WELCOME TO
BOBCAT COUNTRY!

Congratulations on your admission to Texas State University!

We have reserved a place for you at New Student Orientation (NSO). This booklet will let you know what you can expect to do and learn there.

While you’re at NSO, we’ll connect you to some of the great people, places and resources on campus. NSO is the first of several special programs at Texas State to help you become familiar with the university and become a Bobcat, ensuring you’ll have the support you need to be successful both in and out of the classroom.

At Texas State, we’re prepared to make your time here the best of your life. We hope you are too!

Sincerely,
New Student Orientation Staff
WHAT TO EXPECT AT NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

You’ll be introduced to the university and the resources and opportunities waiting here for you. We’ve got a lot planned!

• Meet other incoming Bobcats.
• Explore the beautiful San Marcos Campus.
• Get your Texas State ID.
• Connect with university staff and campus resources.
• Find answers about student billing, financial aid and on-campus living.
DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE NSO?
Everyone who is admitted to Texas State is required to complete New Student Orientation.

WHY IS NSO REQUIRED?
Research indicates that students who complete orientation have higher rates of success in college than those who don’t. NSO gives you everything you need to start off right at Texas State. You’ll connect with campus resources and traditions, meet new and current students – and have fun, too!

HOW DO I CHANGE MY NSO SESSION?
You may change your registration from one session to another without financial penalty if space is available. To change your session, visit the NSO homepage at admissions.txstate.edu/nsso, where you will find the registration link. Please note the orientation fee is nonrefundable.
WHAT COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS ARE IN PLACE AT TEXAS STATE?
You can find up-to-date health and safety information on Texas State’s website: txstate.edu/coronavirus/road-map.

WHERE DO I PARK?
202 Student Center Drive
Parking is available in the Matthews Street Parking Garage. Texas State requires that all vehicles on campus have a valid Texas State Parking Permit. Please bring the one in this booklet or ask for one from an Orientation staff member when you arrive on campus.

WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?
We’re happy to answer them. Email us at nso@txstate.edu or call 512.245.2364, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central time. You can also check to see if your question is answered in our FAQs at admissions.txstate.edu/nso.
ACCOMMODATIONS

FAMILY ACCOMMODATIONS
Your family is welcome to sample campus life by staying overnight in a designated Texas State residence hall. Accommodations are limited to the night before your NSO session.

Overnight accommodations are not included in the NSO guest fee, but can be reserved through the Department of Housing and Residential Life. Go to reslife.txstate.edu and click on the Summer Camps and Conferences tab. Family rates are $35 per person per night payable online or upon arrival at the residence hall.

SAN JACINTO HALL
217 WEST WOODS
Limited family accommodations will be available in San Jacinto Hall, which is a suite-style hall. If you have questions, please contact the Department of Housing and Residential Life at 512.245.4663.

FAMILY CHECK-IN
Check-in for families staying overnight will start at 4 p.m. in San Jacinto Hall.

WHAT FAMILIES NEED TO BRING TO STAY OVERNIGHT
Each family member staying overnight on campus should bring a set of twin sheets, a blanket and pillow, some shower shoes (flip-flops work well), a bath towel, toiletries and an alarm clock. Refer to page 16 for a list of what to bring.

FAMILY AND GUEST CHECKOUT
Checkout will be from 7 a.m. - 9 a.m. the morning of your NSO session.
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER NSO?

When you return to campus the week before classes begin, we’ll help you settle in with Bobcat Preview, which gives new students the information they need right before classes start. Texas State traditions like Convocation, Common Experience and University Seminar will help you become part of campus life right away. Check out these Texas State traditions and more at admissions.txstate.edu/explore/about-texas-state.

BOBCAT PREVIEW

Your next step is Bobcat Preview, a weeklong transition program held right before classes start each semester. Bobcat Preview is required for all incoming students. Throughout this week, there are a number of required programs to attend as well as entertainment events and free time for you to explore your new home. This is important in preparing you for success at Texas State!

Plan to be here, ready for Bobcat Preview before classes start!

For more information: bobcatpreview.txstate.edu, 512.245.8295 and bobcatpreview@txstate.edu.
TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) PROGRAM

The state-legislated Texas Success Initiative Program seeks to improve student success in college-level course work by assessing incoming students’ math, reading and writing proficiency. The program provides guidance for developmental course work to those needing to strengthen basic academic skills.

Students with certain SAT, ACT or STAAR scores may be exempt from assessment testing. Students who are not exempt will need to take one or more sections of the TSI Assessment. The TSI Assessment is offered at testing centers located on community college and university campuses across the state. Failure to satisfy TSI requirements may affect a student’s class registration process.
Prior to taking the TSI Assessment, you will take a pre-assessment activity (PAA). Instructions to complete the PAA will be provided by the testing center. This online activity is designed to help students understand the importance and purpose of the assessment, developmental course options and institutional resources.

Students whose TSI Assessment scores do not meet the minimum requirements for exemption have two options:

- Retake the TSI Assessment and attempt to meet the minimum required scores.
- Register for and successfully pass the appropriate math, reading and/or writing developmental courses. Developmental courses do not count toward a degree plan but are designed to prepare students academically for college-level course work.

For more information about TSI requirements and exemptions, visit our website at txstate.edu/tsip or contact the TSIP Office at 512.245.3942.

**IB, AP AND CLEP INFORMATION**

Texas State will accept some examinations in the International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) programs as credit for college courses. You may also participate in the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) to earn credit for some courses. To learn more about these opportunities, visit txstate.edu/temc.
CHECK YOUR HOLDS

Visit ssb.txstate.edu to see a listing of the holds on your account. Holds are items that you have not completed and will need to get done in order to register. All students will have an Orientation hold and Advising hold; those will be removed at orientation. Work to have all other holds removed prior to your orientation date for ease of registration.

MENINGITIS VACCINATION

State law requires that all students under 22 years of age entering any institution of higher education in Texas provide proof of immunization for bacterial meningitis. We strongly recommend you address this hold before arriving at NSO, since you will not be able to register for classes until this requirement is met. Step-by-step instructions on how to upload your documents, information about exemptions and where to get the meningitis vaccination can be found on our Meningitis Vaccination Requirement webpage, at admissions.txstate.edu/meningitis.

HOUSING CONTRACT/EXEMPTION

New freshmen under the age of 20 by September 1 for fall admission or January 1 for spring admission with fewer than 30 credit hours are required to live in on-campus university housing. All students who graduated from high school within the preceding 12 months of the semester of their admission are also required to live on campus. If you have not yet completed your housing contract or filed for an exemption with the
Department of Housing and Residential Life, you should do so right away. You will not be able to register for classes during NSO if the department does not have your contract or approved exemption on file.

For details, visit reslife.txstate.edu or call 512.245.HOME (4663).

**TEXAS TOMORROW FUND**

If you will use your Texas Tomorrow Fund to pay tuition and fees, please provide a signed copy of your Texas Tomorrow Fund ID card along with your Texas State ID number to the Texas State Student Business Services Office before arriving for NSO. Email a copy to cashiers@txstate.edu or mail a copy to:

Student Business Services Office  
Texas State University  
601 University Drive, JCK 188  
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684

Contact the Student Business Services Office at 512.245.2544 or email cashiers@txstate.edu with questions.

**TEXAS TUITION PROMISE FUND**

The purchaser of the Texas Tuition Promise Fund must contact Texas Tuition Promise Fund each semester that they want to authorize redemption of eligible Tuition Units and required fees. Texas Tuition Promise Fund will contact the university of the student’s eligibility, upon approval. Please allow sufficient time for Texas Tuition Promise Fund to receive and approve your request prior to the due date.

**STUDENTS AND GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you or your parents need special assistance (e.g., sign language interpreting services, information in an alternative format, etc.) or other arrangements during NSO due to a disability, contact the Office of Disability Services at ods@txstate.edu or 512.245.3451 at least one week prior to your assigned NSO session. Information regarding campus accessibility is available at maps.txstate.edu. Click on the link for each building to see accessibility information. Please note that the university does not provide wheelchairs.
HELPFUL NUMBERS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION
512.245.2111
txstate.edu

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
512.245.2364
admissions.txstate.edu/nso
During your time at orientation you will have a staff of professionals and current Texas State students that will help you through the orientation process.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!
Stay up to date on campus life, including:
• captivating Instagram content
• great, original student stories
• important TXST dates and fun events
• Bobcats sports news
• campus emergency updates and closures
BE SURE TO ...

☐ Be prepared for any required testing or submit TSI Assessment scores prior to NSO.  
  (page 8)

☐ Have AP/IB score reports, dual credit transcripts and/or CLEP scores sent to Texas State.  
  (page 9)

☐ Submit proof of bacterial meningitis immunization at least a week before your session to avoid delays in class registration.  
  (page 10)

FOR OVERNIGHT STAYS

☐ Twin sheets, pillow and blanket

☐ Towels and toiletries (including hand soap)

☐ Shower shoes or flip-flops

☐ Alarm clock

WHAT TO BRING

☐ Confirmation letter (enclosed)

☐ Parking permit (enclosed)

☐ State or federally issued photo ID

☐ Masks

☐ Note-taking supplies

☐ Final high school or community college transcripts

☐ Comfortable walking shoes and casual clothes

☐ Light jacket or sweatshirt

☐ Refillable water bottle

☐ Phone charger

☐ Twin sheets, pillow and blanket

☐ Towels and toiletries (including hand soap)

☐ Shower shoes or flip-flops

☐ Alarm clock

☐ Confirmation letter (enclosed)

☐ Parking permit (enclosed)

☐ State or federally issued photo ID

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☐ Comfortable walking shoes and casual clothes

☐ Light jacket or sweatshirt

☐ Refillable water bottle

☐ Phone charger

☐ Submission of housing request for fall.  
  (page 10)

☐ Submission of a copy of your Texas Tomorrow Fund ID card, if applicable.  
  (page 11)
The Texas State University System Board of Regents
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Texas State University is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, committed to inclusive thought and action in support of our diverse community. Individuals from historically underrepresented groups and all those who share our commitment to inclusivity and passion for the strength of our diversity are strongly encouraged to apply. This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services. Texas State is a tobacco-free campus.
UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
admissions.txstate.edu/ns
512.245.2364
admissions@txstate.edu

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