

# West Virginia University Mountaineer Mascot Application

2010-2011

## *What are responsibilities of the Mountaineer Mascot?*

(The below responsibilities are excerpted from the Mountaineer Advisory Committee Manual Regulations, which governs the Mountaineer Mascot.)

- The Mountaineer will attend **ALL** home and away football and home men's and women's basketball contests, including any home contest during any WVU class breaks. The Mountaineer will attend any away contest determined by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.
- The Mountaineer is encouraged to attend all approved events. Examples include:  
Other Mountaineer Athletic Events Alumni Events  
Visit WVU Children's Hospital Visit WV Schools  
Other University Designated Events Community Events
- The Mountaineer will conduct himself/herself in a suitable manner required of a representative of West Virginia University. If the Mountaineer Advisory Committee finds that the Mountaineer has not acted in an appropriate manner, he/she will face appropriate disciplinary action, possibly including replacement.
- The Mountaineer is responsible for the everyday care, cleaning, and handling of the rifle. The Mountaineer must pass or have passed WV Hunters Safety Course.
- The Mountaineer is not, **UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**, allowed to participate in an endorsement of any corporation or commercial product for profit. The Mountaineer can **ONLY** take part in media campaigns approved by WVU News and Information Services, or WVU University Relations.
- While in uniform, the Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages during any event that is sponsored by WVU or with which WVU is associated. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume alcohol while in uniform prior to, during, or after any athletic contest. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages while traveling in any University vehicles, including University buses and vans.
- The Mountaineer **WILL ALSO** limit his/her consumption of alcohol while out of uniform. He/She **Must Not** engage in any form of public intoxication.
- While in uniform, the Mountaineer **WILL NOT** use any tobacco products. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** use any tobacco products while traveling in any University vehicles, including University buses and vans.
- If the Mountaineer is caught using any illegal substances, he/she will be suspended on the spot. The Mountaineer is under supervision of the WVU department of Intercollegiate Sports and is subject to random drug testing.
- The Mountaineer and the Alternate Mountaineer are the **ONLY PERSONS** permitted to fire the Mountaineer rifle.

- The Mountaineer is **NOT ALLOWED** to accept money or gifts for appearances. He/She can accept reasonable reimbursement for travel expenses.

## ***What are the eligibility requirements to be the Mountaineer Mascot?***

To be eligible for initial consideration and continued participation as the West Virginia University Mountaineer, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1) The student must be enrolled as a **FULL-TIME** undergraduate or graduate student at West Virginia University. He/She must be a student on the Morgantown campus of West Virginia University.
- 2) The student must have and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

## ***How does the selection process work?***

After each candidate turns in an application for the position, the Mountaineer Mascot selection committee, which consists of several WVU students, faculty, and staff members, review and score the applications. The application is worth 20% of the applicant's total score. Depending on the number of applicants, the committee will select no more than ten candidates with the highest scores to participate in a half-hour interview. The interview is worth 40% of the applicant's total score. After the interview process, the top four candidates based on a combination of their interview and application scores will participate in a mascot try-out during a WVU basketball game. During the mascot try-out, the top four candidates will get to wear a replica of the buckskins and carry a rifle. Also during the try-out, members of the selection committee will evaluate the candidate's performance and interaction with the crowd. The try-out is worth 40% of the applicant's total score. The committee will then select the new Mountaineer Mascot with the highest score based on the combination of their application, interview, and try-out scores. The candidate with the second highest score will be selected as the Mountaineer Mascot Alternate. The selected applicant will begin his/her term as the Mountaineer Mascot at the annual Blue and Gold football game in April. Between the time of selection and the Blue and Gold football game the incoming Mountaineer Mascot will work with the current Mountaineer Mascot using the current Mountaineer as a mentor to learn about the role of the Mountaineer and how to conduct him/her self as the Mountaineer. The incoming Mountaineer Mascot will also participate in orientation sessions with the members of the Mountaineer Advisory Council.

Mountaineer Mascot applicants **MAY NOT** engage in campaigning of any kind or medium. Applicants may not place their photographs, videos, sound bytes, etc. on the internet or any other public place while actively pursuing the position of Mountaineer Mascot. Mountaineers may not have a facebook, myspace, or any other website dedicated to their try-out; this includes not only self-created web pages but also web pages created by others. If an applicant discovers such a site created on his/her behalf, he or she must immediately request the site be taken down and must inform the Mountaineer Selection Committee Chair.

Mountaineer Mascot applicants **MAY NOT** conduct any interviews, or talk to any media, this includes, but is not limited to, television, radio, and newspaper requests, without the express permission of the Mountaineer Selection Committee Chair.

Any violation of these provisions will result in appropriate disciplinary action, possibly including forfeiture from the try-outs, to be determined by the Mountaineer Selection Committee. Any questions or concerns regarding these no-campaigning clauses should be directed to the Mountaineer Selection Chair.

### ***Social Justice Policy:***

"West Virginia University is committed to social justice. The Mountaineer Mascot selection committee concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive application process based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. The Mountaineer Mascot selection committee and the Mountaineer Advisory Committee do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran's status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this selection process will be appreciated and given serious consideration."

- Mountaineer Mascot Selection Committee Social Justice Policy

### ***What is the timeline of the selection process?***

- Applications will be available at the E. Moore Hall front desk, the Mountainlair front desk, the Evansdale Residential Complex (Towers) front desk, on the MIX, and by emailing james.staten@gmail.com from **Tuesday, January 19**, to **Friday, January 29**. Applications must be turned in no later than **Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**.
- The application and essays must be submitted to the **E. Moore Hall front desk** by **Wednesday February 3, at noon**. Completed applications and essays can also be returned via e-mail to [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com).
- All applicants must be available for an interview scheduled on **Sunday, February 14th** at the Erickson Alumni Center. If you are selected for an interview, you will be contacted by Thursday, February 11th.
- Finalists must be available for the cheer-off competition, to be held on **Saturday, February 27** during the WVU men's basketball game versus the University of Cincinnati.
- The announcement of the Mountaineer Mascot will be on **Monday, March 1** during the WVU-Georgetown men's basketball game.

***Application Check List: (Application Must Be Type Written)***

- Read Application Thoroughly
- Meet Eligibility Requirements
- Personal Information
- Academic Information
- Five Essay Questions
- Two Letters of Reference/Reference List
- Application completed and turned in by **Wednesday, February 3 at Noon.**

If you have any questions regarding the application, please feel free to e-mail Mountaineer Selection Committee Chairperson, James Staten at [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com).

**Keep The Application Up To This Point For Reference**

Candidate ID number (for committee use do not fill out): \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Information:**

*(Application Must Be Type Written)*

Name:	<input type="text"/>		
WVU ID Number:	<input type="text"/>	Birth Date:	<input type="text"/>
Local Address:	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
Local Phone:	<input type="text"/>	Cell Phone:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail:	<input type="text"/>		
Permanent Address:	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
Permanent Phone:	<input type="text"/>		

Please remember that the Mountaineer Mascot Application is due on **Wednesday, February 3 at noon at the E. Moore Hall front desk or via e-mail to [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com)**. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Mountaineer Selection Committee Chairperson, James Staten at [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com).

Candidate ID number (for committee use do not fill out): \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Academic Information:**

Major(s) Minor(s):

Class Rank:   
(I.e. Freshman)

Cumulative GPA:  Last semester GPA:

High School Attended:   
(Name and City)

**WVU and Community Involvement:**

(I.e. organizations, positions held, description of activities/responsibilities, honors, awards, etc. Ex. West Virginia University Children's Hospital Volunteer 2004-2006: visit, read, make crafts, and play games with children at the hospital)

**WVU Activities: (You may use attached sheet)**

**Community Service: (You may use attached sheet)**

**Work Experience: (You may use attached sheet)**

Candidate ID Number (for committee use do not fill out): \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Mountaineer Mascot Essay Questions:***

Please answer the following questions. Each answer **MUST NOT** exceed one double-spaced typed page.

1. How would you portray West Virginia and WVU as the Mountaineer Mascot?
2. Why should you be the Mountaineer Mascot?
3. What is your favorite place at West Virginia University, and why?
4. What does the word "Mountaineer" mean to you?
5. How would you describe West Virginia University to a prospective student?

Please remember that the Mountaineer Mascot Application is due on **Wednesday, February 3 at noon at the E. Moore Hall front desk or via e-mail to [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com)**. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Mountaineer Selection Committee Chairperson, James Staten at [james.staten@gmail.com](mailto:james.staten@gmail.com).

Candidate ID number (for committee use do not fill out): \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate's Reference Lists:**

Each candidate must have two references at least one reference must be affiliated with WVU. Reference cannot be students or family members. Each reference must send the selection committee a letter of reference on behalf of the candidate. If we do not **receive** both of your references, it will harm your application score.

**Reference 1:**

Name:

Position/ Occupation:

Address:

Phone:  E-mail:

**Reference 2:**

Name:

Position/ Occupation:

Address:

Phone:  E-mail:

**Please have both references send a letter of recommendation to:**

Chairperson, Mountaineer Selection Committee  
Mountain Honorary  
Erickson Alumni Center  
PO Box 4269  
Morgantown, WV 26506-4269

You may personally deliver letters to the Erickson Alumni Center, located off of Patteson Drive. Please remember that all letters received after **noon on Wednesday, February 3** will not be included in your application packet and will harm your application score. Please feel free to e-mail James Staten at james.staten@gmail.com if you have any questions.

**Thank you for your application and good luck!**