Howdy!

Thank you for your interest in being a counselor for Fish Camp 2016! Being a part of Fish Camp can be one of the most rewarding and unforgettable experiences during your time at Texas A&M University. You will have the opportunity to make a unique impact on the freshman class, develop your leadership skills, and create meaningful relationships.

This year, Fish Camp is focused on making the freshman experience the best it can possibly be by embodying selfless service. The organization is working on strengthening the connections made with freshmen and increasing continuity. Above all, we strive to welcome the freshman class and aid in their transition into college.

As a camp or Crew counselor, you will attend various training sessions, meetings, and optional road trips through your duration of membership to create a specific camp dynamic with your fellow counselors and chairpersons. By applying, you are one step closer to leaving your mark on Texas A&M, Fish Camp, and the incoming freshman class.

Each member works to create a universally accepting support system while serving as an ambassador of Fish Camp and the university as a whole. Together, camp and Crew counselors are able to touch the lives of thousands of freshmen and officially welcome them into the Aggie family.

We encourage everyone to apply to be a counselor. The incoming freshman class will be made up of a diverse group of students and we hope that each new Aggie will find Texas A&M a place that they can call home. Please apply for all the sessions you are able to attend, as this will increase your chances of being selected as a counselor and impacting future Aggies. However, if you are only able to attend one session, please do not let that hinder you from applying.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Fish Camp Office (131 John. J. Koldus Building) or email the Director of Membership, Krishma Patel, at fcamp-ms@dsa.tamu.edu.

The application is due on Friday, February 5th by 5PM via online submission on MaroonLink (directions in packet).

Thank you for your interest in serving the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of 2020!

Thanks & Gig ‘em!
Director Staff 2016

fishcamp.tamu.edu  Fish Camp  @FishCampTAMU  @FISHCAMP2016
MISSION STATEMENT

Fish Camp strives to welcome freshmen into the Aggie family by sharing the traditions and values of Texas A&M University and creating a universally accepting support system that allows them to build relationships and embody the Aggie spirit.

VISION STATEMENT

Fish Camp 2016 aims to successfully transition the Class of 2020 into college by providing them with beneficial, long-lasting relationships and student leaders who are open-minded and continually work to improve themselves, the organization, and Texas A&M University.

FISH CAMP VALUES

- Development
- Integrity
- Compassion
- Unity
- Continuity
- Outreach

For more information on the Fish Camp Values, please visit: http://fishcamp.tamu.edu/node/3

OVERVIEW OF APPLICATION PROCESS

- Optional Applicant Informationals:
  - Thursday, January 28th from 8:30PM to 9:30PM in Rudder 601
  - Sunday, January 31st from 8:30PM to 9:30PM in Rudder 601
  - Note: Although informational are optional, we especially encourage first time applicants to attend.
- Application due Friday, February 5th at 5PM on MaroonLink
- Interview Sign-Ups: February 6th to February 8th (After the application deadline, an e-mail including directions for signing up for interviews will be sent out by 8AM on Saturday, February 6th. Everyone who submits an application is guaranteed an interview.)
- Interviews: February 9th to February 26th
- Membership Notification E-mail: Sunday, March 6th by 11:59PM

SESSION DATES

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<th>Session A</th>
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<th>Session C</th>
<th>Session D</th>
<th>Session E</th>
<th>Session F</th>
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<td>July 29 -</td>
<td>August 1 -</td>
<td>August 4 -</td>
<td>August 7 -</td>
<td>August 10 -</td>
<td>August 13 -</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
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REQUIRED DATES

You will be required to attend the following events. If you are not able to attend one or more of these events, you will need to submit an appeal for each event you are missing (with the exception of Counselor Revelation Night). If you will be missing Counselor Revelation night, more information will be communicated to you in the membership notification e-mail sent out on Sunday, March 6th. See more information about appeals under “Duties for All Members.”

- Counselor Revelation Night: March 10th
- Developmental Program #1: April 3rd
- Developmental Program #2: April 17th
- Developmental Program #3: May 1st
- Workday #1: June 10th – 12th
- Workday #2: July 8th – 10th
- 3 days before camp (3DB4) - varies depending on session, see dates above
- 4 days at camp - varies depending on session, see dates above

***ATTENTION: Certain sessions and the mandatory 3DB4 conflict with activities such as the second session of summer school, Corps FOW, and Sorority Recruitment. It is your responsibility to check all dates to avoid possible conflicts. Please note that Fish Camp is not considered a university excused absence for classes or exams that may fall during some of the Fish Camp sessions or mandatory 3DB4. If you are chosen as a Fish Camp member, you are required to attend all four days of your session as well as the THREE days before camp in their entirety, and you may NOT change sessions.***

ROLES DEFINED

What is a Crew counselor? What is a camp counselor?

The opportunity to be a Fish Camp Crew counselor is a unique Fish Camp experience. As a Crew counselor, you will influence thousands of freshmen over three sessions of camp, work closely with Director Staff, and facilitate the "behind the scenes" and logistics at Lakeview. Crew counselors are split up into multiple session groups, and like camp counselors, receive partners. At Lakeview, Crew is in charge of hosting namesakes and special guests like the yell leaders. Crew also works closely with the Crew sponsor, the Class of 1969. In addition, Fish Camp Crew puts on the all-camp mixers as well as some special presentations including the Muster and Silver Taps programs. There is also ample opportunity for face-to-face interaction with freshmen during free time.

The primary role of a camp counselor is to serve as a support system for freshmen and to help them transition into college life. As a camp counselor, you will lead a Discussion Group (DG) of 10 to 15 freshmen during camp. You will facilitate conversations and activities to promote unity and acceptance among the freshmen. In addition, you will perform in purposeful skits that will teach the freshmen about Texas A&M’s traditions and resources. The relationships you will form at camp will extend beyond the four days at Lakeview, as you will serve as a mentor and friend throughout the freshmen’s transition into life at A&M.
SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

General
• Be in and remain in good conduct and academic standing with the university.
• Remain in the Bryan/College Station area through the Fall 2016 semester either as a student taking at least six hours, a student teacher, intern, or a co-op student.

Grades
• Undergraduate Students: You must have a cumulative GPR of 2.00 and have at least a 2.00 in the semester immediately prior to selection (Fall 2015) in order to apply. You must also post at least a 2.00 GPR for the Spring 2016 semester.
  o Note: Only Texas A&M credit hours will be used when calculating GPR requirements.
• Graduate Students: You must have a cumulative GPR of 3.00 and have at least a 3.00 in the semester immediately prior to selection (Fall 2015) in order to apply. You must also post at least a 3.00 GPR for the Spring 2016 Semester.
  o Note: Only Texas A&M credit hours will be used when calculating GPR requirements.
• Blinn TEAM Students: You must have a cumulative GPR of 2.00 and have at least a 2.00 in the semester immediately prior to selection (Fall 2015) in order to apply. You must also post at least a 2.00 GPR for the Spring 2016 semester.
  o Note: Only Texas A&M credit hours will be used when calculating GPR requirements.

Credit Hours
• Undergraduate Students: You must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Texas A&M University for the Spring 2016 and Fall 2016 semesters.
• Graduate Students: You must be enrolled in at least four credit hours at Texas A&M University for the Spring 2016 and Fall 2016 semesters.
• Blinn TEAM students: You must be enrolled in at least three credit hours at Texas A&M University for the Spring 2016 and Fall 2016 semesters.

Membership Fees
• Camp counselors must pay a $207.00 membership fee. This includes dues, required at-camp shirts, and facilities costs. The membership fee can be paid online or in person (via cash or check). There will be a $7.00 discount if you pay for your dues in person (via cash or check).
• Crew counselor membership fees are sponsored by the Class of 1969 and will have discounted membership fees that will be no more than $70.00.
• Scholarship opportunities are available to waive your membership fees in half or in full, depending on the need.
• More details about dues and scholarship applications will be sent out if you are selected to be a counselor.
If an extenuating circumstance has caused you to fail to meet any of the specific requirements outlined above, you must submit an appeal at https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/form/start/91344. Appeals are due on Friday, February 5th at 5PM. Directions for accessing the form and submitting the appeal are explained below in “Application and Interview Process.”

DUTIES FOR ALL MEMBERS

• Attend all MANDATORY Developmental Programs and summer Workdays in their entirety (see dates above).
  o You may be excused from a mandatory training (Developmental Programs & Workdays) pending the outcome of an appeal turned in to Director Staff. If your appeal passes, you will be required to attend a make-up session.
• Attend bi-weekly camp meetings (every other week) plus all other meetings deemed mandatory by your chairpersons.
• Attend your session’s training refresher (3DB4) in its entirety.
  o Be in town by noon at least three days before your session. However, your chairpersons may require you to be in town earlier.
• Work closely with all staff members to ensure Fish Camp 2016’s success.
• Work closely with a partner and fellow camp and Crew counselors in order to aid the freshmen in a positive transition.
• Establish relationships with fellow camp and Crew counselors, chairpersons, and freshmen.
• Maintain a professional demeanor during events both associated and not associated with Fish Camp.
• Complete all duties assigned by the directors and chairpersons.
• Submit an appeal at least seven days in advance of a mandatory meeting or event that you cannot attend.
• Uphold all Fish Camp policies, including but not limited to, attendance, grades, hazing, drugs and alcohol, and the Behavior Agreement.
• Uphold the Fish Camp Values and the Mission and Vision statements.

APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

• Please read all the information included in this counselor information packet before turning in your application. It is recommended that you save your responses to the application questions on a computer.
1. Submit your personal information and responses to the application questions to https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/form/start/91638 by 5:00PM on Friday, February 5th, 2016. Do not include hyperlinks, pictures, or other electronic attachments in your responses. Note: The online application will not accept responses after the deadline, regardless of extenuating circumstances.
2. To submit an appeal and/or your application, click on the appropriate link and follow these steps:
  1. Click the “Sign In Now” button and sign in with your NetID and password.
2. Fill out all pages of the form and click “Next” in the bottom right hand corner.
3. Click the “Submit For Approval” button. **Your form will not be submitted if you do not hit “Submit For Approval.”**
4. After you have submitted the form for approval, you will receive an e-mail that confirms your submission.
5. Within 24 hours you will receive another e-mail saying, “The form that you submitted has been approved. Please see the comments below.”
   - Note: The confirmation does not mean you have been selected as a counselor for Fish Camp 2016. The confirmation is an indication that we have received your application. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail within 24 hours of submitting your application, please contact the Director of Membership at fcamp-ms@dsa.tamu.edu.

- If the above links do not work, follow these steps:
  1. Go to maroonlink.tamu.edu.
  2. Click the “Sign In Now” button and sign in with your NetID and password.
  3. Click the magnifying glass in the top right hand corner and search for and select “Fish Camp.”
  4. Click on the “Forms” tab and then select the correct form and refer to steps 2-5 above.

3. After the application deadline, an e-mail containing interview sign-up directions will be sent to your TAMU e-mail address. From February 6th to February 8th, you will have a chance to sign up for an interview. Have specific dates and times for your interview in mind. Please be aware that if you wait until the last day to sign up for an interview, available times will be limited. Dress is casual for interviews (what you would wear to school).
4. You will receive an e-mail indicating if you have or have not been selected as a camp or Crew counselor on Sunday, March 6th by 11:59PM.

If special accommodations or arrangements must be made for your application or interview, please contact fcamp-ms@dsa.tamu.edu as soon as possible.

**COPY OF ONLINE APPLICATION**

**Personal Information** (Page 1)

- First Name:
- Last Name:
- UIN:
- TAMU E-mail Address:
- Other E-mail Address:
- Phone Number:
- Please select the gender with which you most identify: Male or Female
- Date of Birth:
- Classification (by year): Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Graduate Student
• College:
• Major:
• Anticipated Graduation Semester and Year (ex: Fall 2016):
• Current Street Address:
• City:
• State:
• Zip Code:
• T-Shirt Size:
• Please list your extracurricular activities including clubs, officer positions, work, etc. with the number of hours per week for the Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Parent/Guardian Information (Page 2)
• Name:
• Phone Number:
• E-mail Address:
• Street Address:
• City:
• State:
• Zip Code:

Alternative Contacts (Page 2 cont.)
Alternate Contact #1
• Name:
• Phone Number:
• E-mail Address:
• Street Address:
• City:
• State:
• Zip Code:

Alternate Contact #2
• Name:
• Phone Number:
• E-mail Address:
• Street Address:
• City:
• State:
• Zip Code:

Medical Information (Page 3)
• Insurance Provider (if none, put “N/A”):
• Group/Policy #:
• Policy Holder Name:
• Date of Last Tetanus (Td/Tdap) Booster:
• Drug Allergies:
• Food Allergies:
• Dietary Restrictions:
• Medications:
• Special Accommodations:
• Other Medical Concerns:

Application Information Needed (Page 4)
• Applying for? (select all that apply): Camp Counselor or Crew Counselor
• Are you applying to be a pick-up counselor ONLY? – A pick-up counselor is defined as an individual who is not available to be a part of Fish Camp on Revelation Night (March 10th), but is available at a later date. For example, individuals may be waiting to hear back about summer internships before they can commit to being a counselor. If you are pick-up only, you may be chosen if another individual is no longer able to be a part of the organization. Note: If you are not selected in the initial round, you will automatically be eligible for pick-up at a later date.: Yes or No
• If you answered “Yes” to the above question, please indicate the tentative month you will be available to be picked up:
• Session Availability (select all sessions for which you are available):
• Fish Camp/Transition Camp History (Year, Session, Color, Camp Name, Position)
• If you were in a previous camp and were unable to attend, there will be an optional text box to provide an explanation of the circumstances that kept you from attending camp. (300 word limit)

Application Question Responses (Page 4 cont.)

It is highly suggested that you type your responses in a Word document and then copy and paste your responses into the form.

All Applicants (* = required)
• *What unique qualities will you contribute to your camp to help improve the freshman experience? Please provide tangible examples. (500 word limit)
• If you would like, use the space provided below to verbally express yourself. Include anything you would like included in your application. Note: images, web links, videos, etc. will not be viewed. (200 word limit)

First Year Camp Counselors (* = required)
• *What do you hope to gain from your experiences as a Fish Camp counselor and what can the Class of 2020 gain from you? (500 word limit)

Second Year Camp Counselors (* = required)
• *What are your goals for your camp this year? How have your previous Fish Camp experiences contributed to the development of these goals? Please provide tangible examples. (500 word limit)
Third Year or More Camp Counselors (* = required)
• *What do you perceive the role of a third year (or more) counselor to be? How will you fulfill this role? Please provide tangible examples. (500 word limit)

Crew Counselors (* = required)
• *Crew does the background work for Fish Camp. They perform presentations, are the first faces that guests and namesakes see when they get to Lakeview, and are in charge of the logistics of camp. How do you see yourself playing a part in making Fish Camp 2016 happen for the Class of 2020? Please provide tangible examples. (500 word limit)

Waivers - signed via online application with your initials (Page 5)
Note: If you are under 18 when you submit your application, you will not be able to sign the waivers electronically. Please put “Not Applicable” in the initial boxes. You will be contacted about having a parent/guardian sign the waivers on your behalf.
• Policy Waiver
• Behavior Agreement
• Liability Waiver
• Photo Release

Directions for Submission (Page 6)
After completing all pages of the form, click on the "Next" button below. You will be brought to a screen that allows you to review your responses. To officially SUBMIT your application, click the "Submit for Approval" button.

ADA STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in the Disability Services Modular Building, Room 122, or call 979-845-1637. For additional information visit: http://disability.tamu.edu.

If you have any questions or concerns about the application process, please contact the Director of Membership, Krishma Patel, at fcamp-ms@dsa.tamu.edu.

An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.