

SOAR 2021 Information

Update: 7/2/21

If you are registered for SOAR, you must fill out the following form:

<https://forms.gle/9DigGcW6hPe35Gyg6>

Thanks!

Update: 6/14/21

SOAR has filled all spots in the program for 2021. We will be opening the waitlist for all students on **Friday, June 18th at 12PM EST**. To join the waitlist, please email soar@outdooremory.org with your name, Emory email address, and Student ID number (ex: 2390012). If a spot becomes available, we will send you a link and a password to register. We will only add you to the waitlist if we receive your email after June 18th at 12 PM to ensure everyone has an opportunity to get a spot on the list.

Please note: Because students are required to move into their dorms to participate, we can only accept Emory College students residing on main campus.

Capacity:

We will be running a total of six trips: two whitewater, two ziplining, and two hiking! Each trip will have 16 first-year participants and four certified upperclassmen trip leaders. This means the total capacity for SOAR will be 96 participants.

Cost:

The cost for SOAR is \$275. This includes all lodging, meals, transportation, programming, an OE T-shirt, some miscellaneous goodies, and all costs associated with our outfitters.

Financial Aid:

Financial aid is available for this program. To apply for financial aid, please email soar@outdooremory.org. If you qualify for aid, we will send you an alternate registration link. The deadline to apply for financial aid is **June 7th at 11:59 PM**.

Thank you for your interest in SOAR this year! We are looking forward to having an excellent program in the fall. Although some things will look different, we intend to preserve the core experience of SOAR: student oriented trips that allow first-years to gain experience in the outdoors and mentorship from older students at Emory. Below you will find a description for the three trips that we will be offering in the fall.

Trip Summaries

Whitewater Rafting:

Certified leaders will lead students on an adventure throughout the Southeast. There will be 4 upperclassmen leaders and up to 16 freshman students. Trips will go to the Ocoee River for one day of rafting. Rafting is led through a safe, certified rafting company with well trained leaders. We use the NOC for all whitewater rafting trips. The other day is spent on fun activities such as lower river tubing, hiking, or swimming in a water hole. When not traveling off campus, students will participate in leadership and team-building activities with their leaders, and have an opportunity to learn from their peers about life at Emory. No experience is required.

Mountaintop Zip Lining:

Certified leaders will lead students on an adventure ziplining through the mountains. There will be 4 upperclassmen leaders and up to 16 freshman students. Trips will spend one day ziplining. The following day will be spent enjoying the great outdoors. When not traveling off campus, students will participate in leadership and team-building activities with their leaders, and have an opportunity to learn from their peers about life at Emory. No experience is required.

Hiking:

Certified student leaders will take students on several treks through the mountains, including the southern terminus of the Appalachian Trail. There will be 4 upperclassmen leaders and up to 16 freshman students. Georgia boasts beautiful scenery and the Appalachian is no different. The last day will be spent doing additional outdoors activities. Food is fully provided on the trip and prepared by leaders. When not traveling off campus, students will participate in leadership and team-building activities with their leaders, and have an opportunity to learn from their peers about life at Emory. No experience is required.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What does SOAR stand for?
 - SOAR stands for Student Outdoor Adventure Retreat.
2. Can anyone participate in SOAR?
 - Participants must be incoming first-year students. Unfortunately, students CANNOT be a part of other pre-orientation programs. International students are required to attend the International Student Welcome and unfortunately are not able to participate. All other students are welcome!
3. When does SOAR start?
 - SOAR participants must arrive on campus on August 17th before 11am. Participants will receive help moving into their residence halls before leaving for SOAR trips.
4. Who else will be on the trip and who will be leading the trip?
 - For each trip, there will be 4 upperclassmen certified student leaders and 16 freshman participants.
5. Is financial aid available?
 - Financial aid is available! Please reach out to soar@outdooremory.org to apply for financial aid.
6. How will I move my things into my room?
 - SOAR participants will receive the same move-in experience as all other Emory first-year students! Upon arrival to campus on August 17th, students will receive

keys to their residence halls and help from student leaders to move belongings into their rooms. Students may be living in the dorms for the course of the program.

7. Do I need to be experienced in the outdoors to participate?

- No outdoor experience is needed, just an interest in meeting other Emory students, being ready for a fun trip, and a great attitude! The offered trips are friendly to all skill levels. For all trips, we go through trusted and ensured outdoor companies with certified leaders.

8. Are there alternative food options for students with dietary restrictions?

- We ARE able to accommodate most dietary restrictions on SOAR trips. If you have particular concerns about your dietary restrictions, please feel free to contact us at soar@outdooremory.org with any questions.

9. Do I need to purchase any outdoor materials prior to the trip?

- We recommend every student to have a good flashlight, sneakers, and comfortable clothes. Everything else such as sleeping bags and sleeping pads can be requested to be borrowed from Outdoor Emory.

10. What is included with the SOAR ticket?

- Transportation on trips, all outfitter costs, meals and snacks, needed outdoor equipment, Outdoor Emory SOAR T-shirt, and other miscellaneous goodies!

11. What if I can't find a flight that gets in on Tuesday morning before check-in?

- If this is the case, we recommend grabbing a hotel room for the night before check-in.

12. Can I get into my residence hall before Tuesday?

- Unfortunately, the housing office does not allow any students into their residence hall until early Tuesday morning.

For any other questions, please feel free to reach out to [**soar@outdooremory.org**](mailto:soar@outdooremory.org).