



Texas A&M University NEW AGGIE NEWS

Summer 2014

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[howdy!]

The Office of New Student & Family Programs is excited to welcome you to Texas A&M University for the fall 2014 semester! Now that it's time for you to start your academic and personal journey, our office is dedicated to making your transition to Aggieland a success from the start. As part of the Aggie spirit, Texas A&M takes pride in the support and encouragement our faculty and staff provides each student during his or her time here. There are many ways for you to customize your Aggie experience, such as academic mentorship and leadership opportunities, getting involved in a campus organization, attending Fightin' Texas Aggie athletic events, and participating in all of the unique traditions that make Aggieland so special!

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



The Aggie Orientation Leader Program (AOLP) hopes your New Student Conference was great and that you're excited to be loud and proud members of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Family! We are looking forward to seeing you on campus in the fall. Don't forget to visit the [New Aggie Facebook page](#) to join your NSC Facebook Group and see your Insight Group photo!

Be sure to attend [Gig 'Em Week: Aggieland's Week of Welcome](#) on August 24-31, 2014. It's a great time to meet fellow Aggies, hang out with your Orientation Leaders, and participate in a variety of activities! Read more on page 6. We hope to see you there!

[life in Aggieland]

It is almost time to move to your new home in Aggieland! This time can be stressful for many students, but with some preparation, you can be ready to enjoy your first year in no time!

Tips for living in Aggieland:

- » Before you pack, do your research. Know what can and can't be brought with you to the residence hall.
- » If you're living off campus, make a list of utilities that may or may not be included in your rent, then budget those services accordingly.
- » If you will have a roommate, talk about habits, pet peeves, financial situations, and cleanliness. Be honest! Make a contract and refer to it during times of conflict.
- » Fill out your room condition checklist or apartment condition checklist BEFORE you move anything into your room.
- » Get to know your neighbors. Whether you live on or off campus, it's a great way to meet new people and have a person to call in case of an emergency!
- » If you're living on campus, get to know your Resident Advisor (RA), Graduate Hall Director (GHD), and Community Director (CD). They are a wealth of information and would be happy to help you adjust to campus!
- » Once you're in College Station, take the time to drive around and become familiar with your surroundings. Find places to eat, where to buy groceries, gas stations nearby, etc.
- » Familiarize yourself with the transit system on campus so you know where the transit stops are located.



[good bull]



aggie traditions

Traditions are an important part of life at Texas A&M; click on each title below to learn more!

Aggie Yells

- » Gig 'em
- » Aggies
- » Farmers Fight
- » Military
- » Old Army
- » Locomotive
- » Kyle Field
- » Sky Rocket
- » Beat the Hell
- » Fifteen for Team
- » Horse Laugh
- » Team

» Aggie Traditions

- » 12th Man
- » Midnight Yell
- » Gig 'Em
- » Reveille
- » Silver Taps
- » Aggie Ring
- » Muster
- » Yell Leaders
- » Corps of Cadets

Aggie Songs

- » "The Spirit of Aggieland"
- » "The Aggie War Hymn"
- » "Saw Varsity's Horns Off"
- » "The Twelfth Man"
- » "Texas, Our Texas"

[twelfth man]

aggie football tips and tricks

For your first Texas A&M football game at Kyle Field, be sure to check out the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and the Corps step off! Kick off for the first home game against Lamar is on Saturday, September 6th at 6:30 PM so step off will begin around 5:00 PM! If you want to catch the largest military-style marching band in the world and watch the Corps of Cadets march in, then you'll need to be in your seat at Kyle Field early!

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

Freshmen will most likely be seated on the third deck, so be prepared for the hike to the top. Your ticket will designate a section, row, and seat number. Once you are on the correct deck, be ready to show your ticket again as you leave the concourse and enter the stadium seating area in your designated section.

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

There are certain parking areas reserved for home football games and you MUST move your car from these parking areas the night before the game. Vehicles remaining in these areas will be ticketed and towed at YOUR expense. For a list of the reserved areas and other game day parking information, be sure to visit the Transportation Services website at <http://transport.tamu.edu/>.

Even though the first football game of the season won't be at Kyle Field, you can still cheer on the Fightin' Texas Aggies with all of your friends! The "BTHO South Carolina Game Watching Party" will be on Thursday, August 28th from 4- 10 PM. Check gigemweek.tamu.edu for more details!



[gig 'em week 2014]

Aggieland's Official Week of Welcome

Each year, thousands of new and returning students participate in the Gig 'Em Week tradition. There are numerous opportunities to meet people in the Aggie family, make friends, explore Texas A&M, and receive valuable information. Gig 'Em Week begins on Sunday, Aug. 24 and continues through Sunday, Aug. 31. The complete schedule can be found at the [Gig 'Em Week website](#).

Saturday, August 24

Backyard Bash: 5- 10 PM

Wednesday, August 27

Ice Cream Carnival: 11 AM- 1 PM
Library Open House: 1- 3 PM
Movie & Party on the Plaza: 7- 11:30 PM

Friday, August 29

Aggieland Market: 11 AM- 2 PM

Tuesday, August 26

Aggie Fest: 4- 6 PM
Gig 'Em Week GatherRING
and Yell Practice: 6:30- 9 PM

Thursday, August 28

Student Activities Block Party: 1- 3 PM
DMS Welcome Social: 2- 3:30 PM
BTHO South Carolina Game Watching Party: 4- 10 PM

Sunday, August 31

Undergraduate Convocation: 2- 3:30 PM



[undergraduate convocation]

Undergraduate Convocation will be held Sunday, August 31, 2014 at 2:00PM in Reed Arena. Undergraduate Convocation concludes Gig 'Em Week and is the official entry into Texas A&M's academic community. You and your family are invited to this special occasion!

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

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

For more information, visit the [Undergraduate Convocation website](#).



[last minute reminders]

important dates

8/29	Last day to register for fall semester classes
9/1	First day of fall semester classes
9/5	Last day for adding/dropping courses for the fall semester
10/17-18	<u>New Family Welcome</u>
11/13- 12/2	Preregistration for Spring 2015 semester
11/18	Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day
11/21	Last day to drop courses with no penalty (Q-Drop) Last day to officially withdraw from the University
11/27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
12/8	Last day of fall semester classes Redefined day, students attend their Friday classes
12/10-11	Reading days, no class
12/12, 15-17	Fall semester final examinations for all students

*All dates are subject to change. For the most up to date calendar visit: <http://registrar.tamu.edu/general/calendar.aspx>

important events

- » Check out the MSC Open House to get involved on campus, Sunday, Sep. 7, from 1- 5 PM at the MSC
- » Register for a meal plan at <https://mealplans.tamu.edu/mpt/do>
- » Reserve your textbooks at the Barnes & Noble at Texas A&M University.
- » Sign up for New Family Welcome at <http://studentlife.tamu.edu/nfw>

[aggie bucket list]

During your time at Texas A&M University, be sure to experience all of the formal, and informal, Aggie traditions that you can!

- Stand up as part of the 12th Man at Kyle Field
- Join a Student Organization
- Check out First Friday in Downtown Bryan
- Order your Aggie ring
- Take a picture with Reveille
- Visit the Bonfire Memorial
- Get involved in the community (Stop by the Leadership and Service Center for ideas)
- Participate in Midnight Yell Practice
- Attend Silver Taps and Aggie Muster
- Participate in the Big Event on March 28, 2015
- Enjoy some time outdoors at Lake Bryan
- Meet the Yell Leaders
- Visit the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum
- Support A&M's 20 varsity sports teams by attending 3 different athletic events
- Take a weekend trip to Austin, Houston, Dallas/Ft Worth, or San Antonio
- Start singing "The Aggie War Hymn" in an unconventional place

[show us your aggie!]

As you are checking off your Aggie Bucket List, don't forget to share your memories on the NSFP social media sites! Post pictures, comments, and follow all the sites below in order to connect with your family of Aggies.



[Twitter](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Pinterest](#)



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



NEW STUDENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS