WELCOME TO THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

It is a pleasure to welcome you to The Graduate College at Texas State University. As a graduate student, you are considered a valuable asset to the diverse university community. This guide has been prepared to answer the most often-asked questions of entering graduate students. We hope you will find this resource guide helpful in your first semester. If you have a question that is not addressed here or in the Graduate Catalog, please call The Graduate College office at 512.245.2581 or contact the graduate advisor of your degree program. Please accept my best wishes as you pursue your graduate degree.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrea Golato,
Dean, The Graduate College
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MISSION STATEMENT

Texas State University is a public, student-centered Emerging Research University dedicated to excellence in serving the educational needs of the diverse population of Texas and the world beyond.

The mission of The Graduate College is to provide vision, leadership and direction for excellence in graduate education at Texas State University with the aim of providing the appropriate infrastructure and learning environment for the training of innovative and successful scholars, teachers and professionals. The Graduate College does so by:

a. articulating, promoting and supporting the highest standards of quality in graduate education in keeping with the University’s overall mission of teaching, research and public service;
b. constructing and maintaining an environment conducive to successful graduate education in concert with all graduate programs;
c. supporting programs’ efforts to foster a diverse student population who participate in a global society;
d. promoting and supporting rigor in graduate education;
e. providing key process and procedure guidance and support to graduate programs from admission to graduation;
f. aiding in student recruitment, application processing, policy monitoring and degree auditing;
g. leading initiatives designed to provide best practices in graduate education leading to timely degree completion;
h. providing graduate student support for creative and scholarly activities;
i. offering professional development opportunities for graduate students at key stages in their graduate career; and
j. engaging in research on graduate education.

The stakeholders of The Graduate College include students, faculty and staff involved in graduate education at Texas State University.

HONOR CODE

Since 1899, Texas State University has been an institution of higher learning that assists men and women in their pursuit of academic excellence. One of the cornerstones of this effort has always been to provide a quality education in an environment that is conducive to success. In order to achieve this goal, the university must ensure that academic integrity remains a permanent fixture in all aspects of academic life. It is for this reason that Texas State has adopted an honor code, which can be found in UPPS 07.10.01. This document is on the website at: txstate.edu/effective/upps/upps-07-10-01.html.

HISTORY

The Graduate College has been in existence at Texas State University since June 15, 1935, and has continued to expand its degree offerings in order to meet the needs of its students ever since.

In the late 1930s, the Southwest Texas State Teachers College Graduate School began by offering a master of arts degree and a major in education. The master of arts program was started because of the growing demand by people from the surrounding areas and the public school systems. In the summer of 1936, the first master of arts courses were offered. In 1938–39, majors were offered in the following fields: education, social science, science and mathematics, and language and literature.

In 1996, the first doctoral program was authorized by the Board of Regents in geographic education and environmental geography with the first doctorates awarded in 2000.

Today, The Graduate College offers approximately 100 graduate master’s and doctoral programs in the following colleges: Applied Arts, Education, Fine Arts and Communication, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, McCoy College of Business Administration and Science and Engineering. A variety of graduate degrees and certification programs are also available at the Texas State Round Rock Campus in Round Rock, Texas.

Our nationally recognized graduate programs draw applicants from across the country and around the globe. Our faculty members are renowned teachers and active researchers.

- Emerging Research
- R2 Carnegie Designation
DIVERSITY

At Texas State University, diversity and inclusion are major university goals. Texas State supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body, reflecting the diversity of the state. For more information on the students enrolled at Texas State, please visit: www.ir.txstate.edu/ir-self-service.

COMMUNICATION

E-mail Usage and Expectations
You are expected to set up your Texas State e-mail as soon as possible. ITAC provides information on how to set up your NetID and e-mail account. Most university offices use Texas State e-mail as the official means of communication; therefore, it is your responsibility to read all communications sent from The Graduate College and other university offices to your Texas State University e-mail accounts (XX@txstate.edu). If you choose to forward your mail to a personal e-mail address, please add Texas State accounts, including The Graduate College, as a safe sender.

GradBulletin
The Graduate College’s primary form of communication, the GradBulletin, is sent to all graduate students on campus every Friday. The GradBulletin features important information related to your graduate degree including scholarship opportunities, deadline reminders, workshop topics and other events in the Texas State graduate community. You can sign up by visiting: eepurl.com/b4m7Jb.

Social Media
You may also wish to follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on events, deadlines and other graduate-related items:
Facebook: facebook.com/TXSTGradCollege
Twitter: twitter.com/TXSTGradCollege
WordPress: txstgradcollege.wordpress.com
YouTube: youtube.com/channel/UCqX3XGiKuJF6qn7N_KxARbw

COMMUNITY-BUILDING

Grads Around the Globe
Graduate students may participate in the “Grads Around the Globe” contest by taking a picture wearing a Graduate College shirt or cap in a cool, new place (away from campus), then tweet it to our Twitter page (@TXSTGradCollege) or post it on our Facebook wall (TXSTGradCollege). Please use the hashtag #gcglobalgrads to make sure credit is received for the photo.

Photos will be collected throughout the year and three winners will be chosen each February and August for a chance to win a prize. For more details, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/tshirt.

Graduate Student Appreciation Week
Graduate Student Appreciation Week is held in April every year to recognize the contributions, impact and value of our graduate and professional students. The week is filled with a variety of events for graduate students, including workshops, socials, wellness classes and recreational opportunities.

Running with the Graduate Deans
The Graduate College Deans and Staff would like to invite you to join us in a series of local running events organized by various non-university groups and organizations in town. For every graduate student, faculty or staff member who runs/walks the race wearing our technical shirt, The Graduate College will put funds in the amount of the race fee into our scholarship account for the coming year. Please visit the following website for more details: gradcollege.txstate.edu/run_deans.

FUNDING

External Fellowship Officer
The Graduate College has an in-house external fellowship officer dedicated to helping students secure external funding opportunities for graduate study, thesis/dissertation research and other projects.

Graduate Assistantships
A limited number of graduate teaching and research assistantships are available. Inquiries should be addressed to your department. General graduate assistantship information is available at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/Prospect_Students/Fin_Grad_Ed/Grad_Assist_Info.
Graduate College and Celebrity Classic Scholarships

The Graduate College scholarships are available for newly admitted and continuing graduate students. The award amount is $1,000 per semester. Scholarships are awarded for the academic year and disbursed on a per-semester basis.

The Celebrity Classic scholarships are available for newly admitted and continuing students. Awards range from $1,500 to $2,000 per semester and are given for up to three academic years, provided that a 3.5 cumulative GPA has been maintained on all graduate course work leading to the current degree and that enrollment requirements have been satisfied.

Graduate Student Travel Funds

The Graduate College has funding to support graduate student travel to professional meetings. To be eligible for these funds, the student must have an accepted conference paper, poster, professional presentation or performance/exhibit, and must be enrolled during the semester the conference is held.

Thesis/Dissertation Research Support Fellowships

The Graduate College provides Doctoral Research Support Fellowships to support graduate student research at the doctoral level. Each award of up to $5,000 is to be used to cover expenses directly related to conducting dissertation research.

The Graduate College provides Thesis Research Support Fellowships to support graduate student research at the master’s level. Each award of up to $2,000 is to be used to cover expenses directly related to conducting thesis research.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3MT Competition

The 3MT Competition is a research communication competition that prepares you to present a brief but compelling oration on your research and its significance to a non-specialist audience. The skills learned in this competition relate directly to job interviews, funding and applications and interactions with individuals outside of academia.

International Research Conference

The Annual International Research Conference for Graduate Students provides an opportunity for students to build their presentation skills and their résumés by presenting original research to the community of scholars and professionals at Texas State.

Shop Talks

The Graduate College hosts a series of workshops every fall and spring terms that focus on various elements relating to students’ degrees. The Shop Talks fall under three categories: Degree Success, Research Development and Career Prep. More information, including upcoming topics, dates/times and registration, can be found here: gradcollege.txstate.edu/Current_Students/wrkshp/shop_talk.

THE GRADUATE HOUSE

The Graduate House, a part of student government, represents graduate students across the campus. The Graduate House meets regularly and has representatives from all academic colleges at Texas State. For more information, please see the following website: studentgovernment.dos.texas.edu/graduatehouse.

GRADUATE COLLEGE POLICIES

GRADUATE CATALOG

The Graduate Catalog provides information about various graduate education policies and procedures and includes information about registration and course credit, grading policies, degree information and tuition and fees. mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate

CHANGE OF MAJOR

Should you desire to change your major program, you must complete a new application and pay the application fee.

Application for Admission: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

Allow a minimum of six weeks to process program changes. Acceptance into one graduate program does not ensure acceptance into another graduate program.

CHANGE OF MINOR/CONCENTRATION

If you wish to change your minor, you must complete a change-of-minor form. The link is below: gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Change_Minor.pdf
COURSE LOAD
Taking nine semester hours is classified as full-time enrollment each term. The maximum graduate course load is 15 semester hours during the fall and spring terms and 12 semester hours during the summer. Program offerings vary during the summer. Overloads require written approval from your graduate advisor and the dean of The Graduate College before registering.

DEGREE AUDIT
A degree audit identifies the courses that are required in order to obtain a particular degree at Texas State and will guide you in selecting courses for registration. Degree audits for graduate students may be accessed at the beginning of the first term of enrollment through the Self-Service Banner: ssb.txstate.edu. Contact the graduate advisor for your program to discuss degree options or with any questions regarding your degree audit. **All course substitutions require prior written approval from your graduate advisor and the dean of The Graduate College.**

DEGREE COMPLETION
If you are enrolled in a master's degree program, completion of your degree is required within six years from the date of your initial enrollment. Completion dates for doctoral programs vary and include time limits for both course work and dissertation.

DISSERTATION (DOCTORAL)
All doctoral students, with the exception of physical therapy majors, are required to complete a dissertation. You should consult with the doctoral program director of your program regarding all program-specific requirements related to the dissertation.

GUIDE TO PREPARING AND SUBMITTING A THESIS OR DISSERTATION
A guide to the preparation of a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation is available online at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf.

This guide provides information on procedures, deadlines, required approvals, style and formatting. In addition, you will find information about helpful thesis and dissertation workshops. For detailed information about thesis/dissertation, please visit gradcollege.txstate.edu/Thes-Diss_Info.

MINOR
Minor requirements vary among programs. Refer to the Graduate Catalog (mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate). If you are having difficulty deciding on a minor, consult with the graduate advisor for your program.

SOCIAL MEDIA USE AND CYBERSECURITY
The use of social media such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and blogs has become commonplace. However, students need to be aware that social media content plays an important role in their education as well as in their future career prospects. Students are urged to use caution when publishing information on public sites. Objectionable content may also affect the likelihood of getting a graduate assistantship.

More companies are screening employees’ use of social media sites before making hiring decisions. Visit the following website for information on social media use: umarketing.txstate.edu/resources/social.

Graduate students share various types of information online and through social media and need to be aware of cybersecurity issues. For more information, please refer to the Information Technology Assistance Center: security.vpit.txstate.edu/policies.html#bro.

THESIS (MASTER’S)
If you elect the thesis option, consult with the graduate advisor of your program regarding the procedures to follow.

TRANSFER CREDIT
After a student is regularly admitted to a graduate degree program, they may be permitted to utilize some graduate level courses taken at another institution toward their graduate degree. Transfer work will be accepted only if it bears a letter grade of “B” or higher or a numerical equivalent. A grade of “Credit,” “Pass,” “Satisfactory,” etc., is unacceptable. Transfer work will not be accepted for graduate degree credit from another institution if such courses are designated as non-degree, background, preparatory, etc. Courses must not have been, and will not be, used for credit toward another degree. Courses taken at other institutions will not be included in the GPA at Texas State. The Texas State GPA will be the only GPA calculated toward graduation. Please see the Graduate Catalog for more information.
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Change of Address
Address information may be changed through the Self-Service Banner: ssb.txstate.edu.

Enrollment Verification
The Registrar’s Office provides enrollment verification for graduate students. Enrollment verification may be requested by contacting the Registrar’s Office. For more information, please visit: registrar.txstate.edu/our-services/enrollment-verification.

Holds and Registration Eligibility
If you have a hold within a department, it may prevent you from registering for the upcoming semester. To check holds and your registration eligibility, go to the following website: ssb.txstate.edu/prod/twbkbwis.P_GenMenu?name=homepage.

Official Change of Name
For the proper procedures to officially change your name on university documents, please visit the following website: registrar.txstate.edu/our-services/personal-info-update.

Official Transcripts
To request official transcripts from the Registrar’s Office, please visit: registrar.txstate.edu/our-services/transcripts.

GETTING STARTED

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE
The Department of Housing and Residential Life has designated one apartment building in Bobcat Village for graduate students. For more information, please visit the website below: reslife.txstate.edu

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS
For students receiving financial aid, knowing how to get your money is critical. Please review the information on the Financial Aid and Scholarships website (finaid.txstate.edu) for important instructions on obtaining your loan and payment information.

FINANCIAL LITERACY
GradSense, an initiative of the Council of Graduate Schools, provides graduate students with information on the value of pursuing an advanced degree, the long-term impact of daily spending choices and tips for evaluating job offers after graduation. For more information, please visit: gradsense.org/gradsense.

ID SERVICES
You may obtain your Texas State user ID and e-mail by going to the following website: tim.txstate.edu/onlinetoolkit/CustomLogin?returnurl=/onlinetoolkit/Home.aspx. If you need assistance, you may contact the help desk at 512.245.4822.

JOBS4CATS
Students can find job postings by using Jobs4Cats. Students can register by going to the following website: careerservices.txstate.edu/students/connectwithemployers/studentsusejobs4cats.

MEAL PLANS
Texas State offers a variety of meal plans. Please visit the website below to learn about the options. dineoncampus.com/txstate/show.cfm?cmd=MealPlans.

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR
Students can register for classes by using the Bobcat Schedule Builder, a tool that assists in finding the needed classes and creating a schedule. You can find the new tool by signing into Texas State Self-Service on the following website: ssb.txstate.edu/prod/twbkbwis.P_GenMenu?name=homepage and clicking the Student tab.

STUDENT BUSINESS SERVICES
Student Business Services provides assessment and billing of tuition and fees, applies and disburses tuition adjustments and refunds, and facilitates timely collection and reporting of student, department and third-party sponsor income. Please visit: sbs.txstate.edu/about/overview.

STUDENT EMERGENCY SERVICES
The Dean of Students Office is responsible for coordinating a response to emergency incidents involving students. The office does this in collaboration with other areas of the university depending on the special circumstances.

Some of these services include:
- responding to student(s) displaced from residence due to fire
- notifying faculty of a student absence due to prolonged illness, injury or family emergency
• academic adjustment assistance
• providing limited financial assistance in emergency situations

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 512.245.2124 or visit: dos.txstate.edu/services/emergency.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
University Bookstore provides academic tools, ancillary educational items and educational opportunities, aggregates course material information, maintains campus transaction expertise and provides funding to enrich the educational experience for Texas State students and the quality of life for Texas State students, faculty, staff, alumni and visitors. For more information, please visit: bookstore.txstate.edu/t-about.aspx.

HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS

COUNSELING CENTER
Many students encounter a variety of personal, social, career and academic issues that call for assistance beyond advice provided by friends and family. The Counseling Center provides free and confidential services by professional counselors to all currently enrolled Texas State students while classes are in session. For more information, contact the Counseling Center at 512.245.2208 or counselingcenter@txstate.edu.
Information can also be found by visiting the Counseling Center website at: counseling.txstate.edu. To visit the Counseling Center at the Round Rock Campus, please visit: counseling.txstate.edu/round-rock.

INSURANCE INFORMATION
Insurance information is available online at the following web address: healthcenter.txstate.edu/INSURANCE.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE REQUIREMENT
International students are required to have health insurance. For information, please see: healthcenter.txstate.edu/international.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES
The Department of Campus Recreation offers an incredible array of indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities for the university community. Some programs charge a nominal fee for participation. campusrecreation.txstate.edu

The Student Recreation Center has eight basketball/volleyball courts, four multipurpose studios, a weight room, six racquetball courts, a cardio area, an indoor track, a rock climbing wall, a natatorium and equipment checkout services. campusrecreation.txstate.edu/facilities/src

STUDENT HEALTH CENTER
All registered students with a valid Texas State student ID who have paid the medical service fee are eligible to use the Student Health Center. The medical service fee is included in your tuition and fees. (Students enrolled only in off-campus courses will have these fees waived.)
For information regarding hours and services on the San Marcos campus, call the Student Health Center at 512.245.2161 or visit their website: healthcenter.txstate.edu. For information regarding hours and services at the Round Rock Campus, please call 512.245.2161 or visit their website: healthcenter.txstate.edu/Round-Rock-Student-Health-Center

LIBRARY RESOURCES
The Albert B. Alkek Library is the most important information resource of the Texas State community. The Alkek Library website (library.txstate.edu) provides convenient 24/7 access to information about library services and resources.

The Alkek Library provides a variety of study spaces for students. Tables and seating areas are located on floors two through seven. Carrels and small group rooms are located on floors five, six and seven. The fifth and sixth floor are designated as quiet study floors. Graduate students may request lockers located on the sixth floor for one semester on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact circulation at 512.245.3681 for more information about study areas in the library or see: library.txstate.edu/my-library/reserve-spaces-rooms.

Subject librarians are available to help students, faculty and staff with their research needs. You can contact your subject librarian here: library.txstate.edu/subject-librarians. Schedule an individual research consultation with your subject librarian at the Alkek Library or Round Rock Campus to help you with your research topic and search strategies and/or to orient you to navigating the library for a successful graduate school experience. Schedule a consultation in advance to ensure availability, preferably with at least three days’ notice. You can do this online at: library.txstate.edu/askalibrarian/individual.
Round Rock Campus (RRC) Library Services is a satellite library of the Alkek Library located in Room 255 of the Avery Building. The satellite facility includes PCs, study carrels, a quiet study room and audio-visual equipment. A wireless network is available throughout the building. The RRC Library facility includes a minimal print collection. Students have full access to the collections of the Alkek Library and may request books, videos, CDs, DVDs and other circulating materials from the Alkek Library via the online request form. Materials will be delivered from Alkek to the RRC via a courier service that runs between San Marcos and Round Rock each business day. Users at RRC have access to databases available through the Alkek Library including e-books and e-journals, many of which are full text. Staff provides individual research assistance to all Texas State students and assistance to faculty in addition to teaching instructional sessions. For more information about the RRC Library Services including hours and other services, visit the RRC Library Services website (rc.library.txstate.edu) or call the library at 512.716.4700.

**Ask a Librarian – Anytime, Anywhere**
The Ask a Librarian service offers convenient online chat/IM help during daytime and evening hours. Use the service by adding our IM account to your buddy list. To find the IM clients used by the library or to chat directly with us via a chat box on many of the library web pages, see the Ask a Librarian web page and choose one of the many options available. This service is on the website at: askalibrarian.library.txstate.edu.

**Electronic Databases and Journals**
Texas State faculty, students and staff have convenient remote online access to many electronic databases and journals. Databases are listed on the library website (catalog.library.txstate.edu/search/y) and are arranged by type, subject and alphabetically by name.

**Research Guides**
The library website provides access to a variety of research guides for specific disciplines, subjects and topics as well as guides for conducting research. Access to these guides is available on the website (guides.library.txstate.edu/research) and is available for all library users.

**Bibliographies and References for Research Papers and Theses**
The Alkek Library provides access to RefWorks, a web-based bibliographic management tool that allows you to create your own individual account and store citations, references or abstracts from the library databases, web searches or text files you retrieve when doing your research. This is a great tool to manage your research literature. You can set up your RefWorks account and find more information by clicking the RefWorks link on the Alkek Library home page at: library.txstate.edu/about/departments/ref/refworks.

To schedule a RefWorks training session, please call 512.245.2686 or sign up online at: signup.txstate.edu/topics/252-refworks.

The library recently made EndNote available for download. EndNote is a desktop and web-based tool for publishing and managing bibliographies, citations and references on the Windows and Macintosh desktop. For more information, see this guide: guides.library.txstate.edu/citationmanagement/EndNote.

**Graduate Article Delivery Service (GRADS)**
Alkek Library delivers electronic copies of articles from our print journal collection right to your desktop. This service, called Graduate Article Delivery Service or GrADS, is available to graduate students at either the San Marcos or Round Rock locations. Simply use the Interlibrary Loan system to request any print article by filling out an online loan request using your ILLiad account. library.txstate.edu/about/departments/ill/grads

**Accessing Materials in Other Libraries: TexShare and ILLiad**
Graduate student research needs are often more extensive and may require access to items not owned by the Alkek Library. In the event you need something we do not own, there are options for getting the materials needed to support your work.

One way is to get a TexShare card. This is available at the circulation desk. TexShare provides you with the ability to check out books from most college and university libraries as well as major public libraries throughout Texas. For more information about the TexShare card, contact the circulation desk at 512.245.3681. You may also request a TexShare card online at: library.txstate.edu/about/departments/circ/texshare-cards.

Another convenient method to get materials not owned by the Alkek Library or the RRC Library Services is via Interlibrary Loan (ILL), a service that is available free for Texas State faculty, students and staff. Library users must register through ILLiad in order to use this service.
When you register, you will create an ILLiad account/profile that will maintain your user information and allow you to submit requests easily when you need to do so. The web-based request form is convenient for users and can be filled out 24/7 from anywhere. The ILL office is in the Alkek Library, Room 213. If you need personal assistance, you can reach the ILL staff Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., at 512.245.4893. To set up your ILLiad account, visit the ILL web page: library.txstate.edu/services/interlibrary-loan.

**GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) SERVICES**
The GIS Services at the Alkek Library serve and assist with the geospatial needs of graduate students in the following ways: Support (in the form of guidance or directions) for GIS data-related course work, research and teaching. Public service via in-person consultation, chat, phone and e-mail on geospatial needs is available. For more information: guides.library.txstate.edu/GIS

**LAPTOP COMPUTERS AND WIRELESS ACCESS**
Laptop computers may be checked out at the service desk on the 4th floor of the Alkek Library. A user must sign an Agreement for Use of Laptop Computers and surrender his/her Texas State ID card until the computer is returned.

You can also bring your own laptop to the library and connect to the university's secure wireless connection. For more information and policies, please visit: library.txstate.edu/about/departments/circ/laptop.

**COMPUTER LAB**
The Alkek Library Computer Lab is located on the fourth floor. Open year-round, it provides Mac and PC computers running several software applications including word-processing software as well as specialized software such as sophisticated statistical-analysis software. This lab provides you with the tools to prepare professional papers and presentations. To learn more about the library computer lab, go to: its.txstate.edu/departments/academiccomputing/computinglabs.

Texas State University offers several open computer labs with access to state-of-the-art computing environments for training, internet research and general use. Please see the following website for more information: its.txstate.edu/departments/academiccomputing/computinglabs.

For information about computer labs on the Round Rock Campus, please visit: ctc.rrc.txstate.edu/lab.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

**ATTORNEY FOR STUDENTS**
The Office of the Attorney for Students provides specified legal advice with an emphasis on legal advising, counseling and education to currently enrolled students at Texas State University. For more information, please visit: attorney.dos.txstate.edu.

**BOBCAT BALANCE (WORK-LIFE PROGRAM)**
Bobcat Balance is a program that consists of two available services:

- A database of resources to help you with the daily challenges you face (e.g., legal, financial, family, personal).
- An employee assistance program that provides up to five free counseling sessions per problem, per plan year, per person.

For information, call 1.855.884.7224 or visit: worklife.txstate.edu.

**BOBCAT BOND (MENTORING PROGRAM)**
The Bobcat Bond for Texas State graduate students is designed to help students adjust to the high demands of graduate studies. Graduate faculty and peer mentors serve as coaches, role models, advisors, guides and referral agents. For more information on the Bobcat Bond, call 512.245.5500 or e-mail bobcatbond@txstate.edu. Information is also available at: studentsuccess.txstate.edu/programs/Bobcat-Bond.

**CAREER SERVICES**
Texas State Career Services seeks to assist you with career placement. Counselors can offer advice on résumés, interviewing and other job-related skills. Career Services provides free job fairs throughout the year for students who are first-time job seekers as well as for those with experience who wish to make career changes. For more information, please visit the Career Services website: careerservices.txstate.edu. A career advisor is available monthly to meet with students and alumni at the Round Rock Campus. Please see: rrc.txstate.edu/resources/careerservices.

**COMMUNICATION LAB**
The Communication Studies Presentation Coaching Lab (COMM Lab) is located on the 4th floor of Alkek, Room 480A. The lab coaches work one-on-one with students to practice delivering presentations for classes, 3MT and academic conferences. The lab also offers personalized instruction to students experiencing communication
apprehension or “stage fright.” Please visit: commstudies.txstate.edu/programs/undergraduate-program/communication-lab

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
The International Office provides international students with a variety of assistance including with immigration processes related to non-immigrant F-1, J-1 and H-1 issues. The office also hosts workshops on practical training and other special topics and organizes cultural events. For more information, please visit: international.txstate.edu.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES
The Office of Disability Services provides services for students with disabilities at the Texas State University campus in San Marcos and at the Round Rock Campus (RRC). Academic Testing for Students with Disabilities (ATSD) administers all academic tests with approved testing accommodations to students who are registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). For more information, please visit: ods.txstate.edu.

OFFICE OF STUDENT DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
The Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion provides academic, cultural and personal support for underrepresented students for purposes of degree completion and leadership in a culturally diverse and global society. For more information, please visit: sdi.txstate.edu/About/Mission-Vision-Goals.

OMBUDS SERVICES
The Dean of Students Office provides Ombuds Services to address concerns of currently enrolled Texas State students. This service personally assists students in achieving resolutions to university-related challenges (i.e., university instructor/professor, employer challenges, etc.) in accordance with appropriate University Policies and Procedures Statements (UPPS). The Dean of Students Office also makes referrals to other campus departments or offices when necessary. For more information, please visit: dos.txstate.edu/services/Ombuds-Services.

RESEARCH AND FEDERAL RELATIONS
For information about funding and research resources, please visit the Research and Federal Relations website at: txstate.edu/research/about-us/mission.

STUDENT LEARNING ASSISTANCE CENTER (SLAC)
The Student Learning Assistance Center, better known around campus as SLAC, is a multi-faceted academic support program for all Texas State students. SLAC provides various types of study assistance including writing assistance. Please see the following website for more information: txstate.edu/slac.

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE
The Texas State Study Abroad Office supports the comprehensive internationalization plan of Texas State University by providing safe, accessible, academically rigorous, geographically diverse and culturally enriching global educational experiences to our students. For more information about study abroad opportunities for graduate students, please visit: studyabroad.txstate.edu.

TEXAS STATE INTENSIVE ENGLISH
Texas State Intensive English (TSIE) provides academic English programs to international students, scholars and professionals for the goals of academic readiness, test preparation, self-improvement and cultural integration. Please visit the following website for more information: txstate.edu/ie.

VETERAN BENEFITS
For information regarding veteran benefits at Texas State, please visit: va.txstate.edu. You may also contact the Office of Veterans Affairs at 512.245.2641 or veteransaffairs@txstate.edu.

WRITING CENTER
At the Texas State Writing Center, there are tutors who are qualified to help students with graduate level work in all disciplines. The Center helps graduate students develop their writing skills through one-on-one tutoring sessions, group tutoring sessions and workshops. For more information, please visit: writingcenter.txstate.edu.

The Writing Center satellite office at the Texas State University Round Rock Campus in Avery Room 203 is open to all currently enrolled Texas State students with a valid Texas State ID regardless of where you attend classes. For more information, please visit: rrc.writingcenter.txstate.edu.
TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

BOBCATMAIL
Your NetID is the beginning of your Texas State e-mail address (e.g., zzz99@txstate.edu).

Go to txstate.edu » BobcatMail. Login with your NetID (only) and password.

CATSWEB
On CatsWeb (Texas State self-service) you will find a number of links to a variety of useful information such as those pertaining to registration and class schedule, registration access periods and time tickets, Financial Aid, academic calendar and work-study jobs. Please visit: catsweb.txstate.edu/students.

IT ASSISTANCE CENTER (ITAC)
The Information Technology Assistance Center (ITAC) provides various types of assistance to students including NetID, CatsWeb, BobcatMail and the Online Toolkit. The Center also provides some free software to students. For example, students can download Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) at no cost. Also, with OneDrive for Business, you get 1TB of free cloud storage space to save your files! Visit tr.txstate.edu/software/office-students. Students can brush up on their software skills with your free Lynda.com account! Visit tr.txstate.edu/training/lynda. Please visit the following website for more information: tr.txstate.edu/itac/student-support.

ONLINE TOOLKIT
The Online Toolkit may be accessed via the tool bar on the Texas State home page. Here, you will find information about changing your password, changing personal e-mail, e-mail quota, etc.

TEXAS STATE MOBILE (APP)
Take Texas State with you everywhere with the Texas State Mobile app. There you’ll access TRACS, your class schedule, campus bus routes and much more! This free app is available on iPhone, iPad and Android devices.

TRACS
With TRACS, you will perform these course-related tasks and much more:
- View Course Announcements
- View Course Syllabi and Class Assignments
- Download Class Lecture Notes
- View Course Grades

Note: Newly activated NetIDs and schedule changes must wait until the following morning for classes to appear in TRACS. Faculty are not required to use TRACS, therefore, not all courses will appear. Please ask your instructors if they are using TRACS. Go to tracs.txstate.edu and login with your NetID and password.

TRACS Support 512.245.5566 | tracs@txstate.edu | tracsfacts.its.txstate.edu

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

BOBCAT BOBBIES
To promote safety on campus and as a courtesy to all students, faculty and staff, the University Police Department (UPD) offers a Bobcat Escort Service (Bobcat Bobbies) to and from the library and originating from any location on campus (e.g., parking lot, residence hall and cafeteria). The service operates from dark to 1 a.m. (with some extended hours). Patrons wishing to have the uniformed escort accompany them should call 512.245.7233. Escorts carry a radio and may contact the UPD in case of emergency.

On campus and have a dead battery? Out of gas? Need help? Call the University Police Department at 512.245.2805, Monday through Sunday.

CAMPUS MAPS
You can download the campus map from this website: maps.txstate.edu. A building index is also provided.

PARKING SERVICES
All students are required to register with Parking Services any vehicle they drive and park on campus and purchase the appropriate color parking permit. Parking rules are enforced every day of the year. Please read the rules and regulations on this website: parking.txstate.edu/regulations.
The online vehicle registration process can be accessed through the Parking Services website (parking.txstate.edu) or via Catsweb. Everyone is encouraged to register online and well in advance of bringing a vehicle on campus. Permits will only be mailed if the vehicle registration process is completed online.

All lots and streets where parking is permitted are color coded by zone. Students living off campus may purchase a Purple Commuter/Perimeter Permit. The Purple Commuter/Perimeter Permit allows vehicles to park in the Purple commuter and perimeter lots and Speck Garage (C13) at any time. Please check the following website for regulations regarding parking at other parking lots and at other times: parking.txstate.edu/permits/perimeter.

**SHUTTLE**

Bobcat Shuttle routes are operated for students, faculty, staff and visitors at Texas State University. Contact information is provided below:

Phone: 512.245.5555
E-mail: shuttle@txstate.edu
Website: shuttle.txstate.edu

**PRIDE, LANDMARKS AND TRADITIONS**

**Texas State University Seal:** The Lone Star motif of the Texas State University Seal is inspired by the Seal of Texas, which established the university in 1899. Texas State’s seal features a lone, faceted five-point star embraced by a wreath of native oak leaves, symbolizing strength, and laurel leaves, symbolizing victory in knowledge. Both are indigenous to this area and abound on campus. The university name encircles the wreath and the star, and a rope border symbolizes Texas’ pioneer heritage.

**Alumni House:** Constructed in 1896, the Alumni House is one of the oldest buildings on campus. In the 1920s, the owner of the house rented rooms to university students, among them being former President Lyndon B. Johnson. The house was designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1968 and as a National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The building was renamed the Center for Student Retention in 2014.

**Alma Mater:** The Texas State school song, “Alma Mater,” was written by former faculty member Jessie Sayers in the early 1900s to the tune of “Ancient of Days,” a hymn written by J. Albert Jeffery in 1886.

**Bobcat Mascot:** The Bobcat, a native wildcat known for its fierceness and courage, has been the mascot of Texas State since 1921.

**Bobcat Statue:** Commissioned in 2007 by the Associated Student Government after a student vote, the bronze bobcat statue was dedicated Oct. 18, 2008, prior to the Homecoming football game.

**Bobcat Victory Ball:** Located outside of Texas State's Bobcat Stadium, the Bobcat Victory Ball sits on a marble base outside of the main entrance of the End Zone Complex. Everyone entering the complex is encouraged to rub the ball for good luck and personal success.

**Chautauqua Hill:** The steep hill on which Old Main sits is known as Chautauqua Hill, named for the Chautauqua Movement in the late 19th century. The popular educational and social movement sought to educate students while also entertaining them through lectures, debates, concerts and plays. From about 1885–95, a large tabernacle-like structure seating 1,500 occupied the pinnacle where Old Main now stands.

**Fighting Stallions:** The Fighting Stallions statue is home to the university’s designated free-speech zone. Students have made it a tradition to rub the 17-foot-tall sculpture for good luck before exams.

**LBJ Statue:** Unveiled in September 2006, the near-life-size statue depicts a young Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th president of the United States and former Texas State student.

**School Colors:** The school colors are maroon and metallic gold — inspired by the official school flower, the native gaillardia (Indian blanket).

**Sewell Park:** In 1917, the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries leased the college four acres of land along the San Marcos River. It was called Riverside Park until 1946, when it was renamed in honor of Dr. S.M. “Froggy” Sewell. The park’s current look is the result of a renovation in 1984. Sewell is now a favorite student hangout.

**Victory Star:** The five-point star atop Jackson Hall, the tallest building on campus, is lit when the Bobcats win an athletic event or during graduation.

For additional information on Texas State University pride, landmarks and traditions, please visit: txstate.edu/about/history-traditions.
CONTACT INFORMATION

The Graduate College
Texas State University
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684
J.C. Kellam Building, Suite 280
512.245.2581 • fax: 512.245.8365
e-mail: gradcollege@txstate.edu
website: gradcollege.txstate.edu

Round Rock Campus
1555 University Blvd.
Round Rock, TX 78665-8017
512.716.4000 • fax: 512.716.4110
e-mail: rrc@txstate.edu
website: rrc.txstate.edu

Texas State University, to the extent not in conflict with federal or state law, prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, veterans’ status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services.

Texas State University is a tobacco-free campus. 16-502 5-16