Welcome Home.

The Office of New Student & Family Programs is excited to welcome you to Texas A&M University for the fall 2013 semester! Now that it’s time for you to start your academic and personal journey, our office is dedicated to making your transition to Aggieland a success from the start. As part of the Aggie spirit, Texas A&M takes pride in the support and encouragement our faculty and staff provides each student during his or her time here. There are many ways for you to customize your Aggie experience, such as academic mentorship and leadership opportunities, getting involved in a campus organization, attending Fightin’ Texas Aggie athletic events and participating in all of the unique traditions that make Aggieland so special!

Don’t forget that we’re here to help every step of the way! If you have any questions, please contact us at (979) 845-5826, or visit our website at studentlife.tamu.edu/nsp. You can also find us in Cain Hall C-202.

The Aggie Orientation Leader Program (AOLP) hopes your New Student Conference was great and that you’re excited to be the loudest and proudest members of the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of 2017! We are looking forward to seeing you on campus in the fall. Don’t forget to visit the NSC Connections section on aolp.tamu.edu to join your NSC Facebook Group and see your Insight Group photo!

Be sure to attend Gig ‘Em Week, Aggieland’s Week of Welcome August 18-25, 2013. It’s a great time to meet fellow Aggies, hang out with your Orientation Leaders, and eat free pizza and ice cream! Read more on page 7.
Many students feel a little bit of anxiety before making their way to College Station for the first time. This is normal! With some preparation, you can be ready to enjoy your first year in no time!

Here are the some tips for successful living in College Station

- Before you pack, do your research. Know what can and can’t be brought with you if you are living on campus.

- If you’re living off campus, make a list of utilities that may or may not be included in your rent, then budget those services accordingly.

- If you will have a roommate, talk about habits, pet peeves, financial situations and cleanliness. Be honest! Make a contract and refer to it during times of conflict.

- Fill out your room condition checklist or apartment condition checklist BEFORE you move anything into your room.

- Get to know your neighbors. Whether you live on or off campus, it’s a great way to meet new people and have a person to call in case of an emergency!

- If you’re living on campus, get to know your Resident Advisor (RA), Graduate Hall Director (GHD), and Community Director (CD). They are a wealth of information and would be happy to help you adjust to campus!

- Once you’re in College Station, take the time to drive around and become familiar with your surroundings. Find places to eat, where to buy groceries, gas stations nearby, etc.

- Familiarize yourself with the transit system on campus so you know where the transit stops are located.

- Be realistic when you budget for your expenses. Planning out the small details will save you time and money.

Additional Resource Links

- Adult, Graduate & Off Campus Student Services
- Request an Off Campus Survival Guide
- Residence Hall FAQs
- Residence Life Living On Campus Guide
In addition to getting involved on campus, the College Station/Bryan community offers many opportunities to stay entertained, give back to your community, and enjoy your college experience. With Livability.com naming College Station as America’s top college town for 2012, you’re sure to find ways to explore your new home!

**THINGS TO DO:**

- Eat at Hullabaloo Diner (Featured on the Food Network’s Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives)
- Check out First Friday in Downtown Bryan
- Enjoy an afternoon at Research Park
- Enjoy some time outdoors at Lake Bryan
- Do your laundry and enjoy a burger at Harvey Washbangers
- Visit the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum
- Stop by the Leadership and Service Center to see how you can get involved in the community

**Weekend Getaways...**

**Austin:** Texas State Capitol, South Congress Street, Austin Music Festivals

**Houston:** Space Center Houston, Kemah Boardwalk, Hermann Park

**Dallas/Fort Worth:** Six Flags over Texas, multiple professional sport events, Dallas World Aquarium

**San Antonio:** The Alamo, Riverwalk, Sea World

**San Antonio**
Things to know before your first Fightin’ Texas Aggie Football game:

1. For your first Texas A&M football game, be sure you check out the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band and the Corps Step-off! Kick off for the first game against Rice is 12:00PM! Step Off will begin around 9:30AM so if you want to catch the largest military-style marching band in the world and watch the Corps of Cadets march in, you’ll need to be in your seat at Kyle Field early!

2. Be aware that you SIT on your numbered seat on your designated row, but STAND on the row in FRONT of you.

3. All student tickets are distributed based on classification, and seniors will pull tickets first. Juniors will pull next, and so on. Freshmen will most likely be seated on the third deck, so be prepared for the hike to the top. Your ticket will designate a section, row, and seat number. Once you are on the correct deck, be ready to show your ticket again as you leave the concourse and enter the stadium seating area in your designated section.

4. Food and vendors (who sometimes give away free stuff!) will be set up just outside of The Zone Plaza of Kyle Field. The Zone Plaza is the area just outside of the north end of the stadium (the side opposite of the Jumbotron).

5. The following parking areas are reserved for home football games: 39, 46, 48, 51, 59, 61, 62, 72, 74, 97, 100, 102, 105, University Center Garage Levels 1 & 2 and West Campus Garage (if you have a permit for WCG, you are OK). You MUST move your car from these parking areas the night before the game. Vehicles remaining in these areas will be ticketed and may be towed at YOUR expense. Vehicles may return to these areas at the conclusion of the game. Vehicles may be relocated to any lot which is not designated as 12th Man Game Day Parking. For up-to-date parking information, be sure to visit the Transportation Services website before each game at transport.tamu.edu.
# 2013 Football Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.31</td>
<td>vs. Rice</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.07</td>
<td>vs. Sam Houston St.</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.14</td>
<td>vs. Alabama</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.21</td>
<td>vs. SMU</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.28</td>
<td>vs. Arkansas</td>
<td>Fayetteville, Ark.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.12</td>
<td>vs. Ole Miss</td>
<td>Oxford, Miss.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.19</td>
<td>vs. Auburn</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.26</td>
<td>vs. Vanderbilt</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.02</td>
<td>vs. UTEP</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.09</td>
<td>vs. Mississippi State</td>
<td>College Station</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.23</td>
<td>vs. LSU</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, La.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>vs. Missouri</td>
<td>Columbia, Mo.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### What to bring:
- Ticket
- Student ID
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Large bottle of water
- 12th Man towel
- Rain gear (NO umbrellas at Kyle Field)
- Cash for snacks/drinks
- Wear an Aggie T-shirt
- Fightin’ Texas Aggie Spirit
Aggieland’s Official Week of Welcome

Each year, thousands of new and returning students participate in the Gig ‘Em Week tradition. You will be provided with numerous opportunities to meet people in the Aggie family, make friends, explore Texas A&M, and receive valuable information. Gig ‘Em Week begins on Sunday, Aug. 18 and continues through Sunday, Aug. 25. The complete schedule can be found at gigemweek.tamu.edu.

Sunday, August 18
Beginning at 8:00AM
Various locations

Residence Hall Move-In

5:00PM-10:00PM
REC Outdoor Area

T-Camp Backyard Bash

Tuesday, August 20
4:00PM-6:00PM
Hallabaloo Hall Courtyard

Aggie Fest

6:30PM-8:00PM
Clayton W. Williams Jr. Alumni Center

Gig ‘Em Week Gathering and Yell Practice

Wednesday, August 21
11:00AM-1:00PM
Simpson Drill Field

Ice Cream Carnival

1:00PM-3:00PM
Evans Lobby and Concourse

Library Open House

8:00PM-10:30PM
Rudder Theater

Gig ‘Em Week Movie Night

Thursday, August 22
11:00AM-1:00PM
Simpson Drill Field

Pizza Taste-Off

1:30PM-3:00PM
Koldus 125

Department of Student Activities Open House

9:00PM-12:00AM
Rudder Plaza

Party on the Plaza

Friday, August 23
11:00AM-2:00PM
Academic Plaza

Aggieland Market

Sunday, August 25
2:00PM-3:00PM
Reed Arena

Undergraduate Convocation
Undergraduate Convocation will be held Sunday, August 25, 2013 at 2:00PM in Reed Arena. Undergraduate Convocation concludes Gig ‘Em Week and is the official entry into Texas A&M’s academic community. You and your family are invited to this special occasion!

Undergraduate Convocation is the official beginning of a new student’s entry into Texas A&M University’s Community of Learners and Scholars. The Ceremony is designed to establish an academic connection between new undergraduate students and Texas A&M University. Undergraduate Convocation fulfills this purpose by ceremoniously recognizing each new student for having accepted the offer to join the Texas A&M University Community of Learners and Scholars. The program communicates to students their roles both as people who learn from others and as people who contribute to the vitality of the University. The Convocation also communicates the role of faculty members as scholars, teachers and fellow members of this community through a keynote address by a selected member of the undergraduate teaching faculty. Faculty from each academic department, the University president, vice presidents and provosts, in full academic regalia, will represent the University’s involvement and commitment to the new members of the Texas A&M Community of Learners and Scholars.

Undergraduate Convocation is held in Reed Arena to provide you with the opportunity to begin your college career in the same significant, positive manner in which you will complete your college career. Your family is invited to attend Undergraduate Convocation and celebrate your entry into Texas A&M University. Seating is available for your family and friends in designated sections. Signs and ushers in Reed Arena will provide you and your family with directions. In recognition of the formal nature of Undergraduate Convocation, you are asked to wear business casual attire.

For more information, visit undergradconvo.tamu.edu.
Academic Calendar.

Aug. 23  Last day to register for fall semester classes and pay fees
Aug. 25  Undergraduate Convocation
Aug. 26  First day of fall semester classes
Aug. 30  Last day for adding/dropping courses for the fall semester
Oct. 25-26  New Family Welcome
Nov. 15  Last day to drop courses with no penalty (Q-Drop)
          Last day to officially withdraw from the University
Nov. 14-15  Preregistration for Spring 2013 semester
Dec. 03  Last day of fall semester classes
          Redefined day, students attend their Friday classes
Dec. 04-05  Reading days, no class
Dec. 06, 9-11  Fall semester final examinations for all students

*All dates are subject to change. For the most up to date calendar visit: registrar.tamu.edu//General/Calendar.aspx

Important Reminders

Check out the MSC Open House to get involved on campus, Sunday, Sep. 1, 1:00pm-5:00pm at the MSC
Register for a meal plan at dining.tamu.edu.
Reserve your textbooks at the Barnes & Noble at Texas A&M University.
Put yourself in uncomfortable situations. Whether those situations be social, academic, or otherwise, it’s vital that you constantly test the boundaries of your comfort zone to get the most out of your college experience.

Go to the Supplemental Instruction (SI) sessions for classes that offer them. The instructor, who is usually an upperclassman, goes over the material the professor has covered in class and I always found it really helpful because it helped me understand concepts I didn’t understand in class, gave me the opportunity to ask more questions, and I also saw it as an hour of guided studying that made it easier to study when I had my exams.

Tips & Advice.

Your fellow Aggies in AOLP understand the transition you are making. Here are some tips to help make your first year at TAMU the best it can be!

Say Howdy!

Get involved with something on campus! At Texas A&M we have over 800 student organizations, so I guarantee you will find something that interests you. If not, you can start your own organization! Getting involved is great because you gain leadership experience and make a difference on campus. And, more importantly, it allows you to have positive and productive distractions from your studies, while allowing you to build friendships and network with other Aggies.

If you are unsure of your major, visit the Student Counseling Service in Cain Hall and set up an appointment with a personal career advisor. The advisor will have you take skills, strengths, and aptitude tests and help you decide which major would best fit your skills and life goals.

Remember your values • call home • attend an Aggie football game

Take time to study
TAMU on Social Media.

Don’t forget to share your memories in Aggieland on the TAMU social media sites! Stay up to date with what’s going on in Aggieland through social media. Post pictures, comments and follow TAMU to connect with your family of Aggies.

Follow TAMU on Twitter at @TAMU

Friend TAMU on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/tamu

Follow TAMU on Instagram at TAMU

Follow TAMU on Pinterest at http://pinterest.com/tamu/

Have a great year, Ags! Thanks & Gig ‘Em!

-New Student & Family Programs