



2026 Preseason Band Camp Guide

Dear New & Returning Members of the Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band,

First of all, congratulations on electing to be part of the largest and most visible spirit organization on our campus! We cannot wait to get started building relationships, honing our skills, and supporting the university. My name is Dr. Brian Taylor, and I serve as your Director of Athletic Bands and Associate Director of Bands. I am entering my fourth year at Charlotte where I work with all Athletic Bands, direct the Symphonic Band and Concert Bands, and teach a couple of music education courses. I'm thrilled to be serving you, and look forward to getting to know each of you as we work to excite our fans and build traditions within our organization.

We have a great team here at UNC Charlotte and they are equally excited you'll be joining the Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band family in August. Here are their roles:

Mr. Nick Nichols - Marching Percussion; Mr. Brandon Nichols - Colorguard; Ms. Melissa Heyward - Twirlers; Ms. Jennifer Anderson - Business Services Coordinator; Dr. Hunter Kopczynski – Director of Bands

We are going to have a gratifying season full of hard work, wonderful memories, and lots of fun. Please be sure to read this “2026 Preseason Band Camp Guide” thoroughly for all the major information you will need in preparation for a successful band camp. Details regarding class registration, required materials, band camp schedule, season schedule, and much more are covered in this packet.

Please join our new Slack workspace here: [PNNMB '26](#), Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PNNMB>, follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/pnnmb/>, and Twitter at <https://twitter.com/PNNMB>. Additionally, we encourage you to learn more about other band offerings by following <https://www.instagram.com/cltbands>. New content is shared often, and it is a great way to keep your family connected to the PNNMB.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact me by email (brian.taylor@charlotte.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a great rest of your summer, stay safe, and GO NINERS!

Dr. Brian Taylor
Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands

CHECK LIST

Class Registration

All members must be registered for the marching band class (**MUPF 1118**) no later than **August 1st**. If there are any issues OR potential class conflicts, please email Dr. Taylor directly at brian.taylor@charlotte.edu

Complete the 2026-2027 Commitment Form ([HERE](#))

Please fill out this commitment form by **June 30th**. *If you have already filled this out, you should have received a confirmation email - please do not resubmit this form.*

Finalize Housing Arrangements

All members must finalize their housing arrangements ASAP. Students living on-campus must apply for on-campus housing and fill out our commitment form by **June 30th** with the necessary information so we can help you move-in early. Students living off-campus must make arrangements to move in before their band camp report date. (*See page 4 for more details.*) If you're interested in living with other band members in Wilson or Lynch Hall, please fill out this [form](#) by May 30th.

Woodwind and Brass Placement Audition Music

All members must complete a part placement audition **Sunday, August 9th**. Audition Materials can be found [HERE](#). Pending numbers for the wind sections, a Pregame Block audition consisting of Run-on and Fight Song down the field will take place on Monday, August 10th.

Drumline Placement Auditions

All Drumline members are required to complete 2 rounds of placement auditions. The first round of placement auditions is due **Saturday, June 6th**. In person auditions will take place on Saturday, July 25th. The **2026 Rep Packet** can be found [HERE](#). Instructions for the video submissions will be sent out to percussionists directly. Please contact Mr. Nick Nichols for any questions or concerns - w.nichols@charlotte.edu

Purchase Required Materials and Optional Purchases

*See pages 5-7 for details pertaining to your section/caption.

49er ID Card

To utilize the meal swipes we provide, all members must have a [49er Mobile ID](#).

Preseason Band Camp Essentials

In preparation for Band Camp, we ask that students bring the following:

1. Athletic Running Shoes (no sandals) - Check this [website](#) for recommendations
2. Sunglasses
3. Ball Cap or Wide-Brimmed Hat (Not your PNNMB "C-Band" White Ball Cap)
4. Water Bottle or Hydration Backpack (½ gallon at minimum)
5. Sunscreen & Bug Repellent
6. Comfortable Athletic Clothes (no jeans or anything restrictive)
7. Umbrella/Raingear
8. Alarm Clock
9. Any Medication or Prescriptions you may need.

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE AND MEALS

Preseason Band Camp (August 3rd – August 17th, 2026):

- Student Leadership – Sunday, August 2nd
 - *On-Campus Housing Move-In 1:00pm - 5:00pm*
 - *Opening dinner 6:00pm - 8:00pm @ Reedy Creek Park*
- Drumline and Colorguard – Wednesday, August 5th
 - *Registration Check-In 1:00pm - 3:00pm @ JBC*
 - *On-Campus Housing Move-In 1:00pm – 5:00pm*
- New Members – Wednesday, August 5th
 - *Registration Check-In 3:00pm - 4:30pm @ JBC*
 - *On-Campus Housing Move-In 1:00pm – 5:00pm*
- Returning Members – Sunday, August 9th
 - *Registration Check-In - 12:00pm - 2:00pm*
 - *On-Campus Housing Move-In 1:00pm – 5:00pm*
 - *Part Placement Auditions - 2:00pm - 5:00pm*
- Saturday, August 15th – DAY OFF
- Sunday, August 16th – New Student Welcome Performance in the afternoon

All members, new and returning, **MUST ATTEND** the entirety of Preseason Band Camp in order to be considered for membership in the PNNMB. Please contact Dr. Taylor (brian.taylor@charlotte.edu) immediately if there are any conflicts or concerns.

Daily Camp Schedule:

- The schedule below represents a basic overview of a typical day at camp. There is also a [LIVE SCHEDULE](#) that will be updated daily.

8:30-11:30 a.m.	Field Rehearsal
11:30-1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch Break at SoVi</i>
1:30-3:00 p.m.	Sectionals (Robinson Hall or Outside)
3:00-4:30 p.m.	Indoor Music Rehearsal (Belk Theater in Robinson Hall)
4:30-6:30 p.m.	<i>Dinner Break at SoVi</i>
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Field Rehearsal

Band Camp Meals:

We are fortunate to offer each member of the PNNMB two meal swipes per day for Lunch and Dinner during band camp. Dining will be offered in SoVi. Please note that meal swipes do not carry over to the Fall semester and are non-refundable.

BAND CAMP CHECK-IN, HOUSING INFORMATION, AND PARKING

Check-In Procedure:

All students must check-in at the Johnson Band Center (9114 Mary Alexander Rd, Charlotte, NC 28223) at the assigned date and time below:

- Drumline, Colorguard, and New Members: Wednesday, August 6th, 1:00pm - 3:00pm
- Returning Woodwinds, Brass, Twirlers: Sunday, August 10th, 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Uniform and Instrument Distribution:

Instruments and other materials are distributed at check-in. We provide university instruments and equipment to students who are in need. If necessary, please indicate your need on the [Commitment Form](#). Uniforms will be sized and distributed to members throughout the band camp week.

On-Campus Students - HOUSING:

Students who will be living on-campus in guaranteed band housing in the fall will be permitted to move into their permanent housing, while other students living on-campus will be placed in either their permanent dorm or a temporary unit until the regular move-in days. Complete the [Commitment Form](#) by **June 30th** to secure your early move-in. Students who fill out the form past this date are **not guaranteed early move-in**. If you're interested in living with other band members in Wilson or Lynch Hall, please fill out this [form](#) by May 30th..

Early move-in on-campus housing expenses are covered by the marching band. Any member who decides not to continue with the band will be allowed to remain on campus, but the cost of housing (\$30/day) will be transferred to the student's university financial account.

On-Campus Parking:

Parking and Transportation Services (PaTS) has agreed to a time of transition for students to move onto campus and purchase their 2026-2027 virtual [parking permits](#).

- Beginning Sunday, August 2nd through Sunday, August 16th, vehicles without permits may park in any non-reserved student space on campus.
- Student spaces are indicated on lot signage with blue, yellow and orange designations.
- **Do not park in any Faculty/Staff lots, reserved spaces or disability spaces unless you have the proper permit.**
- Vehicles must have a valid permit by 7:00am Monday August 17th, 2026.
- View the campus [Parking Map](#) for more details.
- Please call Parking and Transportation Services with any questions at [704-687-0161](tel:704-687-0161).

Tips for Resident Students (those living on campus) starting August 17th

- Park only in student spaces adjacent to your residence hall.
- Resident spaces are designated with blue or orange signs at lot entrances.

Tips for Commuter Students (those living off campus) starting August 17th

- East Deck 2, East Deck 3 and Lot 5 are within close proximity of the Johnson Band Center and front fields.
- Commuter spaces are designated with yellow or orange signs at lot entrances.

CPCC (or Greater Charlotte Consortium) Student Parking:

Students attending CPCC or any participating school in the GCC, must also have a parking permit to park on campus during the academic year (beginning August 18th).

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Uniforms and Materials:

ALL Members of the PNNMB will be issued one of each item below at **no charge**:

- Marching Uniform (loaned to the student and formally returned at end of the season, but also returned to the band room after every performance - except for certain events)
- Game-day Ball Cap (kept by students for their time in the program)
- Game-day T-shirt (kept by the student but will receive a new one each year)
- Clear Gameday Bag (kept by the student but will receive a new one each year)
- Band Polo/T-Shirt (kept by students for their time in the program)
- Vibes Earplugs (kept by the student for their time in the program)
- 3-ring binder with 20 sheet protectors (Drumline members only)

***If a student loses any portion of their uniform, they will be responsible for replacing it for a fee.**

Required Uniform Accessories and Materials:

We make every effort to keep student cost to a very minimum; however, there are certain accessories that each student must buy to keep at the end of the season for use in future years. These items are sold by on our [MARCHING BAND STORE](#) or may need to be purchased by individual members:

Woodwind and Brass (\$55.00):

- 1 pair of black RPM marching shoes (\$45) **If you have a pair of black marching shoes that are still in good condition you may use those. (no scratches, tears, etc.)*
- 2 pairs of white gloves (\$5 per pair)

****Items purchased by the individual member (not included in total cost shown above)**

- [Lyre](#) and phone lyre for instrument (WW instruments required, brass optional)
 - here are a couple of phone lyre options: [eFlip](#), [FlipFolderApp](#)
- LONG Black Socks

Drumline (\$45.00):

- 1 pair of black RPM marching shoes (\$45) **If you have a pair of black marching shoes that are still in good condition you may use those (no scratches, tears, etc.)*

****Items purchased by the individual member (not included in total cost shown above)**

- 1-2 pairs of WHITE [wrist bands](#)
- LONG Black Socks

Colorguard (\$65.00):

- 1 PNNMB Band Jacket (\$65)* *All colorguard members must purchase a jacket unless you have one from a prior season.*

**Items purchased by the individual member (not included in total cost shown above)

- 1 body shaper (nude/skin colored)
- Black socks
- Black leggings
- Seamless nude/skin colored undergarments
- 1 pair black specialty dance sneakers

(<https://www.bandshoppe.com/product/dinkles-accent-guard-shoe/>)

Method of Payment: All payments for marching shoes, gloves, and jackets should be made through the band's online store starting June 1st: [MARCHING BAND STORE](#).

All required uniform accessories must be purchased and paid for by July 15, 2026, or you will not have these accessories in time for the first performance.

OPTIONAL PURCHASES

New and returning members may wish to purchase earplugs, additional gloves, game-day t-shirts or a Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band jacket from our online store: [MARCHING BAND STORE](#)

Gloves

Students may purchase additional gloves (in any size) if they wish.

PNNMB T-shirts

Students are given one FREE t-shirt but may purchase additional green shirts (in any size) if they wish. Additional t-shirts will only be available for purchase through **July 15, 2026**. T-shirts are \$25.

PNNMB Jackets

New and returning members may also wish to purchase an official PNNMB jacket. The jacket will feature the PNNMB logo and the member's name and section. *These jackets are for band members only.* Jackets are \$65 and will only be available for purchase through **August 24, 2026**. See sizing information below.

Jacket Sizing Information:

Ladies

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Size	2	4/6	8/10	12/14	16/18	20/22	24/26	28/30
Bust	32-34	35-36	37-38	39-41	42-44	45-47	48-51	52-55

Men

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Chest	32-34	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49	50-53	54-57

SEASON SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Click [HERE](#) for the full schedule for the 2026 season. Please note that this schedule and times may be subject to change. Friends and family can purchase discounted home football tickets through the [Charlotte 49ers Supporter Tickets](#) as soon as the group becomes available.

Please note the following:

- **Enter these dates into your personal calendar immediately.** (**Notice our HOME football games occur on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday this year!)*
- All performances are **REQUIRED**.
- Additional performances may be added at the discretion of the director.
- Home football games are played in [Jerry Richardson Stadium](#).
- Call Times will be sent to students prior to each game/event.

Post-Season Performances: Members should keep in the mind the possibility of a Conference Championship or Bowl Game appearance and make plans to be available if we receive an invitation (mid December-early January). **Attendance will be required if the band travels.**

PRESEASON CAMP ETIQUETTE

Members of the Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band are expected to exhibit the highest standards of professionalism both when together at an official performance, trip, rehearsal, event and even in their own personal lives. This is explicitly laid out in the PNNMB Handbook, which will be emailed to each member before band camp begins. Particularly with the age of social media and instant news, the way we carry ourselves throughout the season (on and off the field) will determine our public and university image. As such, the following expectations must be met:

Alcohol & Illegal Drugs

The use of alcohol or any illegal substance that impairs an individual's ability to represent the PNNMB, Department of Music, or UNC Charlotte in a positive manner will not be tolerated. Violators may be dismissed from the PNNMB and/or may face legal or university ramifications. This applies to every band member and is not limited to activity that takes place only during official PNNMB performances, trips, rehearsals, or events.

Smoking or Vaping

Smoking or vaping is not permitted during any rehearsal or performance even if the band is on a break. Anyone smoking in uniform or during a rehearsal may be dismissed from the band.

Attendance & Punctuality

All members of the PNNMB are responsible for adhering to the camp schedule. Rehearsal attendance will be taken precisely at the time stated on the schedule. All students should arrive at the respective rehearsal/performance sites at least 15 minutes prior to call time to ensure punctuality.

Time Management

It is imperative that members of the PNNMB work to ensure they have adequate time to travel to each rehearsal/performance site, gather and assemble proper equipment and warm-up. Except for extreme, unforeseeable emergencies, no excuses for tardiness or absences will be accepted.

Consequences

Any Tardiness or Absence from ANY scheduled Preseason Band Camp activity or event may result in dismissal as a member of the PNNMB, and it will factor into the student's final grade (see the Member Handbook).

Attire

Our main rehearsal field is at the front of the University, making us very visible to the public. Therefore, we ask that you wear modest and comfortable athletic attire (gym shorts, t-shirts, etc..) Further details will be provided as we get closer to the start of band camp and the season.

Health Awareness

Preseason Band Camp takes place during one of the hottest months of the year and requires high levels of physical, mental, and emotional strength. For us to be successful everyone needs to hydrate with water regularly, eat solid meals low in fat and sugar, and get seven to eight hours of sleep each night.