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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
 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: Dr. Donna Lee Sullins

Session Dates for Fish Camp 2017

- 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

Sessions marked by **✗** are sessions the freshmen CANNOT attend. Sessions marked by **✓** are sessions that freshmen CAN attend if participating in these programs:

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

Note: Howdy Week will begin on August 20th, 2017

Registration Dates & Times

Monday, May 22 nd at 3:00 PM	Freshman Registration Opens Scholarship Application Opens 95% Refunds Available Installment Plan begins
Monday, June 12 th at 8:00 AM	Scholarship Application Due 50% Refunds Available
Friday, June 23 rd by 5:00 PM	Scholarship Decisions Sent Out
Friday, June 30 th at 3:00 PM	Freshman Registration Closes Full Registration Payment Due (\$225) Session Change Forms Due Final Date for 50% Refunds

All times listed are Central Standard Time

Payment Information

Registration Fee

The registration fee is \$225.00 and must be paid by Friday, June 30th at 3:00 PM CST **to complete the registration process**. The registration fee includes everything once you arrive in College Station: Round-trip bus trip from College Station to Lakeview Methodist Conference Center, located in Palestine, Texas; lunch for the bus ride and all other meals during camp; lodging in cabins at camp; a unique Class of 2021 t-shirt; a folder full of exclusive coupons to various restaurants, shops, and student housing; 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.

Needs-based scholarships are available! They are submitted through the registration system on fishcamponline.tamu.edu and must be submitted by Monday, June 12, 2017 at 8:00 AM.

Installment Plan

The registration fee can be paid in **two installments of \$112.50**. Freshmen will log on to 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 22nd

and June 30th to hold a spot in Fish Camp. The second installment must be paid by Friday, June 30th at 3:00 PM. **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 12th, 2017 at 8:00 AM.** Scholarship notifications will be emailed to student’s Texas A&M email account by **Friday, June 23rd 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 June 30th at 3:00 PM** or cancel your reservation.

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 23rd. 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 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, the Hachtman Endowment, and Aggie Mom’s Clubs.

Disclaimer: We suggest that you complete and submit your annual FAFSA to Texas A&M so we can gain access to 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 22 nd – June 12 th at 8:00 AM	95% Refund (total of \$213.75 or \$106.88 for installment)
June 12 th at 8:01 AM – June 30 th at 3:00 PM	50% Refund (total of \$112.50 or \$56.25 for installment)
June 30 th at 3:01 PM and After	No refund

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 everyone.

Registration will close on Monday, June 30th at 3:00 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 close on June 30th to ensure the leaders of this student run organization have adequate time to process all registration information.

Every freshman can register for Fish Camp. If you will not be 18 by July 29th, 2017 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 or fishcamponline.tamu.edu. Once filled out, it should be emailed to fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu or faxed to 979-458-3926 no later than **Friday, June 30th, 2017 at 3:00 PM**. Your spot in your session will not be held until this form is received.

If you will be 18 by July 29th, 2017 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 Friday, June 30th at 3:00 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 want 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 June 30th 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 related to disabilities or food allergies, please inform us of these needs in the “Registration Details” section of the registration process. There is a place to list your special accommodations. 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. Fish Camp is a nut-free camp. However, we cannot guarantee that other participants do not bring items with nuts in them to the camp environment.

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 Lodging

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 from June 1st until August 13th**. 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 F. **Those students attending Session F 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 20th at 8:00 AM.
- All other students may request to move in early beginning Saturday, August 19th.
- **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.

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 9:30 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 Lakeview. Transportation of coach buses will be provided 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 1,200 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 (Dance Parties). The first theme is **12th Man Flashback Pajama Party** (ex: appropriate sleepwear, throwback clothes) and the second theme is **Red, White, and Hullabaloo** (ex: Aggie gear, appropriate patriotic clothes). 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 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 close-toed 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 21st to September 22nd. If you lose any item at camp please email fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu with specific information about the item, such as when and where it was lost.