Are you ready for your New Student Conference (NSC)?

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 16 and insert.
- Purchase an NSC parking permit. See page 6.
- Submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. See page 7.
- Take your Math Placement Exam, Foreign Language Placement Test and/or Texas Success Initiative Assessment. See pages 7–8.
- Complete the Lab Safety Acknowledgment via the Howdy Portal. See page 8.
- Begin checking your Texas A&M Gmail account. See page 17.
- Download the TAMU NSC Mobile App in the App Store and Google Play!

Connect with us!

@NSFPtamu
@NSFPtamu
NewAggie
New_Aggie

Download the TAMU NSC Mobile App

Download the free TAMU NSC Mobile App available on the App Store and Google Play! It has everything you need for your NSC: schedule, checklists, event information and more.
Welcome to the Aggie Family! The next four years promise to be exciting ones for you. Texas A&M will connect you with students, faculty and staff from varied backgrounds, diverse cultures and unique experiences. Your time at Texas A&M will be spent in the pursuit of knowledge and the engagement of lifelong learning.

This New Student Conference Handbook was developed to help you make the most of your mandatory New Student Conference (NSC). Please take time to read through this and any other materials you receive from the university. Those materials are valuable resources you can use throughout your first year at Texas A&M University. At your NSC, you will learn about all the academic programs, student life services and co-curricular activities Texas A&M University has to offer. Your NSC is a critical component of your future success at Texas A&M University. Over the course of two days, you’ll participate in sessions and programs designed to assist in the transition from your previous environment to Texas A&M.

During your New Student Conference, you can expect to:

- Gain awareness of the university’s academic requirements, policies and procedures — including course selection and registration.
- Develop an awareness of information concerning personal safety and security on campus.
- Discover the broad range of student involvement and leadership opportunities on campus.
- Learn about the university’s offerings related to housing, dining, transportation, financial assistance, academic support and career guidance.
- Connect with current students to gain understanding of university expectations and ask questions.

Accompanying Family Members and/or Guests

Students are encouraged to share this publication with their family members and/or accompanying guests. The interior packet of this booklets has a publication catered to individuals supporting students through their academic pursuits. While the New Student Conference is only mandatory for students, we invite family members and guests to attend and participate in sessions designed for them. Registration for family members and guests is required and separate from the student registration process. Further details about registration and conference programs for family members located inside.

General Services Complex (GSC)  
Student Business Services/Admissions/Data & Research Services

Rudder Theatre Complex  
Major Conference Programs

Memorial Student Center  
Major Conference Programs

Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center/The Association of Former Students

Pre-Conference Evening Social

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 participating in the New Student Conference. Programs designated for Spanish translation will be noted in the NSC schedule and provided via handshake.

Family members interested in having programs translated will need to use the Help Desk on Day One of the NSC to receive a handshake. 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. More details at newaggie.tamu.edu/es.

Welcome to Texas A&M University
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Texas A&M University provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Texas A&M University will promptly investigate all complaints of illegal discrimination, sexual harassment, and related retaliation in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. TTI.DSA1605.0416.11,650

The New Student Conference is a collaborative effort among the entire university community, coordinated by the Office of New Student & Family Programs housed in the Division of Student Affairs.

Download the TAMU NSC Mobile App

Download the free TAMU NSC Mobile App available on the App Store and Google Play! It has everything you need for your NSC: schedule, checklists, event information and more.

newaggie.tamu.edu

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**Muster**

**Reveille IX**

**Aggie Football**

**MSC Flagroom**

**Sbisa Dining Hall**

**Century Tree**

---

**NSC**

NEW STUDENT CONFERENCE

newaggie.tamu.edu
The New Student Conference is a great time to meet other members of your class, learn more about Aggie traditions, participate in social programs, and interact with conference staff and Orientation Leaders. During your NSC, take advantage of the opportunity to gain valuable advice and get your questions answered as you start your journey at Texas A&M.
CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS

Howdy Lunch & Resource Tables (May, June & July conferences only)
Join conference participants and the Aggie community for lunch on Day One at Sbisa Dining Hall. Tickets are available for purchase at NSC Check-In and at the door. Lunch is not included in your registration fees.
Additionally, during this time university departments and offices will be available to discuss services and programs for new students.
Howdy Lunch is NOT offered for the August conference. The August NSC will have resource tables in the MSC during lunch time on Day 1. Details online.

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.

Meals on Your Own
Texas A&M University Dining invites you to dine on campus during your New Student Conference. There are a variety of options around campus and students, parents and visitors are all welcome! For location and facility hours, please refer to the summer schedule handout you will receive at NSC Check-In.
Additional information regarding University Dining and dining plan options available at dining.tamu.edu, (979) 845-3005 or TAMUDining@compass-usa.com.

Overnight 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 (May, June & July Conferences only)
The Department of Residence Life invites you, family members and guests to stay in on-campus conference housing. On-campus conference housing tends to fill quickly and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Room rates, registration, and more details for New Student Conference on-campus housing is online at newaggie.tamu.edu/freshmen/housing. Housing costs will be billed to the student’s account after the student and his or her family have checked out of housing.
Students and families staying in on-campus conference housing may check in to housing 1:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on their Pre-Conference Day or any time on Day One of the conference at Hullabaloo Hall. Though you will be checking in at Hullabaloo Hall, you will be staying in a different North Side modular hall. Valid NSC permit parking for NSC Housing Check-In is located in Lot 30, at the intersection of University Drive and Boyett Street.
Please bring items such as a cell phone, mattress pads, 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.
New Student Conference on campus housing is NOT available for the August conference.

Off-Campus Accommodations
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.
New Student Conference 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 that are available at an hourly rate). The most convenient lot for New Student Conference Check-In is West Campus Garage or lot 61 these lots are accessible with any of the below parking options. Attendees should select the option below that best meets their needs.

OPTION 1: Purchase a Summer Weekly Permit
The Summer Weekly and Daily permits allow 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 Summer Weekly permit is $15 and the Daily Permits are $5 per day. Both permits are only valid for the dates selected during the purchase process.

Summer Weekly and Daily permits are nonrefundable and can only be purchased online at transport.tamu.edu/account. Attendees purchasing these permits must print the permit after purchase and display it on the dashboard at all times while parked on campus. When parking in West Campus Garage, you must scan the barcode on your permit at 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. Parking maps are available online at transport.tamu.edu/VISmap.

OPTION 3: August NSC Attendees Only, Use Your Fall 2016 permit
August NSC attendees who have ordered and received their Fall 2016 permit may display it and park in their assigned lot. All others must 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.

Transportation Services
(979) 862-PARK (7275)
transport.tamu.edu/nsc
**Bacterial Meningitis Documentation**

All students under age 22 entering an institution of higher education are required 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 submit documentation at least 10 days prior to 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 2016 semester must receive the vaccination by August 19 or before your conference (whichever date is earlier). For students attending the August 22–23 conference, you are strongly encouraged to submit your Evidence of Vaccination by July 7 so that you can be preregistered for your classes by your academic college.

Upload your proof of vaccination through AIS ([applicant.tamu.edu](http://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.

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. For more information including where to send your documentation, visit [admissions.tamu.edu/meningitis/](http://admissions.tamu.edu/meningitis/).

For students enrolling in courses summer 2016, you need to submit your meningitis documentation by the following deadlines:
- Summer Session I: May 17th
- Summer Session II: June 22nd

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**Math Placement Exam**

The Math Placement Exam (MPE) 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 MPE exams and you will be directed to the correct exam based upon your major.

**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.

To take the MPE, log into Howdy at [howdy.tamu.edu](http://howdy.tamu.edu) and go to the Applicant Tab and follow the instructions. 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 10 days prior to your New Student Conference. Engineering students must complete the MPE by May 20th.
- The exam may be repeated. However, there is a 2 week waiting period between attempts.

For questions regarding the Math Placement Exam, please contact the Math Department at mathassessment@math.tamu.edu or your academic advisor.

College credit by examination is earned through a different test. Please contact Testing Services at (979) 845-0532 to schedule additional examinations.
Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Requirement

Not all incoming students need to take the TSI Assessment. A list of possible exemptions can be found at successcenter.tamu.edu/Programs/Texas-Success-Initiative/TSI-Exemptions. Students who are not exempt must first complete the TSI Pre-Assessment Activity and then take the TSI Assessment Test. Nonexempt 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 Testing 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.

Lab Safety Acknowledgment

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 NSC 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.

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, however it is highly recommended you complete the placement test. Heritage language learners must always take the placement test, regardless of their scores on high school tests or college level credit examinations, 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. Please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/languageplacementexam to register for this test.

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. Please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/languageplacementexam to register for this test.

All tests are administered the day before the New Student Conference. Students who do not take the placement test prior to their NSC 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 Exam does not guarantee the ability to register for a language course during your first semester.

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 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.
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
You will receive an official schedule at Check-In; however, the following pages will provide an overview of the NSC Schedule and programs. Date specific 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, & July Only)

There are two days of required NSC programs, however 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 10–11 conference, your Pre-Conference Day will take place on June 9.

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. If you do not attend the Pre-Conference Day, then you should note that Check-In on the morning of Day One is mandatory.

*For the August Conference, the only Pre-Conference event is the Evening Social with the Orientation Leaders.

**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.

#### Time | Program | Description
--- | --- | ---
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Residence Hall Tours | 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) 845-0557.
1:30 p.m.– 8:00 p.m. | On-Campus Conference Housing Check-In | Students and families staying in on-campus conference housing may Check-In to housing any time in Hullabaloo Hall. Call (978) 845-2821 if you arrive after 8:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Check-In | 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 2020 or Aggie Family T-shirt.
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Campus Tours | Get acquainted with the campus, its unique history, and the traditions of Texas A&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.
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | TSI Assessment Test | 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 8.
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Fraternity and Sorority Life Session | More than 4,000 Aggies have chosen to experience fraternity or sorority life at Texas A&M. Come learn about the impact Greek students have on campus and the community, and how you could fit into the picture.
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Evening Social with the Orientation Leaders | 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. This is a casual, come and go social where Orientation Leaders will host activities and be available to answer any questions you have.
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Corps of Cadets Open House | Joining the Corps or seeking more information? Stop by the Corps of Cadets Open House to meet with outfit representatives.
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Recreation | 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.

#### Class T-Shirts

**Purchase your Official Class of 2020 T-Shirt!**

Aggie Family T-Shirts also available! 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.
Day One

The first mandatory event of your NSC begins with Check-In, provided you did not arrive and check-in on the Pre-Conference Day. Programs on Day One provide an overview of resources and services available to students and highlight important details for your transition to Texas A&M.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AUDIENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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 2020 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)</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.</td>
<td>Mandatory for veterans; highly suggested for military dependents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Professional School Advising Session (or)</td>
<td>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>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>
</tr>
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</table>
### DAY ONE (CONTINUED)

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<th>PROGRAM</th>
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<th>AUDIENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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></td>
<td>Resource Tables</td>
<td>Over 40 university departments will be available to answer questions about university services and programs. Students and family members should come prepared to ask questions and receive valuable information.</td>
<td>Optional but encouraged for all participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 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 (or)</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></td>
<td>Off-Campus Student Services (or)</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></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. – 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>3:10 p.m. – 4:05 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>Mandatory session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:05 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Step In, Stand Up in Aggieland</td>
<td>This session provides information about our students’ rights and available resources pertaining to the prevention of and response to sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, stalking and related retaliation. Students will learn how each one of us can commit to a safe and welcoming campus community.</td>
<td>Mandatory session for students 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>
Day One Evening

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. This is a great opportunity to interact with your peers and learn more about Aggie Life from our Orientation Leaders!

### STUDENT TRACK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>CSI: Aggieland</td>
<td>Focusing on &quot;Campus Safety Issues,&quot; 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>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m. – 8:15 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>
</tbody>
</table>

### FAMILY TRACK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>6:30 p.m. – 8:15 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>
</tbody>
</table>

### STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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 2020!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Day Two

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times Vary</td>
<td>Lunch on Your Own</td>
<td>See handout for dining locations.</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| AUDIENCE | |
|----------||
| Students and family members will join back together for this session. | |

| AUDIENCE | |
|----------||
| Mandatory session for all participants. | |
Veteran and Dependent Services and Resources

At Texas A&M University, we take great pride in our standing as a national leader in service to our veterans and other military-affiliated students. We are 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 and success.

The Veteran Services Office provides services and support for all of your VA and state 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 veterans and military-affiliated students with uniquely tailored campus and community resources. 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 the Veteran Services Office:
- Federal and state veterans’ education benefits processing.
- Scholarship and financial aid advising.

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

Services from the Veteran Resource and Support Center:
- Academic support and student life skills through the Aggie Vet Network and Vet Connect programs.
- Course credit for military service, academic resources and military service withdrawals.
- Military admissions and Vet Success (VA) on Campus Support.
- Relocation/housing and Disability Services assistance referrals.
- Student Veterans Association (tamuveterans.tamu.edu).
- Corps of Cadets Delta Company — for combat veterans who want to join the Corps.

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

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).

When do Classes Begin?
The first day of summer one term classes is May 31st and summer two term is July 6th. The first day of the 2016 Fall Semester is August 29th.
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 applicant.tamu.edu (AIS). As dates are filled they are removed from the site and are no longer available due to capacity limits.

Students will not be forced into conferences to accommodate changes in their personal schedule due to work conflicts or travel. Appeals to change into a restricted or full conference are only granted for military orders, medical emergencies or extreme extenuating circumstances which students can substantiate with written documentation.

Appeals are submitted online 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 a family member or guest plans 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. See “Aggie Family Member” insert for more information.

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 academic 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, which you can do during your NSC. Contact information for academic colleges is on the back cover of this handbook.

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 Gmail 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.
Extended Programming for Incoming Students

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 21–28

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 28th at 2:00pm, 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.

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 emails! To learn how, visit u.tamu.edu/mobileemail.

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.
Need directions?
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.

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

1. West Campus Garage
   Recommended Parking with NSC Permit*
   (201 John Kimbrough Blvd.)

2. Northwest Corner of Kyle Field
   (Zone Club)
   NSC Check-In

3. Pavilion
   Scholarships & Financial Aid and International Student Services

4. Sbisa Dining Hall
   Howdy Lunch (Day One)

5. Hullabaloo Hall
   NSC Housing Check-In and NSC Permit Parking in Lot 30
Welcome to the Aggie Family! The next four years promise to be exciting ones for you. Texas A&M will connect you with students, faculty and staff from varied backgrounds, diverse cultures and unique experiences. Your time at Texas A&M will be spent in the pursuit of knowledge and the engagement of lifelong learning.

This New Student Conference Handbook was developed to help you make the most of your mandatory New Student Conference (NSC). Please take time to read through this and any other materials you receive from the university. Those materials are valuable resources you can use throughout your first year at Texas A&M University. At your NSC, you will learn about all the academic programs, student life services and co-curricular activities Texas A&M University has to offer. Your NSC is a critical component of your future success at Texas A&M University. Over the course of two days, you’ll participate in sessions and programs designed to assist in the transition from your previous environment to Texas A&M.

During your New Student Conference, you can expect to:

- Gain awareness of the university’s academic requirements, policies and procedures – including course selection and registration.
- Develop an awareness of information concerning personal safety and security on campus.
- Discover the broad range of student involvement and leadership opportunities on campus.
- Learn about the university’s offerings related to housing, dining, transportation, financial assistance, academic support and career guidance.
- Connect with current students to gain understanding of university expectations and ask questions.

Accompanying Family Members and/or Guests

Students are encouraged to share this publication with their family members and/or accompanying guests. The interior packet of this brochure has a publication catered to individuals supporting students through their academic pursuits. While the New Student Conference is only mandatory for students, we invite family members and guests to attend and participate in sessions designed for them. Registration for family members and guests is required and separate from the student registration process. Further details about registration and conference programs for family members located inside.

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 handout. Family members interested in having programs translated will need to visit the Help Desk on Day One of the NSC to receive a handout. 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. More details at newaggie.tamu.edu/es.

General Services Complex (GSC) Student Business Services/Admissions/Data & Research Services

Rudder Theatre Complex Major Conference Programs

Memorial Student Center Major Conference Programs

Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center/The Association of Former Students Pre-Conference Evening Social

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

- NSC confirmation letter and this NSC Handbook. If you do not have your confirmation letter, print out a copy of the NSC Confirmation page in MS (applicant.tamu.edu), which will be located on the ‘My App Status’ tab after clicking the Registration Details button.
- Transcripts for all college work previously completed, if they have not already been accepted by 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 get your Texas A&M ID card.
- Money for meals and extras.
- Comfortable clothes and walking shoes. You will be walking frequently around a LARGE campus for different meetings.
- A light jacket. Weather during the summer in College Station is very hot and humid, but conference rooms can be chilly.
- Umbrella or raincoat (as needed).
- 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.
Are you ready for your New Student Conference (NSC)?

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 16 and insert.
- Purchase an NSC parking permit. See page 6.
- Submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. See page 7.
- Take your Math Placement Exam, Foreign Language Placement Test and/or Texas Success Initiative Assessment. See pages 7–8.
- Complete the Lab Safety Acknowledgment via the Howdy Portal. See page 8.
- Begin checking your Texas A&M Gmail account. See page 17.
- Download the TAMU NSC Mobile App in the App Store and Google Play!

Download the TAMU NSC Mobile App available on the App Store and Google Play! It has everything you need for your NSC: schedule, checklists, event information and more.

Connect with us!

@NSFPtamu
NewAggie New_Aggie