



# Will enter foreground or won't?

AppDelegate vs SceneDelegate



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# Intro

All across iOS dev blogs and posts you read about `AppDelegate` being deprecated in the next major iOS release.

- `AppDelegate` has been a go-to for app lifecycle handling since iOS 2.
- From iOS 13, `SceneDelegate` lives alongside `AppDelegate` handling per-scene lifecycle.

Do the methods `applicationWillEnterForeground` and `sceneWillEnterForeground` actually behave the same?

Scroll to find out 🖱️



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# Difference 1 - App-wide vs per-scene calls

- **AppDelegate's** will enter foreground
  - Fires once when the entire app moves from background to foreground
- **SceneDelegate's** will enter foreground
  - Fires once per scene as each one enters foreground

This behaviour is reflected in each method's signature (look on arguments) 

```
// AppDelegate
func applicationWillEnterForeground(_ application: UIApplication) {}

// SceneDelegate
func sceneWillEnterForeground(_ scene: UIScene) {}
```

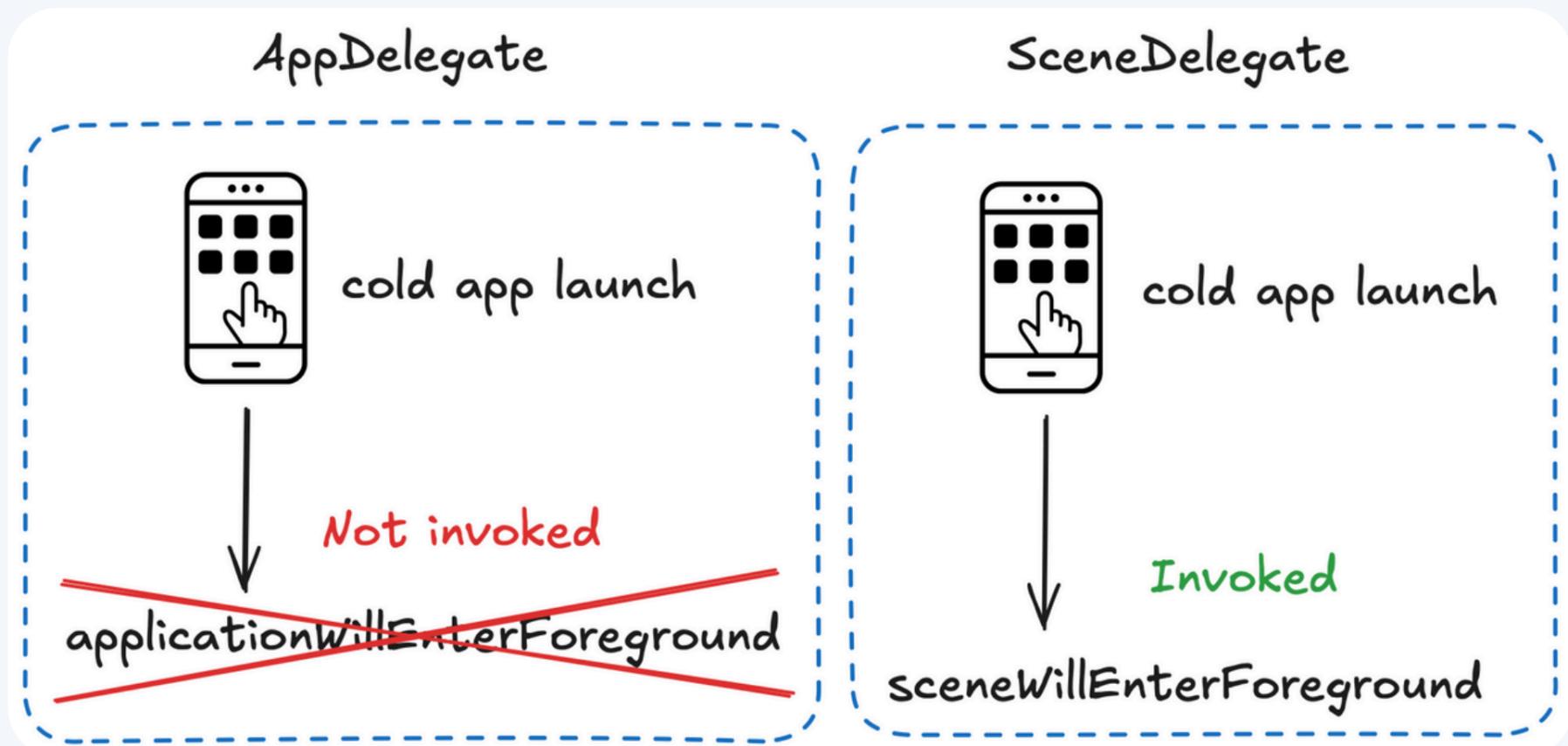


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# Difference 2 - App start behaviour

On a fresh launch:

- **AppDelegate's** will enter foreground function is not called
- **SceneDelegate's** will enter foreground function is called





# Takeaways

- Migrate with care - when transferring logic from `AppDelegate` to `SceneDelegate`, remember it now runs per scene and may fire multiple times.
- Do not assume - even though both delegates exposes “will enter foreground” method, their behaviour isn’t identical (app start behaviour 🙄).

**Remember** - `AppDelegate` will still stick around for a while. You don’t need to panic and plan ASAP refactors. Always check docs and verify behaviour in your app before making crucial changes.



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