

Winter Weather at Appalachian

Winter weather at Appalachian usually includes snow, ice, freezing rain and sleet from November through April. Those that have spent several years in the Boone area understand how quickly the weather can change from a sunny and mild day to a severe snow storm in only an hour. **Appalachian faculty, staff, and students need to become familiar the Boone climate and check weather forecasts frequently throughout the winter months.** Check the forecast often because conditions change often.

Class Cancellation & Campus Closure

How Appalachian makes a decision to cancel classes: Between 4 a.m. and 4:30 a.m., university officials assess the conditions around campus and along major roads leading into Boone. In addition, future weather forecasts, potential hazards, and the status of partnering services, such as AppalCART, are also obtained. All information is discussed during a 4:30 a.m. conference call between a team of university officials that includes the Provost, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, AVC for Facilities Management, Director of Human Resources, Director of Public Safety, Director of Environmental Health, Safety, & Emergency Management, AVC & Chief Communications Officer and the Critical-Crisis Communications Specialist. The team develops a recommendation for final consideration by the Chancellor, who will make the final determination on the status of campus. The safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors is always the primary consideration when determining whether to modify Appalachian's operating schedule. Other considerations for cancellation and/or closure include forecasts, sidewalk accessibility, and a number of other variables based upon the specific weather event. Students, faculty and staff should become familiar with the Adverse Weather Policy for more information.

How Appalachian notifies faculty, staff and students: Once Appalachian cancels classes or closes, the information is automatically posted to AppStateALERT.com, Appalachian's homepage, recorded to the telephone snow line, sent via campus email, and posted to social media by 6 a.m. Students, faculty and staff should monitor campus email, AppStateALERT.com, 262-SNOW, social media and local media for any changes to Appalachian's operational status.

Winter Driving Safety

Several health and safety risks are associated with winter weather. The majority of winter weather accidental injuries at Appalachian are associated with **driving**. Please visit the **Appalachian Storm Ready website for more information at stormready.appstate.edu for additional safety information.**

Winter Driving Tips*

Clear: Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights and signals.

Inspect: Check your vehicle's tires, wiper blades, fluids, lights, belts and hoses.

Time: Allow plenty of time to reach your destination safely.

Limited Visibility: Stay attentive and reduce speed. Know what's going on around you.

Speed: The faster you're going, the longer it will take to stop; take it slow to avoid slipping or sliding. *Ice and Snow, Take it Slow.*

Black Ice: You cannot see black ice on the road. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas.

Distance: Leave extra room between you and the vehicle in front of you.

Brake: Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never slam on the brakes.

Winter STORM READY!