



# Orientation Trips Summer 2017



# Orientation Trips Overview

Optional, pre-college trips and programs for incoming first-year students to assist in their transition to WVU.

Program options vary in length, intensity, activities, depth of adventure, and level of challenge.

- **Small groups** of students with upperclassman leaders
- **Team-building** activities and initiatives
- **Adventure** Activities: backpacking, climbing, rafting, service, etc.
- **Daily Discussions:** Making the Transition, Goal Setting, Strategies for Success, Diversity and Inclusion, Healthy Decisions
- **Community:** Students live, travel, cook, play, learn together
- **No cell phones** (it's a big deal)
- Programs are \$95 or free for Pell Grant eligible Students

# Trips are designed to...



1. Meet other incoming first-years and develop a foundation of **supportive relationships**
2. Set **goals** and reflect on **values** for college
3. Experience **independence** and **personal responsibility** in a facilitated environment
4. Develop **self-awareness** through challenge and reflection
5. Foster positive **relationships with WVU**
6. Get involved with **leadership, teamwork, & service**
7. Experience fun **outdoor** recreational opportunities

# Summer 2017: Simplify

- Most every week of the summer is the same
- Trips run Monday-Saturday or Monday-Friday
  - No Mid-Week Starts
- Each week has the same array of trip offerings
- All a student has to do is choose a week!

# Orientation Trips Options

## AWV Orientation Trips Differentiation

### **Mountaineer Quest:**

- 5 days
- Significant focus on academic partnerships
- Not for-credit
- Basecamp at Camp Muffly, adventure-focused day trips
- Adventure “sampler” (jack-of-all-trades!)
- Runs during four sessions of the summer

### **Habitat, Service, Odyssey, Wilderness, Explore:**

- 6 days
- 2 academic partnership options (Engineering & Honors)
- For-credit (fulfills GEF Area 4)
- Travel and camping around the state
- Adventure “focus”
- Runs every week during the summer

# Orientation Trips Options

Trip Model	Length	Accommodations	Credit	College-specific trips available	Hiking	Service	Challenge Course	Rafting	Rock Climbing	Back-packing	Via Ferrata
Mountaineer Quest	5 days	Camp Muffly cabins and dining hall	No	✓ (5+ options available!)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Habitat	6 days	On-campus dorm	Yes		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Service	6 days	Tent camping	Yes	✓ (Honors option!)	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Odyssey	6 days	Tent camping and rustic cabin/yurt	Yes		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Wilderness	6 days	Tent camping and rustic cabin/yurt	Yes		✓				✓	✓	
Explore	6 days	Tent camping	Yes	✓ (Engineering option!)	✓			✓		✓	
Transfers	6 days	Tent camping	Yes		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓

# Growth

## **2017**

- 1,400 Students (approximately)

## **2016**

- 1,000 Students

## **2015**

- 600 Students

## **2004-2007**

- Growth from 136-548 Students

## **2003**

- 14 Students on pilot program

# Impact



Since 1986, research has shown **increased first-year student retention** from students participating in Outdoor Orientation Programs, as compared to non-participating students and even other pre-orientation experiences

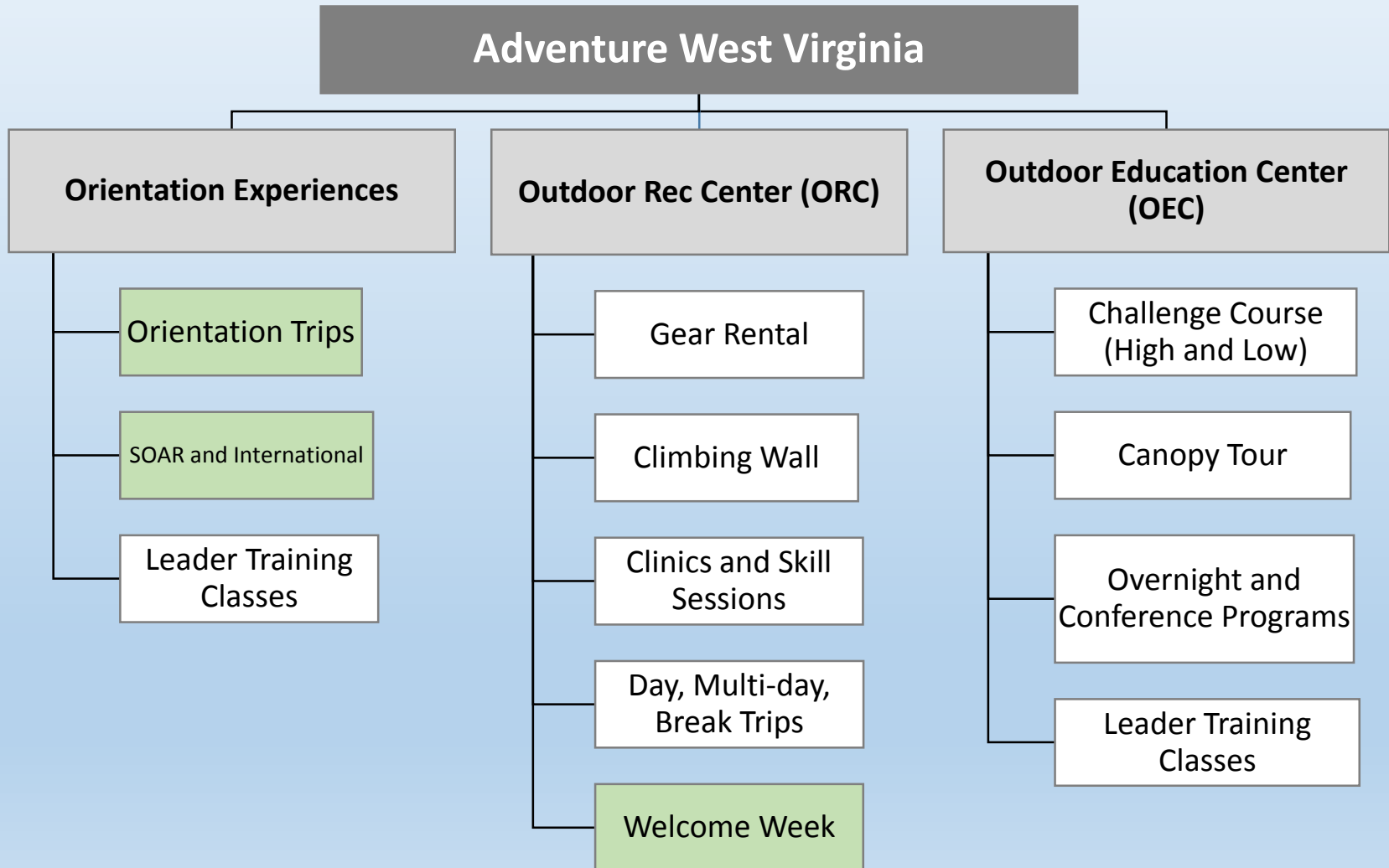
Research on the Adventure WV's Orientation Trips agrees with this nationwide data: Participants **increase in retention, GPA, graduation rates, and sense of belonging**

- **9% change** in retention rate from those who participated to those who didn't (in-state students) (2012-2013)
- **10% change** in retention rate from those who participated to those who didn't (out-of-state students) (2012-2013)
- **99% of participants** would recommend this trip to another incoming student
- **99.6% of participant parents** would recommend this trip to other parents of incoming students



# Where do Orientation Trips fit in?

## Within AWW:



# Conclusion



We are here to be a part of improving the First Year Experience, assist in students' transition to college, and partner with other areas of WVU for student success.

We are growing and expanding!

Keep an eye on  
(and refer students to)  
*[Adventureorientation.wvu.edu](http://Adventureorientation.wvu.edu)*

Registration for 2017 trips opens  
Monday, Feb 6<sup>th</sup>