**Dates & Deadlines**

Aug 5 Last Day of Summer Classes
Aug 6 Summer Final Exams
Aug 7 Summer Commencement
Aug 10 Grades Available
Aug 12 Student Involvement Open House
Aug 15-16 Move In for on-campus students
Aug 17 Fall 2015 Financial Aid Refunds Begin Processing
Aug 17 Boko’s Block Party
Aug 20 Fall 2015 Payment Due
Aug 22 New Student Convocation
Aug 24 First Day of Classes

**Performances, events & Sports**

Aug 1-2 Bilingual production of Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors
Aug 6 Summer in the Park Concert Series
Aug 19 Writing Center Creative Writing Club
Aug 21 Part-Time Job Fair
Aug 28 McNeese vs. Texas State Women's Soccer
Aug 31 Veterans Welcome Reception

**Parent & Family Newsletter**
August 2015

**Texas State**
Parent and Family Relations

parentandfamily@txstate.edu 512.245.4326

Connect with Facebook
**Family Weekend 2015**

This year Family Weekend will take place on September 18-19. As the event approaches, we would like to continue updating you with our weekend schedule.

Family Weekend tickets will go on sale **Tuesday, August 4.**

Family Weekend packages are $25.00 per person, ages 4 and up. Texas State students will also be required to purchase a ticket. Your package includes tickets to our Welcome Dinner, Tailgate, women's soccer game, parking on campus, an official Family Weekend t-shirt and other gifts! You will also have the option to purchase a football game ticket against Southern Miss on Saturday.

By purchasing a Family Weekend package, you will also have the opportunity to reserve a seat for the Family Breakfast Saturday morning.

The Texas State Golf Course will offer a Family Weekend Golf Tournament on Saturday. Fees are $40.00 per person for an 18-hole, 2 person scramble. Entry fee will include green fees, golf cart, goodies and prizes! The regulation 9-hole course features 2,850 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 34.

Downtown San Marcos will host the Family Weekend Wine Walk on Friday evening. Tickets are $25.00 per person plus convenience fees. Participants will receive a commemorative wine glass, as well as food and tastings from various local vendors.

Visit our [Family Weekend page](#) for the full schedule and ticket information.

**Setting Expectations With Your Student**

As you and your student begin the transition returning to college or attending for the first time, and from living at home to having a roommate, here are some things to think about during the weeks leading up to move-in.

*When do you expect your student to come home during the school year? Only for holidays? As often as possible?*

Talk to your student about the benefits of staying on campus as much as possible. Discuss any expectations about returning home throughout the semester before your student leaves for college. Your student's time on campus is essential in establishing social connections and staying engaged with Texas State.

*How will personal finances be handled? Is your student responsible for their own spending money?*

Agree with your student on whether or not you will give them spending money each week, month, or a lump semester sum. Discuss budgeting with your student and the responsibilities of having a credit card and maintaining good credit history.

*Do you expect to see grades? Only certain grades?*

Remember that parents will be unable to view grades unless a FERPA is completed or your student shares them with you. All financial and academic information will go directly to your student. Discuss early on your expectations when it comes to grades, GPA, academic progress, etc. Make sure that talking with your student about their academic goals, successes and struggles is part of an ongoing conversation.

**On Campus Move-In**

Between August 15-16 over 5,000 students will move onto campus. The Department of Housing and Residential Life has developed a centralized check-in process to help regulate the flow of residents and parents on campus. Check the [schedule](#) to ensure the correct move-in date and time of your student.

Students will report directly to Strahan Coliseum at their assigned times. Students living at Bobcat Village will report directly to the Bobcat Village office for check-in.

While your student is taking care of housing paperwork, stop in the parent hospitality room. Say hello to our Parent and Family Relations staff and gather resources and snacks.

Students will need to be prepared to show their Texas State ID and “move-in ticket” which will be emailed to them in early August.

If you arrive on your assigned day but miss your assigned time, you may check in at the coliseum at 4:30pm or at your assigned hall between 7-9pm.

For more information, you can view the online Move-In Guide.
Navigating Campus

Navigating campus can be tough for students. With campus construction constantly evolving, even returning students can get confused sometimes. Below are bullet points with resources your students can take advantage of while at Texas State.

Parking Permits
Students must purchase a parking permit to park on campus. Visit Student Parking to learn about parking regulations.

Parents
Parents of Texas State students are always welcome on campus. Parents should stop by the Parking Services office, a traffic control booth, or the University Police Dispatch office to request a Parent/Visitor permit. The permit allows parking in any legal non-reserved space on campus. Reserved spaces are clearly marked and include service spaces.

Accessible Parking
Students parking in accessible spaces must display a Texas State permit in addition to an accessible plate or hangtag. For more information regarding campus accessibility visit the Office of Disability Services.

Bus Services
The Texas State Bobcat Shuttle provides transportation to students living in the area while classes are in session. Students can track the shuttle in real time through the DoubleMap site or via the Texas State Mobile App.

The CARTS Transit is the municipal bus serving the San Marcos community. Texas State students can ride for free as long as they show their Texas State I.D.

Additional Services
- Bobcat Bobbies: Students can be escorted to or from on-campus facilities by calling 512-245-SAFE
- Residence Life Safety Shuttle: Students living in residence halls may use this service for transportation back to their residence and perimeter parking lots and garages
- Cats on the Go: Students with temporary disabilities impairing mobility across campus may complete an application to receive transportation to locations not serviced by the Bobcat Shuttle.

Family Association

Thinking of becoming a member? Already a member? Current memberships expire soon, so make sure to join or renew today!

Membership benefits include invitations to special events, a subscription to the university’s award-winning magazine Hilllines, Presidential E-Newsletters, and early bird registration to select events such as Family Day and Family Weekend.

Students who have family in the Family Association are also given preference when applying to any of the 4 endowed scholarships provided by the Family Association.

We would love to have you renew or join our association. Your membership dues and donations continue to support our students and scholarship opportunities!

Living With A Roommate

One of the exciting, and sometimes terrifying aspects of the college experience is living with a roommate for the first time. As a college parent, there are a few things you might want to do to help your student prepare for this new experience. This may provide a wonderful opportunity for some conversation with your student as you help them explore their thoughts and expectations.

Remind your student that sharing a living space may involve some unexpected challenges and situations. Make sure they understand that it could be their roommate's first time sharing a space as well. This new situation will involve learning, listening, compromising and negotiating.

Remind your student that even though colleges may try to match roommates, this is not an exact science. Some matches are very successful and others are not. However, even matches that seem unlikely may result in a good experience for both roommates.

Your student should try to have realistic expectations. A roommate does not need to be your student's best friend. It is more important that a roommate have a compatible lifestyle and that roommates are able to comfortably live together.

Encourage your student to contact their roommate prior to moving in. This gives them the opportunity to discuss expectations with each other as well as who will bring what for their room.

Remind your student to respond to their roommate's email. Be sure to respond to their roommate's email with full details and suggestions. It is helpful if you can ensure that the email is received and read.

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*Adapted from CollegeParent.org