2020-2021 FAMILY CALENDAR
On behalf of Texas A&M University, welcome to Aggieland and the special community of students, faculty, and staff that comprise the Aggie Family!

Your Aggie is beginning an experience that will offer opportunities for intellectual, physical, and emotional growth. The changing nature of your student's life in the next few years will also undoubtedly have an impact on you and your family. It is our hope, in the Division of Student Affairs, that this will be a positive transition for you and your student. As such, we provide a variety of programs, services, and engagement opportunities to support you and help your Aggie be successful at Texas A&M.

This calendar is published to provide information that will help you during this transitional time. We hope this information is helpful as you discover what it means to be a part of the Aggie Family.

Please always feel free to contact our office if we can assist you or your new Aggie. The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs is the home of the students’ Vice President, and everyone in our office is prepared and empowered to assist in their success.

Gig 'Em!

Daniel J. Pugh, Sr., Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs

In support of the Texas A&M University mission, the Division of Student Affairs contributes to student learning and development. We provide exceptional services, facilities, and programs that promote student success, embody the Aggie spirit, and foster a diverse and inclusive campus community to deepen the understanding and individual application of the Aggie Core Values – Loyalty, Integrity, Excellence, Leadership, Selfless Service, and Respect.

studentaffairs.tamu.edu | (979) 845-4728
Welcome Aggie Family Members!

As your student joins more than 60,000 other Aggies at the College Station campus, you might be experiencing mixed emotions. You’re proud your student is beginning college, as it’s a milestone towards a career and a lifetime of learning. Simultaneously, you may be concerned about academic performance, roommates, and safety. These are natural concerns for any family member to have.

Rest assured you will continue to play an essential role in your student’s life, and we want to partner with you to help support your student’s success at A&M. This family calendar is designed to assist and guide you in this important supportive role. Each month provides relevant topics and resources for you as a family member, and we hope each month generates a guided conversation between you and your student.

We want the Office of New Student & Family Programs to be a first line of contact for you at Texas A&M when your student is experiencing difficulties or when you need help determining who they should contact concerning any issue. We are here to listen and offer assistance. We hope your student has a positive experience as an Aggie and that A&M will become a special place in your heart as it has for so many Aggie parents and family members already!

CHECKLIST FOR NEW AGGIE FAMILIES

- Sign up for the Aggie Parent and Family Connection portal at tx.ag/FamilyPortal to receive the most up-to-date information on campus programs and to access other helpful resources.
- Encourage your student to sign up for Code Maroon at codemaroon.tamu.edu. You may also sign up on the same website.
- Make sure your student has listed you as their emergency contact in the Howdy Portal. The Parent/Guardian Access can be found under the My Record tab.
- Purchase your official Aggie Family T-shirt online from Barnes & Noble at Texas A&M, the university’s official bookstore, at tamu.bncollege.com.

Dates are subject to change. Please visit the following websites for updates:

- Academic Calendar: registrar.tamu.edu
- Howdy Week: howdyweek.tamu.edu
- Aggie Football Schedule: 12thMan.com
- Move-In: reslife.tamu.edu
- Aggie Ring Day: tx.ag/RingDay
- Family Weekend: familyweekend.tamu.edu

* Dates in this calendar are accurate as of 7/1/2020
Office of New Student & Family Programs

In support of Texas A&M University’s mission, the goal of New Student & Family Programs 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 family members play in a student’s college success, we equip families with the resources to aid their student throughout their college career. Services from our office include:

New Student Conferences (NSC) are the mandatory orientation program for incoming undergraduate Aggies. NSCs 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

Howdy Week is Aggieland’s official Week of Welcome. 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. Howdy Week takes place just before the fall semester.

howdyweek.tamu.edu

Family Weekend, held each spring, is a tradition that has existed at Texas A&M University since 1919. This weekend is dedicated to all Aggie family members and provides students a chance to express their gratitude to those who have impacted their lives.

familyweekend.tamu.edu

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Aggie Orientation Leaders (OLs) are a team of undergraduate students whose primary responsibility is to assist new students and their families at New Student Conferences.

tx.ag/OLapp

The Aggie Parent and Family Ambassadors (APFAs) work directly with Family Weekend, the Aggie Parent and Family Connection, Parents of the Year, and communication and outreach for all Aggie families.

tx.ag/APFA

CONNECT WITH US

/tamu
/AggieParentsandFamily
@tamu
@NSFPtamu
@tamu
@NSFPtamu
Created through the diligent and passionate efforts of the faculty, staff, and student leaders of Texas A&M University, the Step In Stand Up campaign is a promise, a statement, and a pledge—all in an effort to reduce incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence. Step In Stand Up shows survivors we stand with them and asks others to do the same. It brings awareness to our community and encourages others to share our message. It creates opportunities to change the culture, the perception, and the conversation.

Sexual violence, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking can happen to anyone. The Step In Stand Up website has resources provided by the University to assist students, faculty, and staff. The Title IX website also includes resources for survivors of sexual violence, applicable rules, and frequently asked questions.

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Services and programs offered by the Offices of the Dean of Student Life include:

- Health Promotion (Alcohol & Other Drug Education, Violence Prevention and Wellness)
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Pride Center
- New Student & Family Programs
- Off-Campus Student Services
- Student Assistance Services
- Student Conduct
- Student Legal Services
- Student Media
- Women’s Resource Center

To learn more, contact us at (979) 845-3111 or studentlife@tamu.edu.

Once a member of the Aggie Parent and Family Connection, you will have access to a specially curated news feed, calendar of important dates, helpful resources and more! You can even save or share articles you find particularly relevant or interesting.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact New Student & Family Programs at (979) 845-5826 or at familyprograms@tamu.edu.

The Office New Student & Family Programs is excited to launch the Aggie Parent and Family Connection Portal to enhance your Aggie family experience! This online portal will allow you to customize the information you receive from Texas A&M.

Thanks to the new platform, e-newsletters from New Student & Family Programs will now be tailored to your interests. You can decide how often you would like to receive updates, as well as log on 24/7 to view content or make account changes.

If you would like to receive Aggie Parent & Family Newsletters, visit tx.ag/FamilyPortal and create an account using your email address.

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RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Howdy Week

Howdy Week is Aggieland’s official Week of Welcome. This week is full of events and opportunities for new and returning students to become familiar or reacquainted with campus, fellow Aggies, and the Bryan/College Station community.

Howdy Week is coordinated by the Office of New Student & Family Programs and takes place just before the fall semester.

Howdy Week 2020 is currently scheduled for August 10-18. Due to the global pandemic, these dates are subject to change. All programs will have a virtual option.

The full schedule of events for this year will be posted on the Howdy Week website once they are available.

howdyweek.tamu.edu
(979) 845-5826

* Dates subject to change
College is a time of transition for students and their family members. It is important to sit down with your student and discuss your expectations of them as they leave for the academic year. Remember your student is entering a new phase in their life and may need time to find their groove in a new academic setting. With classes, student organizations, and campus events, students can become busy once the school year begins, and you may not hear from them as often as you would like. Work with your student to set up a time to talk that works for them. Support them in their new endeavors, and help them dive into Aggie life.

MSC Open House is a great way for students to find organizations and involvement opportunities. With over 400 student organizations represented, students will have an opportunity to search through both professional and leadership organizations that fit their interests. Fall Open House is set for Sunday, August 30, from 1-5 p.m. (subject to change). mscopenhouse.tamu.edu
Health and wellbeing are important parts of a positive college experience, and advocating for a student’s wellbeing needs can take a back burner to academics, stress, and goals. It is important to share with your student that taking care of their wellbeing will pay dividends towards their academic success. Managing stress, eating well, staying active, maintaining healthy relationships, and navigating substance use are just some of the ways Health Promotion is here to support students.

Health Promotion’s goal with respect to interpersonal violence prevention is to create a campus community free of abuse, harassment, and other forms of sexual and intimate partner violence where students enjoy equitable, nonviolent relationships. Health Promotion’s programs promote healthy relationships, teach non-violence and equality, and foster a respectful and safe environment for all members of the Texas A&M community.

One of the greatest challenges many students face in college is pressure regarding alcohol. As Aggie family members, the most influential people in our Aggies’ lives, it is important for you to discuss important topics with your student such as setting clear and realistic expectations regarding academic performance, stressing that alcohol is toxic and excessive consumption can be fatally poisonous, and making it clear that underage alcohol consumption, drinking in excess, and driving after drinking are against the law.

studentlife.tamu.edu/hp

(979) 845-0280

* Dates subject to change
Texas A&M boasts one of the most diverse groups of student organizations in the country, and there is guaranteed to be one for your student. With over 1,200 student organizations ranging from badminton to skydiving to the Biotechnology Society, there is a group for every student. Research shows that students who are involved on campus and engaged in both academic and co-curricular activities are more successful. If they are looking to make new friends, learn something new, or gain or polish leadership skills, getting involved is a great way to accomplish these goals.

One of the greatest opportunities Texas A&M provides to students is the opportunity to get involved. Encourage your student to visit studentactivities.tamu.edu and utilize the Organization Search feature to find the perfect fit for their interests.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Scholarships & Financial Aid

Financial aid is any loan, part-time employment, grant, or scholarship utilized for the express purpose of helping a student pay for educationally-related expenses.

If your student is seeking financial aid, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be submitted. Students may complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov. Make sure that your student lists Texas A&M University as a school approved to receive their FAFSA information; our federal school code is 003632. The FAFSA must be completed each year in order for students to receive financial aid for the upcoming academic year.

Please note, the 2021-2022 FAFSA will become available October 1, 2020. This is the application required for students seeking financial aid for the Fall 2021, Spring 2022, or Summer 2022 semesters.

Texas A&M also offers many scholarships each year. Incoming students can complete the scholarship section of the Apply Texas or Coalition application to apply.

financialaid.tamu.edu
scholarships.tamu.edu
(979) 845-3236

* Dates subject to change
Whether it’s your student’s first semester at Texas A&M or the last one, studying is a major theme in their life. Many times students do not know how to develop proper habits to maintain a successful academic career. The number one tip you can offer your student is to create a schedule now for the remainder of the year. Students should not only know when tests and papers fall in the semester, but have a good sense of what work needs to be done each week as the semester progresses. Encourage your student to invest in a planner to develop a timeline for each test, project, or homework assignment. It will help them be responsible for their actions and serve as a daily reminder for what they need to accomplish.

**AGGIE TRADITIONS**

“Howdy” is the official greeting of Texas A&M University. It is our way of ensuring that no one feels like a stranger. “Howdy” is what sets us apart as the friendliest campus in the world.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Student Counseling &
Student Health Services

Meeting students’ mental and physical health needs is essential to providing a positive learning environment. Texas A&M offers many services to address these needs:

Counseling and Psychological Services
The Department of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is a nationally recognized leader in college mental health through providing outstanding prevention, education, and counseling services. CAPS provides prevention programming focusing on self-care and wellness tools, including educational programming focusing on coping skills and stress reduction. CAPS also provides counseling to help students function at their highest academic potential.

caps.tamu.edu
(979) 845-4427

Student Health Services
Student Health Services (SHS), conveniently located on campus at the A.P. Beutel Health Center near Fish Pond, is an accredited ambulatory health care provider staffed by physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, and other health care professionals who are dedicated to helping your student stay well, so they can do well. SHS provides programs of preventive, therapeutic, and primary medical care services, and helps students preserve their health and promote wellness.

shs.tamu.edu
(979) 458-8250

* Dates subject to change
One of the greatest impacts you can have on your student is to constantly communicate positive messages to them. Many students will only communicate the negative aspects of their experiences, so it is important to ask them about the positive experiences they are having inside and outside the classroom. To complement these discussions, make sure to hold realistic expectations for your student. The transition from high school to college and beyond is a difficult one, and academics play a large role. Do not hold expectations for your student to achieve a perfect 4.0. Instead, speak with them about their classes and provide encouraging messages of support for them to do their best.

The Bonfire Memorial celebrates the tradition, history, and spirit of Texas A&M and the dedication of those involved in the tragic collapse of the 1999 Bonfire. The Bonfire Memorial was dedicated in 2004 and is located on the university polo fields, uniting Aggies past, present, and future. bonfire.tamu.edu
Parents/guardians should talk to their student about setting up a parent password to access information (grades, class schedule, and verification of enrollment) available at howdy.tamu.edu. Unofficial grades may be printed from this page for scholarship sponsors, good student insurance discounts, employer reimbursements, etc.

Any student may set a parent password to allow limited access to their records by a parent, guardian, spouse, or other individual as deemed appropriate by the student. You may find information about these steps by visiting registrar.tamu.edu/Transcripts-Grades/Parent-Access.

The Office of the Registrar does not set the parent password or supply password information to parents or guardians. Access to grades must be coordinated by students and their family member(s).

registrar.tamu.edu
(979) 845-1003

* Dates subject to change
With the winter break approaching, know that the transition from college life to home life can be a tricky one for both students and family members. Students become accustomed to having their own schedule while living away from home. It is important to discuss expectations about family obligations early in the break to avoid any tension or conflicts with your student. It is essential that your entire family discusses this new adjustment and understands that everyone is growing and changing each semester. Some students will remain in Bryan/College Station, so it is also important to discuss that decision and coordinate any winter plans your family may currently have scheduled.

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**Aggie Traditions**

Silver Taps is the final tribute paid to an Aggie who, at the time of their death, was enrolled in graduate or undergraduate courses at Texas A&M. We encourage students to attend to pay their respects to their fellow Aggies. Silver Taps takes place on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30 p.m. studentlife.tamu.edu/sas

**Aggie Advice**

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**Final Exams**

**Commencement & Commissioning**

**University Closed**

**University Closed**

**New Year's Eve**

**Christmas Eve**

**Christmas Day**

**Kwanzaa Begins**

**Hanukkah Begins**

**Hanukkah Concludes**

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**November**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
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22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30

**January**

1 2
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24 25 26 27 28 29 30
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Student Recreation Center

Rec Sports’ flagship facility, the Student Recreation Center, features extensive strength and conditioning areas, a walking/jogging track, handball/racquetball courts, and indoor courts for soccer, basketball, volleyball, and badminton. The Rec Center also features an indoor rock-climbing facility, a bouldering wall, outdoor basketball and sand volleyball courts, dance/activity rooms, and a world-class natatorium with indoor and outdoor pools and a diving well. Facilities may be used on a drop-in basis except when reserved for classes or university functions.

In addition to drop-in recreation, Rec Sports also offers aquatics classes, group exercise and specialty fitness classes, boot camps, personal and small group training, intramural sports, the Texas A&M Sport Clubs program, Outdoor Adventures, and the Walk of Champions brick campaign.

Most currently enrolled Texas A&M students are automatically Rec Members! All that is needed to utilize the Student Recreation Center and other Rec Sports facilities is a student ID. Guest passes for visitors are available for purchase.

repsports.tamu.edu
(979) 845-7826

* Dates subject to change
Your student has now completed their first semester at Texas A&M University! As they return to campus, they will face new challenges both academically and socially. The new semester will bring new classes with new instructors, as well as many other opportunities to get involved in campus activities. This can be a great change of pace from the fall semester, and it is important to encourage your student to get out and get involved in new activities this spring. MSC Spring Open House will display various student organizations for your student to get involved in, while the Student Recreation Center provides activities that will allow your student to start off a happy and healthy semester.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND

Academic Success Center &
University Writing Center

Students have many opportunities for academic success, and Texas A&M is committed to helping them achieve goals. Here are a few resources to help with academic success:

Academic Success Center
The Academic Success Center provides all Aggies regardless of their background and experience with access to comprehensive resources and support so they can achieve academic goals and fulfill their academic potential. We foster a safe and welcoming environment that encourages students to cultivate skills and attitudes that enhance academic performance. Our programs and services include workshops and classes on academic success, academic coaching, tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, transfer student support, and developmental education.

asc.tamu.edu
(979) 458-4900

University Writing Center
The UWC helps Aggies improve their writing and speaking skills. We offer a variety of appointment types, including online and Zoom sessions, which allow students to work with one of our trained peer consultants at any stage of the creative process. You can also find useful handouts, videos, and self-paced learning modules on our website.

writingcenter.tamu.edu
(979) 458-1455

* Dates subject to change
Texas A&M University's emergency notification system, Code Maroon, uses multiple notification methods in a best effort to reach campus members in an emergency.

codemaroon.tamu.edu

One of the largest growing concerns on collegiate campuses today is hazing and its impact on student life. Hazing is “any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that has potential to humiliate, degrade, abuse, or endanger a person regardless of that person’s willingness to participate.” It is imperative students realize these actions are not simply harmless antics and pranks, but abusive behavior that can threaten the health and safety of all involved. As family members of current students, it is important to know about hazing and be proactive in speaking with your student about any activities that concern you. Visit stophazing.tamu.edu for information and resources.
Texas A&M is dedicated to providing a supportive campus for all students. There are a variety of services on campus that provide support, and it is important your student recognizes the help available to them.

**Student Legal Services**
Student Legal Services provides free advice and counseling by an attorney available for Texas A&M students concerning various legal issues, including criminal law and expunctions, traffic accidents and citations, landlord/tenant disputes, consumer, and family law. Notary Public service is available.

[studentlife.tamu.edu/sls](http://studentlife.tamu.edu/sls)
(979) 862-4502

**Tell Somebody**
Members of this University community who observe or hear about any concerning behavior may report it using the online form or by contacting the Special Situations Team during business hours. The Special Situations Team is charged with helping students, faculty, or staff who are exhibiting concerning behavior.

[tellsomebody.tamu.edu](http://tellsomebody.tamu.edu)
(979) 845-3111

**Student Assistance Services**
Student Assistance Services seeks to connect Texas A&M University students with the appropriate guidance, resources, and support to address a variety of personal and academic matters.

[studentlife.tamu.edu/sas](http://studentlife.tamu.edu/sas)
(979) 845-3113

*Dates subject to change*
With course registration opening up in the month of April, it is a great time to speak with your student regarding their academic future. Students should visit their academic advisor at least once a semester to check on their degree plan and select appropriate courses to register for in the upcoming semester. This is also a great time for them to ask about any summer classes they may want to take as their advisor will help make sure they select the appropriate courses. Your student may also be realizing that they would like to change majors, with which academic advisors can also help. The process is different for each college, so make sure your student starts this process early!

The Big Event provides students with the opportunity to say, “Thank You” to the Bryan/College Station Community. In 2019, more than 20,000 students volunteered to complete more than 2,250 jobs, performing tasks that ranged from painting to yard work to cleaning. bigevent.tamu.edu
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Career Center & Academic Advising

Texas A&M is focused on preparing your student for endeavors beyond their undergraduate career. Whether they are looking to further their education or looking for employment, there is a program or office to aid your student.

Career Center
The Career Center provides comprehensive services to assist students in planning their career, gaining work-related experience, seeking admission to graduate and professional school, and securing professional employment upon graduation. Services and resources available to Aggies include one-on-one career advising, career-related programs and workshops, panel discussions, and online tools such as webinars, resume templates, virtual mock interviews, professional networking tools, salary evaluation resources, and job sites.

careercenter.tamu.edu
(979) 845-5139

Academic Advising
Every college has academic advisors whose purpose is to assist students with changing their schedule (class adds, drops, or withdrawals), registering for classes, helping create strategies for success, study abroad, and/or internship opportunities, and much more! They are a vital resource to your student’s success, so encourage them to speak with their advisor at least once a semester to make sure they are taking the appropriate classes for their degree plan.

studentsuccess.tamu.edu

* Dates subject to change
April begins a time of stress for many students as they near the end of the semester and approach finals. Listen to your student, and clarify what they need from you as a family member. Sometimes they may need someone to vent to, and other times they need advice; however, it is important to let them make this distinction. If they do ask for advice, some helpful tips you can suggest for stress relief are: organizing their calendar for the month, encouraging them to take some “me time,” and communicating with people who will listen, like you! This is also a great time to send a care package to your student to help them prepare for those final exams.

Aggie Muster is one of Texas A&M’s oldest and most revered traditions. Officially started on April 21, 1922 as a day for remembrance of fellow Aggies, more than 300 Muster ceremonies are held on this date every year throughout Texas, the United States, and around the world. muster.tamu.edu
As you and your family explore Texas A&M University, know that The Association of Former Students is ready to welcome you and your student to Aggieland.

As the oldest organization serving Texas A&M University in support of the ever-growing Aggie Network, the Association supports programs that enhance the student experience, provide monetary resources for scholarships, student assistance funds and other student and former student needs, and cultivate experiences that impact students and former students during their unique Texas A&M journey. The Association is HERE, THERE and EVERYWHERE for the Aggie Network.

Stop by the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center at the corner of George Bush Drive and Houston Street to learn more about the Association’s legacy of service.

AggieNetwork.com
(979) 845-7514
May is an exciting time for families as many students return home for summer. Be aware your student may have developed new behaviors and even a new appearance over the year. Now is a good time to discuss “rules of the home” while also understanding your student has just returned from an environment with no chores or curfews and now has no homework to consume their time. Finding a compromise in their newfound freedom and your house rules will be imperative to having a smooth transition for you and your student. If your student is staying in Bryan/College Station or leaving for an internship, communicate with them, and make sure they have a plan of action for the summer months.
RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+
Pride Center

The LGBTQ+ Pride Center is a resource and referral center for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Aggies and their straight supporters. The Center educates all campus and community constituencies on LGBTQ+ issues through programming about sexual orientation and gender identity/expression, advocacy, leadership, and visibility. The LGBTQ+ Pride Center also collaborates with student organizations, campus departments, and local community organizations to provide students with access to resources, activities, and support services.

The Center advocates by educating campus and community constituencies on LGBTQ+ issues and functions as a resource and referral center. Everyone is welcome in the Center and at signature campus events such as National Coming Out Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance, LGBTQ+ Awareness Week, The Coming Out Monologues, and more!

For more information about the LGBTQ+ Center and the services they provide, contact:
studentlife.tamu.edu/lgbtq
(979) 862-8920

* Dates subject to change
With Texas A&M comprised of more than 60,000 students, your student has had an opportunity to interact with classmates of various cultures, ethnicities, and beliefs. This is one of the greatest strengths of Texas A&M, and we hope that each student will learn more about themselves by interacting with those who have different life experiences. Texas A&M believes these interactions strengthen the University, promote the exchange of ideas, stimulate creativity, and enrich campus life. Talk with your student about their year at Texas A&M, and focus on the people they interacted with inside and outside of the classroom.

### Aggie Traditions
Replant is one of the largest student-run, environmental service projects in the nation. Hundreds of trees are planted each year by thousands of student volunteers from A&M and the Bryan/College Station area. Trees are planted at local parks, schools, and other public land properties.

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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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### Father's Day
SUMMER I TERM—LAST DAY FOR Q-DROP OR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE CHANGE OF CURRICULUM PERIOD ENDS

### May

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### July

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RESOURCES IN AGGIELAND
Department of Multicultural Services

The Department of Multicultural Services (DMS) contributes to steady progress toward institutional diversity goals of greater inclusion and academic excellence by positively impacting the campus climate. The department has a mission to provide multiple educational and developmental services for underrepresented and historically marginalized racial and ethnic populations and diversity education programs that foster inclusive learning environments for all students. DMS supports, advocates for and challenges students as they transition and persist at Texas A&M, as well as provides opportunities for students to examine and communicate ways to contribute to an inclusive and respectful campus community, develop cultural knowledge and competence and build cross-cultural communication skills.

DMS is home to a number of student organizations and programs that provide academic, social, cultural, and personal development, as well as intentional interaction and engagement. DMS assists students with their transition to and persistence through Texas A&M University and educates students about individual differences, cultural competence, and how to contribute to a respectful campus. The department strives to maintain a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

dms.tamu.edu
(979) 862-2000

* Dates subject to change
Many students will find friendships through student organizations, classes, and other activities that they will miss after the semester concludes. Some of these relationships will simply not last the test of summer, so it is important to support your student while understanding this is a natural part of college student development. The best thing you can do for your student is to listen to their concerns and issues regarding missing their new friends. The sympathetic ear you provide can be the greatest asset and resource they have during these summer months.

“Gig ‘Em!” is the official hand sign of Texas A&M University. At the 1930 Yell Practice before the TCU football game, Pinky Downs shouted out, “What are we going to do to those Horned Frogs?” Answering his own question, he replied, “Gig ‘Em, Aggies!” while making a fist with his thumb extended.
Aggie Traditions

“There’s a Spirit can ne’er be told…”

What does it mean to be a Texas Aggie? Since its beginning in 1876, Texas A&M has developed a rich heritage of traditions that have helped to develop character, leadership, unity, and public service in all its graduates. By experiencing these honored traditions, you can begin to understand what is truly meant by “the Spirit of Aggieland.”

TEAM TRADITIONS
- **12th Man:** In the spirit of E. King Gill, Aggies stand ready for service, desiring to support their team.
- **Midnight Yell:** At midnight before each football game, Aggies gather to pump up the 12th Man for the next day’s big game.
- **Yell Leaders:** Selected by the student body, these five Aggies are the official spirit organization of the university, and they lead the Aggie fans in “yells” during athletic events and other school events.
- **Maroon Out:** The 12th Man makes a difference for their team fighting on the gridiron by wearing all maroon.

CORPS OF CADETS TRADITIONS
- **Senior Boots:** Members of the Corps of Cadets look forward to their senior year when they are privileged to wear boots.
- **Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band:** The pulse of the Spirit of Aggieland has never lost a half-time!
- **Ross Volunteers:** The oldest honor guard and drill team of its kind in the state, the Ross Volunteer Company is the Honor Guard of the Governor of the State of Texas.
- **Boot Dance:** The junior class dance reflects their readiness to fill the shoes of the graduating senior class.

TRADITIONS OF REMEMBRANCE
- **Aggie Muster:** Every April 21st, Muster brings together more Aggies worldwide on one occasion than any other event.
- **Silver Taps:** A final tribute is held the first Tuesday of the month when a current student has passed away the previous month.
- **Memorial Student Center (MSC):** Aggies who have given their lives in service to their country are honored in this living memorial.

COMMUNITY TRADITIONS
- **“Howdy!”:** Texas A&M’s official greeting has led to Aggieland’s reputation of being the most welcoming campus in the world.
- **Big Event:** The largest single-day student-run service project in the nation is a “Thank You” to the local community.
- **Replant, A Growing Tradition:** The planting of thousands of trees every year on public lands has grown into one of the largest student-run environmental projects in the nation.

CLASS TRADITIONS
- **The proudest member of the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of...**
- **Elephant Walk:** The annual walk around campus is done to symbolize the seniors’ dying usefulness to the 12th Man.
- **Junior E-Walk:** Coinciding with Elephant Walk, this tradition celebrates the juniors anticipating their reign as the top campus leaders.
- **Ring Dance:** The senior class dance is a milestone in the privilege of wearing the Aggie Ring.
- **Graduation:** Students receive their degree from Texas A&M and membership in The Association of Former Students.

TRADITION SYMBOLS
- **Aggie Ring:** This is the most visible way for graduates of Texas A&M to recognize each other. The Aggie Ring is worn by current and former students and is one of the most well-known symbols of the Aggie Network. Each item on the ring has a symbolic meaning. For more information on the Aggie Ring, visit: [aggienetwork.com/ring/history.aspx](http://aggienetwork.com/ring/history.aspx).

For more information on Texas A&M’s Traditions, please visit [tamu.edu/traditions](http://tamu.edu/traditions).

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
PURPOSE STATEMENT & CORE VALUES

To develop leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good.

Our purpose statement carries with it the responsibility, the traditions, and the forward thinking of Texas A&M University exemplified by all who are associated with the university — its faculty and staff, and its current and former students. This can be defined by six core values:

Excellence | Integrity | Leadership | Loyalty | Respect | Selfless Service
# Campus Resources

This page is provided to help families become informed about the many resources and services available on campus. The guide is designed to be helpful when your student calls home ("What do I do?"). Family members are encouraged to lead their student to a solution rather than solving the problem for them. Most information and phone numbers can also be obtained from the Campus Directory at 845-3211. All numbers are area code 979. **Didn't see the service you are looking for? Call our office at (979) 845-5826, and we will get you the information you need!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absence Notification</td>
<td>Student Assistance Services</td>
<td>845-3113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Advising</td>
<td>Academic Advisor, Assistant/Associate Dean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol or Drug-Related Issues</td>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
<td>458-0280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appeals, Traffic</td>
<td>Traffic Appeals Panel</td>
<td>845-9700</td>
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<td>Campus Dining Options</td>
<td>University Dining</td>
<td>845-3005</td>
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<td>Campus Safety Escort Services</td>
<td>Corps Guard Room</td>
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<td>Computer Assistance</td>
<td>Help Desk Central</td>
<td>845-8300</td>
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<td>Co-Op Program and Internships</td>
<td>Cooperative Education - The Career Center</td>
<td>845-5139</td>
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<td>Corps of Cadets</td>
<td>Office of the Commandant</td>
<td>845-2811</td>
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<td>Counseling &amp; Psychological Services</td>
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<td>Disability Accommodations</td>
<td>Disability Resources</td>
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<td>9-911/911</td>
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<td>Family Programs and Resources</td>
<td>New Student &amp; Family Programs</td>
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<td>Financial Aid, Grants, and Scholarships</td>
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