Friday, February 12, 2021

Howdy Student Organization Leaders and Advisors,

The Department of Student Activities has updated guidance to share regarding organization events. We recognize that many have a desire to resume “normal” activities, but due to the high volume of COVID-19 cases in Brazos County and the rising presence of COVID-19 variants, we continue to work closely with recognized student organizations to mitigate risks and encourage virtual and/or hybrid options. Any/all events that do occur must adhere to crowd limit guidance. Additionally, all student leaders are expected to work with their respective members to ensure compliance with current COVID-19 guidance. If your organization has hosted or intends to host in-person events that fall outside of these guidelines, please adjust your plans accordingly to ensure compliance and to protect the health and safety of all involved. Please see the sections below for more information.

*UPDATED* SPRING 2021 ON-CAMPUS ORGANIZATION EVENT GUIDANCE

Any student organization gathering that has more than 10 persons on- or off-campus and/or involves overnight lodging will be sent for review to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs (OVPSA). Student organization travel events must still be reviewed and approved by the OVPSA. Ensure that you submit a request via the MaroonLink event form at least two (2) weeks prior to the activity. Payments for expenses or reimbursements related to the types of events listed above will not be processed through the SOFC unless an Event Form has been submitted.

TUTORIAL VIDEOS FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

To better assist recognized student organizations in event planning and organization management, the Department of Student Activities has developed a series of YouTube videos focused on COVID-19 Event Planning Guidance, StuAct Online, and MaroonLink. Visit the Student Activities YouTube channel for additional information.

SAVE THE DATE: A CANDID CONVERSATION ON MENTAL HEALTH

As we all continue to adapt our ability to lead ourselves and our peers through this time, we wanted to create a space for you to hear from students facing similar challenges and offer a candid conversation between those student leaders and a mental health professional from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). The Department of Student Activities is working to ensure that this webinar is useful, insightful, and engaging. The Conversation on "Leading the Way in Mental Wellness" will be shared on
**Wednesday, February 24th, 2021.** It will include a guided conversation between Counseling and Psychological Services staff and a few key Aggie student leaders focusing on managing student life and wellness, as well as identifying how student leaders can access various mental health resources and refer others to do the same. We know this conversation will be highly valuable for each of us! For more information or further questions about this Webinar, please email us at soda@stuact.tamu.edu, or visit our Student Activities [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

**NOW OPEN: ORGANIZATION & ADVISOR OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS**

Applications for the [2021 Adair Organization of the Year & Advisor of the Year Awards](#) are now live! Recipients of the advisor awards will receive $300 toward the organization they advise, and recipients of the organization awards will receive $500 in their SOFC accounts. Applications will close Monday, March 1st at 11:59PM.

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Funding through the Student Organization Funding Assistance Board (SOFAB) is still available for spring and summer organization events. [Apply online](#) in-advance of your event to be considered. Additionally, see the “External Funding” section of the [Student Activities funding and banking page](#) to learn more about supplemental opportunities.

**ZOOM SECURITY**

As you continue to conduct organizational meetings and events online, consider adding [Zoom security elements](#) to prevent unwanted participants and disruptive intrusion. Options for added security include requiring a passcode to log in, enabling the waiting room, and requiring TAMU authentication.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of all Aggies to ensure the safety of our community, and it is imperative that we work together to preserve the Aggie experience. We thank you for your continued efforts toward limiting the impacts of COVID-19 and welcome your continued collaboration in the weeks and months to come. We are here to support you and your organization if you need any assistance.

Please continue to visit the [Student Activities website](#) for student organization specific updates. For any additional questions regarding organizational travel and events, you are welcome to email the Student Organization Development and Administration team at soda@stuact.tamu.edu.

Thanks and Gig Em!