WELCOME TO FURMAN!

Congratulations on becoming a Furman Paladin - we are excited to have you here! As you start preparing for move-in, we want to do everything we can to ensure you have a smooth transition into college life. We know it can be an overwhelming time to share with 700 other freshmen, so the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR) created FIND Furman (Fostering Inclusion for Neurodiversity) - to assist students who have a diagnosis of Autism or other related conditions.

With FIND Furman, you can move in early and get better acquainted with campus before classes begin. Additionally, you will gain a peer mentor who will help you locate classrooms and offices, answer questions, and introduce you to the community. During the first week, you will meet with our Accessibility Specialist, who will help you develop a plan for the semester.

We are here to set you up for a successful first year at Furman. If you are interested in learning more about FIND Furman, fill out the SOAR application by scanning the QR code on the back and contact SOAR at soar@furman.edu. Space is limited to 10 participants each year, so we hope to hear from you soon!

CONTINUING SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS WITH SOAR STAFF

Students meet regularly with the Accessibility Specialist to discuss academics, social life, mental health, stress management, communication, and more. These meetings can be personalized to your needs in order to target the challenges and goals that are specific to you.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We will have social events throughout the year that students are welcome to attend for a night of fun, easy socialization with peers. Activities will include, but aren’t limited to:
- Game nights
- Movie nights
- Group dinners
- Puzzles
- Community outings

STUDENT WORKSHOPS

As the semester begins and progresses, there will be workshops that cover topics ranging from how to navigate college life to how to connect with peers and make friends. Potential workshop topics include:
- Clifton Strengths Coaching (With a certified Clifton Strengths Coach!)
- Exploring campus clubs and organizations
- How to live in shared spaces
- Effective note-taking
- Professional electronic communication

Be on the lookout for communications from SOAR regarding times and topics once the year begins!
HOW TO REGISTER FOR FIND FURMAN

Once you have committed to Furman and received your credentials:

- Complete the Student Application found at www.furman.edu/accessibility (or scan the QR code at the bottom right of this page)
- Provide SOAR with documentation of diagnosis of Autism or other related condition
- Contact SOAR via email at soar@furman.edu and request to be a part of FIND Furman

Please note the deadline to apply is June 30th.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR FIND FURMAN

EARLY MOVE-IN (AUGUST 16-22, 2022)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16
- Move in with drop-in lunch provided in the SOAR Office
- Family Dinner. Enjoy a meal with your family and our SOAR family! You will receive a tour of the Dining Hall from one of the chefs and meet your peer mentor

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17
- Breakfast with Peer Mentor, followed by a tour of campus with a chance to walk your class schedule and find your instructors' offices
- Lunch with Peer Mentor
- Personal time in the afternoon to unwind
- Dinner in the Dining Hall
- Social (ex. movie night, game night, or escape room)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18: OFFICIAL CLASS OF 2026 MOVE-IN DAY
- Breakfast on your own or with your peer mentor. It’s up to you!
- Sensory-friendly orientation activities
- Drop-in lunch in the Dining Hall with SOAR staff or lunch on your own
- Campus Scavenger Hunt Competition
- Class of 2026 activities begin

FRIDAY - MONDAY, AUGUST 19-22: CLASS OF 2026 FALL ORIENTATION

TUESDAY: CLASSES BEGIN!

TIPS AND DEADLINES

- The last day to submit housing accommodations requests is June 1, 2022.
- The last day to register for FIND Furman is June 30, 2022.
- Start checking your Furman email daily!
- Pay attention to upcoming deadlines.
- Feel free to drop by the SOAR office whenever you need help, want a quiet but friendly space to work, or if you simply need a listening ear.
- As the semester starts, always make sure to schedule downtime for yourself.
- Time management starts with a plan - schedule work time and write deadlines in a planner to ensure you don’t miss important dates and assignments.
- Making friends can be intimidating. Start with attending a club meeting or going to sporting events. You never know who you might meet and connect with over shared interests!

SOAR Student Application: