care in its creation and overall presentation?
Difficulty	/10	How complex or challenging was the design and execution of the banner? Are there signs of advanced effort, layers, or detailed work?
Overall Creativity	/10	Is the banner engaging and well-designed? Does it show originality in layout, color use, and presentation?

Deductions (-15 Possible or Disqualification):

Reason	Points Deducted	Details
Missed Deadline	-5	Late submission of banner
Prohibited Materials	-5	See rules & guidelines above for prohibited materials
Incorrect Orientation	-5	Banners must be VERTICAL. Horizontal banners will be deducted points
Inappropriate Content	Disqualification	Offensive, unsafe, or non-university-compliant language, themes, or behavior



PARADE



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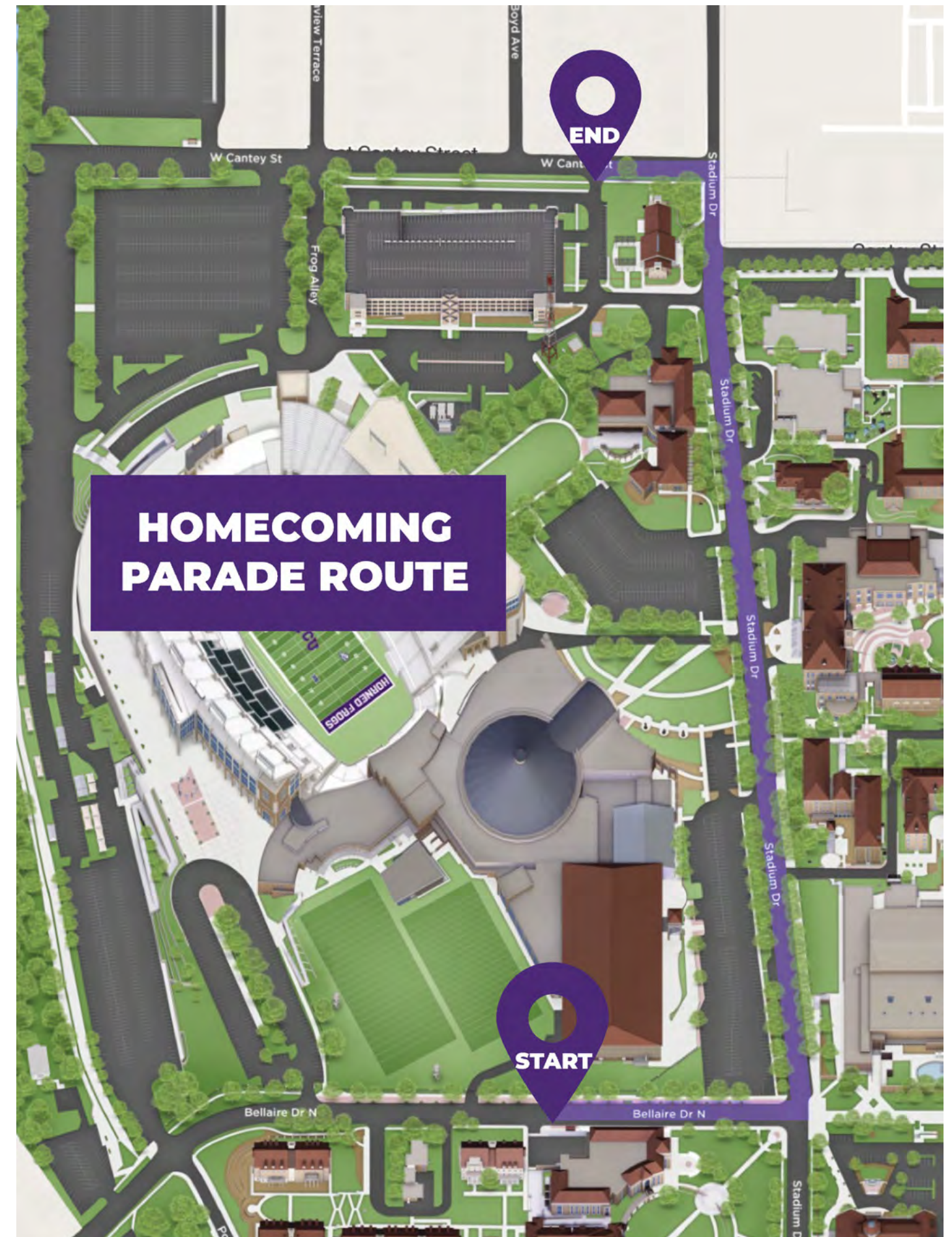
OVERVIEW:

Let's line the streets and celebrate Homecoming together for TCU's Annual Homecoming Parade. Held on the Friday of Homecoming Week, the parade provides an opportunity for the entire community to celebrate what it means to be a Horned Frog. Involvement Levels that involve parade participation: Silver & Purple.

GENERAL PARADE INFORMATION

General Guidelines:

- Floats & walking groups must follow the Homecoming theme.
- Only members of the respective organizations may construct parade materials.
- No objects (including candy) may be thrown toward the audience, but objects may be handed to parade spectators along the route by walking participants.
- Structures/materials should be strong enough to last the duration of the parade route.
- Groups who use prohibited materials are subject to disqualification at the discretion of Student Activities (see prohibited materials on the next page).
- No alcohol or illegal substances are permitted on the float building site or during the parade. Groups found in violation of this will be immediately disqualified.
- Parade materials must be properly discarded or recycled upon completion of the parade route. Dumpsters will be available.
- TCU is not responsible for any activities that occur off campus during the construction, design, or process of building floats and/or other parade materials



Good Neighbor Policy:

To ensure float construction is safe, respectful, and community-minded, all participating groups are expected to follow the guidelines below when working off campus:

- **Noise:** Keep noise levels reasonable, especially during evening hours. Avoid loud music and tools late at night.
- **Parking:** Park only on-site or in legal street spots. Do not block driveways, sidewalks, or alleys.
- **Trash:** Maintain a clean workspace at all times. Bag all trash daily and leave the site cleaner than you found it.
- **Respect Property:** Treat the surrounding areas with respect. Be mindful of landscaping, fences, and neighboring areas.
- **Communication:** Keep your property owner/host informed and respond politely to any neighbor concerns.

Materials:

To ensure the safety and integrity of all parade floats and participants, participating student organizations must use materials that are secure, weather-resistant, and compliant with university policies. All decorations should be firmly attached and able to withstand wind or light rain. Be mindful of visibility and weight limits, especially when using wood, metal, or electrical components.

If you're unsure whether a material is approved, reach out to the Student Activities Office before using it.

Approved Materials (not limited to):

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Pomp/fringe/streamers | • Wood for frames and platforms |
| • Balloons | • PVC pipe |
| • Fabric/canvas | • Foam board or cardboard |
| • Artificial flowers/greenery | • Zip ties/rope |
| • Paint | • Screws/nails/bolts |
| • Lights | • Metal (no sharp edges) |
| • Banners/signs | • Velcro/hot glue/tape |

Prohibited Materials:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Open flames or fire sources | • Fireworks |
| • Loose glitter/confetti (including confetti canons) | • Excessively loud sound systems |
| • Sharp or protruding objects | • Weapons and weapon-like items (including fake weapons) |
| • Live animals | • Inappropriate designs, wording, or music |
| • Smoke machines | |





PARADE NON-FLOAT - SILVER INVOLVEMENT LEVEL

Participate as a walking group or non-float vehicle with a banner, performance, or other item(s) that showcase your organization.

Parade Non-Float Group Point Breakdown (50 Points):

- Parade groups (non-float) will receive 50 points for their participation in the parade.
- Judges will award "Judges Choice Awards" to standout groups in the non-float category. Recipients of the "Judges Choice Awards" will receive an additional 10 points.

Non-Float Group Guidelines:

- Groups must be no less than 5 members, and no more than 50 members.
- Banners, structures, and/or vehicles must be no wider than 12 feet.

FLOATS – PURPLE INVOLVEMENT LEVEL

Participate in the form of a vehicle with a towed trailer or "float."

Float Dimensions:

Maximum dimension restrictions include all decorative elements.

- Maximum Height: 13 feet(measured from ground)
- Maximum Length: 30 feet(measured from front to back of trailer and decorative elements)
- Maximum Width: 12 feet (measured from side to side of the widest point of the trailer and decorative



FLOATS – PURPLE INVOLVEMENT LEVEL

Participate in the form of a vehicle with a towed trailer or “float.”

Float Guidelines: In addition to the general guidelines provided above, the following guidelines and requirements apply to Floats.

Trailer Guidelines

- Trailer rentals are the responsibility of the student organization.
- Trailers must follow the maximum dimensions provided above.
- If the trailer is rented or borrowed, organizations must follow all guidelines provided by the rental company/owner.
- Ensure that all decorations are temporarily affixed, but still secure, so that the trailer can be restored to its original condition upon return to the owner.

Vehicle Requirements

- Must be a pickup truck, SUV with tow package, or university-approved utility vehicle.
- Vehicle must be in good working condition with valid registration and insurance.
- All vehicles must be equipped with a proper hitch or towing system.
- Driver must have a clear view to the front and sides of the vehicle.
- Reversing the vehicle should be avoided whenever possible. If necessary, multiple people should assist while the vehicle is actively backing up.

Driver Requirements

- Drivers must be 18+ and have a valid driver's license.
- All drivers must maintain a walking pace speed limit (less than 5mph) throughout the route.
- No sudden stops or accelerations.

Walking & Riding Participants

- Each float must have a minimum of 5 participants, either walking alongside or riding on the float.
- Floats may include up to 50 total participants (walking or riding). The number of riders permitted will depend on the specific float's size and safety considerations.
- Participants must remain in their assigned roles for the entire duration of the parade. Switching between walking and riding is not permitted once the parade begins.
- All riders must remain securely positioned on the float at all times. Riders must be seated or holding a secure railing. Feet must not hang over the edge of the trailer.
- Walkers must stay to the sides of the float only. Walking in front of or behind the float is not allowed for safety reasons.

Float Point Breakdown (100 Points - Score will be doubled for overall Homecoming Competition for a total of 200 Points)

Category		Description
Theme Integration	/20	How well does the float reflect the 2026 theme, "All Roads Lead to TCU"? Does it clearly reference road trips, modes of transportation, or landmarks?
Creativity & Originality	/20	Is the concept fresh, unique, and engaging? Does it stand out from other entries in an exciting or meaningful way?
Visual Impact	/20	Is the float eye-catching and well-designed? Are the decorations, colors, and details visually impressive from a distance?
School Spirit & Energy	/20	"Does the float radiate TCU pride or reference the game against West Virginia?" Are participants enthusiastic, spirited, and engaged with the crowd?
Complexity & Effort	/20	How ambitious was the float design and build? Are details, craftsmanship, and effort clearly evident?

Deductions

Category	Points	Description
Missed Deadlines	-5 per deadline	Late submission of sketches, materials, driver materials, dimensions, and video without prior approval
Late to Float Check-In & Safety Inspection	-10	No-show or late arrival to pre-parade inspection
Minor Safety Violations	-5	Loose decorations or minor safety issues (must be corrected prior to the start of the parade)
Major Safety Violations	-10 or	Unsafe construction, unsafe riders, violation of towing regulations
Inappropriate Content/ Behavior		Offensive, unsafe, or non-university-compliant language, themes, or behavior



PARADE DATES TO KNOW:
Wednesday, October 7 - Parade Registration Due
Wednesday, October 14 – Float Video Check-Ins
Friday, October 23, 5:30pm – Parade
Saturday, October 24 – All materials properly discarded



EVENT PARTICIPATION



TRIVIA

Participant Rules & Guidelines:

Create a trivia team with 4-5 people from your organization(s). Sign up to participate in trivia through the link sent by your Homecoming Liaison. Check-In at the event to receive your points.

Point Breakdown (25 points):

To ensure fairness across organizations of different sizes, groups will receive participation points for one (1) team only. However, additional points will be awarded to the teams that place 1st and 2nd in the competition. Because of this, groups are encouraged to register multiple teams to increase their chances of earning additional points.

Contribution	Points
Participation (up to 1 team)	25
1st Place	+10
2nd Place	+5

5K WALK & RUN

Participant Rules & Guidelines:

Register for the 5K using the link provided by your Homecoming Liaison. Check in at the 5K event to verify participation and receive points. Complete the full 5K course. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

To ensure fairness across organizations of varying sizes, this event will use a capped scoring system. Each organization may earn points for up to five (5) participating runners or walkers. Additional participants are welcome and encouraged to attend, but they will not count toward competition points.

Contribution		Points
Run/Walk Participation (up to 5)		10 points each (max 50)
1st Place Men's Division	1st Place Women's Division	+15
2nd Place Men's Division	2nd Place Women's Division	+10
3rd Place Men's Division	3rd Place Women's Division	+5



FUNDING

Student Government Association has funding available for student organizations participating in Homecoming for parade and banner related expenses. The standard [SGA Funding Guidelines](#) still apply. To Receive

Funding, Your Organization Must:

- Be an active/recognized undergraduate organization
- Be registered to compete in the Homecoming Competition
- Use funds only for purposes approved by the Finance Board
- [Submit an Application](#) at least 3 weeks in advance



FUNDING ALLOCATIONS:

Red & Silver Levels of Involvement – Up to \$400
Purple Level of Involvement – Up to \$700

Prohibited Items for Funding:
Branded Items (tees, buttons, hats)
Prizes/Giveaways

RECEIVING YOUR FUNDS:

Organizations receive a funding decision from the Finance Board within 10 days of submitting their application. Results are emailed to the student who submitted the original request and include a detailed breakdown of what was and was not funded, along with instructions for accessing any approved funds. It is the organization's responsibility to carefully follow the allocation instructions provided in the allocation email. For questions about funding, please email sgapurchasing@tcu.edu





Everyone is welcome to attend all Homecoming events regardless of your organization's level of involvement!

For more information on all 2026 Homecoming Events, visit studentactivities.tcu.edu/homecoming

For questions, contact studentactivities@tcu.edu

Sponsored by:
TCU Student Activities
TCU Student Government Association

