ORIENTATION

New Student Conferences
http://newaggie.tamu.edu

- Held each year for undergraduate students entering Texas A&M University. New students are required to register for and attend a conference in order to accept their offer of admission and register for classes.
- During the two day conference, new students learn about valuable University services and meet with academic advisors for curriculum advisement and selection of first semester courses.

Additional services and programs from the Office of New Student and Family Programs (http://studentlife.tamu.edu/nsfp/):

- Howdy Week: Aggieland’s Week of Welcome (https://howdyweek.tamu.edu) - held the week before Fall classes begin
- Aggie Family Member (http://familyprograms.tamu.edu/) - support and outreach including a family communication portal open to all Aggie families
- Family Weekend (http://familyweekend.tamu.edu) - held each Spring to honor and celebrate family members as they support their A&M student
- Online Orientation (https://newaggie.tamu.edu/online/) - series of educational modules incoming students complete prior to their New Student Conference
- Supervision and advisement of Aggie Orientation Leader Program (https://newaggie.tamu.edu/studentleadership/ol/) and Aggie Family Ambassadors (https://familyprograms.tamu.edu/aggie-family-ambassadors/)
- Publications for incoming students and family members

Aggie Honor Code

Integrity is a fundamental core value of Texas A&M University. Academic integrity requires a commitment by all faculty, students, and administrators to:

- Remain constantly focused on the quality of the academic programs;
- Achieve and maintain academic excellence in all courses and programs to assure the value of Texas A&M University degrees;
- Demand high academic standards from all members of the Aggie community.

All Texas A&M University students, graduate and undergraduate, part-time or full-time, in residence or in distance education, are expected to follow the guiding rule of the Aggie Honor Code:

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do."

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. A student will be required to state his/her commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System.

Extended Orientation

ExCEL Program
http://excel.tamu.edu

Texas A&M University’s Excellence uniting Culture, Education, and Leadership (ExCEL) is a student organization designed to help new students find academic, social, and personal balance at Texas A&M by fostering a community where they can culturally identify and connect to campus. Since 1984, ExCEL has assisted new Aggies in making a smooth transition to college by orienting them to the program through a conference, cultivating relationships between peers and mentors.
providing a sense of belonging, offering academic and personal support, and serving as a resource for transitioning into Aggie life.

ExCEl launches with the ExCEl Conference the Friday before fall classes. During the conference, students become familiar with the year-long program as they are assigned upper-class peer mentors and a peer group. The conference consists of motivational speakers, dialogue within peer groups, developmental series focused on personal development, and meet and greet mentor activities. Following the conference, academic, social, and cultural and community activities begin through the close of the spring semester. Activities include programs relevant to the audience, mentor/mentee engagement activities, community service, and socials.

While ExCEl is student-run, you may also obtain information by contacting the Department of Multicultural Services at (979) 862-2000 or in Suite 2200 of the Memorial Student Center.

Fish Camp
http://fishcamp.tamu.edu

Fish Camp is a student-run, extended orientation program intended to provide incoming freshman students the opportunity to establish friendships, meet student leaders, become familiar with Aggie traditions, and learn about Texas A&M campus life. Peer counselors, as well as faculty and staff, speak on topics such as study habits, personal goals, student involvement, and campus resources. Held during a three-week period preceding the fall semester, each four-day, three-night session is designed to aid students in the transition from high school to college and, particularly, to Texas A&M.

In addition to providing educational programs, group activities, and small group discussions, Fish Camp allows students to get to know each other through recreation, intramural sports, and evening theme mixers. Additionally, Fish Camp is not just a four-day experience before classes begin; activities and camp hangouts continue into the Fall semester. For more information on Fish Camp and how to register for a session, please visit our website.

Howdy Camp
http://atc.tamu.edu

Occurring every January, Howdy Camp is a three-day, two-night extended orientation program hosted by Aggie Transition Camps for all students entering Texas A&M University in the spring semester.

Howdy Camp is the spring semester’s equivalent to T-Camp and Fish Camp, and offers a great way for incoming students to find community before classes begin. At Howdy Camp, new Aggies are introduced to the many traditions, indescribable spirit, and unique customs of Aggieland. Additionally, Howdy Camp doesn’t end when the bus leaves camp! Counselors continue to be available and serve as resources during the semester as students transition into Texas A&M.

For more information on Howdy Camp and how to register, please visit our website listed above.

T-Camp
http://atc.tamu.edu

Held in August each year, T-Camp is a three-day, two-night extended orientation program for transfer and other non-traditional students entering Texas A&M in the summer and fall semesters. By the time new students leave camp, they will have gained knowledge of Texas A&M campus resources, learned about Aggie Traditions, and made many new friends.

Additionally, T-Camp doesn’t end when the bus leaves camp! Counselors will continue to be available and serve as resources as incoming students complete their transition into Texas A&M. Counselors will be at the T-Camp Backyard Bash during Howdy Week, will show new students around the MSC Open House, and will plan frequent camp hangouts. Counselors can also coordinate tours around campus so that new students are not lost on their first day! T-Camp is hosted by Aggie Transition Camps, a sponsored student organization at Texas A&M University.

For more information on T-Camp and how to register for a session, please visit the ATC website listed above.

Venture Camp: Backpacking
https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/organization/aggieventurecamp

Venture Camp: Backpacking is the newest extended orientation program to be offered out of the Departments of Student Activities and Recreational Sports. Venture Camp: Backpacking is a 9-day program led by trip leaders from Outdoor Adventures who will guide incoming Aggies through the beautiful Gila Wilderness in New Mexico. While exploring this beautiful terrain, students will learn about the same Aggie traditions and campus resources as the other extended orientation camps, but in a totally unique setting! Similarly to Venture Camp: Base Camp, participants on this Backpacking trip will participate in peer-led large and small group discussions about college and life at Texas A&M, and the most important asset will be a can-do attitude (beginners are welcome to attend).

Venture Camp: Base Camp
http://venturecamp.tamu.edu

Venture Camp: Base Camp, the inaugural program under the Venture Camp umbrella, is an outdoor, six-day, five-night extended orientation experience that occurs in July and takes place both on the Texas A&M main campus and also in the Texas Hill Country. A collaborative program hosted by the Departments of Student Activities and Recreational Sports, Venture Camp: Base Camp involves numerous outdoor adventures including hiking, rock climbing, camping, and paddling a river. Staff and students from Outdoor Adventures guide the trip activities during the day, and in the evening campers gather back at the campsite to participate in peer-led large and small group discussions about college and life at Texas A&M. No prior outdoor experience is required, but a willingness to be an active participant and a team player is very important! A much smaller program than the other summer extended orientation programs, Venture Camp: Base Camp offers a more intimate extended orientation experience while also providing information important to students transitioning into college life.

Venture Camp: Veterans
https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/organization/aggieventurecamp

Venture Camp: Veterans is an extended orientation program designed specifically for incoming student veterans which will take place over the course of the students’ first semester. A collaborative effort between the
Departments of Student Activities, Recreational Sports, and the Veterans Resource & Support Center, Venture Camp: Veterans is designed to offer a combination of outdoor experiences as well as peer-led, on-campus activities designed to create greater sense of competence for incoming students learning to navigate the Texas A&M campus and community. Interested individuals can learn more by contacting the Veterans Resource & Support Center (http://aggieveterans.tamu.edu/).