



**Fish Camp  
2013  
FAQ**

# Table of Contents

<b>General Information</b> .....	<b>3</b>
Conflicting Programs .....	3
Registration Dates .....	3
Cancellation Policy.....	3
Registration Fee & Payment Information .....	4
Scholarships and Installment Plans .....	4
<b>Registration</b> .....	<b>4</b>
General .....	4/5
Confirmations .....	5
Session Changes .....	5
Cancellations.....	6
Special Needs.....	6
Troubleshooting. ....	6/7
<b>Residence Hall Information: Move-in Options</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Parking</b> .....	<b>7/8</b>
<b>At Camp Accommodations</b> .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Where? .....	8
Cell Phone Service .....	8
Mixers.....	8
<b>Packing for Camp</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b> .....	<b>9/10</b>



# Fish Camp FAQ's and General Info

## 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 77841

## General Information

### Session Dates for Fish Camp 2013

Session A: July 30-August 2  
 Session B: August 2-5  
 Session C: August 5-8  
 Session D: August 8-11  
 Session E: August 11-14  
 Session F: August 14-17  
 Session G: August 17-20

### Conflicting Programs

Students **CANNOT** attend the following sessions if they are in these programs:

New Student Conference 12 (July 30-31)  
 New Student Conference 13 (August 8-9)  
 New Student Conference 14 (August 19-20)  
 FOCUS Learning Community  
 Sorority Recruitment  
 Corps of Cadets Freshmen Orientation Week  
 Corps of Cadets Band Freshmen Orientation Week  
 ExCEL  
 Blinn TEAM  
 Gateway Program

A  
 C, D  
 G  
 G  
 G  
 E-G  
 E-G  
 no conflicts  
 no conflicts  
 A-F (attend G only)

**Please note: \*Gig 'Em Week starts 8/19/13\***

### Registration Dates

Registration Opens  
 Registration Closes  
 Registration payment Due  
 Session confirmation emails sent out  
 Session Change Forms Due

May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 July 8<sup>th</sup>  
 July 12<sup>th</sup>

**Cancellations during these time periods will result in the following refunds:**

May 23<sup>rd</sup>-June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 June 22<sup>nd</sup>-July 16<sup>th</sup>  
 July 17<sup>th</sup> and after

Full Refund (minus \$0.40 fee – total of \$170.00)  
 Partial Refund (minus \$25.40 fee –total of \$145.00)  
 No refund

## **Registration Fee & Payment Information**

- The registration fee is \$170.00 and must be paid in advance. Please see the registration dates on page 1 of the FAQ's for payment deadlines. Payments can be made online with a credit card or by mail with a check. **Checks must be received by Friday, June 28, 2013.** Please mail checks to the Fish Camp address and include the student's name and UIN on the check. **Scholarships are submitted through the registration system and must be submitted by Friday, June 7, 2013.**
- 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 2017 t-shirt; accident medical insurance while at camp; and access to professional medical care while at camp. Insurance does not cover costs incurred for treatment of illness or pre-existing conditions.

## **Scholarships and Installment Plans**

- **Online:** Scholarship applications are available through the online registration process, which will have additional details and specific steps. Applicants will log on, input registration information, and click on the Scholarship Request button. **Scholarship applications must be submitted by June 7, 2013 at 5pm.**
  - **Disclaimer:** We suggest that you complete and submit your annual FASFA for us to have the most information possible when reviewing scholarship applications.
- **Installment Plan:** You can pay your Fish Camp registration fee in two installments of \$85.00. Applicants will log on, input registration information, and click on the Installment Plan button. The first installment must be received by **June 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**. The second installment must be received by **June 21<sup>st</sup> by 5:00pm**. Failure to pay on time will result in your registration being cancelled. **Payments using this method must be made with check only.** Checks should be mailed to the Fish Camp address. Please include the student's name and UIN on the check.
- 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.

## **Registration**

### **General**

- **What if I'm not 18? Can I register online?**
  - Everyone can register online. However, if you will not be 18 by July 30, 2013, 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 Friday, June 21, 2013. The form can be found online at <http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu>. Once filled out, it should be faxed to the Fish Camp Office or mailed to our office address. See Page 1 of the FAQ packet for the Fish Camp Office Fax number.
  - If you will be 18 by July 30, 2013 you can complete the entire registration process online.
- **When does registration close?**

- Registration closes on Friday, June 21, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. or when sessions are full. Closed sessions will be designated on the Fish Camp registration site.
- **Does Fish Camp registration fill up?**
  - Yes. Unfortunately, we only have a limited number of spots available per session. We make every effort to allow as many students as possible to come to each session, but the interest in particular sessions (this varies from year to year) makes it incredibly difficult to accommodate everyone. Increasing your availability will increase your chances of getting assigned to a session.
- **Why does Fish Camp registration close?**
  - Fish Camp is a student run organization and must ensure adequate time to properly sort and process registration information. Registration closes on June 21 so that you will receive your session information in a timely fashion and have ample time to change or cancel your information.
- **Can I go to Fish Camp if I'm registered for a New Student Conference in August?**
  - Please reference the conflict dates on page 1 of the FAQ packet.
- **Can I pay for someone else to attend Fish Camp? How do I go about doing so?**
  - Yes. Let the incoming student know that they will need to complete the registration process online. Then, please mail a check to the Fish Camp address (see page 3 of the FAQ packet); make sure to include the student's name and UIN on the check. Payment must be received by June 28<sup>th</sup> or the student's registration will be cancelled.
  - The student's registration will not be marked as complete until payment has been received.

### **Confirmations**

- Confirmations will be emailed to the student's Texas A&M e-mail account on July 8, 2013.
- If confirmation emails aren't received by July 10<sup>th</sup>, contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627.
- In order to register for camp and receive a confirmation, students must activate their NetID/TAMU email account at <http://gateway.tamu.edu>.
- **FISH CAMP WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONFIRM SESSION ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE JULY 8, 2013.**

### **Session Changes**

- **Can I change my Session Date?**
  - Yes, but only to sessions that are not yet filled. Increasing your session availability will not affect your registration priority. Decreasing your session availability will change your session priority to the date on which you submitted your session change.
  - Until June 21<sup>st</sup>, you can access your registration information and change your session availability. After registration closes, you must submit a session change form to Fish Camp. The session change form can be found online at <http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu>. Please see page 1 of the FAQ packet for the Fish Camp Office address and fax number.  
**Session change forms for assignments in session confirmation emails must be submitted by July 12<sup>th</sup> in order to be considered for a change.**
  - Please note the following implications to changing a session if not requested by July 12<sup>th</sup>: 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.

## ***Cancellations***

- Please see page 1 of the FAQ packet for cancellation dates and refund information.
- Cancellation forms can be found online at <http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu>.
- Registration is **not** transferable to another person.
- Online payments will be refunded to the credit card with which you originally paid if within the designated refund period.

## ***Special Needs***

- **How do I notify Fish Camp about any special needs for camp?**
  - In the registration system, under the special needs section, please inform us of any special needs or circumstances. A Director will be in contact with you to follow up and gather any additional information. If you do not inform us of any special needs at the time of registration, Fish Camp cannot guarantee any special arrangements can be made.
- **I have special dietary needs or other food restrictions, what do I need to do?**
  - Please indicate your need in the special needs section of the registration process so that Fish Camp can make the necessary accommodations. If you **do not** indicate the need on the form, Fish Camp **cannot** guarantee the necessary accommodations can be provided.
  - Fish Camp will have gluten-free and/or vegetarian options for those who indicate that need during the registration process. 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 you forget to include this information and realize it after registration is closed, contact Fish Camp with the information provided on page 1.

## ***Troubleshooting***

- **Registration**
  - Registration is a one-step process, so there should be no need to press the back button at any time. If you do press the back button, all information will be lost.
- **Payment System**
  - Due to the high number of freshmen attempting to register, the payment site might respond slower than normal. If this occurs, try again later.
  - Unless you see a confirmation screen with a unique confirmation number, your payment was not processed and your card was not charged.
  - If you run into any problems, please notify us, using the contact information on page 1, so we can help you throughout the process. Please contact the Fish Camp office at 979-845-1627. We will need your student UIN used in your registration process and your contact information. We will contact the payment system and resolve the problem as soon as possible. Information will be provided to you as quickly as possible.
- **Is Fish Camp filling up? I'm afraid I won't get the session I want/need.**
  - Fish Camp sessions will fill throughout the registration process. Typically, the early sessions fill up fastest. Full sessions will be designated on the Fish Camp registration website (<http://fishcamponline.tamu.edu>) as they become full.
- **I think I put down the wrong information. How do I change my session availability?**

- To change any information or availability while registration is open, visit the registration system again, log in, and make any necessary changes. After registration closes, you will need to submit a Session Change form to request a change of session.
  - Increasing your session availability will not affect your registration priority. Decreasing your session availability will change your session priority to the date on which you submitted your session change.
- **Can my parent use their Net ID to register for me?**
- No. Every student must log in using their own NetID and no one else's. The behavior agreement and liability waiver, signed by all attendees, must be under the student's NetID only. **By logging in with your NetID and password, you are confirming that you are the person affiliated with that NetID and UIN.**

## Residence Hall Information: Move-in Options

- Residence Halls open on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 8 am.
- Students attending **Session G ONLY** can drop off their belongings on Saturday, August 17, 2013 from 8:00am to 9:15am the morning before their session leaves.
- Students attending **Session F ONLY** can move in on Saturday, August 17, 2012 from 5-7 p.m. after busses return to College Station.
- **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 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](http://www.bryan-collegestation.org).

## Parking

- **Where do I park for Fish Camp?**
  - 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 the morning of sendoff.
  - 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. Payment should be made by the family member parking the vehicle, prior to exiting the garage.
- **Do I have to pay to park?**
  - No. If you have purchased a Texas A&M parking permit for the fall semester, 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.
  - **Yes. 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.**

- **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 send-off for Fish Camp, they are welcome to attend. Guests will be seated in a separate section than Fish Camp participants.
- **What if I arrive late and/or miss the bus to camp?**
  - Any freshmen who miss the actual bus ride to attend Fish Camp will NOT be permitted to attend camp. 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 because they missed the bus. If freshmen are late, and do miss the bus, they can attend a later session. They will need contact our Director of Internal Relations at [fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto:fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu).

### **Where?**

- **Where is Fish Camp held?**
  - Fish Camp is held in Palestine, TX at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center.
- **Where will I be sleeping once at Fish Camp?**
  - Students stay in cabins with air conditioning, showers, and restrooms while at camp.
- **Can I drive to Lakeview?**
  - No. Everyone is required to meet in College Station and 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.

### **Cell Phone Service**

- **Will I have cell phone service or access to a phone while at camp?**
  - Cell phone service is not very reliable at camp.
  - In the case of an emergency, there is a phone available for use.
  - Most of the time at camp is highly structured. However, there will be some free time throughout the day to make a few phone calls.
- **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.

### **Mixers**

- **Do people really dress up for the mixers?**
  - Yes! Bring your best costumes. Everything is more fun when you are dressed up! This years mixers features Aggie, Western, Pajamas, Togas, and Flashback attire.
- **What if I'm not a dancer?**
  - If dancing isn't your thing, a building called the Aquarium offers a variety of entertainment such as ping-pong, pool, foosball, and other games.



## Packing for Camp

### ➤ What do I need to bring to camp?

- One form of picture identification
  - Ex: Driver's License, TAMU ID, etc.
- Cool and comfortable clothes and shoes. It is recommended that students bring clothes that they don't mind getting dirty, as there are optional free time activities such as Ultimate Frisbee, swimming, and volleyball.
- Tennis Shoes (required for scheduled outdoor activities)
- Clothes for Reveille's Western Toga Party and 12<sup>th</sup> Man Flashback Pajama Party (if desired)
- Shower Shoes (if desired)
- Sheets, blanket, and/or sleeping bag and pillow
- Toiletries
- Towels
- Water bottle
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Flashlight
- Trash bag to put dirty clothes in
- Small quantity of cash for snacks and drinks (if desired)

### ➤ How much luggage can I bring?

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

## Miscellaneous

### ➤ 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. More than 1000 current students volunteer their time every year to help welcome Texas A&M's incoming freshmen class.

### ➤ What time will I get back from camp?

- The buses will return 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**.

### ➤ What should I do with my medication?

- There is a headquarters tent upon check-in that you can drop off any medication that requires refrigeration. The medics will safely transport your medicine to the infirmary at Lakeview upon arrival. All other prescribed/doctor required medication can be kept with you.

### ➤ What is ExCEL?

- Excellence uniting Culture, Education, and Leadership (ExCEL). The ExCEL Orientation Conference launches the complete ExCEL Program. This two-day celebration of culture, education and leadership is held the week before Fall classes begin, familiarizing

participants with the program and life at Texas A&M University. Participants are divided into “teams” led by two upper-class Texas A&M students called Team Leaders. Following the orientation, a two-part developmental seminar series and social networking, relevant to the first-year student, begins and continues through the end of the Fall semester. At the end of the semester the top 3 freshman who have participated in the most activities will receive a scholarship. Registration is \$40, which covers conference meals, a conference T-shirt, and other Fall semester activities. However, the first 75 students who register for ExCEL and attend Fish Camp will have their registration waived. For more information visit [excel.tamu.edu](http://excel.tamu.edu)<<http://excel.tamu.edu/>>.

➤ **What if I want to carpool to College Station?**

- Fish Camp is proud to partner with Zimride, a private ridesharing network within Texas A&M University. Zimride offers a safe way to connect with others in your area who are travelling to your session of Fish Camp.
- Visit <http://www.zimride.com/tamu/events/fish-camp-2013> and follow the outlined steps to post your ride within the Texas A&M Zimride network. Log in with your NetID and password to complete the process.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Fish Camp office (see page 1 of the FAQ document) or contact Zimride directly at 1-855-ZIMRIDE (946-7433)

