



Student Activities

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

August 30, 2021

Howdy Student Organization Leaders and Advisors,

Welcome back and happy first day of class! We have been eagerly anticipating the start of the year and seeing our organization community return to campus. Our office will be sending out more information and updates in the coming weeks to help you transition back to (mostly) normal operations on campus. In the meantime, there are a few key updates we wanted you to know as we start the academic year.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION GUIDANCE ON GATHERINGS

Just as in the past several semesters, the university may continue updating its guidance regarding gatherings and events. It is important that every leader stay informed of the most up-to-date information as this semester continues. The best place for you to access the most up-to-date guidance is at the [Student Organization Resources and Event Planning Guidance](#) webpage, which you can access through our [Student Activities website](#). You can also find information that relates to both your personal and organizational responsibilities on the university's [COVID-19 Guidance website](#).

UPDATES REGARDING COVID PRECAUTIONS BY ORGANIZATIONS

Recognized Student Organizations, as free associations of individuals, are neither governmental entities or officials. [Executive Order GA-38](#) prohibits governmental entities and officials from mandating face coverings and restricting activities in response to COVID-19. It is permissible for private individuals, associations, and groups such as Recognized Student Organizations to determine the health and safety precautions that are most appropriate for their expressive activities as afforded by the First Amendment.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION TRAVEL

[Student Travel](#) as part of a student organization must be routed through Student Affairs. Additional student organization travel protocols can be found [here](#) and include providing [written notification of travel](#) at least 48 hours in advance and confirming that drivers possess valid operator's license, insurance, and a current state inspection and registration.

Information regarding student organization travel abroad and Education Abroad programs - including cancelations and other guidelines - can be found at the [Education Abroad Website](#).

Academic related student travel must be routed to Risk Management once deemed essential by the applicable dean.

NEW DIGITAL BULLETIN BOARD INFORMATION FROM RESIDENCE LIFE

The Department of Residence Life is implementing Digital Bulletin Boards rather than the traditional paper process. This change is in line with their sustainability goals, helps reduce printing costs, waste, and allows for quicker distribution of information. Instructions to use this resource are as follows:

- Create your flier in Google Slides (1 page, landscape)
- Title the slide with a theme name and your organization name (ex: Upcoming Events - Residence Hall Association)
 - Theme Names: Student Organizations, Upcoming Events, Campus Resources
- Share the document via google with residence-education@reslife.tamu.edu
- Your slide must contain contact information for your student organization
- Items will be posted for 2 weeks or until the event date has passed (whichever comes first)

If you would like a copy of the full set of guidelines, email residence-education@reslife.tamu.edu.

LOG YOUR ORG'S SERVICE HOURS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

Have your members been involved in their communities during the past year at A&M? Let us know by submitting your service hours for the Fall 2020-Spring 2021 school year using [this link!](#) As a way to say thank you for being involved in your communities, each organization who submits their service hours will be entered into a drawing for a Service Party, hosted for your leadership team by the [Office of Sustainability](#) and the [Leadership and Service Center](#).

Thank you for being a part of our active student organization community. Please continue to visit the [Student Activities website](#) for student organization specific updates. For any additional questions you may have regarding organization activities and operations this semester, you are welcome to email the Student Organization Development and Administration team at soda@stuact.tamu.edu.

Thanks and Gig ‘Em!

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