



Texas A&M University

Fish Camp FAQ's and General Info

Fish Camp Office

Student Activities, 131 Koldus Building

979-845-1627

Email: fishcamp@stuact.tamu.edu

Website: <http://fishcamp.tamu.edu>

General Information:

Session Dates:

A – July 30 – August 2

D – August 8 – 11

Session G – August 17 - 20

B – August 2– 5

E – August 11 – 14

C – August 5 – 8

F – August 14 – 17

Students CAN attend the following sessions if they are in these programs:

Sorority Recruitment

A - E

Corps of Cadets Freshmen Orientation Week

A - E

Aggie Band

A - D

Aggie Access

A - F

ExCEL

A - G (does not conflict with Fish Camp 2008)

Impact: Alpha session

A, B, E, F, and G

Impact: Delta session

A, B, C, F, and G

Impact: Omega session

A, B, C, D, and G

Regents' Scholars

A - F

Blinn Team

A, B, C, D, F, and G

NSC July 29 - 30 and July 31 - Aug 1

B - G

NSC August 19 - 20

A - F

Gateway Program

F - G

Registration Fee & Payment Information

- ♦ The registration fee is \$155.00 and must be paid in advance. Financial assistance is available upon request.
- ♦ This fee includes: round-trip bus transportation from College Station to Lakeview Methodist Conference Center located in Palestine, Texas; lodging; meals at camp; a Class of 2012 t-shirt; accident medical insurance; and access to professional medical care.
- ♦ Insurance does not cover costs incurred for treatment of illness or pre-existing conditions.

Requesting Financial Assistance (Choose your preferred way)

- You can apply through the online process which takes you through all the detailed steps. You will log on, input your information, and click on the Financial Assistance button when asked. Then, follow the Financial Assistance form as detailed.
- A Financial Assistance Form has been included within the registration packet. Please submit the Financial Assistance Form with your mail-in registration packet.

Please remember that financial assistance is limited. Funding has been partially provided by The 12th Man Foundation, Texas A&M University Minority Leadership, Recruitment and Retention Team, the Gina and Bill Flores Scholarship Endowment, the Kristen '05 and Michael '08 Nance Scholarship Endowment, and Aggie Mom's Clubs. Please contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627 or visit <http://fishcamp.tamu.edu> for more information.

First Day of Registration Troubleshooting

- ◆ The payment system isn't working. It keeps giving me an error. What do I do?
 - Aggie E-pay is experiencing delays because of the heavy traffic. We are working with E-pay to get the system up and working again, so please re-input using the same process you did before.
- ◆ The payment system keeps giving me an error. Is it charging my credit card each time?
 - No. Unless you see a confirmation screen with a unique confirmation number, your payment was not processed and your card was not charged.
- ◆ The payment system is giving me an error talking about duplicate transactions. Did either of those go through?
 - Please notify us so we can help you throughout the process. Please contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627. We will need your UIN number used in your registration process and contact information and then will notify our payment system. Information will be provided as quickly as possible.
- ◆ Is Fish Camp filling up? I'm afraid I won't get the session I want/need.
 - Yes. Fish Camp fills up rapidly. Every year the closing of registration comes quicker and quicker. We urge early registration for everyone. Please be patient with the system.
- ◆ I think I put down the wrong information. How do I change my session availability?
 - Visit our website at fishcamp.tamu.edu/registration.html and click on the link called Session Change Form. Read the session change policy carefully before continuing on the process. Print the form and fill it out, fax it to 979-458-3926 or mail it to:

Fish Camp
Texas A&M University
PO Drawer U-2
College Station, TX 77844

Registration

- ❖ What if I haven't received my registration packet yet?
 - The registration packets were mailed out upon request from the Fish Camp website. If you have not received a packet yet please contact Fish Camp by phone at 979-845-1627. This direct contact will help speed up the process of getting your packet to you.
- ❖ What if I'm not 18? Can I register online?
 - If you are not 18 by July 30th, you may register online. However, you will need to have the Medical Release Form filled out by a parent or guardian. This form will need to be received no later than Tuesday, July 22, 2008. The form can be found on the Fish Camp website as a link. Once filled out, it can be faxed at 979-458-3926 or mailed to our office address.
- ❖ How do I notify you about any special needs for camp?
 - Please contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627. We will need four pieces of information: name, UIN number, session availability, and how we can help you. A director will contact you to make sure we accommodate all of your needs while at camp.

- ❖ How do I request a mail-in registration packet?
 - You can request a mail-in packet by contacting the Fish Camp website <http://fishcamp.tamu.edu>. At this site, you may go to the “Request a Mail-In Packet” link and fill out the appropriate information. This information will be sent to our office and help get your packet to you in a timely manner.
- ❖ If I hit the back button during registration, will I lose all the information I’ve already inputted?
 - You can hit the back button at any point in the registration process until the final confirmation screen.
- ❖ When does registration close?
 - Registration closes on July 7, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. or when sessions fill.
- ❖ Does Fish Camp registration fill up?
 - Yes. Unfortunately, we only have a limited number of spots available at camp. We make every effort to allow as many students as possible to come to camp, but the size of our incoming freshman class makes it incredibly difficult to accommodate everyone. Increasing your availability will increase your chances of getting assigned to a session.
- ❖ Can I fax in part of my application and mail part?
 - We ask that students who are using the mail-in registration packets return ALL pieces together by mail. If you mail us only part of your application, we can’t guarantee that your application will be processed correctly.
- ❖ Can I go to Session G if I’m registered for the New Student Conference on August 19-20?
 - No. Students attending the last New Student Conference (August 19-20) will not be able to attend Session G. Fish Camp participants will not return to campus until the late afternoon and will miss some of the mandatory activities scheduled for the New Student Conference.
- ❖ Can I go to Session A if I’m registered for the New Student Conference on July 29-30 or July 31-August 1?
 - No. Students attending these New Student Conferences will not be able to attend Session A. Fish Camp participants will not return to campus until the late afternoon and will miss some of the mandatory activities scheduled for the New Student Conference.
- ❖ Can I pay for someone else to attend Fish Camp? How do I go about doing so?
 - Let the incoming student know that they will need to fill out a registration packet and include a note that insert name here will be paying for the camp fees of \$155.00. Also have them include their – name, email, UIN & telephone number at which we can reach them.
 - Have the person providing the payment mail us the payment and the name of the student they are paying for at:

Fish Camp
P.O. Box U-2
College Station, TX 77844

Registration Confirmation

- Confirmation will be emailed to the attendee’s NEO accounts on July 14, 2008.
- If they don’t receive an email by July 18th contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627
- If the student’s New Student Conference is after July 7th they need to activate their NEO account at <http://gateway.tamu.edu>

**FISH CAMP WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONFIRM SESSION ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE
JULY 14, 2008.**

Cancellation

- ❖ I need to cancel for Fish Camp this year.
 - All cancellations must be received in writing before July 22, 2008. If you cancel on or before this date, you will receive a refund less a \$25.00 cancellation fee.
 - If you cancel after July 22nd, you will forfeit your entire payment
 - Registration is **not** transferable to another person
 - Online payments will be refunded to the credit card originally paid with.

Session Changes

- ❖ Can I change my Session Date?
 - You must submit a session change form to Fish Camp. It can be found on the website and it must be mailed to the Fish Camp office or faxed in at 979-458-3926. **Session change forms must be submitted by July 17 in order to be considered for a change.**
 - Please note the following implications to changing a session if not requested by July 17: registration fees will not be refunded, your session guarantee will be relinquished and you run the risk of not being assigned to another session due to other sessions being filled to maximum capacity. A session change form can be found online at <http://fishcamp.tamu.edu>. We strongly recommend faxing it to 979-458-3926, or you can mail it to the Fish Camp address.

Residence Hall Information: Move-in Options

- Residence Halls open on Sunday, August 17, at 8 am.
- For students attending Session F ONLY – can move in late on Sunday, August 17, 2008. Halls will already be open at this time.
- For students attending Session G ONLY – can move in on Saturday, August 16, 2008 from 12 – 5 pm. You will be billed a daily room rate to your student account. For rate information, please go to <http://reslife.tamu.edu>.

Fish Camp does not require and is not responsible for lodging prior to Fish Camp. Students attending Fish Camp are responsible for providing their own housing upon returning from Fish Camp and moving into their Residence Hall. For a listing of accommodations in the Bryan-College Station area, visit www.bryan-collegestation.org.

Blinn TEAM

- ❖ Can my student attend Fish Camp if they are on the Blinn TEAM program?
 - Yes, once they have been accepted into the program and have confirmed their acceptance they can register for Fish Camp like any other Texas A& M University student. Those on the Blinn TEAM may register for sessions A, B, C, D, F and G.

Gateway

- ❖ Can my student attend Fish Camp if they are apart of the Gateway program?
 - Yes, after they have been accepted to Texas A& M University they will be able to attend Fish Camp. Please only register for sessions F or G.

Check-in/ Leaving for Camp

- ❖ Where do I park for Fish Camp?
 - Parking will be available in the Reed Arena/Olsen Field parking lots.
 - Fish Camp will have staff directing traffic the morning of sendoff

- ❖ Do I have to pay to park?
 - Yes, if you have purchased a parking permit for the fall semester print the receipt and bring it with you to leave on the dash of your car.

- If you are not planning on purchasing a parking permit for the school year, you can buy a special events permit from the Transportation Services website (transport.tamu.edu). Permits will be available for purchase mid July and instructions will be included in the confirmation email you receive from Fish Camp. Permits may also be purchased upon arrival to Fish Camp.
- ❖ Can my parents/friends come to Fish Camp?
 - There are no visitors allowed at Fish Camp.
 - If parents/ friends/ family would like to come to the sendoff for Fish Camp they are welcome to attend and there will be a special parent/guest program during the sendoff.
- ❖ What should I do with my medication?
 - There is a headquarters tent upon check-in that you can drop off your medication. Kept safe by the Director Staff, it will be transported safely to the infirmary at Lakeview upon arrival.

At Camp

- ❖ What if I'm not the Fish Camp type?
 - There is no "Fish Camp type". Fish Camp is all about accepting you into the Aggie family with open arms. Over 1000 counselors volunteer their time every year to help welcome Texas A&M's incoming freshmen class.
- ❖ Where is Fish Camp held?
 - Fish Camp is held in Palestine, TX at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center.
- ❖ Can I drive to Lakeview?
 - No, everyone will meet in College Station and then ride on buses to camp.
 - Even if you live in Palestine, you must meet in College Station and ride the buses to camp.
 - There are no personal cars allowed at Lakeview.
- ❖ Will I have cell phone service or access to a phone while at camp?
 - Cell phone service is not very strong at camp.
 - There is one pay phone at camp.
 - Most of the time at camp is highly scheduled. However, there is down time throughout the day to make a few phone calls.
- ❖ Where is the nearest hospital? What kind of medical facilities are on the campsite?
 - The nearest hospital is only a few miles away and easily accessible. At camp, we do have an infirmary staffed with Emergency Certified Medics. In addition, the director staff and chairs of each camp are all First Aid and CPR certified.
- ❖ If someone needs to get a hold of me while at camp and my cell phone doesn't work, what do they do?
 - They can call the Department of Student Activities at 979-845-1133 and they will be connected with our staff at Fish Camp.
 - If it is an emergency after hours, the emergency number is 903-538-2711 ext 220.
- ❖ Where will I be sleeping once at Fish Camp?
 - You will be sleeping in cabins with air conditioning, showers, and restrooms.

- ❖ Do people really dress up for the mixers?
 - Yes! Bring your best costumes. Everything is more fun when you are dressed up!
- ❖ What if I'm not a dancer?
 - If dancing just isn't your thing, then the Aquarium offers several other varieties of entertainment such as movies, ping pong, pool, foosball, and other games.
- ❖ What time will I get back from camp?
 - The buses will return to campus between 4:00 and 4:30 PM on the last day of the session.
 - Please make arrangements in advance if you need to be picked up.
 - REMINDER: All students must travel to and from Fish Camp on Texas A&M buses, and all students must agree to attend their Fish Camp session in its entirety. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.
- ❖ What do I need to bring to camp?
 - Cool and comfortable clothes and shoes.
 - Free time will be offered each day with activities ranging from ultimate Frisbee, swimming and volleyball; so bring appropriate clothes if you plan to participate.
 - Also, bring some clothes that you don't mind getting dirty
 - Tennis Shoes (required for scheduled outdoor activities)
 - Sheets & Pillow
 - Blanket
 - Towels
 - Water bottle
 - Insect repellent
 - Sunscreen
 - Flashlight
 - Toiletries
 - One form of picture identification
 - Change for snacks & drinks
 - Trash Bag to put dirty clothes in.
 - Clothes for the Flashback (70's & 80's), and Square Dance mixer.
- ❖ How much luggage can I bring?
 - Please limit your luggage to two bags clearly marked with the proper contact information.
 - Please include your name, contact phone number and email on your luggage.