Students are expected to come to the NSC prepared. We encourage you to tear out this page to remind you of what you need to do before your NSC. Before your New Student Conference, be sure to:

- Make your NSC overnight accommodations. See page 5 in this book for details.
- Register any family members or guests who are attending the NSC with you. See page 4.
- Purchase an NSC parking permit. See page 6.
- Submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. See page 8.
- Take your Math Placement Exam, Foreign Language Placement Test and/or Texas Success Initiative Assessment, if applicable. See pages 9 and 10.
- Complete the Lab Safety Acknowledgment via the Howdy Portal. See page 10.
- Begin checking your Texas A&M Gmail account as this is the university’s primary, and official, means of communicating with you. See below.
- Connect with us!

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**TEXAS A&M GMAIL**

As a confirmed new student, you now have a Texas A&M Gmail account. Your email address is NetID@tamu.edu. Your NetID is the same ID you use to log in to Howdy and the Applicant Information System (AIS). You should start checking your Texas A&M Gmail account regularly because important information will be sent there prior to your New Student Conference.

To check your email, visit google.tamu.edu and log in with your NetID and password. You can also set up Texas A&M Gmail on your smartphone so you won’t miss any important email! To learn how, visit hdc.tamu.edu/Connecting/Google_Apps/index.php.

If you have questions about your Texas A&M Gmail account or NetID, call the Texas A&M Information Technology Help Desk Central at (979) 845-8300 or visit IT.tamu.edu.
When you come to your New Student Conference, make sure you bring:

- NSC confirmation letter and NSC Handbook. If you do not have your confirmation letter, print out a copy of the New Student Conference Confirmation page in AID, which will be located on the My App status tab after clicking the Registration Details button (applicant.tamu.edu). You can attend ONLY the NSC for which you registered.
- Transcripts for all college work previously completed, if they have not already been sent to Texas A&M.
- Texas Success Initiative test results or scores showing exemption, if they have not already been sent to Texas A&M.
- Government-issued picture identification (driver’s license, passport, etc.) for verification at testing, and to have your Texas A&M ID card made.
- Money for meals and extras. Please note some services do not take credit cards.
- Comfortable clothes and walking shoes. You will be walking frequently around a LARGE campus for different sessions and programs.
- Umbrella or raincoat (as needed).
- Bag or backpack for gathering and carrying materials from resource tables and meetings.
- A pen and paper to take notes.
- A refillable water bottle.
- Laptop computer (optional). You will have access to Texas A&M computers in the lab, however, some find it convenient to bring their own laptop to view the online course catalog, course schedules, etc.

Welcome to the Aggie Family! The coming years promise to be exciting ones for you. Texas A&M will bring you in contact with students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds, cultures and countries. You will be uniting with them in the rewarding pursuit of knowledge and the thrill of learning.

At your New Student Conference (NSC), you will learn how to take full advantage of all the academic activities Texas A&M University has to offer. Your orientation process begins with your NSC, and it’s a critical component of your future success at Texas A&M University. Over the course of your NSC, you’ll participate in sessions and programs that have been designed to assist you with the transition from your previous environment to Texas A&M University.

At your New Student Conference, you can expect to develop:
- Awareness of information concerning the university’s academic requirements, policies and procedures — including course selection and registration.
- Awareness of information concerning personal safety and security on campus.
- Understanding of the broad range of student activities and leadership opportunities on campus.
- Awareness of the university’s offerings related to housing, dining, transportation, financial assistance, academic support and career guidance.
- Interactions with current students to discuss expectations and ask questions.

This New Student Conference Handbook was developed to help you make the most of your NSC experience. Please take time to read through this and any other materials you receive from the university. These materials are valuable resources you can use throughout your first year at Texas A&M University.

Don’t be afraid to ask questions! You’re receiving a lot of information right now, and we’re here to help you figure it all out — that’s what the Aggie Family is for! You will also have the opportunity to participate in social programs during your New Student Conference. This is a great time to meet other members of your class and learn more about Aggie traditions.

Conference staff and Orientation Leaders will be available throughout your conference, so take advantage of the opportunity to ask any questions you have. Your best chance for success comes through combining careful planning, informed decision making, and timely use of services and resources with your dedication and commitment to the ultimate goal — academic success!
Texas A&M University provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Texas A&M University will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, sexual harassment and related retaliation in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Further, Texas A&M University will maintain a work and educational environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

**CONFERENCE QUESTIONS?**

For information concerning conference registration for students, please contact:

**Office of Admissions**
(979) 845-1060
admissions@tamu.edu

- Visit applicant.tamu.edu, select Contact Us, Ask a Question, and submit your question.

For information concerning conference programs or family/guest registration, please contact:

**New Student & Family Programs**
(979) 845-5826
nsfp@tamu.edu
newaggie.tamu.edu

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**Table of Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Conference Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Message to Family Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Conference Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>NSCs En Español</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Conference Logistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Conference Accommodations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dining on Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Disability Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>NSC Parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Veteran and Dependent Services and Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Conference Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bacterial Meningitis Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Math Placement Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Foreign Language Placement Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lab Safety Acknowledgment Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Texas Success Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Conference Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pre-Conference Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Day One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Day Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Frequently Asked Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Extended Orientation Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Campus Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Regional Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Helpful Numbers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MESSAGE TO FAMILY MEMBERS

Texas A&M University believes the college experience represents a collaboration involving the student, the family of the student and the university. While the New Student Conference is only mandatory for students, we invite family members and guests to attend and participate in a variety of sessions and services specifically designed for them. Accompanying your student to the New Student Conference will provide you with valuable information to help support your student’s transition into the Texas A&M University community. By participating, you will become informed about the university’s academic programs, policies, facilities and services. While all family members are welcome to attend, conference activities are not designed for the enjoyment of younger children. If possible, alternate arrangements are encouraged.

Each family member or guest who wishes to attend must register online and pay the respective conference charges ($25 per family member 18 and older; $10 per family member 5–17; no charge for children under 5). Registration for family members is a separate process than the student registration. For more information and to register, please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/family-and-guests. Priority registration is open until May 1; after May 1, late charges will apply. For questions related to family member registration, please contact New Student & Family Programs at aggiefamilies@tamu.edu or (979) 845-5826.

Further information regarding support for family members beyond the New Student Conference can be found at parents.tamu.edu.

NEW STUDENT CONFERENCE STAFF

OFFICE OF NEW STUDENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS (NSFP)

In support of Texas A&M University’s mission, the goal of the Office of New Student & Family Programs is to facilitate your success as a new student through your first year at Texas A&M. Through various programs and publications, including New Student Conferences, NSFP staff strive to provide you with the framework to adjust to the expectations, standards, academic rigors and social community at Texas A&M University. NSFP also facilitates collaboration between university services in order to provide a comprehensive new student experience.

Office of New Student & Family Programs
(979) 845-5826
studentlife.tamu.edu/nsfp
Follow us on Twitter @NSFPtamu

AGGIE ORIENTATION LEADERS

Orientation Leaders are students who volunteer their time to welcome and assist new students and their families. Members of the Aggie Orientation Leader Program (AOLP) can be identified by their distinctive maroon polos and welcoming smiles. These students are trained to help make the conference a memorable and fun experience. Have a question or a problem? Seek out an Orientation Leader — they’re here for you! Orientation Leaders work with the New Student & Family Programs staff and will be on hand to assist you throughout your conference. Visit aolp.tamu.edu.

NEW STUDENT CONFERENCES EN ESPAÑOL

Thanks to the generosity of The Association of Former Students, the Office of New Student & Family Programs offers Spanish translation for family members during the New Student Conference.

Programs designated for Spanish translation will be noted in the NSC schedule and provided via headset. Family members interested in having programs translated will need to visit the Help Desk on Day One of the NSC to receive a headset.

Additionally, a Spanish-speaking staff member will be available at Check-In and the Help Desk for family members to ask questions as needed. These services are provided free of charge, but we do request that families indicate their interest in utilizing this service on their family/guest registration form.
CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATIONS
Both days of the New Student Conference are mandatory, therefore, you will need overnight accommodations for at least one night. **Costs for housing are NOT included in the student or family member registration fee, and arrangements must be made separately.** You may choose to stay on campus or off campus during your NSC.

ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS
The Department of Residence Life invites you, family members and friends to stay in on-campus conference housing. Conference housing will be available on the north side of campus. **On-campus conference housing tends to fill quickly and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.** Please bring items such as a cell phone, mattress pads, travel alarm clocks, blankets and pillows to use during your stay. Bed linens and towels are provided, but you may want to bring your own items to make your stay more comfortable. Each room has two twin beds. Rollaway beds or cribs are not available. Conference housing is NOT available for the August 24–25 conference.

ROOM RATES
Room rates for summer New Student Conferences on-campus guest housing can be found in the New Student Conference Housing online reservation site. Links to this site can be found at newaggie.tamu.edu/freshmen/housing. Housing costs will be billed to the student’s account (all rates subject to change) after the student and his or her family have checked out of housing. **Costs for housing are NOT included in the New Student Conference registration fee.**

OFF-CAMPUS CONFERENCE HOUSING
For accommodations in Bryan/College Station, please contact the Bryan/College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau at (979) 260-9898 or visitaggieland.com for information on area hotels and motels. If you are staying off campus, you will need to provide your own transportation.

CONFERENCE T-SHIRTS
- Class of 2019 shirts
- Aggie Family shirts
- All T-shirts are $15 each (cash or check only) and will be available at Check-In, Howdy Lunch and evening programs on Day One

DINING ON CAMPUS
MEALS ON YOUR OWN
Texas A&M University Dining invites you to dine with us on campus during your New Student Conference. We offer a variety of options around campus and welcome students, parents and visitors. For location and facility hours, please refer to the summer schedule handout you will receive at NSC Check-In. For additional information regarding University Dining and your dining plan options, please visit dining.tamu.edu, or contact us at (979) 845-3005 or TAMUDining@compass-usa.com.

HOWDY LUNCH TICKETS
Join the Aggie community for lunch on Day One at Sbisa Dining Hall. Tickets are available for purchase at New Student Conference Check-In and at the door.

STUDENT/FAMILY DINNER
Dinner on the evening of Day One of the New Student Conference is included in your conference fee for both students and registered guests. Enjoy a relaxed dinner on campus while you meet other students or family members and interact with the Aggie Orientation Leaders. See page 14 for more details.

DISABILITY SERVICES
Disability Services (DS) interacts and collaborates with students, faculty and staff to promote an inclusive environment at Texas A&M University by educating the campus community and facilitating appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities such as mobility, hearing or visual impairments, or learning and/or psychological disorders may be eligible for services and should submit an accommodation request form and documentation of their disability to Disability Services to begin the process to set up accommodations. Representatives from Disability Services are available to meet with students and family members during New Student Conferences. If eligible, you may arrange for accommodations during your New Student Conference by submitting documentation of your disability to DS at least two weeks prior to your New Student Conference.

Disability Services
Cain Hall, Room B-118
(979) 845-1637
disability.tamu.edu
NSC PARKING

Please read all information before purchasing a parking permit for your New Student Conference. ALL vehicles must display a valid Texas A&M University parking permit when parked on university property (other than visitor parking areas). New Student Conference attendees should purchase a SUMMER WEEKLY permit OR lot-specific parking permit to park on campus OR pay to park in a visitor facility. The most convenient lot for New Student Conference Check-In is West Campus Garage or lot 61. Attendees should select the option below that best meets their needs.

OPTION 1: Purchase a Summer Weekly Permit
The Summer Weekly permit allows attendees to park in the following lots: 30, 40, 43, 50, 61, 71, 88, 100, West Campus Garage and Southside Garage. Visit transport.tamu.edu/BSMMap. The permit is $15 and is only valid for the dates selected during the purchase process.

Summer Weekly permits are nonrefundable and available for purchase online only at https://transport.tamu.edu/account/. Attendees purchasing the Summer Weekly permit will print the permit after purchase. Permits must be displayed on the dashboard while parked on campus. When parking in West Campus Garage, scan the barcode on your permit at the entry and exit gates.

OPTION 2: Pay to Park in a Garage or Visitor Parking Area
If attendees do not wish to purchase a Summer Weekly permit, they can pay hourly parking rates in University Center Garage, Central Campus Garage, Northside Garage, West Campus Garage, or lots 51, 61, 72, 74, 88 or 97. Payment for surface lots and Northside Garage is required upon arrival, and payment for other garages is required upon exit.

transport.tamu.edu/VISMap

OPTION 3: August NSC Attendees Only, Use Your Fall 2015 permit
August NSC attendees who have ordered and received their Fall 2015 permit may display it and park in their assigned lot. All others should purchase a $20 Weekly Visitor permit and park in one of the Any Valid Permit areas shown on the map at transport.tamu.edu/AVPMap.

PARKING QUESTIONS?
For information concerning conference parking, please contact:

Transportation Services
(979) 862-PARK (7275)
transport.tamu.edu/nscc
VETERAN AND DEPENDENT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

At Texas A&M University we are proud of our rich military heritage. We also take great pride in our standing as a national leader in service to our students who are veterans, active duty, Reserve/National Guard, military dependents and survivors. Texas A&M University is committed to serving well those who have served through a uniquely collaborative support network that provides personalized resources and services. Our two offices, the Veteran Services Office and the Veteran Resource and Support Center, have a unique and powerful relationship that is specifically designed to facilitate your transition to our nationally ranked campus so you can achieve your educational goals.

The Veteran Services Office provides services and support for all of your Veteran Affairs and State of Texas educational benefits. In addition to certifying your benefits, they can answer questions and provide assistance with financial aid and scholarships. The Veteran Resource and Support Center serves the needs of all military-affiliated students and prospective student veterans with uniquely tailored campus and community resources. Both offices work with other campus offices to focus on the transition and retention of veterans. We are here to serve you and connect you to the rest of campus. THANK YOU for your service to our country, and we stand ready to serve you as you pursue your education.

Services from both the Veteran Services Office and the Veteran Resource and Support Center:
- A mandatory New Student Conference orientation for student veterans (highly encouraged for military dependents).
- VetCamp (held in the fall and spring) — an in-depth orientation about campus and community resources (spouses welcome).
- Boots to Backpacks (held in the fall) — a social connecting new student veterans to current student veterans and the administrators who support them.

Services from the Veteran Resource and Support Center:
- Academic support and student life skills.
- Aggie Vet Network and Vet Connect programs.
- FREE tickets for student vets (as available).
- Military admissions.
- Relocation/housing assistance referrals.
- Disability Services referrals.
- Veteran/military-related student and professional organizations.
- Career Services (both part-time as a student and full-time after graduation).
- Student Veterans Association (tamuveterans.tamu.edu).
- Corps of Cadets Delta Company — for combat veterans who want to join the Corps.
- Vet Success on Campus Counselor — your direct connection to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The mission of the Veteran Services Office and the Veteran Resource and Support Center is to “serve well those who have served!” Contact us today to find out how we can help you make the transition to Aggieland!

Veteran Services Office
Pavilion Building, Room 205
(979) 845-8075
veterans@tamu.edu
veterans.tamu.edu

Veteran Resource and Support Center
Koldus Building, Suite 112
(979) 845-3161
aggievets@tamu.edu
aggievet.tamu.edu
BACTERIAL MENINGITIS REQUIREMENT

TEC 51.9192 requires all students under age 22 entering an institution of higher education to provide current proof of vaccination against bacterial meningitis (an immunization given within five years of the date of intended enrollment) or meet certain requirements for declining such a vaccination. Newly admitted students who have not provided documentation of vaccination have a meningitis deficiency hold placed on their account. The hold will be removed once the appropriate immunization documentation has been provided to Texas A&M. The meningitis deficiency hold will prevent you from checking in to your New Student Conference and registering for classes, so it is imperative you fulfill this requirement prior to arriving at your NSC.

The law further states that students must receive the vaccination no later than 10 days before the first day of the semester in which the student enrolls. Therefore, all new students enrolling for the fall 2015 semester must receive the vaccination by August 21 or before your conference (whichever date is earlier). For students attending the August 24–25 conference, you are strongly encouraged to submit your Evidence of Vaccination by July 7 so that you can be pre-registered for your classes by your academic college.

If you arrive at your New Student Conference and have not yet fulfilled this requirement, you will not be able to check in and must take care of your immunization requirement immediately. Vaccinations will be available at the Beutel Health Center on campus at a cost comparable to local pharmacies.

Payment by check or credit card can be made when the vaccination is administered, or the charge can be added to your fee statement. Students are highly encouraged to take care of this requirement prior to the New Student Conference, as the cost of the vaccination may be lower through your current health care provider.

Upload your proof of vaccination through AIS (applicant.tamu.edu) by choosing the link under the “Upload Supporting Documents” section. You will be able to view receipt of your immunization document on AIS under the Documents tab within the next 24 hours. Please allow a few days for Office of Admissions staff to complete processing on your immunization document.

To determine if you have satisfied the evidence of vaccination requirement for bacterial meningitis, go to the AIS website and ensure that a check mark is present on the bacterial meningitis checklist item found under the “Documents Required prior to Enrollment/Registration” section.

For more information including where to send your documentation, visit admissions.tamu.edu/meningitis/.

WHEN DO FALL CLASSES START?

The first day of classes for the 2015 fall semester is August 31.

First summer term classes begin June 2; second summer term classes begin July 7.
WHAT IS THE MATH PLACEMENT EXAM (MPE)?
The Math Placement Exam is a multiple-choice examination used to assess a student’s math skills. It is an important tool to help your advisor determine which mathematics course you should take. There are two MPEs and students will be directed to the correct exam based upon their major.

DO I NEED TO TAKE THE MATH PLACEMENT EXAM?
All Freshmen are required to take the MPE. Students will not be permitted to register for any mathematics course until MPE test scores are on file.

Testing Instructions
To take the MPE, log into Howdy at howdy.tamu.edu and go to the Applicant Tab and follow the instructions for the Math Placement Exam. Use the online review material available to help you prepare for this 90-minute exam. Be prepared to spend the full 90 minutes taking the exam. If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the Department of Mathematics at mathassessment@math.tamu.edu.

The following rules apply to the Math Placement Exam:

• Calculators are not permitted.
• Exam must be taken before you attend your New Student Conference.
• The exam may be repeated. However, there is a two week waiting period between attempts.

WHAT IF I NEED TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO A DISABILITY?
If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete any of the NSC placement exams or Texas Success Initiative requirements, please contact the Department of Disability Services to discuss your needs. Reasonable testing accommodations are provided to allow students with documented disabilities an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge.

In order to coordinate testing accommodations for any of the tests offered through New Student Conferences, students must submit documentation of their disability to DS at least two weeks prior to the scheduled testing date for review. Please contact the Disability Services office at (979) 845-1637 or visit disability.tamu.edu for more information.

Other Information
Calculus credit by examination is earned through a different test. Please contact Data and Research Services at (979) 845-0532 to schedule additional examinations. For questions regarding the Math Placement Exam, please contact the Math Department at mathassessment@math.tamu.edu or your academic advisor.
REQUIRED FOREIGN LANGUAGE PLACEMENT TESTING

Students who intend to enroll for the first time in a college foreign language course, who have previous knowledge of the language, however acquired, and who have no college credit in the language MUST take a placement test to determine the appropriate course for their level of ability. The foreign language placement test also serves as a basis for credit by examination. Second language learners who take the Advanced Placement (AP) Test, the College Board Achievement Test, the International Baccalaureate test (IB) or the SAT II Subject Test in their foreign language of choice do not have to take the required foreign language placement tests, as the results of these tests may be used for placement, but it is highly recommended. Heritage language learners must always take the placement test, regardless of their scores on high school tests, because these tests sometimes are not a good reflection of the language abilities of those students.

The Spanish Language Placement Test is administered by Hispanic Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. There is a $30.00 fee that is due at the time of registration. For more information, call (979) 458-0672, and to register for this test, please select “Hispanic Studies” at marketplace.tamu.edu.

All other Language Placement Tests are administered by International Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. There is a $30.00 fee that is due at the time of registration. For more information, call (979) 845-5144 and to register for this test, please select “Dept. of International Studies” and then “Placement Exam” at marketplace.tamu.edu. Students will be able to select a date, time and language during their test registration.

All tests will be administered on the Pre-Conference Day of the New Student Conference. The test will also be offered at various times during the fall and spring semesters. Students who do not take the placement test on the Pre-Conference Day will not be able to register for a foreign language course during their first semester. (Please note: seats in language courses are limited; taking the Language Placement test does not guarantee the ability to register for a language course during your first semester.)

LAB SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGMENT REQUIREMENT

Some courses require students to submit a Lab Safety Acknowledgment (LSA) before registration is permitted. All New Student Conference attendees must submit the LSA prior to their New Student Conference to ensure registration access. Step-by-step instructions for submitting your LSA via Howdy are available at registrar.tamu.edu/forms/LabSafetyAck.pdf. Your Howdy portal is accessible at howdy.tamu.edu. If you need assistance, please contact the Office of the Registrar at (979) 845-7117.

HOW DO I MEET THE TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) REQUIREMENT?

Unless exempt, students must first complete the TSI Pre-Assessment Activity and then take the TSI Assessment Test. A list of possible exemptions can be found at successcenter.tamu.edu/Programs/Texas-Success-Initiative/TSI-Exemptions. Non-exempt students will be blocked from registering for all classes during the New Student Conference until the TSI Assessment Test has been taken and scores are on file at Texas A&M University.

The TSI Assessment Test is available on the Pre-Conference Day of each New Student Conference for students who have not met the Texas Success Initiative requirement. Students need to register for the test prior to the test date by contacting Data and Research Services at (979) 845-0532. Students may take the TSI Assessment Test at most Texas public colleges in their area and send the scores to the Academic Success Center at Texas A&M University.

If you have further questions concerning the Texas Success Initiative, please contact the Academic Success Center at (979) 845-2724 or visit successcenter.tamu.edu/Programs/Texas-Success-Initiative.
CONFERENCE PROGRAMS
There are three days of NSC programs; however, the Pre-Conference Day, while recommended, is not required. If you do not attend the Pre-Conference Day, then you should note that Check-In on the morning of Day One is mandatory. You will receive an official schedule at Check-In; however, schedules are posted on the newaggie.tamu.edu website one week prior to your New Student Conference date. Times, locations and specific program descriptions in this publication are subject to change.

PRE-CONFERENCE DAY (MAY, JUNE AND JULY ONLY)
We encourage you to arrive on the day prior to your New Student Conference, what we refer to as the Pre-Conference Day. For example, if you are registered for the June 4–5 conference, your Pre-Conference Day will take place on June 3. You will have the opportunity to take advantage of supplemental programming, go through Check-In early, have your student ID made and take care of many of the other to-do items on your NSC Schedule Checklist. Students attending the Pre-Conference Day typically experience shorter wait times to accomplish necessary tasks.

International students: Please keep in mind when choosing a New Student Conference date that you are required to attend a check-in appointment with International Student Services the day prior to your New Student Conference. Please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/international-students for additional information.

PRE-CONFERENCE DAY (MAY, JUNE AND JULY ONLY)
*For the August Conference, the only Pre-Conference event is the Evening Social with the Orientation Leaders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Check-In</td>
<td>You will receive all of your orientation materials, including a map and official conference schedule. You will also have the opportunity to clear any holds on your account and buy an official Class of 2019 or Aggie Family T-shirt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Tours</td>
<td>Get acquainted with the campus, its unique history, and the traditions of Texas A&amp;M. Orientation Leaders will conduct 45-minute walking tours of central campus, departing from conference Check-In about every 10 minutes. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes, and bring an umbrella in case of inclement weather. An alternative tour is available for those who would prefer a virtual tour experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Residence Hall Tours</td>
<td>Available to guests wishing to see furnished rooms of Hullabaloo Hall, Modular, Corridor, Balcony and Ramp style buildings. For specific times visit reslife.tamu.edu/conferencesTours/reshallTours or call (979) 845-2821.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. or later</td>
<td>On-Campus Conference Housing Check-In</td>
<td>Students and families staying in on-campus conference housing may check in to housing any time after 2:00 p.m. on the Pre-Conference Day in Hullabaloo Hall.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Times Vary</td>
<td>TSI Assessment Test</td>
<td>Students who are not exempt from the Texas Success Initiative and have not taken the TSI Assessment Test prior to the conference must do so at this time, or they will not be allowed to register for classes. See page 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Fraternity and Sorority Life Session</td>
<td>More than 4,000 Aggies have chosen to experience fraternity or sorority life at Texas A&amp;M. Come learn about the impact Greek students have on campus and the community, and how you could fit into the picture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Corps of Cadets Open House</td>
<td>Joining the Corps or seeking more information? Stop by the Corps of Cadets Open House to meet with outfit representatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>Utilize the Rec Center at your leisure. Check in with the Member Services Desk at the Rec Center to gain passes. Equipment fees may apply. Proper attire is required. Family members under 18 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening Social with the Orientation Leaders</td>
<td>The Aggie Orientation Leader Program and The Association of Former Students invite new students and family members for light refreshments as you explore the different exhibits on display at the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Orientation Leaders will also host several activities, and be available to socialize and answer any questions you have.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## DAY ONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Check-In</td>
<td>You will receive all of your orientation materials, including a map and official conference schedule. You will also have the opportunity to clear any holds on your account and buy an official Class of 2019 or Aggie Family T-shirt.</td>
<td>Mandatory for all participants if you did not check in on the Pre-Conference Day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Campus Tours</td>
<td>Get acquainted with the campus, its unique history and the traditions of Texas A&amp;M. Orientation Leaders will conduct 45-minute walking tours of central campus, departing from conference Check-In about every 10 minutes. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes, and bring an umbrella in case of inclement weather. An alternative tour is available for those who would prefer a virtual tour experience.</td>
<td>Optional but encouraged for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>On-Campus Conference Housing Check-In</td>
<td>Students and families staying in on-campus conference housing may check in to housing any time on Day One of the conference at Hullabaloo Hall.</td>
<td>If applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Veteran Services Session {or} Professional School Advising Session {or}</td>
<td>Learn how to get the most out of your military educational benefits and the veteran services and resources available at Texas A&amp;M. This program is important for first-year students interested in careers in medicine, dentistry, allied health, veterinary medicine, law or teacher certification for secondary education. Attendance is strongly recommended for all students interested in one of these professions, regardless of major.</td>
<td>Mandatory for veterans; highly suggested for military dependents. If applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From Backpack to Briefcase</td>
<td>Learn the essential campus resources provided by Transition Academic Programs, the Academic Success Center, Student Counseling Service and Career Center that help students make a smooth transition to college, succeed in a collegiate academic setting, and further personal career development.</td>
<td>Optional but encouraged for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Session</td>
<td>This opening session is your formal welcome to the Aggie Family from New Student &amp; Family Programs!</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:05 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.</td>
<td>Joining a Community of Scholars</td>
<td>This session will provide you with important information about the opportunities, rights and responsibilities as a new member of Texas A&amp;M’s Community of Scholars.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Campus Services Session</td>
<td>Learn more about the support services offered to you such as transportation, dining and computing. You will also receive important information regarding campus safety and emergency preparedness.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Keys to Financial Matters</td>
<td>Staff from Student Business Services and Scholarships &amp; Financial Aid will discuss tuition and fees, how to pay your bill, deadlines and financial resources including scholarships, grants and loans.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
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### TIME PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AUDIENCE

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>FOCUS Learning Community Briefing</td>
<td>Learn more about the FOCUS program, meet FOCUS staff and advisors, complete the FOCUS course reference sheet, and ask any questions regarding the program.</td>
<td>Mandatory for students admitted to the FOCUS Learning Community Program. Guests welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Howdy Lunch</td>
<td>The come-and-go atmosphere of the Howdy Lunch along with the chance to visit resource tables is a wonderful way to experience dining on campus and find out about a number of university services. Tickets will be sold at conference Check-In and at the door.</td>
<td>Optional but encouraged for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Corps Orientation and Registration</td>
<td>Register for the Corps of Cadets and participate in an orientation session for families and students. Session includes information on Corps housing, uniforms, meal plans, unit assignments, ROTC enrollment and cadet scholarships.</td>
<td>If applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>On-Campus Housing Session</td>
<td>Students will learn about residence life housing policies, what items to bring when moving in, and what to expect as on-campus residents. Students will also learn who their resources are in the residence hall.</td>
<td>Mandatory for students who have been confirmed with an on-campus residence hall space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Off-Campus Student Services</td>
<td>Learn about off-campus living, including how to find housing, important rental/leasing information, roommate relations and transportation.</td>
<td>Students who will be living off campus. Family members are welcome to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Family On-Campus Housing and Services</td>
<td>Learn about on-campus living arrangements and find out more information about housing-related support services including parking, dining and computing.</td>
<td>Families only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus SaVE Training</td>
<td>This mandatory session will focus on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 with special emphasis on students’ rights and available resources.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Aggieland… A Community of Respect</td>
<td>Centered around the Core Value of Respect, this program reviews university and community expectations and your role in the Aggie Family.</td>
<td>Students only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Partners in Success</td>
<td>Explore the challenges faced by new students during their transition to college, and how the university and families can partner to provide support to increase student success.</td>
<td>Families only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Academic Meeting</td>
<td>This session will provide you with critical information regarding academic policies and course registration.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## STUDENT AND FAMILY EVENING TRACKS

On the evening of Day One of the conference, we offer a separate track of activities for students and family members. While these programs are optional, many participants tell us these activities were the highlight of their conference experience. Don’t miss out!

### DAY ONE: EVENING STUDENT TRACK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Freshman Dinner</td>
<td>This is an opportunity to relax and dine with your fellow classmates! It is a great time to meet other Aggies and chat with Orientation Leaders. The dinner is free for new students participating in the conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Aggie Insights</td>
<td>Want to find out everything about Aggieland but not sure whom to ask? Aggie Insights offers the chance for new students to meet in small, informal groups with Orientation Leaders. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions about college life, and Orientation Leaders will share their personal experiences as students at Texas A&amp;M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Aggie Energizer</td>
<td>Have fun and meet other Aggies by participating in a variety of games that will energize you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CSI: Aggieland</td>
<td>Focusing on “Campus Safety Issues,” this session will inform students of the tough safety and social issues many college students face, as well as the resources available at Texas A&amp;M to support them.</td>
</tr>
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### FAMILY TRACK

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ask an Aggie</td>
<td>A panel of current students will provide an expanded Q&amp;A session to address any questions or concerns and give their perspective on life at Texas A&amp;M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45 p.m. – 8:25 p.m.</td>
<td>Family Dinner and Being an Aggie Family Member</td>
<td>This relaxed dinner is a great way to meet other family members and interact with the Aggie Orientation Leaders. You’ll also hear how the Office of New Student &amp; Family Programs supports family members, and a representative from the Federation of Texas A&amp;M University Mothers’ Club will speak about getting involved in your local Aggie Moms Club. The cost of this dinner is included in the family member registration charge.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Being an Aggie and Yell Practice</td>
<td>Being an Aggie means developing in many aspects! Hear from current student leaders on what it truly means to be an Aggie. The evening concludes with the Aggie Yell Leaders leading you in your first Yell Practice as a member of the Class of 2019!</td>
<td>Students and family members will join back together for this session.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION

On Day Two of the New Student Conference, students will spend the day with their academic college and register for their fall classes. Please be prepared to remain until 6:00 p.m., if necessary, to complete registration.

DAY TWO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<th>AUDIENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>College Meetings and Academic Advising</td>
<td>These meetings provide the opportunity to meet with representatives from your specific college who will discuss requirements and answer questions you have about your major. You will also develop a trial semester schedule and meet in small groups with an academic advisor.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times Vary</td>
<td>Lunch on Your Own</td>
<td>See handout for dining locations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Course Registration</td>
<td>Students will register for their fall classes and optional campus services. Academic advisors will be available to answer any questions you may have. Please be prepared to remain until 6:00 p.m., if necessary, to complete registration.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for all participants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO DO I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCORES?
For questions regarding scoring or how courses will apply to your degree plan, please contact your departmental advisor. If you took an Advanced Placement test in May, scores will not be received by Texas A&M University until mid-July. Students should only accept AP credit after consulting with their academic advisor. To contact your academic advisor, please refer to the contact information listed for each academic college on page 22 of this handbook.

HOW CAN I CHANGE MY CONFERENCE DATE?
You are required to attend the conference date for which you are registered. Students are not allowed to participate in a conference they are not registered for in advance. You can change your conference date as long as dates are available on the NSC registration website, accessible through AIS. Once dates are full, they will be removed from the site and are no longer available due to seating capacity limits and safety regulations. Each year students request to be forced into conferences to accommodate changes in their personal schedule due to work conflicts or travel; these types of requests are denied in order to ensure the safety of the other participants. Appeals to change a conference date are only granted for military orders, medical emergencies or other extenuating circumstances that students can substantiate with written documentation. Appeals are submitted through AIS at applicant.tamu.edu by going to the Contact Us tab, clicking Ask A Question, and selecting a subject type of NSC Appeal and completing the required fields.

IF MY PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS PLAN TO ATTEND THE NSC WITH ME, DO THEY NEED TO REGISTER?
Yes. Each family member or guest who wishes to attend must register online and pay the respective conference charges. Registration for family members is a separate process from the student registration. For more information and to register, please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/family-and-guests. Priority registration is open until May 1; after May 1, additional charges will apply. For questions related to family member registration, contact New Student & Family Programs at aggiefamilies@tamu.edu or (979) 845-5826.

HOW CAN I CHANGE MY MAJOR?
Admitted students may request a change of major via the Howdy Portal, howdy.tamu.edu. Select the Applicant Tab and ‘Manage Applications.’ Some majors have enrollment limits and may not accept a change of major, such as the College of Architecture (all majors); College of Engineering (all majors); Mays Business School (all majors); Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine; Biology, Molecular and Cell Biology, Microbiology, and Zoology within the College of Science; Psychology, Communications and Journalism Studies-University Studies in the College of Liberal Arts; and Public Health in the College of Public Health. Please be aware that a change of major is never guaranteed. A change of major may mean a change in your NSC date; therefore, verify that your new college is participating in the NSC in which you are currently registered. If not, you must reschedule your conference.
WHEN DO I PAY FOR TUITION, FEES AND OPTIONAL CAMPUS SERVICES?

Tuition and fees payment information may be found online at sbs.tamu.edu. Students will have access to view fee statements and pay online beginning in August. An email notification will be sent to the student’s Texas A&M email account with a link to the online statement when fees for the fall term have been calculated.

Students attending August conferences are encouraged to pay tuition and fees immediately after registering. Payments may be submitted online or in person at the General Services Complex in Suite 2801 (expect long lines in August).

Payment options include:
- Online credit cards and e-checks.
- Check, cashier’s check or money order.
- Wire transfer.
- Installment plan.
- Emergency tuition and fee loans — see Loan Applications at financialaid.tamu.edu for details.

In addition to registering for your classes during your New Student Conference, you will have the opportunity to select from various optional services. These may include dining plans, parking permits and a sports pass. Any optional services that you select will appear on your fee statement in addition to your tuition and any required fees.

A list and description of required and optional fees can be found at sbs.tamu.edu.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Be sure to check out the New Student Conference website, newaggie.tamu.edu.

The New Aggie website features extended FAQs, PDF versions of every publication you have received from Texas A&M since the time of your admission, and much more!

EXTENDED ORIENTATION PROGRAMS

Extended orientation programs are designed to provide new students with additional opportunities to socialize and network with new and continuing students. While attendance at a New Student Conference is mandatory for all new undergraduate students, participation in extended orientation programs, such as Fish Camp, is optional but highly encouraged! For information on the various programs available, please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/freshmen/after-your-new-student-conference/.

GIG ‘EM WEEK: AGGIELAND’S WEEK OF WELCOME: AUGUST 23–30

Your classes are set, you’ve moved in, and you have learned some of the traditions that make this place so special…what’s next? Gig ‘Em Week! This week is full of events and opportunities for new and returning students to become familiar or reacquainted with the Texas A&M campus, fellow Aggies and the Bryan/College Station community.

Gig ‘Em Week provides you an opportunity to learn more about the campus, other students and college life in general through a series of educational and social events sponsored by university departments, colleges, student organizations, residence halls and community members. Gig ‘Em Week is coordinated by the Office of New Student & Family Programs and takes place the week before classes begin in the fall. For more information, please visit gigemweek.tamu.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE CONVOCATION: AUGUST 30 AT 2:00 P.M., REED ARENA

Undergraduate Convocation officially welcomes new students to the Texas A&M University Community of Scholars in a manner similar to the recognition they will receive at commencement. Incoming undergraduate students will join faculty, college deans, and the university president and vice presidents to commemorate their entry into the Texas A&M University Community of Scholars. In addition, when assembled in one place, incoming students will gain a sense of their number, strength and identity as well as develop an important connection to one another and to the university. Family members are welcome to attend. For additional information, please visit undergradconvo.tamu.edu.
This map highlights locations specific to NSC programs. A more comprehensive map will be provided at NSC Check-In and is also available at maps.tamu.edu.

*Please visit transport.tamu.edu for more details and to purchase a parking permit.
NSC Check-In is held in the Zone Club (north end zone) of Kyle Field. The physical address for Kyle Field is:
198 Joe Routt Blvd.
College Station, TX 77843
Helpful Numbers

ACADEMIC COLLEGES

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
(979) 845-3712
aglifesciences.tamu.edu

College of Architecture
(979) 845-1144
arch.tamu.edu

Mays Business School
(979) 862-3850
mays.tamu.edu

College of Education & Human Development
(979) 845-5311
education.tamu.edu

Dwight Look College of Engineering
(979) 845-7200
engineering.tamu.edu

College of Geosciences
(979) 845-3651
geosciences.tamu.edu

College of Liberal Arts
(979) 845-5143
liberalarts.tamu.edu

College of Rural Public Health
(979) 845-2387
sph.tamhsc.edu

College of Science
(979) 845-7361
science.tamu.edu

Transition Academic Programs (Blinn TEAM and Gateway)
(979) 845-5916
tap.tamu.edu

College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
(979) 845-4941
vetmed.tamu.edu/bims
Welcome to the Aggie Family! The coming years promise to be exciting ones for you. Texas A&M will bring you in contact with students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds, cultures and countries. You will be uniting with them in the rewarding pursuit of knowledge and the thrill of learning.

When you come to your New Student Conference, make sure you bring:

- NSC confirmation letter and NSC Handbook. If you do not have your confirmation letter, print out a copy of the New Student Conference Confirmation page in AIS, which will be located on the My App status tab after clicking the Registration Details button (applicant.tamu.edu). You can attend ONLY the NSC for which you registered.
- Transcripts for all college work previously completed, if they have not already been sent to Texas A&M.
- Texas Success Initiative test results or scores showing exemption, if they have already been sent to Texas A&M.
- Transcripts for all college work previously completed, if they have not already been sent to Texas A&M.
- Government-issued picture identification (driver’s license, passport, etc.) for verification at testing, and to have your Texas A&M ID card made.
- Money for meals and extras. Please note some services do not take credit cards.
- Comfortable clothes and walking shoes. You will be walking frequently around a LARGE campus for different meetings. Weather during the summer in College Station is very hot and humid, but conference rooms can be chilly, so pack a light jacket.
- Umbrella or raincoat (as needed).
- Bag or backpack for gathering and carrying materials from resource tables and meetings.
- A reliable water bottle.
- A pen and paper to take notes.
- A refillable water bottle.
- Laptop computer (optional). You will have access to Texas A&M computers in the lab, however, some find it convenient to bring their own laptop to view the online course catalog, course schedules, etc.

At your New Student Conference, you can expect to develop:
- Awareness of information concerning the university’s academic requirements, policies and procedures — including course selection and registration.
- Awareness of information concerning personal safety and security on campus.
- Understanding of the broad range of student activities and leadership opportunities on campus.
- Awareness of the university’s offerings related to housing, dining, transportation, financial assistance, academic support and career guidance.
- Interactions with current students to discuss expectations and ask questions.

This New Student Conference Handbook was developed to help you make the most of your NSC experience. Please take time to read through this and any other materials you receive from the university. These materials are valuable resources you can use throughout your first year at Texas A&M University.

Don’t be afraid to ask questions! You’re receiving a lot of information right now, and we’re here to help you figure it all out — that’s what the Aggie Family is for! You will also have the opportunity to participate in social programs during your New Student Conference. This is a great time to meet other members of your class and learn more about Aggie traditions. Conference staff and Orientation Leaders will be available throughout your conference, so take advantage of the opportunity to ask any questions you have. Your best chance for success comes through combining careful planning, informed decision making, and timely use of services and resources with your dedication and commitment to the ultimate goal — academic success!
Students are expected to come to the New Student Conference prepared. We encourage you to tear out this page to remind you of what you need to do before your NSC.

Before your New Student Conference, be sure to:

- Make your NSC overnight accommodations. See page 5 in this book for details.
- Register any family members or guests who are attending the NSC with you. See page 4.
- Purchase an NSC parking permit. See page 6.
- Submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. See page 10.
- Take your Math Placement Exam and Foreign Language Placement Test, if applicable. See page 8.
- Begin checking your Texas A&M Gmail account as this is the university’s primary, and official, means of communicating with you. See below.
- Connect with us!

The Student and Family Programs Offices of the Dean of Student Life
Division of Student Affairs
College Station, TX 77843-1257
(979) 845-5826
newaggie.tamu.edu

As a confirmed new student, you now have a Texas A&M Gmail account. Your email address is NetID@tamu.edu. Your NetID is the same ID you use to log in to Howdy and the Applicant Information System (AIS). You should start checking your Texas A&M Gmail account regularly because important information will be sent there prior to your New Student Conference.

To check your email, visit google.tamu.edu and log in with your NetID and password.

You can also set up Texas A&M Gmail on your smartphone so you won’t miss any important email! To learn how, visit hdc.tamu.edu/Connecting/Google_Apps/index.php.

If you have questions about your Texas A&M Gmail account or NetID, call the Texas A&M Information Technology Help Desk Central at (979) 845-8300 or visit IT.tamu.edu.

New Student Conferences
newaggie.tamu.edu

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
2015 Transfer
Conference Handbook