

Mascot Day – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Event Date & Time

Wednesday, October 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ohio Statehouse Atrium, 1 Capitol Square, Columbus, Ohio 43215

What is Mascot Day?

Mascot Day is hosted by AICUO to highlight Ohio's independent colleges and universities and celebrate school spirit. Member institutions are invited to bring mascots, cheerleaders, dance teams, and/or campus spirit groups to the Statehouse Atrium to interact and take pictures with lawmakers and guests.

Who can participate?

All AICUO member institutions are welcome to send mascots and spirit groups. Faculty or staff members accompanying the teams are encouraged to attend as well.

Why is Mascot Day important?

The event offers a unique opportunity for legislators and public officials to connect with campuses in a fun, memorable way. It builds visibility for Ohio's independent colleges and universities while showcasing the energy and pride of their students.

What time should participants arrive and check in?

Changing rooms will be available beginning at 10:00 a.m., and the event will start at 11 a.m. Mascots are expected to be fully dressed by 11 a.m. If you anticipate arriving just before the event begins, please arrive in full attire. Please allow extra time to find parking near the Statehouse, as it will be a busy session day.

What will happen during the event?

- Meet-and-greet with mascots, cheer, and dance teams
- Photo opportunities with legislators and other public officials
- School spirit performances (as space allows)

- Networking with peers from across AICUO institutions
-

Do mascots or spirit teams need to perform?

Performance is optional. Schools may simply send mascots for photos and greetings, or they may prepare short routines if desired. Space and time will be limited, so please coordinate with AICUO staff in advance if you'd like to perform.

What should institutions bring?

- Mascot costume(s)
 - Cheer or dance team uniforms (if participating)
 - A designated staff contact to accompany the group
-

Will refreshments be provided?

Lunch will be provided to AICUO member participants, as well as bottled water throughout the event.

How do we register to attend?

[Please RSVP](#) to AICUO by **Wednesday, October 15**, with the names of participants, mascot(s), and whether your team would like to perform.

Where should participants enter the Statehouse?

Participants may enter the Statehouse through the parking garage or, if parking off-site, via the East State Street or South 3rd Street entrances. Please note that the Statehouse will be especially busy during the legislative session, and the garage often fills early. For alternative parking options, please see [here](#).

Who can I contact with questions?

For more information, please contact **Lauren Reid**, lreid@aicuo.edu, 614-228-2196