2023-2024
FAMILY CALENDAR & RESOURCE GUIDE
Welcome Aggie Family Members!

As your student joins more than 74,000 Aggies in College Station, you might be experiencing mixed emotions. You’re proud your student is beginning college, as it’s a milestone towards a career and a lifetime of learning. Simultaneously, you may be concerned about academic performance, roommates, and safety. These are natural concerns for any family member to have. Rest assured you will continue to play an essential role in your student’s life, and we want to partner with you to help support your student’s success at Texas A&M University.

This family resource guide and calendar is designed to assist and guide you in this important supportive role. This publication contains the essential information you need to know about resources available at Texas A&M. In the calendar portion, each month provides relevant topics and resources for you as a family member, and we hope each month generates a guided conversation between you and your student.

We want the New Student & Family Programs office to be a first line of contact for you at Texas A&M when your student is experiencing difficulties or when you need help determining who they should contact concerning any issue. We are here to listen and offer assistance. We hope your student has a positive experience as an Aggie and that Texas A&M will become a special place in your heart as it has for so many Aggie parents and family members already.
CAMPUS RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Don’t see the service you are looking for? Call our office at 979.845.5826, and we will get you the information you need!

Academic Success Center
asc.tamu.edu
979.458.4900

Aggie Dining
dineoncampus.com/tamu

Aggie ID Card
myaggiecard.tamu.edu
979.847.1787

Aggie One Stop
aggie.tamu.edu
979.847.1787
  • Admissions
  • Registrar’s Office
  • Student Business Services
  • Scholarship & Financial Aid

Ambulance Service/EMS
ems.tamu.edu
979.845.1525

Appelt Aggieland Visitor Center
visit.tamu.edu
979.845.5851

Association of Former Students
tx.ag/YourNetwork
979.845.7514

Athletic Department (Tickets)
12thman.com
1.888.99.AGGIE

Bryan Police & Brazos Co. Sheriff
bryantx.gov/police
979.209.5300

Campus Ministry Association
tx.ag/CampusMinistry
979.845.3111

Campus Operator
979.845.3211

Career Center
careercenter.tamu.edu
979.845.5139

Civil Rights & Equity Investigations
titleix.tamu.edu
979.458.8407

College Station Police
tx.ag/CSPD
979.764.3600

Counseling & Psychological Services
tx.ag/NSCCAPS
979.845.4427

Corps Escorts
979.845.6789

Corps Housing
reslife.tamu.edu/options/corps
979.845.3443

Disability Resources
disability.tamu.edu
979.845.1637

Health Promotion
studentlife.tamu.edu/hp
979.845.0280

International Student Services
iss.tamu.edu
979.845.1824

LAUNCH
launch.tamu.edu
979.845.1957

Multicultural Services
dms.tamu.edu
979.862.2000

New Student & Family Programs
newaggie.tamu.edu
979.845.5826

Off Campus Student Services
studentlife.tamu.edu/ocss
979.845.3111

Student Assistance Services
studentlife.tamu.edu/sas
979.845.3111

Student Life
studentlife.tamu.edu
979.845.3111

Recreational Sports
recsports.tamu.edu
979.845.7826

Residence Life
reslife.tamu.edu
888.451.3896

Student Activities
studentactivities.tamu.edu
979.845.1133

Student Health Services
tx.ag/NSCSHS
979.458.8310

Student Legal Services
studentlife.tamu.edu/sls
979.862.4502

Technology Services
it.tamu.edu
979.845.8300

Transportation Services
transport.tamu.edu
979.862.7275 (Parking)
979.847.7433 (Transit)

University Police Department
upd.tamu.edu
979.845.2345
(Call 911 for emergencies)
A Message From the Vice President for Student Affairs

On behalf of Texas A&M University, welcome to Aggieland and the special community of students, faculty, and staff that comprise the Aggie Family!

Your Aggie is beginning an experience that will offer opportunities for intellectual, physical, and emotional growth. The changing nature of your student’s life in the next few years will also undoubtedly have an impact on you and your family. It is our hope, in the Division of Student Affairs, that this will be a positive transition for you and your student. As such, we provide a variety of programs, services, and engagement opportunities to support you and help your Aggie be successful at Texas A&M.

This calendar and resource guide is published to provide information that will help you during this transitional time. We hope this information is helpful as you discover what it means to be a part of the Aggie Family.

Please always feel free to contact our office if we can assist you or your new Aggie. The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs is the home of the students’ Vice President, and everyone in our office is prepared and empowered to assist in their success.

Gig ‘Em!

BG Joe E. Ramirez, Jr. USA (Ret.)
Vice President for Student Affairs

In support of the Texas A&M University mission, the Division of Student Affairs contributes to student learning and development. We provide exceptional services, facilities, and programs that promote student success, embody the Aggie spirit, and foster a diverse and inclusive campus community to deepen the understanding and individual application of the Aggie Core Values – Loyalty, Integrity, Excellence, Leadership, Selfless Service, and Respect.

studentaffairs.tamu.edu | 979.845.4728

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY PURPOSE STATEMENT & CORE VALUES

To develop leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good.

Our purpose statement carries with it the responsibility, the traditions, and the forward thinking of Texas A&M University exemplified by all who are associated with the university — its faculty and staff, and its current and former students.

This can be defined by six core values:

Excellence | Integrity | Leadership | Loyalty | Respect | Selfless Service
Health & Safety

- Download the Code Maroon Mobile App. The app comes with a number of safety tools, and allows family members to get Code Maroon notifications. For more information about Code Maroon emergency text, email, and computer alerts, visit codemaroon.tamu.edu.
- Make sure your student has listed you as their emergency contact in the Howdy Portal. This information can be accessed by university officials in case of an emergency.
- Prepare a basic first aid kit to send off with your student. Consider packing items such as thermometer, antibiotic cream, band-aids, gauze, over the counter medications, alcohol wipes, gloves, etc.
- Remind your student that the campus emergency phone numbers are linked to the QR code on the back of their Aggie ID Card.
- Send a dependent copy of your health insurance plan card and pharmacy card (if applicable) with your student.

Finances

- Discuss personal finances and expectations with your student. See Family Expectations Worksheet.
- Discuss bill payment access. Students can grant family members access to the Bill Payment Suite at billpay.tamu.edu. This will allow access to view billing history and make payments.
- Make sure your student has set up their direct deposit information. This is the only way to receive refunds from the university. More information can be found at tx.ag/AOSDeposit.

Family To-Do’s

- Make your Aggie Bucket List. (See below)
- Save the date for Family Weekend. April 12-14, 2024. Hotels fill up quickly so we recommend making your arrangements as soon as possible. More information can be found at familyweekend.tamu.edu.
- Discuss and develop plans for holiday travel and campus visits. See Family Expectations Worksheet.
- Purchase your official Aggie Family gear. Aggie gear can be purchased online or in-person from Barnes & Noble at Texas A&M, the university’s official bookstore located on the first floor of the Memorial Student Center, or at tamu.bncollege.com.

Aggie Family Checklists

- Attend a Fightin’ Texas Aggie Yell Practice
- Attend an Aggie sporting event
- Listen to someone play piano in the Flag Room
- Attend a performance by The Singing Cadets
- Attend a Corps March-In & see Reveille
- Walk through The Gardens at Texas A&M University
- Share a meal with your Aggie at their favorite BCS restaurant
- Walk the Bonfire Memorial and read the stories of those we lost
- Attend Family Weekend
- Attend an Aggie Muster Ceremony
- Attend Aggie Ring Day and celebrate your Aggie completing 90 hours
- Cheer your Aggie on as they walk the stage for graduation
The New Student & Family Programs office recognizes that the families of our students play an important role in the university community. We believe by involving them in campus activities and informing them about campus resources, we can positively impact undergraduate student success. Aggie Parent & Family Ambassadors are a cohort of student leaders dedicated to selflessly serving the Aggie Family through fellowship and networking with fellow student leaders, as well as building, perpetuating, and sharing what makes the Aggie Family so special.

The Ambassadors are representatives of New Student & Family Programs who seek to provide exceptional Aggie Family experiences. The Aggie Parent & Family Ambassadors are involved in some of Texas A&M University’s greatest traditions such as selecting the Parents of the Year and assisting with the planning and execution of Family Weekend, a tradition more than 100-years-old. Through their involvement, Ambassadors develop leadership skills, build relationships, and cultivate a deep love for being a Texas A&M Aggie.

Our students spend time together each week, working together to build community and planning different ways to celebrate the Aggie Family with the campus community and beyond. If this is something your student would be interested in, have them check out tx.ag/apfa!

Meet the Ambassadors
Aggie Parent & Family Ambassadors

CONTACT US
@apfa_tamu
familyprograms@tamu.edu
New Student & Family Programs uses the Aggie Parent & Family Connection Portal to enhance your Aggie family experience! The online portal will allow you to customize the information you receive from Texas A&M.

Thanks to the portal, e-newsletters from New Student & Family Programs are tailored to your interests. You can decide how often you would like to receive updates, as well as log on 24/7 to view content or make account changes.

If you would like to receive Aggie Parent & Family Newsletters, visit tx.ag/FamilyPortal and create an account using your email address.

Once a member of the Aggie Parent & Family Connection, you will have access to a specially curated news feed, calendar of important dates, helpful resources, and more! You can even save or share articles you find particularly relevant or interesting.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact New Student & Family Programs at 979.845.5826 or familyprograms@tamu.edu.
Counseling & Psychological Services

The Department of Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) utilizes a public health model to provide outstanding counseling, mental health education and suicide awareness and prevention services to our diverse student population as a nationally recognized leader in college mental health.

CAPS maintains a wide array of bespoke mental health services and self-care resources dedicated to assisting our Aggie Students function at their highest academic potential, including crisis intervention, goal oriented individual sessions, group counseling, specialized consultations, psychiatric assessment, workshops and virtual self-help resources, as well as HelpLine and the Suicide Awareness & Prevention Office (SAPO).

CAPS also partners with My Student Support Program to provide on-demand mental health and wellness support through My SSP @ TAMU. With the download of an app, current Texas A&M students can access short-term professional counseling in multiple languages 24/7 via phone or chat. Features also include an extensive self-care resource library, mental health assessments and access to virtual fitness sessions — all free and confidential.

Programming at CAPS prioritizes diversity and inclusion, self-care, suicide awareness and prevention and general wellness with further emphasis on caring connections, coping skills and the destigmatization of mental illness and suicide prevention.

tx.ag/NSCCAPS
979.845.4427

HelpLine: 979.845.2700
My SSP @ TAMU: tx.ag/NSCMySSP

Student Health Services

Student Health Services (SHS), conveniently located on campus in the A.P. Beutel Health Center near Fish Pond, is an accredited ambulatory health care provider staffed by physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, and other health care professionals who are dedicated to helping your student stay well, so they can do well. SHS provides programs of preventive, therapeutic, and primary medical care services, and helps students preserve their health and promote wellness.

tx.ag/NSCSHS
979.458.8310

STEP IN, STAND UP

Created through the diligent and passionate efforts of the faculty, staff, and student leaders of Texas A&M University, the Step In, Stand Up campaign is a promise, a statement, and a pledge—all in an effort to reduce incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence.

Step In Stand Up shows survivors we stand with them and asks others to do the same. It brings awareness to our community and encourages others to share our message.

It creates opportunities to change the culture, the perception, and the conversation.

Sexual violence, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking can happen to anyone. The Step In Stand Up website has resources provided by the University to assist students, faculty, and staff. The Title IX website also includes resources for survivors of sexual violence, applicable rules, and frequently asked questions.

stepinstandup.tamu.edu

titleix.tamu.edu
Stop Hate

Hate is not an Aggie value.
Addressing it is everyone’s responsibility.

As a major public institution of higher education, Texas A&M University has both an extraordinary opportunity and a special responsibility to create and maintain a climate that affirms diversity of persons as well as diversity of views. Diversity is an indispensable component of academic excellence. A commitment to diversity means a commitment to the inclusion, welcome, and support of individuals from all groups, encompassing the various characteristics of persons in our community. Among these characteristics are race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, age, socioeconomic background, religion, sexual orientation, and disability. As we harness the power of diversity, we will provide students, faculty, and staff a university experience rich in perspectives and opportunities to learn from each other.

In the spirit of shared responsibility, we encourage each University unit, student organization, and campus community member to help make our campus a welcoming place for all.

stophate.tamu.edu

Stop Hazing

Hazing refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain status in a group) that humiliates, degrades, or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person’s willingness to participate. Hazing is a complex social problem that is shaped by power dynamics operating in a group and/or organization and within a particular cultural context. Hazing is a process, based on a tradition that is used by groups to maintain a hierarchy (i.e., a pecking order) within the group. Regardless of consent, the activities require individuals to engage in situations which are physically and psychologically stressful. Hazing practices can quickly spiral out of control and cause significant and lasting physical and/or psychological damage.

What You Should Know:

- Hazing is a violation of Texas A&M University Student Code of Conduct, student organization policies, and Texas State law.
- Hazing takes various forms, but typically involves physical risks or mental distress through, for example, humiliating, intimidating, or demeaning activities.
- Hazing can cause significant harm to individuals, groups, the University, and the Aggie Family.
- Hazing occurs in a variety of organizations including fraternities, sororities, athletic teams, performance groups, honor societies, and other organizations.
- Groups that haze can achieve the positive outcomes they seek from hazing through non-hazing means.

studentconduct.tamu.edu/stophazing

Code Maroon

Code Maroon has provided campus alerts and emergency notifications to Texas A&M for over a decade. The Code Maroon Mobile App is available to the Aggie community. The Code Maroon App comes with a number of new safety tools, and allows family members to get Code Maroon notifications.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the Code Maroon App, call Help Desk Central at 979.845.8300 or email them at helpdesk@tamu.edu. For more information about Code Maroon emergency text, email, and computer alerts, visit codemaroon.tamu.edu

Green Dot

Bystander Intervention Training Program

Green Dot teaches Aggie faculty/staff and students to be aware of potential violence around them and provides the skills, strategies, and tactics to use the power of peer influence to intervene appropriately and safely in high-risk situations. Green Dot teaches how to become an active bystander when acts of power-based personal violence are witnessed.

Our Green Dot Team is made up of Aggie faculty and staff members who have gone through an extensive training and who volunteer their time to give overview speeches and facilitate bystander trainings. To learn more about Green Dot, visit greendot.tamu.edu

studentconduct.tamu.edu/greendot
The Aggie War Hymn: The official war hymn of Texas A&M University, it dates back to World War I.

Fish Camp: Each year, Texas A&M incoming freshmen are welcomed to the university at Fish Camp, a three-day orientation program. At Fish Camp, freshmen are given opportunities to learn Aggie traditions, make friends, and learn more about life at Texas A&M. The camp is led entirely by Texas A&M students.

Midnight Yell: The night before every home game, Aggies hold Midnight Yell at Kyle Field. Every Fall, over 25,000 people participate in Midnight Yell, which is a tradition of Texas A&M that exists at Texas A&M and the long-standing traditions that embody the true meaning of being an Aggie.

The Century Tree: Located near the Academic Building, is well over 100 years old, and was one of the first trees planted on Texas A&M's massive 5,200-acre campus.

The Aggie War Hymn: The official war hymn of Texas A&M (Texas A&M does not have a fight song), it dates back to World War I.

The Spirit of Aggieland: The Spirit of Aggieland is the alma mater of Texas A&M, originally written as a poem in 1925 by Marvin Mimms, Class of 1926.

Wildcat: A Wildcat is a combined noise and hand motion that expresses class pride and is made after an Aggie yell, after hearing a class year, or when something exciting happens.

Corps Traditions: The Corps of Cadets is a student-led, military-style organization at Texas A&M. It is the oldest student organization on campus and was established with the university in 1876.

Bonfire Memorial: Bonfire burned each year through 1998, with the exception of 1963. That year, Bonfire was built but torn down in a tribute to President John F. Kennedy, who was assassinated on Nov. 22, 1963. The second time in A&M's history that Bonfire did not burn was due to its collapse on Nov. 18, 1999 at 2:42 a.m, almost exactly 92 years after the first Bonfire. The collapse claimed the lives of 12 Aggies and injured 27 others. Five years later, the Bonfire Memorial was dedicated on the exact location of the fallen 1999 Bonfire.

Pennies on Sully: A statue of the former Texas governor — affectionately called “Sully” — stands as one of the most iconic landmarks on campus. Students leave pennies at the base of Sully for good luck before taking their exams.

Gig 'Em: Aggies will often flash a thumbs up and say “Gig 'em!”. It was popularized in 1920, but today, the phrase and thumbs-up gesture are a universal sign of approval for Aggies and identify an Aggie or an Aggie fan. Usually done with the right hand, the Gig 'em sign also showcases the Aggie Ring, which is traditionally worn on that hand. But even more than that, Gig 'em signals optimism, determination, loyalty, and the Aggie Spirit.

Howdy: “Howdy” is the official greeting of Texas A&M. Students greeting one another — and especially campus visitors — with a “howdy” has earned the university a reputation as the friendliest campus in the world.

Whoop: Aggie upperclassmen and graduates will often say “Whoop!” as an expression of approval or excitement. It is most often used at the end of an Aggie yell. Underclassmen are not supposed to say the word until they have reached either junior or senior status.

Good Bull: “Good Bull” is a phrase used to describe anything that embraces or promotes the Aggie Spirit or the traditions of Texas A&M. It is also used to signify approval of virtually anything.

If your student is living on campus, U.S. mail is not delivered to your student’s room and they may want to consider renting a mailbox. There are two options when it comes to choosing a mailbox on campus. Mailboxes may be rented from the following locations:

**Student Mail Services**
Northside Campus- Located in Hullabaloo Hall Southside- Located in the Commons Summer Hours: 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Semester Hours: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. To sign up, call 979.268.7727

**Northgate Post Office**
Located at 104 Houston Street off of University Dr. Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. To sign up, call 979.846.5716

UPS will make deliveries directly to a student’s room, and students do not need to be present to sign. FedEx does not deliver to student rooms. Residence Life staff will not receive packages for residents. To send packages via UPS or FedEx, please use the following format (to right):

**For more information, visit tx.ag/OnCampusMail**
Aggie Traditions

“There’s a Spirit can ne’er be told…”

What does it mean to be a Texas A&M Aggie? Since its beginning in 1876, Texas A&M has developed a rich heritage of traditions that have helped to develop character, leadership, unity, and public service in all its graduates. By experiencing these honored traditions, you can begin to understand what is truly meant by “the Spirit of Aggieland.”

TEAM TRADITIONS

• 12th Man: In the spirit of E. King Gill, Aggies stand ready for service, desiring to support their team.
• Midnight Yell: At midnight before each football game, Aggies gather to pump up the 12th Man for the next day’s big game.
• Yell Leaders: Selected by the student body, these five Aggies are the official spirit organization of the university, and they lead the Aggie fans in “yells” during athletic events and other school events.
• Maroon Out: The 12th Man makes a difference for their team fighting on the gridiron by wearing all maroon.

CORPS OF CADETS TRADITIONS

• Senior Boots: Members of the Corps of Cadets look forward to their senior year when they are privileged to wear boots.
• Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band: The pulse of the Spirit of Aggieland has never lost a half-time!
• Ross Volunteers: The oldest honor guard and drill team of its kind in the state, the Ross Volunteer Company is the Honor Guard of the Governor of the State of Texas.
• Boot Dance: The junior class dance reflects their readiness to fill the shoes of the graduating senior class.

TRADITIONS OF REMEMBRANCE

• Aggie Muster: Every April 21st, Muster brings together more Aggies worldwide on one occasion than any other event.
• Silver Taps: A final tribute is held the first Tuesday of the month when a current student has passed away the previous month.
• Memorial Student Center (MSC): Aggies who have given their lives in service to their country are honored in this living memorial.

COMMUNITY TRADITIONS

• “Howdy!”: Texas A&M’s official greeting has led to Aggieland’s reputation of being the most welcoming campus in the world.
• Big Event: The largest single-day student-run service project in the nation is a “Thank You” to the local community.
• Replant, A Growing Tradition: The planting of thousands of trees every year on public lands has grown into one of the largest student-run environmental projects in the nation.

TRADITION SYMBOLS

• Aggie Ring: This is the most visible way for graduates of Texas A&M to recognize each other. The Aggie Ring is worn by current and former students and is one of the most well-known symbols of the Aggie Network. Each item on the ring has a symbolic meaning. For more information on the Aggie Ring, visit: tx.ag/aggiering.

CLASS TRADITIONS

• “The proudest member of the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of…”
• Elephant Walk: The annual walk around campus is done to symbolize the seniors’ dying usefulness to the 12th Man.
• Junior E-Walk: Coinciding with Elephant Walk, this tradition celebrates the juniors anticipating their reign as the top campus leaders.
• Ring Dance: The senior class dance is a milestone in the privilege of wearing the Aggie Ring.
• Graduation: Students receive their degree from Texas A&M and membership in The Association of Former Students.

For more information on Texas A&M’s Traditions, please visit tamu.edu/traditions.
A regular sports pass can be purchased for $350. The pass includes all home football games for the season as well as an opportunity to attend home events for all ticketed sports in both the fall and spring semesters on a first-come, first-served basis.

A sports pass with season football guest ticket can be purchased for $875. This pass includes sports pass details above plus one (1) prepaid guest ticket for each home football game.

First time sports pass holders can come by the ticket windows located at the Zone at Kyle Field near Entry 6 to pick up your sports card.

The ticket office is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Picture Identification is required for pick up.

The Department of Student Activities fosters and supports leadership, learning, and involvement opportunities that enhance the growth and development of students and recognized student organizations.

Texas A&M is home to more than 1,000 student organizations, meaning there are more than 1,000 opportunities for students to find other Aggies who share their interests and passions.

Whatever it is that you love, Student Activities is here to help your student practice their passion through involvement in a recognized student organization, tons of service opportunities, Aggie traditions, and unlimited leadership experiences.

Encourage your student to utilize the Organization Search feature to find the perfect fit for their interests!
Family Expectations Worksheet

You and your student are about to embark on an exciting journey! Along the way there could be several potential challenges during their adjustment to life in Aggieland. Our hope is that New Student & Family Programs can offer support during this transition. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of you and your student’s life during this important time! There are several items to discuss and to-dos to take care of before your student leaves. This worksheet serves as a starting point for you and your student to set expectations as you prepare for their first semester at Texas A&M.

Communication

We plan to talk ___________ (number of times) per ___________.

We will communicate using the following methods:

It is important to discuss the following when we speak:

During an emergency we will communicate by:

The following is considered an emergency:

Visits

The student should plan to come home at the following times:

The family should visit during the following times:

Money & Budgeting

We agree that the student will get money in the following ways:

___ Job ___ Monthly Allowance (amount: $___ ) ___ Financial Aid

And spend it in the following ways:

___ Meal Plan/Groceries ___ Spending Money ___ Rent ___ Bills

Other: ____________

Limitations for spending money are:

We will handle financial emergencies in the following ways:

A financial emergency could include:

Dealing with the Unexpected

When challenges arise in the following areas (Academics, Living Arrangements, Roommate(s), Money, Friends, Health Issues (physical/mental), Homesickness, Disciplinary/Legal issues), we agree to do the following:

Student:

Family:

Transportation

The student will get around campus & Aggieland in the following ways:

____ Car
____ Bike
____ Bus System
____ Other

Access to Information

The student will provide the following access to family members:

____ Bill Payment Suite
____ Howdy Portal
____ Medical information

Does your student know how to:

___ Grocery shop/meal plan ___ Cook simple meals
___ Maintain a budget ___ Do laundry ___ Make appointments

Have you talked to your student about utilizing medical services and health insurance?

How will your student stay safe on campus?

Does your student have their important documents?

___ Social Security Card ___ Insurance Documents
___ Banking Information

Other Things to Consider
Important Locations
1. West Campus Garage
2. Kyle Field
3. Rudder Tower
4. Memorial Student Center (MSC)
5. Student Services Building
6. Sanders Corps of Cadets Center
7. Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center
8. Campus Rec Center
9. General Services Complex (GSC)
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Howdy Week

Howdy Week is Aggieland’s official welcome for new and returning students and takes place at Texas A&M University at the beginning of the semester. Howdy Week is a campus-wide effort of collaboration designed to help connect Aggies to a wide array of activities, organizations, and important information to jump-start their time in Aggieland.

Howdy Week is coordinated by the Howdy Week Committee and New Student & Family Programs. This Fall, Howdy Week will be held Thursday, August 17th through Tuesday, August 22nd. The full schedule of events will be posted on the Howdy Week website in August.

howdyweek.tamu.edu
979.845.5826

* Dates subject to change
College is a time of transition for students and their family members. It is important to sit down with your student and discuss your expectations of them as they leave for the academic year. Remember your student is entering a new phase in their life and may need time to find their groove in a new academic setting. With classes, student organizations, and campus events, students can become busy once the school year begins, and you may not hear from them as often as you would like. Work with your student to set up a time to talk that works for them. Support them in their new endeavors, and help them dive into Aggie life.

MSC Open House is a great way for students to find organizations and involvement opportunities. With over 400 student organizations represented, students will have an opportunity to search through both professional and leadership organizations that fit their interests. Fall Open House will be August 27, 2023, 1–5 p.m. (subject to change) mscopenhouse.tamu.edu

AGGIE TRADITIONS

MSC Open House is a great way for students to find organizations and involvement opportunities. With over 400 student organizations represented, students will have an opportunity to search through both professional and leadership organizations that fit their interests. Fall Open House will be August 27, 2023, 1–5 p.m. (subject to change) mscopenhouse.tamu.edu
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Department of Multicultural Services

The Department of Multicultural Services (DMS) facilitates steady progress toward the institution’s climate goal through greater active, intentional, and ongoing student engagement and development.

DMS has a mission to provide multiple developmental experiences for underrepresented and underserved racial and ethnic populations and foster social, cultural, and global competence to prepare students for an increasingly global world.

DMS is home to a number of student organizations and programs that provide academic, social, cultural, and personal development, as well as intentional interaction and engagement. DMS assists students with their transition to and persistence through Texas A&M University.

dms.tamu.edu
979. 862.2000

* Dates subject to change
### Aggie Traditions

The Aggie Ring is the most visible symbol of the Aggie Network that connects Aggies around the world. The five stars in the shield refer to phases of development of the student: mind or intellect, body, spiritual attainment, emotional poise, and integrity of character. [aggienetwork.com/ring](http://aggienetwork.com/ring)

### Aggie Advice

Texas A&M boasts one of the most diverse groups of student organizations in the country, and there is guaranteed to be one for your student. Research shows that students who are involved on campus and engaged in both academic and co-curricular activities are more successful. Whether your student is looking to make new friends, learn something new, or gain leadership skills, getting involved in a student organization is a great way to accomplish these goals.
Disability Resources offers accommodations coordination, evaluation referral, disability-related information, assistive technology services, sign language interpreting and transcription services for academically related purposes.

Sources of information used for determining a disability and/or accommodations may include a student’s self-report, direct observation and interaction with the student, and/or documentation from qualified evaluators or professionals. Disability Resources will consider all relevant information provided in documentation. Documentation will be reviewed on an individual, case-by-case basis. Please submit your information at least 2-3 weeks prior to the date that services are requested.

If you suspect your student has a disability that is impacting their academic performance, encourage them to reach out to Disability Resources for assistance!

disability.tamu.edu
979.845.1637

* Dates subject to change
**AGGIE TRADITIONS**

“Howdy” is the official greeting of Texas A&M University. It is our way of ensuring that no one feels like a stranger. “Howdy” is what sets us apart as the friendliest campus in the world.

Whether it's your student's first semester at Texas A&M or the last one, studying is a major theme in their life. Many times students do not know how to develop proper habits to maintain a successful academic career. The number one tip you can offer your student is to create a schedule now for the remainder of the year. Students should not only know when tests and papers fall in the semester, but have a good sense of what work needs to be done each week as the semester progresses. Encourage your student to invest in a planner to develop a timeline for each test, project, or homework assignment. It will help them be responsible for their actions and serve as a daily reminder for what they need to accomplish.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Office for Student Success

The Office for Student Success is committed to the retention, success, and timely graduation of all undergraduate students at Texas A&M. Through Texas A&M’s first-year experience course Hullabaloo U, first-year students can achieve academic and personal goals, take advantage of campus resources, develop a sense of belonging, and contribute to our diverse and inclusive Aggie community.

Transfers students are invited to take advantage of the Transfer Student Program. The Routh First-Generation Center supports first-generation students from admission to graduation through campus-wide advocacy, student support services, leadership opportunities, and resiliency coaching. Students can also utilize our innovative online resources such as the Navigate Student app to stay organized, informed, and in touch with their academic advisor.

Students and families can connect with our Student Success Help Desk to identify where to start when students face academic obstacles or concerns about graduating on time. The Office for Student Success is here to help!

studentsuccess.tamu.edu
979.458.6111

* Dates subject to change
### Aggie Traditions

The Bonfire Memorial celebrates the tradition, history, and spirit of Texas A&M and the dedication of those involved in the tragic collapse of the 1999 Bonfire. The Bonfire Memorial was dedicated in 2004 and is located on the university polo fields, uniting Aggies past, present, and future. [bonfire.tamu.edu](http://bonfire.tamu.edu)

### Aggie Advice

One of the greatest impacts you can have on your student is to constantly communicate positive messages to them. Many students will only communicate the negative aspects of their experiences, so it is important to ask them about the positive experiences they are having inside and outside the classroom. To complement these discussions, make sure to hold realistic expectations for your student. The transition from high school to college and beyond is a difficult one, and academics play a large role. Do not hold expectations for your student to achieve a perfect 4.0. Instead, speak with them about their classes and provide encouraging messages of support for them to do their best.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Aggie One Stop

Aggie One Stop helps Aggies with everything they need to apply for admission, enroll, pay and graduate. Aggie One Stop advisors can help with questions about the admissions application process, billing and payment options, scholarships and financial aid, military education benefits, registering for classes, and student records requests.

The Aggie One Stop website is a centralized source of information on these topics and Miss Rev (chat bot) is ready to answer your questions.

In person advising is available on the first floor of the General Services Complex (GSC).

Follow us on social media @aggieonestop for upcoming events or deadlines.

aggie.tamu.edu
979.847.1787

* Dates subject to change
### Aggie Traditions

Silver Taps is the final tribute paid to an Aggie who, at the time of their death, was enrolled in graduate or undergraduate courses at Texas A&M. We encourage students to attend to pay their respects to their fellow Aggies. Silver Taps takes place on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30 p.m. [studentlife.tamu.edu/sas](http://studentlife.tamu.edu/sas)

### Aggie Advice

With the winter break approaching, know that the transition from college life to home life can be a tricky one for both students and family members. Students become accustomed to having their own schedule while living away from home. It is important to discuss expectations about family obligations early in the break to avoid any tension or conflicts with your student. It is essential that your entire family discusses this new adjustment and understands that everyone is growing and changing each semester. Some students will remain in Bryan/College Station, so it is also important to discuss that decision and coordinate any winter plans your family may currently have scheduled.
Rec Sports’ flagship facility, the Student Recreation Center, is a 400,000 square-foot facility that features an extensive strength and conditioning area, a walking/jogging track, handball/racquetball courts, and indoor courts for soccer, basketball, volleyball, and badminton. This facility also has an indoor rock-climbing facility, a bouldering wall, outdoor basketball and sand volleyball courts, dance/activity rooms, and a world-class natatorium with indoor and outdoor pools and a diving well. Rec Sports recently opened the Polo Road Rec Center, a 28,000 sq. ft. facility located near the Zachry Engineering Education Complex, that has a strength and conditioning area, group fitness space, and locker rooms. The Southside Rec Center, a 63,000 square-foot facility, has strength and conditioning space, multi-purpose rooms, courts, a bouldering wall, outdoor volleyball courts, and locker rooms.

In addition to drop-in recreation, Rec Sports offers aquatics, group exercise and specialty fitness classes, personal and small group training, Intramural Sports, Sport Clubs, and Outdoor Adventures trips and clinics. Most currently enrolled Texas A&M students are automatically Rec Members. You can either use your student ID or download the Rec Sports App (recsports.tamu.edu/app) as your source to enter Rec Sports’ facilities.

recsports.tamu.edu
979.845.7826

* Dates subject to change
### Aggie Advice

Your student has now completed their first semester at Texas A&M University! As they return to campus, they will face new challenges both academically and socially. The new semester will bring new classes with new instructors, as well as many other opportunities to get involved in campus activities. This can be a great change of pace from the fall semester, and it is important to encourage your student to get out and get involved in new activities this spring. MSC Spring Open House will display various student organizations for your student to get involved in, while the Student Recreation Center provides activities that will allow your student to start off a happy and healthy semester.

### Aggie Traditions

The Aggie Code of Honor states, “An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.” Parents and families join us in upholding the ideals of Texas A&M University by supporting the actions and conduct described in the Honor Code.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Undergraduate Studies

Academic Success Center
The Academic Success Center provides all Aggies with access to comprehensive resources and support regardless of their background and experience so that they can achieve academic goals and fulfill their academic potential. Our programs and services include academic coaching, tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, and developmental education. Our website includes handouts and videos to help with study and learning.
asc.tamu.edu
979.458.4900

University Writing Center
The University Writing Center helps Aggies improve their writing and public speaking skills. We offer a variety of appointment types, including in-person, online, and Zoom sessions, which allow students to work with one of our trained consultants at any stage of the writing process or in preparing oral presentations. You can also find useful handouts, videos, and self-paced learning modules on our website.
writingcenter.tamu.edu
979.458.1455

Math Learning Center
The Math Learning Center (MLC) fosters the academic success of Texas A&M Students by supporting the courses with significant mathematics, statistics, and quantitative reasoning content, particularly those courses that fulfill core curriculum requirements or serve as prerequisites for more advanced topics.
mlc.tamu.edu
979.847.7311

* Dates subject to change
Texas A&M University’s emergency notification system, Code Maroon, uses multiple notification methods in a best effort to reach campus members in an emergency. [codemaroon.tamu.edu](http://codemaroon.tamu.edu)

One of the largest growing concerns on collegiate campuses today is hazing and its impact on student life. Hazing is “any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that has potential to humiliate, degrade, abuse, or endanger a person regardless of that person’s willingness to participate.” It is imperative students realize these actions are not simply harmless antics and pranks, but abusive behavior that can threaten the health and safety of all involved. As family members of current students, it is important to know about hazing and be proactive in speaking with your student about any activities that concern you. Visit [stophazing.tamu.edu](http://stophazing.tamu.edu) for information and resources.
Health and wellbeing are important parts of a positive college experience, and advocating for a student’s wellbeing needs can take a back burner to academics, stress, and goals. It is important to share with your student that taking care of their wellbeing will pay dividends towards their academic success. Managing stress, eating well, staying active, maintaining healthy relationships, and navigating substance use are just some of the ways Health Promotion is here to support students.

Health Promotion’s goal with respect to interpersonal violence prevention is to create a campus community free of abuse, harassment, and other forms of sexual and intimate partner violence where students enjoy equitable, nonviolent relationships. Health Promotion’s programs promote healthy relationships, teach non-violence and equality, and foster a respectful and safe environment for all members of the Texas A&M community.

One of the greatest challenges many students face in college is pressure regarding alcohol. As Aggie family members, the most influential people in our Aggies’ lives, it is important for you to discuss important topics with your student. These can include setting clear and realistic expectations regarding academic performance, stressing that alcohol is toxic and excessive consumption can be fatally poisonous, and making it clear that underage alcohol consumption, drinking in excess, and driving after drinking are against the law.

studentlife.tamu.edu/hp
979.845.0280

* Dates subject to change
**Aggie Traditions**

The Big Event provides students with the opportunity to say, "Thank You" to the Bryan/College Station Community. Every year, more than 10,000 students volunteer to serve thousands of residents and groups, performing tasks that ranged from painting to yard work to cleaning.

bigevent.tamu.edu

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**Aggie Advice**

With course registration opening up in the month of April, it is a great time to speak with your student regarding their academic future. Students should visit their academic advisor at least once a semester to check on their degree plan and select appropriate courses to register for in the upcoming semester. This is also a great time for them to ask about any summer classes they may want to take as their advisor will help make sure they select the appropriate courses. Your student may also be realizing that they would like to change majors, with which academic advisors can also help. The process is different for each college, so make sure your student starts this process early!
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Family Weekend

Family Weekend, held each spring, is a tradition that has existed at Texas A&M University since 1919. This weekend is dedicated to all Aggie family members and provides students a chance to express their gratitude to those who have impacted their lives. This cherished A&M tradition has been previously designated Mother’s Day, Mother and Dad’s Day, Parent Appreciation, Open House, and Parents’ Weekend. Family Weekend is coordinated by the Aggie Parent & Family Ambassadors and the New Student & Family Programs office. This year, Family Weekend is from Friday, April 12 to Sunday, April 14. The full schedule of events will be posted on the Family Weekend website in March.

familyweekend.tamu.edu
979.845.5826

* Dates subject to change
April begins a time of stress for many students as they near the end of the semester and approach finals. Listen to your student, and clarify what they need from you as a family member. Sometimes they may need someone to vent to, and other times they need advice; however, it is important to let them make this distinction. If they do ask for advice, some helpful tips you can suggest for stress relief are: organizing their calendar for the month, encouraging them to take some “me time,” and communicating with people who will listen, like you! This is also a great time to send a care package to your student to help them prepare for those final exams.

Aggie Muster is one of Texas A&M’s oldest and most revered traditions. Officially started on April 21, 1922 as a day for remembrance of fellow Aggies, more than 300 Muster ceremonies are held on this date every year throughout Texas, the United States, and around the world. muster.tamu.edu
RESOURCES IN AGGIeland

Aggie Network

As you and your family explore Texas A&M University, know that The Association of Former Students is ready to welcome you and your student to Aggieland.

As the oldest organization serving Texas A&M University in support of the ever-growing Aggie Network, The Association supports programs that enhance the student experience, provide monetary resources for scholarships, student assistance funds and other student and former student needs, and cultivate experiences that impact students and former students during their unique Texas A&M journey. The Association is HERE, THERE and EVERYWHERE for the Aggie Network.

Stop by the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center at the corner of George Bush Drive and Houston Street to learn more about The Association’s legacy of service.

AggieNetwork.com
979.845.7514

* Dates subject to change
**AGGIE TRADITIONS**

Final Review is the last activity of the Corps of Cadets before it is dismissed for the summer. It is a full military review at Simpson Drill Field of the entire Corps of Cadets, designed to formally signify the transition of command of the Corps from one year to the next. To learn more about Traditions within the Corps of Cadets, go to: tx.ag/CorpsTraditions.

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**APRIL**

May is an exciting time for families as many students return home for summer. Be aware your student may have developed new behaviors and even a new appearance over the year. Now is a good time to discuss “rules of the home” while also understanding your student has just returned from an environment with no chores or curfews and now has no homework to consume their time. Finding a compromise in their newfound freedom and your house rules will be imperative to having a smooth transition for you and your student. If your student is staying in Bryan/College Station or leaving for an internship, communicate with them, and make sure they have a plan of action for the summer months.
Off Campus Student Services, as a part of Student Life, supports students living off-campus through educational programs, resources, and individual consultations on various topics.

OCSS staff can assist students with everything from understanding their rights and responsibilities in the leasing process to navigating disputes with roommates or landlords.

AggieSearch, Texas A&M University’s official off-campus housing website, allows students to filter available rental properties based on their specific needs. AggieSearch can also help your student find a great new roommate or someone to re-let their current rental.

Finally, OCSS liaises with local governments, non-profits, and residents to help address issues that impact off-campus students.

ocss.tamu.edu
aggiesearch.tamu.edu
979.845.1741

* Dates subject to change
**AGGIE TRADITIONS**

Replant is one of the largest student-run, environmental service projects in the nation. Hundreds of trees are planted each year by thousands of student volunteers from A&M and the Bryan/College Station area. Trees are planted at local parks, schools, and other public land properties.

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With Texas A&M comprised of more than 70,000 students, your student has had an opportunity to interact with classmates of various cultures, ethnicities, and beliefs. This is one of the greatest strengths of Texas A&M, and we hope that each student will learn more about themselves by interacting with those who have different life experiences. Texas A&M believes these interactions strengthen the University, promote the exchange of ideas, stimulate creativity, and enrich campus life. Talk with your student about their year at Texas A&M, and focus on the people they interacted with inside and outside of the classroom.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Career Center

Texas A&M is focused on preparing your student for endeavors beyond their undergraduate career. Whether they are looking to further their education or looking for employment, there is a program or office to aid your student.

The Texas A&M University Career Center provides comprehensive services to assist all Aggies in exploring major and career options, gaining work-related experience and internships, seeking admission to graduate school, and securing professional employment upon graduation. Services and resources available include one-on-one career advising, career-related programs and workshops, panel discussions, and online tools such as videos, webinars, resume templates, virtual mock interviews, networking tools, salary evaluation resources, and job search sites.

careercenter.tamu.edu
979.845.5139

* Dates subject to change
Many students will find friendships through student organizations, classes, and other activities that they will miss after the semester concludes. Some of these relationships will simply not last the test of summer, so it is important to support your student while understanding this is a natural part of college student development. The best thing you can do for your student is to listen to their concerns and issues regarding missing their new friends. The sympathetic ear you provide can be the greatest asset and resource they have during these summer months.
# Student Academic Schedule

Use this worksheet to record your student’s schedule for the semester.

## Fall 2023 Schedule

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