Fish Camp 2015
Freshmen Information Packet
Contents
Fish Camp General Information .............................................................. 3
Session Dates for Fish Camp 2015 .......................................................... 3
Conflicting Programs ............................................................................. 3
Registration Dates & Times .................................................................... 4
Payment Information ............................................................................ 4
  Registration Fee ................................................................................ 4
  Alternate Payment Options ................................................................. 4
  Scholarships ...................................................................................... 5
  Refunds .............................................................................................. 5
Registration ......................................................................................... 5
  General .............................................................................................. 5
Confirmations ........................................................................................ 6
Session Changes .................................................................................. 6
Cancellations ....................................................................................... 7
Special Accommodations ..................................................................... 7
In-Town Accommodations ................................................................... 7
Parking ................................................................................................. 8
  Student Drop Off ............................................................................... 9
At-Camp Experience .......................................................................... 9
Packing for Camp .............................................................................. 9
Mixers ................................................................................................. 10
Lost and Found .................................................................................. 10
Fish Camp General Information

Fish Camp Office
Student Activities, 131 Koldus Building
Phone: 979-845-1627 | Fax: 979-458-3926
Email: fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu
Website: http://fishcamp.tamu.edu
Registration Website: http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu

Mailing Address
Fish Camp
Texas A&M University
1236 TAMU
College Station, TX 77841

Session Dates for Fish Camp 2015
- **Session A**: July 31 – August 3
- **Session B**: August 3 – August 6
- **Session C**: August 6 – August 9
- **Session D**: August 9 – August 12
- **Session E**: August 12 – August 15
- **Session F**: August 15 – August 18
- **Session G**: August 18 – August 21

Conflicting Programs
The following are sessions that freshmen CAN attend if participating in these programs:

These date conflicts are based on the information found on their websites. The following programs can be contacted if these conflicting dates are wrong.

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Note: Gig ‘Em Week will begin on August 23rd, 2015.
Registration Dates & Times
Freshman Registration Opens
Tuesday, May 26th at 3:00 PM
Freshman Registration Closes
Tuesday, June 30th at 5:00 PM
Scholarship Application Due
Friday, June 8th at 5:00 PM
1st Installment for Payment Plan Due ($125.00)
Friday, June 8th at 5:00 PM
Full Registration Payment Due
Tuesday, June 30th at 5:00 PM
Session Confirmation Email Notifications
Monday, July 6th at 12:00 PM
Session Change Forms Due
Friday, July 10th at 5:00 PM

**All times listed are based on Central Time

Payment Information

Registration Fee

The registration fee is $225.00 and must be paid by the proper payment date to complete the registration process. The registration fee includes: round-trip bus transportation from College Station to Lakeview Methodist Conference Center located in Palestine, Texas; lodging and meals for the duration of camp; a Class of 2019 t-shirt; accident medical insurance while at camp; and access to professional medical care while at camp. Insurance does not cover costs incurred for pre-existing conditions or treatment of illness.

Please see the registration dates and times on page 3 for payment deadlines. We offer two forms of payment options:

- Payments can be made online with a credit card with a MasterCard or Visa.
- Checks must be mailed (postmarked) by Friday, July 30th, 2015. Please mail checks to the Fish Camp address listed above on page 3 and include the student’s name and UIN on the check.

Scholarships are submitted through the registration system on fishcamponline.tamu.edu and must be submitted by Friday, June 8, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

*Please note, a fee of $35.00 will be applied to any checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

Alternate Payment Options

Installment Plan: The registration fee can be paid in two installments of $125.00 and $100.00 by CHECK ONLY. The first payment will be 125.00. Freshmen will log on to fishcamponline.tamu.edu, input registration information, and click on the “Alternate Payment Options” button when asked. Then, they will follow the “Alternate Payment Options” form as detailed. The first installment must be postmarked by Monday, June 8th. The second installment must be postmarked by Tuesday, June 30th. Failure to pay on time will result in your registration being cancelled.

Again, payments using the Alternate Payment Method must be made with CHECK ONLY. Checks should be mailed to the Fish Camp address found above on page 3. Please include the student’s name and UIN on the check.
Scholarships
Scholarship applications are available through the online registration process. Freshmen will complete the necessary Registration Details, they will choose the “Scholarship Request Option”. Scholarship applications must be submitted by Monday, June 8th, 2014 at 5:00 PM. Scholarship notifications will be emailed to student’s Texas A&M email account by Tuesday, June 30th at 12:00 PM.

If the scholarship is not granted, you will have to pay the remainder of the registration fee by CHECK and must be postmarked by July, 10th. Checks should be mailed to the Fish Camp address found above on page 3. Please include the student’s name and UIN on the check.

Scholarships are available for both full ($225) and partial ($125) options. If the scholarship is not rec

Please remember that scholarships are limited. Funding has been partially provided by individual donations, The 12th Man foundation, the Gina and Bill Flores ’76 Scholarship Endowment, the Michael ’08 and Kristen ’05 Nance Scholarship Endowment, the Fish Camp Scholarship Endowment, and Aggie Mom’s Clubs.

Disclaimer: We suggest that you complete and submit your annual FASFA for us to have the most information possible when reviewing scholarship applications.

Refunds
If for any reason you have to cancel your registration, the following refunds will be given during these time periods:

- May 26th – June 30th at 5:00 PM: Full Refund (total of $225.00)
- June 30th at 5:01 PM – July 17th at 5:00 PM: Partial Refund (total of $175.00)
- July 17th at 5:01 PM and After: No refund

Online Payments will be refunded to the credit card with which you originally paid. For payments made by check, a check will be sent to the address with which it was sent from.

Registration
General
In order to register for camp and receive a confirmation, students must activate their NetID/TAMU email account at http://gateway.tamu.edu if they have not already done so.

Fish Camp Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. We only have a limited number of spots available per session. We will make every effort to allow for as many students as possible to come to each session, as there are limited spots, but the interest in particular sessions makes it incredibly difficult to accommodate for everyone.
Registration will close on Tuesday, June 30th at 5:00 PM or when sessions are full. Closed sessions will be designated on the homepage of the Fish Camp registration site once they have reached capacity. Registration will be closing on June 30th to ensure that the leaders of this student run organization has adequate time to process all registration information as well as allow you to change your session assignment if you feel the need to do so.

Everyone can register for Fish Camp. If you will not be 18 by July 31st, 2015, you will need to have the Medical Release Form filled out by a parent or guardian. The Medical Release Form can be found online on our Registration website. Once filled out, it should be faxed to the Fish camp Office or mailed to our office address no later than Tuesday, June 30, 2015. See Page 3 for the Fish Camp Office Fax number and address.

If you will be 18 by July, 31st, 2015 you can complete the entire registration process independently and can disregard the Medical Release Form.

Increasing your availability will only increase your chances of getting assigned to a session. Although it may not be your desired session, space is typically available. **There is NO session preference but ONLY session availability.**

*Every session and camp has different counselors who have been trained to provide the most welcoming and supportive experience for their campers.*

**Confirmations**

Session Confirmations will be emailed to the student’s Texas A&M email account on Monday, July 6th, 2015 by 12:00 PM.

If confirmation emails are not received by Wednesday, July 8th, contact the Fish Camp Office at the number or email on page 3.

**FISH CAMP WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONFIRM SESSION ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE MONDAY, JULY 6TH, 2015 AT 12:00 PM.**

**Session Changes**

Session availability changes will be allowed by accessing your registration information on the registration website. Changing your session availability will ONLY affect your registration priority if you are DECREASING your session availability. Increasing your session availability will not affect your registration priority.

You can access and submit the Session Change from until June 30th, when registration closes. Once Session Confirmation Emails have been sent on July 6th, session change forms must be submitted by Friday, July 10th in order to be considered to change.

Please note the following implications to changing a session if not requested by July 10th:
1. Registration fees may not be refunded

2. Session guarantee may will relinquished

3. The risk of not being assigned to another session due to other sessions being filled to maximum capacity.

Cancellations

Cancellation forms can be found online on our Registration website and can be submitted at any time. Cancellation dates and refund information can be found on page 3 of this packet. Registration is **not transferable** to another incoming freshman.

All online payments will be refunded to the card with which you originally paid if it is within the designated refund period.

Special Accommodations

If you have any special accommodations that need to be placed, please inform us of any of these needs in the Registration Details during the Registration process. There is a section to list your special accommodations in full in the Registration process. If these accommodations are not mentioned at the time of registration, Fish Camp cannot guarantee any special arrangements can be made.

It is also recommended to register with Student Disabilities Services (disability.tamu.edu) and inform them you will be attending Fish Camp.

If you have any special dietary accommodations for food restrictions this information **needs to be included in the special accommodations section in the registration process.** Fish Camp will have gluten-free and vegetarian options for those who indicate that need during the registration process. If these accommodations are not mentioned at the time of registration, Fish Camp cannot guarantee any special arrangements can be made.

If you forget to include this information and realize it while registration is still open, log back into the system, and update your information. If registration is closed, email fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu.

In-Town Accommodations

Residence Hall Information: Move-in Options

The Department of Residence Life will be putting on an Aggie Hostel Program. This is a program for **Texas A&M Students only.** This will be available for:

- All students attending session A-D for both before and after camp
- All students to stay at **before camp only for** session E. **Those students attending Session E must be moved out before leaving for camp.**
This Program is separate from Fish Camp fees and you must register to stay in the Aggie Hostel program at reslife.tamu.edu

- Residence Halls open on Sunday, August 24th at 8 am.
- Students attending Session G ONLY can move in on Friday, August 21st from 5-7 p.m. after busses return to College Station from Fish Camp.
- Please Note: Residence Life will charge students for early move-in. This is NOT a Fish Camp fee. It will be billed directly to their student account. For early move in rates, please visit reslife.tamu.edu.

Fish Camp does not require and will not provide 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 visitaggieland.com.

Parking
Parking for freshmen will be available in the Reed Arena parking lots.

Fish Camp will have staff directing both student parking and student drop-off traffic in the Reed Arena Parking lots in the morning of the 1st day of camp.

Parking for family members wishing to stay for the Send-Off Welcome Session will be in West Campus Garage, which is a paid parking venue. At the time of departure, payment should be made by the family member parking the vehicle, prior to exiting the garage.

If you have purchased a Texas A&M parking permit for the fall semester, you DO NOT need to pay to park. Simply print the receipt, and bring it with you to leave on the dash of your car. Or display your permit if you have already received it.

If you are not planning on purchasing a parking permit for the school year, you MUST buy a special events permit from the Transportation Services website (http://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.

NO permits will be sold in the parking lots. If you cannot pay online, please make arrangements to purchase a parking pass from the Transportation Services office located in the Koldus building before you check in for Fish Camp. Reminder: the Transportation Services office is NOT open on weekends so this option will not be available for Saturday and Sunday send-off dates. Contact information for Transportation services can be found at transportation.tamu.edu

There are no visitors allowed at Fish Camp. But, Parents/friends/family can come to the send-off in Reed Arena. The guests will be seated in a separate section from the Fish Camp Participants at the Send-Off.
Any freshmen who miss the actual bus ride to attend Fish Camp will NOT be permitted to attend camp for that session. There is too much liability in allowing an outside party to transport freshmen to or from Lakeview and as such, there will not be any way to do so. Parents are prohibited from taking their student to camp. If freshmen are late, and do miss the bus, they CAN attend a later session. They will need to contact the Director of Internal Relations at fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu.

Student Drop Off
There will be a student drop off for freshmen attending camp. Students will be allowed to be dropped off starting at 8:00 AM the first day of the session at Lot 100. Buses will be returning to campus between 4:00 and 5:00 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.

At-Camp Experience
Fish Camp is held in Palestine, TX at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center. It is a 4 day, 3 night stay at the Lakeview Campus. Transportation will be provided by Coach Buses to and from College Station at Reed Arena and ALL STUDENTS are required to take this transportation. No personal cars will be allowed at Lakeview.

Students will be staying in cabins with air conditioning, showers, and restrooms while at camp. Most of the time at camp will be highly structured with scheduled free time throughout the experience.

There is no "Fish Camp type". Fish Camp is all about accepting you into the Aggie family with open arms. More than 1200 current students volunteer their time every year to help welcome Texas A&M’s incoming freshmen class. Every session and camp has different counselor who have been trained to provide the most welcoming and supportive experience for their campers.

Cell phone service is not very reliable at camp but in case of emergency there are phones that are available for use. If you need to reach a camper while at camp, call the Department of Student Activities at 979-845-1133 and will be connected with our staff at Fish Camp. If it is an emergency after hours call 903-538-2711 ext. 220.

Packing for Camp
Please limit your luggage to two (2) small or medium bags or one (1) large bag, clearly marked with the proper contact information.

One form of picture identification (ex. Driver’s License, TAMU ID, etc.)
Cool and comfortable clothes and shoes. It is recommended that you bring clothes that they don’t mind getting dirty during free time. There are activities that you can participate in such as Ultimate Frisbee, Swimming, and Volleyball.

Closed Toed Shoes (required for scheduled outdoor activities)

Clothes for the Mixers

Shower Shoes (if desired)

Sheets, blanket, and/or sleeping bag and pillow

Toiletries

Towels

Water Bottle

Sunscreen

Flashlight

Trash Bag for Dirty Clothes (if desired)

Small Quantity of cash for Snacks and Drinks (if desired)

Mixers

There are 2 Themed Mixers. The first theme is 12th Man Flashback Pajama Party and the second theme is Reveille’s Western Toga Party. Bring your best costumes as the event is going to be a rip-roaring good time. However you are not required to be dressed up to have a fun time dancing with all the campers.

If you are not into dancing, there is an alternative hangout location “The Aquarium” that offers entertainment such as table tennis, pool, foosball, and other games that the campers can interact in.

Lost and Found

For any items that are lost at camp they will be collected and can be picked up in the Fish Camp Office from August 21st to September 25th. If you lose any item at camp please email fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu with specific information about the item, when and where it was lost.