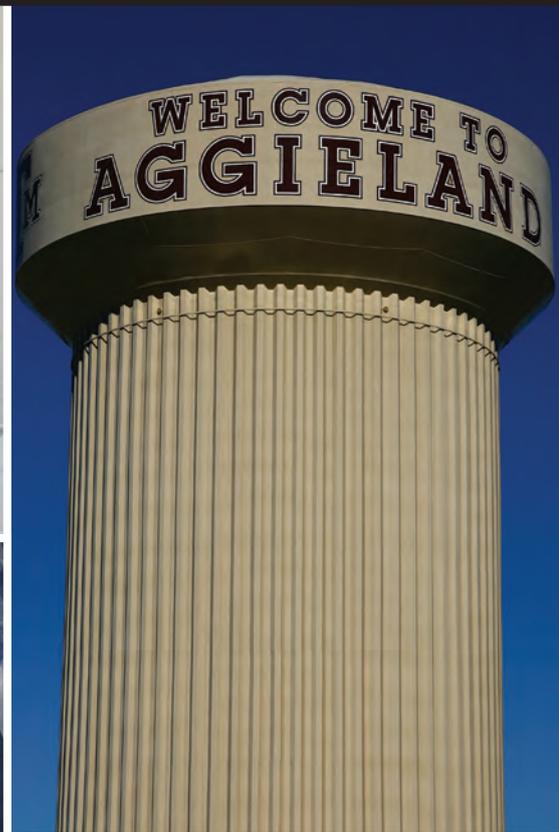


Texas A&M University

New Student Handbook 2016



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY

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welcome

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



Howdy!

Welcome to Aggieland! Perhaps there are many Aggies in your family, or maybe you are the first in your family to attend college. Either way, you will find that you have become part of a community of fellow students, faculty, staff and former students who deeply care about you not only while you're a student, but also long after you graduate from Texas A&M University.

Ranked among the nation's top research universities, and offering more than 130 undergraduate degrees and 268 graduate degree programs as options for study, Texas A&M University is full of possibilities. Our faculty possess an unwavering commitment to shape intellectually transformative experiences and are dedicated to sending Aggie leaders out into the world prepared to take on the challenges of tomorrow.

At Texas A&M, our devotion to education extends beyond the classroom. I encourage you to get involved with one of the over 1,000 student-led clubs and organizations, to volunteer, study abroad, or seek internship opportunities.

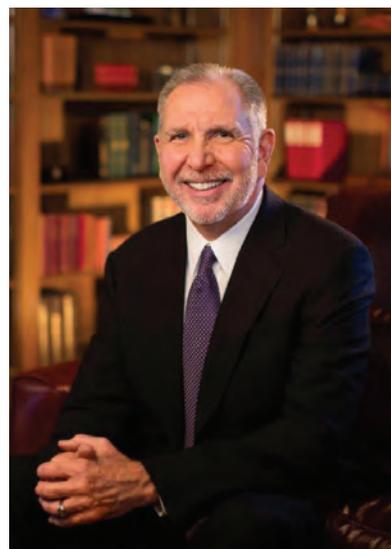
While our campus is one of the largest in the country, both in terms of enrollment and physical size, it is also one of the friendliest, safest and most welcoming campuses anywhere. That's why we call it Aggieland.

When you come here, you become part of something bigger than yourself. To me, that is what the Aggie Family is all about. I wish you the very best of luck as you embark on this exciting new chapter in your life.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael K. Young'.

Michael K. Young



Dear New Student:

Howdy and welcome to Aggieland and to what is going to be a most exciting and important time in your life. During your college career, you will encounter a world of new ideas, new discoveries, and new friends. More than 60,000 students will be enrolled this fall, and you will have the opportunity to interact with students of various backgrounds from every county in Texas, most every state in the nation, and from over 125 countries.

One of the major advantages of Texas A&M University is having the opportunity to participate in an exceptional variety of out-of-classroom activities, the breadth of which few, if any, other universities in the nation can match. Starting with New Student Conferences, students are encouraged to get involved in one or more of our 1,000+ student organizations. Through these organizations you will complement and apply what you've learned in the classroom by blending it with invaluable organizational, teamwork, and leadership skills you can gain from your out-of-class activities.

The Division of Student Affairs is committed to providing you exceptional programs, services, and engagement opportunities that will assist in your success. The purpose of this handbook is to assist you in identifying some of those opportunities – to offer some of the avenues to and the facets of our campus, student services, Aggie traditions, and more.

We invite you to make the most of your college years and enjoy your time in Aggieland. Welcome to the Aggie family!

Gig 'Em!



Dr. Daniel J. Pugh, Sr.
Vice President for Student Affairs



Howdy!

Congratulations on your admission to Texas A&M University, and welcome to Aggieland! You are now a member of the Aggie Family. The way Aggies treat each other as a family is what makes Texas A&M different and better than every other university in the world. From Muster to Howdy, every cherished tradition here has its roots in the Aggie Family. I encourage you to think deeply about the meaning and purpose behind the traditions at this great institution. Each and every one of them is extraordinarily valuable not only for the unique culture here at A&M, but for your personal development into a leader of character for the greater good. I believe that there is great benefit to sincerely appreciating our traditions and learning the purpose rooted in each one of them.

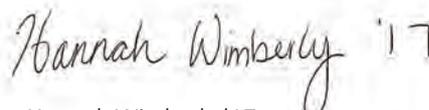


Texas A&M University is the state's first public institution of higher education. Established in 1876, a century after the Declaration of Independence, A&M is now the third largest University in the nation. We are a Tier 1 University, holding triple distinctions as a Land, Sea, and Space Grant institution. A&M's academics and research are world renowned. A&M students current, former, and future are known for Excellence, Integrity, Leadership, Loyalty, Respect, and Selfless Service. These are not just words but a way of life for Aggies. The amazing people at A&M are our greatest asset and the relationships you form now will be important to you for the rest of your life.

This is just the start of your time here, and there could not be a more exciting time to be at A&M. We are experiencing a lot of change and growth from an increasing enrollment, to renovations around campus, to recently joining the SEC. There is a lot going on and a lot to be a part of. As the current student body, it is our responsibility to preserve and promote the Spirit, Tradition, and Core Values that make Texas A&M great.

You have so many opportunities in front of you. You have the chance to maximize your experience here and leave A&M four years from now knowing you used your time here well. The time you have in Aggieland is so precious. Please approach each day wholeheartedly and earnestly, giving back to the people and university that will have given you so much.

Gig 'Em,



Hannah Wimberly '17
Student Body President 2016-2017



The New Student Handbook is published by New Student & Family Programs, an office within the Offices of the Dean of Student Life, part of the Division of Student Affairs at Texas A&M University. The information in this handbook was collected and compiled in Spring 2016. Since the programs and services contained herein are subject to continuous review and evaluation, the University reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice. This publication, therefore, is intended for information only. Please call the office responsible for specific programs/ services if you have special needs so they may accommodate you.

Texas A&M University has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, admission to Texas A&M University and any of its sponsored programs is open to all qualified individuals.

Additional photography used throughout the publication was provided by Marketing and Communications and by Texas A&M students who participated in the First-Year Photo Project.





Fall 2016*

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 7.29- 8.19 | Fish Camp Sessions A-G |
| 8.21 | Residence Hall Move-In Day |
| 8.21 - 8.28 | Gig 'Em Week |
| 8.26 | Last day to register for fall classes. Refer to finance.tamu.edu/sbs for tuition and fee due dates. |
| 8.28 | Undergraduate Convocation |
| 8.29 | First day of fall semester classes |
| 9.2 | Last day for adding/dropping courses |
| 10.17 | Mid-semester grades due |
| 11.10 - 11.30 | Preregistration for 2017 spring semester |
| 11.18 | Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day |
| 11.18 | Last day to drop courses with no penalty (Q-drop), change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type, or officially withdraw |
| 11.23 - 11.25 | Thanksgiving Holiday |
| 12.5 | Redefined day, attend Friday classes No regular course exams |
| 12.6 | Redefined day, attend Thursday classes No regular course exams |
| 12.7 | Last day of fall semester classes |
| 12.8 | Reading day, no classes |
| 12.9, 12 - 14 | Fall semester final examinations |
| 12.16 | Commencement and Commissioning |
| 12.19 | Final grades for all students due |
| 12.26 - 1.1 | University Closed |

Spring 2017*

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 1.13 | Last day to register for spring classes. Refer to finance.tamu.edu/sbs for tuition and fee due dates. |
| 1.16 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. University Holiday |
| 1.17 | First day of spring semester classes |
| 1.23 | Last day for adding/dropping courses |
| 3.6 | Mid-semester grades due |
| 3.13 - 3.17 | Spring Break |
| 4.6 - 4.21 | Preregistration for 2017 summer & fall classes |
| 4.7- 4.9 | Parents' Weekend |
| 4.14 | Reading day, no classes |
| 4.18 | Last day to drop courses with no penalty (Q-drop), change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type, or officially withdraw |
| 4.21 | Muster Day |
| 5.2 | Last day of spring semester classes Redefined day, attend Friday classes No regular course exams |
| 5.3 | Reading day, no classes |
| 5.4 - 5, 8 - 9 | Spring semester final examinations |
| 5.11 - 5.13 | Commencement and Commissioning |
| 5.15 | Final grades for all students due |
| 5.29 | Memorial Day, University Closed |

*all dates subject to change, visit registrar.tamu.edu for the most up to date information



New Student & Family Programs

newaggie.tamu.edu | 979.845.5826

In support of Texas A&M University's mission, the goal of New Student & Family Programs (NSFP) is to facilitate the success of new students through their first year at A&M, thereby, retaining them for their second year and through graduation. Recognizing the important role that family members play in a student's college success, we strive to equip families with the resources to aid their student throughout their student's college career.

Featured on the cover and throughout the handbook are members of the Aggie Orientation Leader Program. Orientation Leaders will be available to assist you throughout your New Student Conference. If you're interested in learning more about this organization, visit aolp.tamu.edu.

Aggie Orientation Leader Program Executive Committee:
 (Back Row, Left to Right) Nathan Garrow, Benjamin Ikwuagwu, Kristen Harris, Melissa Frake, Ginny Whited, Shelley Gullord, Shelby Todd (Front Row, Left to Right) Amanda Lampart, Chevo Arizpe, Shannen Puett, Delaney Mayberry, Paige Oliver, Felysha Walker, Ty Parker, and Danielle Stein.

Student Services at White Creek
nsfp@tamu.edu
 979.845.5826

studentlife.tamu.edu/nsfp
 @NSFPtamu



NEW STUDENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS
 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS



/nsfptamu



/New_Aggie



/NSFPtamu



/NewAggie
 /AggieParentsandFamily

Programs and services provided by the Office of New Students & Family Programs:

NSC NEW STUDENT CONFERENCE

New Student Conferences are an integrated effort among all colleges, divisions, and departments of the University community to assist entering students with the transition from their previous environment to the Texas A&M University environment and to enhance their success in college.

newaggie.tamu.edu



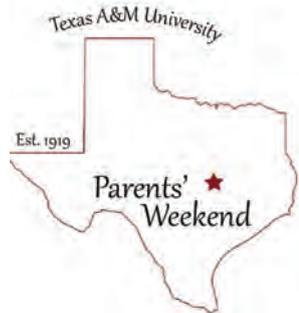
Aggie Families can find a variety of support resources and information through a variety of sources. Family members can sign up for the Family Member Listserv and receive monthly e-mail updates about campus events and services. Additionally, families can connect with New Student & Family Programs and each other by liking us on Facebook at /AggieParentsandFamily.

parents.tamu.edu



Gig 'Em Week is Aggieland's Week of Welcome held the week before fall classes begin. Gig 'Em Week provides new and returning students an opportunity to learn more about the campus, each other, and college life in general through a series of educational and social events sponsored by university departments, colleges, student organizations, residence halls, and community groups.

gigemweek.tamu.edu



Parents' Weekend is a tradition that has existed at Texas A&M University since 1919. This weekend is dedicated to all Aggie parents and family members, and provides students a chance to express their gratitude to those who have impacted their lives. Parents' Weekend has become the official "HOWDY!" to Aggie Family members.

parentsweekend.tamu.edu



Aggie Orientation Leader Program is a student organization that strives to continually connect new students to Texas A&M by personally supporting, serving, and using all available resources to help ease the transition for them and their families. These students play a significant role supporting the New Student Conference experience.

aolp.tamu.edu



Publications There are several publications for all populations served by NSFP. For newly admitted students, there is the New Student Conference Handbook and the New Student Handbook. Family members can receive a monthly e-mail newsletter and a semi-annual publication, the Aggie Connection.

newaggie.tamu.edu/publications

