Welcome to Aggieland!

Now that you’re admitted to Texas A&M, here are your next steps:

Start Here

Freshman Students
Now That You’re Admitted
Important Information Regarding Your Freshman Admission

Welcome to the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of 2020!
Now that you’re admitted to Texas A&M, here are your next steps:

1. **Register for a New Student Conference.**
   Accept your offer of admission to Texas A&M University by registering for a mandatory New Student Conference (NSC). See detailed NSC information on page 4.
   
   Using your NetID, sign on to howdy.tamu.edu, select the Applicant Tab and enter the Applicant Information System (AIS). Once in AIS, follow the instructions for registering for a conference. The fee for a conference is $100 and is nonrefundable. No waivers are offered; however, if you have utilized an application fee waiver for your Texas A&M application for admission, you qualify for an NSC fee deferral, which means the fee will be added to your tuition bill. This payment option will appear online during NSC registration allowing you to register without making payment.

   **Spring Admits**—Your two-day conference will be held in early January.
   **Summer and Fall Admits**—New Student Conference dates have been set for late May-August (see page 4).

   If you **DO NOT** register for an NSC in AIS by the deadline we will assume that you have declined your offer of admission and cancel it. Please note, accepting your financial aid package or registering for on-campus housing does **NOT** mean that you have accepted your offer of admission. Those processes are independent from NSC Registration.

   **Fee Questions:** 979.458.5155
   **Registration Questions:** 979.845.1060

2. **Apply for On-Campus Housing.**
   Where you choose to live is another important decision to make in your college life.

   Living on campus is more than just a place to lay your head at night. It is a community where students can be a part of the unique student body and establish life-long friendships, all while balancing the demands of college life. Besides the convenience of walking to class, studies show that students living on campus are, on average, more likely to maintain a higher GPA, be more involved and graduate on time.

   Texas A&M wants all freshmen to have the opportunity to live on campus, which is why we have established priority housing for all incoming freshmen.

   Texas A&M will give priority to admitted freshmen who apply for housing within 30 days of being admitted to the university, while space is available. Those who apply for housing after 30 days of being admitted will be considered for on-campus housing AFTER all other priority students have been placed. The sooner you apply, the better your opportunity to get your top choice. Housing is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis determined by each student’s housing application date.

   Students can apply for housing at reslife.tamu.edu.

   **Housing Questions:** 979.845.4744

3. **Submit Your Bacterial Meningitis Immunization Record at least Two Weeks Before Your NSC.**
   Two weeks prior to your NSC, upload your evidence of bacterial meningitis vaccination. The immunization record may not be more than five years old. Notarized Affidavits to Decline Vaccination must be mailed to: Office of Admissions, Texas A&M University, P.O. Box 30014, College Station, TX 77842-3014.

   TEC 51.9192 (amended by SB 62) 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 5 years of the date of intended enrollment) or meet certain requirements for declining such a vaccination. Declining the vaccination requires completing an original Texas Department of State Health Services Vaccine Exemption Affidavit form that can only be provided by the TDHS office and takes a significant amount of time to obtain. Newly admitted students who have not provided documentation will 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 NSC and registering for classes, so it is imperative you fulfill this requirement prior to arriving at your NSC. For more information about this requirement, please visit admissions.tamu.edu/ meningitis.
4 Take the Math Placement Exam.
What is the Math Placement Exam?
The Math Placement Exam (MPE) is a 33-question, multiple-choice, online examination that helps your advisor determine which mathematics course you should take to ensure academic success in your major. This exam does not result in college credit. All students are required to take the MPE.

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.

Math Placement Exam Questions: 979.845.7554 (Mathematics Department)

5 Determine if You Need to Take a Foreign Language Placement Test.
What are Foreign Language Placement Tests?
Students who intend to enroll 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 on the day prior to their scheduled NSC 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, although 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.

Spanish Language Placement Tests are administered by Hispanic Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. There is a $30 fee that is due at the time of registration. To register for this test, please select Hispanic Studies and then the appropriate language at marketplace.tamu.edu.

Spanish Placement Exam Questions: 979.458.0672

All other Language Placement Tests are administered by International Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. There is a $30 fee due at the time of registration. To register for this test, please select Department of International Studies and then the appropriate language at marketplace.tamu.edu.

Language Placement Exam Questions: 979.845.5144

Tests are administered on the Pre-Conference Day of the NSC along with credit by examination tests. Tests are also 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.)

6 Complete the Texas Success Initiative Pre-Assessment Activity and the TSI Assessment Test.
Exemptions will be noted in AIS. All students who are not exempt must first complete the mandatory Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Pre-Assessment Activity (PAA) and then take the TSI Assessment Test before attending an NSC. Non-exempt students will be blocked from registering for all classes during the NSC until the TSI PAA has been completed, the TSI Assessment Test has been taken and scores are on file at Texas A&M. If you have taken the TSI Assessment Test anywhere other than Texas A&M, please do not assume that your test scores have been sent here. You must order a transcript with your test scores and have it mailed to the Office of Admissions.

Texas Success Initiative Questions:
979.458.4900 or dars.tamu.edu/Testing/TSI-QTHEA/Texas-Success-Initiative (Academic Success Center)

7 Plan to Send a Final High School Transcript when Available.
We know your final official high school transcript may not be available by the time you attend your conference. If it is not, plan to send it as soon as it is available. If we do not receive your final official transcript, you will not be able to register for subsequent semesters. Uploaded, faxed and emailed transcripts are NOT considered official final transcripts. Please submit your final transcript from your school via TREx—the electronic transcript service offered by the State of Texas. Alternatively, you may mail your final transcripts to: Office of Admissions, Texas A&M University, P.O. Box 30014, College Station, TX 77842-3014.
Additional Steps for International Students

Fulfill English Proficiency Requirements.
Texas A&M requires all admitted students from non-English speaking countries demonstrate their ability to speak, write and understand the English language. Please be aware English Language Proficiency (ELP) requirements for enrollment are different from admissions requirements.

To demonstrate your ability, you must fulfill one of the following:

• Submit an official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 100 iBT, 600 pBT or higher or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of at least 7.0 overall band.
• Submit an official score of at least 21 on the ACT English or 500 on the SAT Critical Reading section.
• Attend all 4 high school years at a school in the U.S.

If you do not meet one of the above conditions, you must take the English Language Proficiency Examination (ELPE) upon arrival. The ELPE evaluates English grammar, writing, vocabulary, reading, listening and speaking skills. A score of at least 70 is required on each ELPE area to meet English Proficiency requirements. You will be required to enroll in ELI courses in each skill area for which you score below 70. For testing schedules, please visit the Data and Research Services (DARS) website at dars.tamu.edu.

English Proficiency Questions: 979.845.0532 (DARS)

Obtain Appropriate Immigration Documents.
The Certificate of Eligibility Center (CEC) in the Office of International Student Services (ISS) will issue the appropriate documentation needed to apply for a visa after you complete and submit several forms to their office. Important information about your arrival, including these forms, CEC contact information and an online immigration document tracking process, can be accessed at tx.ag/ISSadmitted.

Document Issuance Questions: 979.845.1151, 979.862.4633 (fax) or iss.cec@tamu.edu

Complete the Mandatory Online Orientation.
You are required to complete the mandatory online orientation before arriving at Texas A&M University. The online orientation can be accessed at tx.ag/ISSorientation. Upon arrival, you must attend the mandatory ISS Check-In. You will not be able to schedule your Check-In appointment until you complete the online orientation. During Check-In, you may have the opportunity to meet with several offices to remove your registration holds. You may need to meet with the Office of Admissions during or after your ISS Check-In if the following services are needed:

• resolve transfer credit or other admission issues, or
• fix a discrepancy in the spelling of your name.

You are highly encouraged to attend the one-day, on-campus International Student Conference (ISC) specifically developed for international students. Note: The ISC is different from the mandatory New Student Conference (NSC) that freshmen students are required to attend. For information concerning online orientation, the dates of Check-In and/or the ISC, please visit iss.tamu.edu.

HEALTH INSURANCE
International students are automatically enrolled in and charged for comprehensive health insurance and repatriation/evacuation coverage while in the U.S. and enrolled at Texas A&M University. For more information on International Student Health Insurance, visit tx.ag/ISSinsurance.

Sponsored Student Programs
979.845.2550 Arrival Information
979.862.7170 Fax
ssp.tamu.edu
To accept your offer of admission, you must register for a New Student Conference (NSC).

WHAT HAPPENS AT YOUR NSC?
At your NSC you will learn how to take full advantage of all the academic programs, student services and extracurricular 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. Over the course of your NSC you will participate in sessions and programs that have been designed to assist you with the transition to Texas A&M.

NSC REGISTRATION AND DATE SELECTION
NSC registration is available for students immediately through the Applicant Information System (AIS) on the Applicant Tab at howdy.tamu.edu. Once you are logged in to AIS, go to the My App Status Tab, click on My Next Steps and follow the steps to register.

Each academic college participates in preferred conference dates, rather than participating in all NSC dates. Students will be able to select a conference date based on seats available for their academic college at the time of registration. NSC date selection is important. Students and families need to consider date options carefully and plan around family trips and work schedules. NSC dates fill quickly and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

NSC FAMILY AND GUEST REGISTRATION
Texas A&M believes the college experience represents a collaboration involving the student, their family and the university. Family members who accompany their student to the NSC will get valuable information that will help support their student’s transition into the Texas A&M community. Each adult, 18 and up, who wishes to attend must register online and pay the $25 conference charge. Registration for family members is a separate process from student registration. For more information and to register, please visit newaggie.tamu.edu/family-and-guests.

Family Member Registration Questions: 979.845.5826 or nspf@tamu.edu (New Student & Family Programs)

NSC RESCHEDULES
Students are allowed to change their NSC date at any time. There is a reschedule button available in AIS on the My App Status Tab. Only conferences with available seats will be displayed. For many reasons, including safety, we ask that you do not request to be forced into conference dates that are already full. Only medical or military appeals will be granted.

NSC CONFIRMATION
After you complete registration for your conference, an NSC Confirmation Page will appear on the screen, and an electronic notification will be sent to an email address you have provided during the process. If this does not happen, your conference registration did not go through and you will need to try again. There are times that the system will not complete registration because the payment was not successful or the registration process timed out.

Make sure you see an NSC Confirmation Page in AIS and you receive electronic confirmation before you assume your registration was successful.

NSC AUGUST DATE REMINDERS
The following issues are important to note when registering for the August NSC. None of the reasons below are valid reasons to request an appeal to change an NSC date:

- Fish Camp dates may conflict with the August conference.
- Sorority recruitment conflicts with the August conference.
- Freshman Orientation Week (FOW) with the Corps of Cadets conflicts with the August NSC date. We recommend that a student schedules their NSC at another time if other dates are available; however, there are students who do attend their NSC during FOW each year. Transportation is provided to the NSC for these students.

2016 NEW STUDENT CONFERENCE DATES

| May 26-27 | June 21-22 | July 6-7 |
| June 1-2 | June 22-23 | July 12-13 |
| June 2-3 | June 23-24 | July 13-14 |
| June 14-15 | June 28-29 | August 22-23 |
| June 15-16 | June 29-30 | |
| June 16-17 | June 30-July 1* | |

*Conference is a hybrid conference, including freshman and transfer students.

CHANGING YOUR MAJOR
Freshmen admitted to Texas A&M are admitted to a specific major and will select an NSC date based upon that major since not all colleges participate in each conference. Admitted students may request a change of major via the Howdy Portal, howdy.tamu.edu, Applicant Tab under ‘Manage Applications.’ Some majors have enrollment limits and may not accept a change of major, such as the College of Architecture (all majors); the 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 in the College of Science; Psychology, Communications and Journalism 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 for which you are currently registered. If not, you must reschedule your conference from the dates available at the time your change of major is approved.

STUDENTS/PARENTS WITH DISABILITIES
To arrange for disability accommodations during your NSC, contact Disability Services at 979.845.1637 or disability.tamu.edu.

CORPS OF CADETS
You will have several opportunities to learn more about the Corps of Cadets during your NSC. If you intend to join the Corps, you and your family will attend the Corps orientation and registration on the first day of your NSC.

Corps of Cadets Participation Questions:
800.TAMU.AGS, corps.tamu.edu or aggiecorps@tamu.edu (Corps Recruiting Office)
Congratulations on your admission to Texas A&M University!

We are so happy to have you join our Aggie Family!

Share a pic of yourself with your Congrats Banner and #Aggiebound.

More info for newly admitted students is available at admissions.tamu.edu/igotin

@aggie_bound
@tamu_aggiebound
The checklists on this page will help you prepare for your first year. Items are in chronological order and are required for successful enrollment.

DOMESTIC FRESHMAN STUDENTS
☐ Register for a New Student Conference (NSC) in AIS before completing anything else.
☐ Complete NSC Family and Guest Registration.
☐ Apply for Fall/Spring on-campus housing. reslife.tamu.edu
☐ Apply for scholarships by December 1 (Admissions file must be complete by December 1, 2015 for scholarship consideration).
☐ Apply for financial aid (FAFSA) by March 15. financialaid.tamu.edu/undergraduate/apply-for-aid
☐ Log in to your Texas A&M email account with your NetID and password at google.tamu.edu.
☐ Submit your photo for your Aggie ID Card at myaggiecard.tamu.edu/AggieCard/Photo.
☐ Upload your proof of bacterial meningitis vaccination in AIS.
☐ Verify residency in AIS.
☐ Fulfill the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirement at dars.tamu.edu/Testing/TSI-QTHEA/Texas-Success-Initiative (if applicable).
☐ Complete the Texas A&M Math Placement Exam at howdy.tamu.edu, Applicant Tab.
☐ Complete the Lab Safety Acknowledgment at howdy.tamu.edu.
☐ Complete Foreign Language Placement Tests (if applicable).
☐ Send your final official high school transcript via TREx or mail when it is available.
☐ Send your AP/IB scores to qualify for and claim college credit (if applicable).
☐ Send your official college transcript(s) (if applicable).

Learn more about:
• short-term and emergency tuition and fees loans at sbs.tamu.edu/loans.
• student employment at jobsforaggies.tamu.edu.
• credit by examination at dars.tamu.edu/testing.
• services for students with disabilities at disability.tamu.edu.
• recommended immunizations at shs.tamu.edu/immunizations.
• health insurance at shs.tamu.edu/insurance.

INTERNATIONAL FRESHMAN STUDENTS
☐ Register for a New Student Conference (NSC) in AIS before completing anything else.
☐ Apply for Fall/Spring on-campus housing. reslife.tamu.edu
☐ Learn about international student visa information.
☐ Complete the International Student Services (ISS) Online Orientation.
☐ Schedule your ISS Check-In Appointment.
☐ Submit the required paperwork to ISS.
☐ Review the university policy requiring all international students to maintain health insurance. tx.ag/ISShealthinsurance
☐ Apply for scholarships by December 1 (Admissions file must be complete by December 1, 2015 for scholarship consideration).
☐ Apply for financial aid (ISFAA) by March 15. financialaid.tamu.edu/international/apply-for-aid
☐ Log in to your Texas A&M email account with your NetID and password at google.tamu.edu.
☐ Submit your photo for your Aggie ID Card at myaggiecard.tamu.edu/AggieCard/Photo.
☐ Upload your proof of bacterial meningitis vaccination in AIS.
☐ Verify residency in AIS.
☐ Fulfill the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirement at dars.tamu.edu/Testing/TSI-QTHEA/Texas-Success-Initiative (if applicable).
☐ Complete the Texas A&M Math Placement Exam at howdy.tamu.edu, Applicant Tab.
☐ Complete the Lab Safety Acknowledgment at howdy.tamu.edu.
☐ Complete Foreign Language Placement Tests (if applicable).
☐ Send your final official high school transcript (and diploma if issued by a foreign institution).

Learn more about:
• short-term and emergency tuition and fees loans at sbs.tamu.edu/loans.
• student employment at jobsforaggies.tamu.edu.
• credit by examination at dars.tamu.edu/testing.
• services for students with disabilities at disability.tamu.edu.
• recommended immunizations at shs.tamu.edu/immunizations.
• health insurance at shs.tamu.edu/insurance.
General Information

APPLICANT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND THE HOWDY WEB PORTAL

The Applicant Information System (AIS) has been created to take you through the admissions process, from application, admission decision and accepting your offer via registering for an NSC. Howdy is a “one-stop shop” for your student information and university resources. Howdy provides helpful information, such as guidance in applying for financial aid, locating housing, class registration information, payment deadlines and more. Check Howdy regularly for important announcements, news and event information. howdy.tamu.edu

Howdy Portal Questions/Problems: 979.845.8300 or helpdesk@tamu.edu

ACTIVATE YOUR TEXAS A&M EMAIL ACCOUNT

Once you have registered for your NSC, a Texas A&M email account is created for you. Your email address will be your NETID@tamu.edu. This email address will be used for all official school correspondence. It is important to activate this account and check it regularly. Activate your account at google.tamu.edu.

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships & Financial Aid would like to assist you in finding financial resources for your education. We understand that choosing a college/university is a tough decision. Financial aid can be one of the most influential factors affecting this decision, but before you decide, let us help by providing a financial aid package that best meets your financial needs. financialaid.tamu.edu

In order to be eligible for financial assistance, you must first submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov. The FAFSA is used to award grants, loans and work-study programs. There is no cost to submit the FAFSA, and it must be renewed every year. Although there is no deadline for submitting the FAFSA, we recommend Fall admits complete the 2016–2017 FAFSA by March 15, 2016. Spring 2016 admits should complete the 2015-2016 FAFSA by September 20, 2015, and Summer 2016 admits by February 1, 2016.

The FAFSA school code for Texas A&M University is 003632. Once we have received your information, you will be able to check your status and your financial aid options at howdy.tamu.edu. Click on the My Finances Tab, and enter the Scholarships & Financial Aid Portal.

International students may qualify for financial aid depending on their visa status. More information can be found at financialaid.tamu.edu/international.

Veterans, or dependents of veterans, who plan to utilize military benefits should contact Veteran Services. For information, visit veterans.tamu.edu.

Financial Aid Questions/Advisor Appointment Scheduling: 979.845.3236 (Scholarships & Financial Aid)

INCOMING FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships & Financial Aid offers academic scholarships for incoming freshmen. Students apply for university-level scholarships by submitting the scholarship module along with the ApplyTexas Admissions Application.

In the scholarship competition, a student’s test score is only one of many components considered in the review process. Consideration is given to academic achievement in a college preparatory curriculum within the context of a student’s academic environment. Additional factors for selection include, but are not limited to, leadership, community service, special talents, first-generation* college status and academic achievement under difficult circumstances. Some scholarships also have a financial need component. For information, visit scholarships.tamu.edu.

* Neither biological nor stepparent has a bachelor’s degree.

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. Texas A&M University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s disability and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in its admissions, accessibility, treatment and employment of students in its programs and activities.

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act): Information regarding campus security and safety resources, policies, and procedures for safety (reporting crimes and emergencies, crime awareness and prevention, and security of campus facilities and residence halls), alcohol, drugs, weapons and sexual assault, and crime information is on the websites upd.tamu.edu and ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/campus.html.
Campus Resources

Academic Success Center
979.458.4900
successcenter.tamu.edu

Adult, Graduate and Off-Campus Student Services
979.845.1741
studentlife.tamu.edu/agoss

Association of Former Students
979.845.7514
aggienetwork.com

Becky Gates Children’s Center
979.458.5437
bgcc.tamu.edu

Career Center
979.845.5139
careercenter.tamu.edu

Corps of Cadets
979.845.9232
800.TAMU.AGS
corps.tamu.edu

Data and Research Services (DARS)
979.845.0532
dars.tamu.edu

Disability Services
979.845.1637
disability.tamu.edu

Financial Aid
979.845.3236
financialaid.tamu.edu

Texas A&M Foundation
979.845.8161
giving.tamu.edu

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
979.862.5636
cpc.tamu.edu

Honors and Undergraduate Research
979.845.1957
hur.tamu.edu

International Student Organizations
studentactivities.tamu.edu/app/search
(Click on ‘Cultural/International’ under ‘Search by Classification’)

International Student Services
979.845.1824
iss.tamu.edu

Memorial Student Center
979.845.1515
msc.tamu.edu

Money Wise Aggie
979.845.3236
moneywise.tamu.edu

Multicultural Services
979.862.2000
dms.tamu.edu

University Police Department
979.845.2345
upd.tamu.edu

Office of Professional School Advising
979.847.8938
opsa.tamu.edu

Department of Recreational Sports
979.845.7826
recsports.tamu.edu

Residence Life (Housing)
979.845.4744
reslife.tamu.edu

Scholarships
979.845.3236
scholarships.tamu.edu

Student Activities
979.845.1133
studentactivities.tamu.edu

Student Business Services
979.847.3337
sbs.tamu.edu

Student Counseling Service
979.845.4427
scs.tamu.edu

Student Employment
979.845.0686
jobsforaggies.tamu.edu

Student Health Insurance
979.438.8310
shs.tamu.edu/insurance

Student Health Services
979.438.8316
shs.tamu.edu

Transportation Services (Parking)
979.845.9700
transport.tamu.edu

University Writing Center
979.438.1455
writingcenter.tamu.edu

Veteran Services
979.845.8075
veterans.tamu.edu

Connie R. Smith Office of the Ombudsman
979.862.7218
ombuds.tamu.edu

Money Wise Aggies
979.845.3236
moneywise.tamu.edu

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