



Fish Camp 2019

Freshmen 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
Website: <http://fishcamp.tamu.edu>

Mailing Address

Fish Camp
Texas A&M University
1236 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-1236

Session Dates for Fish Camp 2019

Session A: July 27th - July 30th

Session B: July 30th - August 2nd

Session C: August 2nd - August 5th

Session D: August 5th - August 8th

Session E: August 8th - August 11th

Session F: August 11th - August 14th

Session G: August 14th - August 17th

**Check-In will be from 8:00-9:30 AM CST on the first morning of camp. Students will arrive back at College Station from 4:45-5:30 CST on the last day of their respective session.*

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.

| | 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 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Note: Howdy Week will begin on August 19th, 2019.

Registration Dates & Times

| | |
|--|---|
| Tuesday, May 21 st at 2:00 PM | Freshman Registration Opens Scholarship Application Opens 95% Refund Available until June 17 th , 2019 |
| Tuesday, June 11 th at 11:59 PM | Freshman Scholarship Due |
| Wednesday, June 12 th at 11:59 PM | Half Registration Payment Due (\$125) 50% Refund Available until July 10 th , 2019 |
| Monday, June 24 th at 5:00 PM | Freshman Scholarship Decisions Sent Out |
| Wednesday, July 3 rd at 5:00 PM | Freshmen Registration Closes Full Registration Payment Due (\$250) |
| Wednesday, July 10 th at 5:00 PM | No refund available. |

All times listed are based on Central Time

Payment Information

Registration Fee

The registration fee is \$250.00 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 2023 t-shirt and a water bottle; accident medical insurance while at camp; and access to professional medical care 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:

- Payments can be made online with a credit card with a MasterCard or Visa.
- **Checks must be mailed (postmarked) by Wednesday, July 3rd, 2019.** 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 and MUST be submitted by Tuesday, June 11th at 11:59 PM CST. Any scholarships submitted after this deadline will automatically be denied.

*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. **The first payment will be due June 12th, 2019.** Freshmen will log on to our registration page, input registration information, and click on the “Installment Plan” button on the “Pay Now” page. Then, they will follow the “Installment Plan” page as detailed. The first installment must be postmarked by **Wednesday, June 12th.** The second installment must be postmarked by **Wednesday, July 3rd.**

Failure to pay on time will result in your registration being cancelled.

Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available through the online registration process. Please click the link at the top of the “Dates” tab, which will direct to the scholarship form. Freshmen will complete the necessary registration details, and on the “Pay Now”, choose the “Scholarship Request Option. **Scholarship applications must be submitted by Tuesday, June 11th at 11:59 PM CST.** Scholarship notifications will be emailed to student’s Texas A&M University email account by **Monday, June 24th at 5:00 PM CST.**

Scholarships are available for the full registration fee (\$250). If the scholarship is not granted, you will have to pay the remainder of the registration fee online or by check and must be postmarked **by July, 3rd, 2019.** 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.

Please remember that scholarships are limited. These are financial need-based scholarships. 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 Caroline Killian 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. Please note that scholarships are awarded on a financial needs basis. **Please note that if payment is received by Fish Camp before the scholarship notification date, you are ineligible to receive a Fish Camp Scholarship.**

Refunds

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

| | |
|---|---|
| May 21 st - June 17 th , 2019 at 11:59 PM | 95% Refund (total of \$237.50 or \$118.75 for first installment) |
| June 18 th - July 10 th , 2019 at 5:00 PM | 50% Refund (total of \$125.00 or \$62.50 for first Installment) |
| July 10 th , 2019 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, but the interest in particular sessions makes it incredibly difficult to accommodate for everyone. 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.

Every session and camp have different counselors who have been trained to provide the most welcoming and supportive experience for their campers. Fish Camp offers the same program to every participant in every session.

Registration will close on Wednesday, July 3rd at 5:00 PM **or when sessions are full**. Closed sessions will not show on the dates page of the Fish Camp registration site once they have reached capacity. Registration will be closing on July 3rd to ensure that the leaders of this student run organization have adequate time to process all registration information.

If you will not be 18 by July 27th, 2019, you will need to have the Medical Release Form, Behavioral Agreement, and the Talent 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 uploaded to our registration site. This must be completed by **July 3rd, 2019.**

Confirmations

Session Confirmations will be emailed to the student's Texas A&M email account upon completion and confirmation of payment. **Once you have completed the registration process and paid, please allow 72 hours for processing.**

If confirmation emails are not received by Wednesday, July 10th, contact the Fish Camp Office at the number or email on page 3.

Session Changes

Session availability changes may be allowed by contacting fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu. You must email before July 10th, 2018, in order to be considered for a session 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 be relinquished
3. The risk of not being assigned to another session due to other sessions being filled to maximum capacity.

Cancellations

Cancellation dates and refund information can be found on page 3 of this packet. Registration is **not transferable** to another incoming freshman. Should you need to cancel your Fish Camp spot, please email fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu.

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

Special Assistance

If you have any assistance requests that need to be placed, please inform us of these needs in the “Questionnaire” during the Registration process. There is a section to list your special assistance needs in full. If these needs are not mentioned at the time of registration, Fish Camp cannot guarantee any 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 needs or food restrictions this information **needs to be included in the “Questionnaire” 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 assistance needs are not mentioned at the time of registration, Fish Camp cannot guarantee any arrangements can be made.

If you forget to include this information, email fcamp-ir@dsa.tamu.edu immediately.

Pre- / Post- Camp Housing

The Department of Residence Life will be putting on an Aggie Hostel Program to provide accommodations for students before and after Fish Camp. The Aggie Hostel Program will only be available until August 5th. This is a program for **Texas A&M Students only**. This will be available for:

- All students attending sessions A-D **for before camp** accommodations.
- All students attending sessions A-C **for after camp** accommodations.

This Program is separate from Fish Camp fees and you must register to stay in the Aggie Hostel program at reslife.tamu.edu

Students will be able to move in early if they are Attending Session G:

- Residence Halls open on Sunday, August 18th at 8 am.
- Students attending Session G ONLY can move in on Saturday, August 17th from 5-7 p.m. after busses return to College Station from Fish Camp.
- Students **MUST** contact residence life before hand in order to request early move-in (please visit reslife.tamu.edu)
- **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 before or after 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. Check in will be from 8 – 9:30 AM CST.

If you wish to drive and park your car at the Reed Arena parking lot for the four days of camp, you must have a valid Texas A&M parking pass or purchase a special events permit.

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. 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.

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 may be allowed 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).

Busses will be returning to campus between 4:45 and 5:30 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 First Class Company Coach Busses 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. Nearly 1,200 current students volunteer their time every year to help welcome Texas A&M's incoming freshmen class. Every session and camp have different counselors 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 you 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 **Hullabaloo and Red, White, Blue**. 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 19th to September 21st. If you lose any item at camp, please email fc19lostandfound@gmail.com with specific information about the item, as well as when and where it was lost.