Howdy Ags!

Happy December! The fall semester is drawing to a close and final exams begin in just a few short days. Soon you will be packing up your gear and leaving Aggieland for a month of well-deserved time off. Make the most of the break by spending quality time with your friends and family, giving back to your community through volunteer efforts, and paying forward any good will that comes your way. The Regents’ Scholars staff wishes you the best of luck with finals. Please be safe in your journeys and have a wonderful holiday season.

Thanks and Gig ‘em!

The Regents’ Scholars staff

University Scholarship Application

The University Scholarship Application is now open for current students! By completing the application, students will be considered for the continuing student scholarships and the Southerland Aggie Leader Scholarship through Scholarships & Financial Aid as well as scholarships within participating colleges and departments (see below).

The application deadline is February 1, 2015. Students can access the application through scholarships.tamu.edu.

Please note that there is no “submit” button on the application. The student should save as they go and can access their application at any time from now until the February 1 deadline. This way, they can edit and update as needed.

For a list of participating colleges and departments, check out page 2!

Words of Wisdom

“Work to become, not to acquire.”

– Elbert Hubbard
List of participating colleges and departments:

- Scholarships & Financial Aid
  - College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
    » Department of Agricultural Economics
    » Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications
    » Department of Entomology
    » Department of Horticultural Sciences
    » Department of Nutrition & Food Science
    » Department of Poultry Science
    » Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
    » College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Study Abroad Scholarships
- College of Architecture
  » Department of Construction Science
- Mays Business School
  » Department of Information & Operations Management
- College of Education & Human Development
  » Department of Health & Kinesiology
- College of Engineering
  » Department of Aerospace Engineering
  » Department of Chemical Engineering
  » Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
  » Department of Engineering Technology & Industrial Distribution
  » Department of Mechanical Engineering
  » Engineering International Programs (Engineering Study Abroad)
- College of Geosciences
- College of Liberal Arts
  » Department of English
  » College of Liberal Arts Study Abroad Scholarships
- College of Science
  » Department of Biology
  » Department of Chemistry
  » Department of Mathematics
  » Department of Physics and Astronomy
  » Department of Statistics
- College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
  » Department of Biomedical Sciences
- International Student Services
- Residence Life
- Study Abroad Programs Office
- Texas A&M Foundation
Tips for Winter Break Career Development

Alas, winter break is around the corner and your plans for the month long hiatus from school are etched in stone: sleep, party, relax, shop, sleep, party, watch TV…. But while you’re planning to catch up on the hundred hours of lost sleep due to shin-digs and last-minute English papers, there’s an early bird catching a worm that should be yours. In between decompressing from the fall semester, make sure to take this time for a little personal development. Here are five things you can do this winter break to boost your resume and set you apart from the competition.

1. **Take a class at a community college.** While most of your peers may be on the five-year plan, getting through college in four years can save you time, money, and many headaches. Cut expenses and catch up (or get ahead) of your graduation requirements by taking classes at a community college. Coordinate with your academic advisor to see which credits will transfer over and fulfill your degree plan requirements.

2. **Set up an informational interview.** It’s time to dust off those business cards you’ve collected this past semester and start reaching out to your contacts. Take this time to setup informational interviews with prospective employers or leaders in your field that you admire. Don’t be afraid to cold call a few companies to setup in-person meet and greets as well. Expect a few “no’s” and fully take advantage of getting to know everyone who says yes. Remember, you’re not looking for a job — at the moment — the goal of an informational interview is to learn more about that professional, the industry and the company, as well as put yourself on that person and company’s radar.

3. **Start an internship/externship.** While you may only be out of school for a month and a half, it is still enough time to gain on-the-job experience with an externship or internship. If you need a jumping off point, reach out to professors, mentors, and your network to spread the word that you are looking to work over the break. Additionally, read your local newspaper to find out which companies are laying off workers — they will be hard pressed to turn down free labor.

4. **Start a business.** One of the greatest and most irreplaceable resources is time. Take the time that you would have spent going to class, writing papers, and studying for exams to finally get a start on that amazing business idea you have. Figure out which legal structure works best for what you’re trying to do and begin building that business plan or setting your e-Commerce site.

5. **Go abroad.** Spending four months in a foreign country away from family, friends, and everything that is familiar to you can be a terrifying thought. For those unwilling to brave a fall or spring semester away from home, a winter study abroad experience can give you a taste of what the world has to offer, but in a shorter period of time.

Retrieved and adapted from www.blackenterprise.com/lifestyle/5-winter-break-career-development-tips-for-college-students/
Heading home for winter break becomes something of a ritual for many college kids. Students finish their exams, say goodbye to their friends for a few weeks, and prepare for a return to doing chores, coming home before their parents’ curfew, and sleeping in.

But, all too often, students head home without realizing the best way to protect the things they’re leaving behind. When locking the doors and closing the blinds aren’t enough, here is a list of college winter break safety tips to help you leave any worries about your apartment behind:

Create the illusion that someone is home
A favorite of homeowners, this is a tactic that works for apartment dwellers as well. Connect lights, the radio and even the TV to an automatic timer that can be used to vary the on/off pattern of interior lights when you are away.

Recruit a trusted neighbor
If you are going home for an extended period of time, a friend or neighbor can help pick up the mail or park a car in the driveway—all creating the appearance that someone is home.

Make the last person to leave do a double-check
If you live with other students, a good security tip is to discuss who will be leaving last, and then make sure that person is willing and able to double-check all windows and doors, turn on any automatic timers and put away or cover up any common-area valuables, such as gaming systems or big-screen TVs.

Keep utilities in mind
Even though this is Texas, it may get cold over the break. Pipes can freeze, crack, and cause water damage. Talk with your roommates about ways you can safeguard your home or apartment by keeping the heat inside the temporarily unoccupied apartment to at least 58 degrees. Also, windows should be completely closed; a one-inch opening near a pipe can be enough to cause it to freeze and break.

Care for a car that’s left behind
Students who are carpooling home and leaving their vehicle back at school for winter break should park in a well-lit area or secure location and remove all valuables (GPS, small electronics, etc.) from the car. Elect a friend who is staying behind at school to occasionally start the car so that it’s not sitting idle the entire time you are gone.

Keep good records
Students should consider taking small items, such as personal safes, jewelry boxes, electronics, and laptops home with them during college winter break. If you must leave items of value behind, recording the serial numbers, brand names, and date/price of purchases and taking a few pictures of the valuables will help authorities identify your property in the event of a theft or a natural disaster.

Of course, not everyone goes home for college winter break. If you are choosing to stay on campus, be sure you do so with extra precaution. Campus crowds may be a little light during this time, so added awareness is imperative.

Externship

Externe ship provides an opportunity for freshmen through graduate students to visit a company in their field of study for a day. These are opportunities for students to learn more about their field in a low-stress environment. Students may explore specific careers, make professional connections, and gather first-hand experience from professionals.

Benefits:
- See firsthand about day-to-day work activities from professionals in your chosen field
- Visit as many as four companies
- Meet and network with professionals
- Observe a company’s culture and operations
- Explore your interest and work expectations within a company
- Learn about new technologies and products
- Discover a company’s hiring process and what the company looks for when selecting new employees
- Investigate career paths for people with your major

Dates: January 13, 14, 15, & 16, 2015

Requirements:
- Students must be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in a major that the Employer wants to host.
- You should live within close proximity to or be willing to travel on your own to Austin, Bryan/College Station, Dallas, Ft. Worth, Houston, San Antonio, or Tyler.
- You are encouraged to attend an AggiExternship Information Session. If you are unable to attend this information session, please contact 979.845.7725.
- Students are responsible for all of their own expenses including travel, meals, accommodations, etc.
- Students sign-up for a specific company on a first come, first served basis until the maximum number of students for that Company is reached.

Additional Information: careercenter.tamu.edu/guides/externship

Contact Advisor: David McMahon
Associate Director, Career Center
979.845.7725
jdavidm@careercenter.tamu.edu

Retrieved and adapted from the Texas A&M Career Center website: careercenter.tamu.edu
## Calendar of Events December 2014

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<td>Redefined Day – Students attend Friday classes</td>
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<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>Aggie Women’s Basketball vs. Houston</td>
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<td>Bodhi Day (Buddhist)</td>
<td>Last Day of Fall Classes</td>
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<td>Aggie Women’s Basketball @ SMU</td>
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<td>Aggie Women’s Basketball vs. t.u. (SEC/Big 12 Challenge in Little Rock)</td>
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