



Fish Camp 2016

Freshman Information Packet

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## 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](mailto: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 77843  
 ATTN: Donna Lee Sullins

## Session Dates for Fish Camp 2016

- Session A:** July 29 - August 1
- Session B:** August 1 – August 4
- Session C:** August 4 – August 7
- Session D:** August 7 – August 10
- Session E:** August 10 – August 13
- Session F:** August 13 – August 16
- Session G:** August 16 – August 19

## Conflicting Programs

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
<b>Sorority Recruitment</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Gateway Program</b>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
<b>Blinn Team</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Corps of Cadets FOW</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
<b>Corps of Cadets Band FOW</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
<b>Impact Alpha</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
<b>Impact Delta</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
<b>Impact Omega</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
<b>FOCUS Learning Community</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>ExCEL</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Engineering at Galveston Program</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Note: Gig 'Em Week will begin on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016*

## Registration Dates & Times

Monday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 PM	Freshman Registration Opens Scholarship Application Opens 95% Refunds Available
Monday, June 13 <sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM	Scholarship Application Due 50% Refunds Available
Thursday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup> by 5:00 PM	Scholarship Decisions Sent Out
Monday, July 11 <sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM	Freshman Registration Closes Full Registration Payment Due (\$225)
Monday, July 11 <sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM	Session Change Forms Due No More Refunds

*\*\*All times listed are Central Standard Time\*\**

## Payment Information

### Registration Fee

The registration fee is \$225.00 and must be paid by Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM CST 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 2020 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 above for payment deadlines. We offer two forms of payment options:

- Payments can be made online with American Express, Discover, Mastercard, and Visa cards.
- Payments can also be made online with electronic checks.
- If you are in need of an alternate form of payment, please contact [fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto:fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu).

**Scholarships are submitted through the registration system on [fishcamponline.tamu.edu](http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu) and must be submitted by Monday, June 13, 2016 at 8:00 AM.**

### Alternate Payment Options

**Installment Plan:** The registration fee can be paid in **two installments of \$112.50**. Freshmen will log on to [fishcamponline.tamu.edu](http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu), input registration information, and click the “Installment Plan” button instead of the “Pay Online” button. The first installment can be paid any time between May 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup> to hold a spot in Fish Camp. The second installment must be

paid by Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. **Failure to pay on time will result in your registration being cancelled.**

### Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available through the online registration process. Freshmen will complete the necessary Registration Details, and will choose the “Scholarship Request” button instead of the “Pay Online” button. **Scholarship applications must be submitted by Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 8:00 AM.** Scholarship notifications will be emailed to student’s Texas A&M email account by **Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM.**

Scholarships are available only for the full amount (\$225). If the scholarship is not granted, you will have to pay the registration fee **by July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.**

**If payment is received by Fish Camp, you are ineligible for a scholarship or refund of that payment to receive a scholarship. You will receive a scholarship notification on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, until then NO payment is needed until you hear from us.**

Please remember that scholarships are limited. Funding has been partially provided by individual donations, The 12<sup>th</sup> 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 FAFSA 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 available:

May 23 <sup>rd</sup> – June 13 <sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM	<b>95% Refund</b> (total of \$213.75 or \$106.88 for installment)
June 13 <sup>th</sup> at 8:01 AM – July 11 <sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM	<b>50% Refund</b> (total of \$112.50 or \$56.25 for installment)
July 11 <sup>th</sup> at 5:01 PM and After	<b>No refund</b>

*Online payments will be refunded to the credit card or account from which you originally paid.*

### 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 have a limited number of spots available per session. We will make every effort to allow as many students as possible to come to

each session, but, as there are limited spots, the interest in particular sessions may make it difficult to accommodate for everyone.

Registration will close on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM, 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 July 11<sup>th</sup> to ensure the leaders of this student run organization have adequate time to process all registration information, as well as allow you to change your session assignment if you need to do so. Session change forms are due by Friday, July 11 at 5:00 PM. More information on session changes can be found below.

Everyone can register for Fish Camp. If you will not be 18 by July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 you will need to have the Medical Release Form filled out by a parent or guardian. The Medical Release Form can be found online at [fishcamp.tamu.edu](http://fishcamp.tamu.edu) or [fishcamponline.tamu.edu](http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu). Once filled out, it should be emailed to [fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto:fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu) or faxed to 979-458-3926 no later than **Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 8:00 AM**. Your spot in your session will not be held until this form is received.

If you will be 18 by July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 you can complete the entire registration process independently and **can disregard the Medical Release Form**.

You will choose one session when registering. Once payment has been received or a scholarship has been applied for, your spot in that session will be reserved. If you apply for a session that is already full, you will be placed on the waitlist for that session, but a spot in that session is not guaranteed. Every session and camp has different counselors who have been trained to provide the most welcoming and supportive experience for their campers.

### Reminders

Once you have registered for Fish Camp, you are confirmed to be in the session you chose. If you are placed on the waitlist, a confirmation email will be sent if you get placed in a session. A reminder will be sent to everyone in early July.

### Session Changes

Session changes will be allowed until Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Session change forms, located on the registration website, must be submitted by this time. Requesting to change to a session that is not full will be no problem; however, if you are wanting to change to a session that is at capacity, you may be placed on a waitlist.

Please note the implications of changing a session if not requested by July 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM:

- No portion of the registration fees will be refunded
- Session guarantee may be relinquished if the session is at capacity

### Cancellations

Cancellation forms can be found on our registration website and submitted at any time. Cancellation dates and refund information can be found on page 5. Registration is **not transferable** to another incoming freshman.

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

### Special Accommodations

If you have any special accommodations that need to be made, please inform us of these needs in the “Registration Details” section of the registration process. There is a place to list your special accommodations in. 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 (<http://disability.tamu.edu/>) and inform them you will be attending Fish Camp.

If you have any special dietary accommodations this information **needs to be included in the special accommodations section during the registration process**. Fish Camp will have gluten-free, vegetarian, vegan, no red meat, and dairy-free options for those who indicate those needs 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](mailto:fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu).

### In-Town Accommodations

The Department of Residence Life will be putting on an Aggie Hostel Program, which can house incoming students for a maximum of three nights. The Aggie Hostel Program will only be available until August 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a program for **Texas A&M students only**. This option can be utilized for:

- Students attending sessions A-D for both before and after camp.
- Students **before camp only for Session E. Those students attending Session E must be moved out before leaving for camp.**

*This program's cost is separate from Fish Camp fees and you must register to stay in the Aggie Hostel program at <http://reslife.tamu.edu/>.*

**Information regarding dorm move in is as follows:**

- Residence Halls open on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 AM.
- Students living in the Gardens or White Creek Apartments may move in starting Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at no additional cost. These students may request to move in early starting Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at an additional cost.
- Students attending Session G ONLY can move in on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 PM after buses return to College Station from Fish Camp.
- All other students may request to move in early beginning Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

- **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 <http://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. For a listing of accommodations in the Bryan-College Station area, visit <http://www.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 on the morning of the first day of camp.

Parking for family members wishing to stay for the send-off welcome ceremony will be in West Campus Garage, located on the corner of Olsen Blvd. and Jon Kimbrough Blvd., 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 <http://transport.tamu.edu>.

There are no visitors allowed at Fish Camp; however, parents/friends/family/etc. can come to the send-off welcome ceremony in Reed Arena. Guests will be seated in a separate section from the Fish Camp participants at send-off.

***Any freshmen who miss the 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 MAY be able to attend a later session. They will need to contact the Director of Internal Relations at [fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto: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 **between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM** on the first day of the session at Lot 100 (Reed Arena).

Buses will be returning to campus **between 4:00 PM 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 Center. Transportation of coach buses will be provided by BCS Bus Charter to and from Reed Arena in College Station 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 are no personality characteristics someone must have to gain something from Fish Camp. Fish Camp is 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 freshman class. Every session and camp has different counselors who have been trained to provide the most welcoming and supportive experience for their freshmen.

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

## Mixers

There are 2 themed mixers. The first theme is **12<sup>th</sup> Man Flashback Pajama Party** and the second theme is **and Red, White, and Hullabaloo**. Feel free to bring your best appropriate costumes as the event is going to be a rip-roaring good time. It is not required to dress up; some people will not be in costume and will still have a fun time!

If you are not into dancing, there is an alternative hangout location called "The Aquarium" that offers entertainment such as table tennis, pool, foosball, miniature golf, video games, and other activities!

## Packing for Camp

Please limit your luggage to two small or medium bags, or one large bag. Bags should be clearly labeled with the proper contact information. A packing list should include:

- **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 you don't mind getting dirty during free time. There are activities that you can participate in such as ultimate Frisbee, swimming, basketball, Gaga ball, and volleyball.
- Closed toed shoes (required for some scheduled outdoor activities)
- Sheets, blanket, and/or sleeping bag and pillow
- Toiletries
- Towels
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Flashlight
- Clothes for mixers (if desired)
- Shower shoes (if desired)
- Trash bag for dirty clothes (if desired)
- Small quantity of cash for snacks and drinks (if desired)

## Lost and Found

Any items that are lost at camp will be collected and can be picked up in the Fish Camp Office from August 20<sup>th</sup> to September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you lose any item at camp please email [fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto:fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu) with specific information about the item, such as when and where it was lost.