Does the FAFSA renewal process have you seeing double?

Find answers to all of your FAFSA renewal questions at the FAFSA Renewal Workshops hosted by the Department of Student Financial Aid. Counselors will be available for one-on-one assistance with applications to answer your individual questions.

Space is limited, so sign up now!

**Monday, February 18th** 2-3 pm  
**Tuesday, February 19th** 2-3 pm  
**Wednesday, February 20th** 10-11 am  
**Thursday, February 21st** 10-11 am

All workshops are located in Room 219 of the Pavilion.

Please Register at: https://financialaid.tamu.edu/workshops.

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**DOLLAR SENSE**

As many of you know, it’s time to begin applying for 2008-2009 financial aid. You can begin completing the 2008-2009 FAFSA online at [http://www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). If you qualified for state aid during 2007-2008 and were not able to complete the FAFSA, please visit financialaid.tamu.edu and complete the 2008-2009 Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA). For both the FAFSA and the State Aid for Foreign Students form, you may need some or all of the documents listed below.

- Social Security Number (can be found on Social Security card)
- Driver’s license (if any)
- W-2 Forms and other records of money earned
- The student’s (and his/her spouse’s, if he/she is married) 2007 federal income tax return - IRS Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, foreign tax return, or tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or Palau
- Parent’s 2007 federal income tax return (if you are a dependent student)
- 2007 untaxed income records - Social Security, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, welfare, or veterans benefits records
- 2007 bank statements
- 2007 business and investment mortgage information, business and farm records, stock, bond, and other investment records
- Permanent resident card (if the student is not a U.S. citizen)

Any additional information needed is listed on the type of form you are completing. If you have any questions on the requirements for the 2008-2009 FAFSA or TASFA, please call our office at 979-845-3236 or email us at financialaid@tamu.edu.
REGENTS’ SCHOLARS PROGRAM PEER MENTORS

Help welcome the Class of 2012! Apply now to be a Regents’ Scholars Program Peer Mentor for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Benefits of becoming a peer mentor:

- Leadership opportunities
- Participate in training and the Regents’ Scholars Program Orientation on August 18, 2008
- Meet fellow Regents’ Scholars
- Regents’ Scholars Program Student Organization
- Mentor Freshman throughout the academic year
- Must have a 2.0 GPR or better

Applications due to Regents’ Scholars Assistant Coordinator, Drew Smith, by February 15, 2008.

Download the application online at https://financialaid.tamu.edu/regentsreview.

Please share the opportunity with your friends!
If you could go anywhere on Spring Break and money was not an issue, where would you go and why? Send your answer with Regents’ Review Opinion Poll in the subject line for a chance to win Aggie gear.

**January Opinion Poll Winner**

What are you most looking forward to in 2008?
“**A new semester has started and a new year. I am not to big on goals myself, honestly, but: one, I would like to have a 3.0 by the end of my semester. Two, I would like to meet new people. Three, improve my study habits!**”

Isaac Salazar
Class of 2011
Congratulations Isaac!

**Welcome to Aggieland...**

**Now Go Away!**

Are you planning on studying abroad?
A study abroad program is an excellent opportunity to explore a foreign country and experience a different culture. The department of Student Financial Aid can help make your trip a reality. With this amazing opportunity to study abroad you need to make sure that everything is carefully planned prior to leaving for your experience. Each student needs to be aware that coming to the financial aid department is a must, and not just for one visit. You need to be diligent in the planning and conscious of important dates with regards to the program you choose.

So, what should you be doing right now?
Step 1: Attend a program informational session and/or meet with a Peer Counselor in the Study Abroad Office to obtain information on finding and funding a global experience. Check the Study Abroad Programs website, http://studyabroad.tamu.edu for program information or subscribe to the listserv (“Join Listserv” on main page) for event announcements. To see a schedule of upcoming informational sessions, please check http://studyabroad.tamu.edu/information_session.asp.
Step 2: Meet with a Study Abroad Advisor in Bizzel West.
Step 3: Set up a meeting with a Financial Aid Advisor to discuss possible financial aid opportunities to help you fund your study abroad trip.

**Regents’ Scholars Peer Mentors:**

**What was the hardest lesson you learned during your first semester at Texas A&M?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentors</th>
<th>Lessons Learned</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salma Abdullah</td>
<td>How to study correctly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosa Ardines</td>
<td>It isn’t like high school!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Baker</td>
<td>Class attendance shows in your grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krystella Bynum</td>
<td>That I had to say “No” sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sade Dawson</td>
<td>That you MUST strive for the best even when you are tempted to believe that college is not for you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosa Hernandez</td>
<td>As a college student, I have to accept the consequences of my actions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara Herrera</td>
<td>Calculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fermina Laynez</td>
<td>Time management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taharka McCleave</td>
<td>Procrastination is your worst enemy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana Rangel</td>
<td>If you fall behind on your reading, it is so hard to catch up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Joe Schronk</td>
<td>Learning how to take care of myself...without Mom’s help!</td>
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</table>
WORDS FROM REGENTS’ SCHOLARS PLANNING BOARD

On January 25, 2008 the Regents’ Scholars Planning Board Members travelled to Austin, Texas to attend the National Conference on Student Leadership “Certified Student Leader” weekend retreat.

The Planning Board joined fellow student leaders from across the country for a weekend of intense workshops, networking opportunities, and a certification exam. The CSL Program provides the training needed to successfully implement quality campus initiatives.

“The weekend in Austin seemed anything but auspicious when I encountered twenty longhorns intent on ‘herding’ in the conference.

Soon, the spirit of camaraderie broke through with fun team building activities led by Michael DeRosa, a speaker at the conference. He taught us many effective ice breakers and team building activities for new groups of people. Though the activities were extremely fun, they had tons of educational information as well.

But my favorite part of this trip to Austin was forming friendships with my fellow Planning Board Members. For the first time, I was able to meaningfully interact with them on other subjects besides the Regents’ Scholars Class of 2012 Orientation. This was definitely a worth-while weekend!”

James Philip ’10
Regents’ Scholars Program
Student Planning Board Member (Student Life)

“WELCOME TO FABULOUS AGGIELAND!”

On Wednesday, February 20, 2008 from 9:30 - 3:00 p.m., the second floor of the Memorial Student Center will be transformed into a fun-filled, Las-Vegas inspired showcase for property owners representing more than 50 residence complexes and other housing choices in the Bryan/College Station area.

Regents Scholars looking for housing in the Bryan/College Station Area for this summer or next fall should be sure to visit the housing Fair for answers to all your housing questions, as well as to pick up lots of Vegas-themed door prizes and other free giveaways.

The Housing Fair is also the day every year that the new edition of the Off-Campus Survival manual is released. This free publication is filled with information on the types of available local housing, local property amenities, guide to signing a lease, helpful forms, map of properties, utilities, and other useful tips and advice.

The 2008 Off-Campus housing Fair is brought to you by the Offices of the Dean of Student Life - Adult, Graduate & Off Campus Student Services and Off Campus Aggies.

For more information about the 2008 Housing Fair, call the AGOSS office at 845-1741.
STUDENT LIFE PRESENTS...

SPRING 2008 POPULAR CULTURE SERIES

This dialogue program is about the intent and impact of popular culture on multiculturalism for today’s college students. Topics include but are not limited to music, television, sports, art, cars, etc. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP the event date to Theresa Survillion at tsurvillion@tamu.edu at least a week prior to the event. Feel free to spread the word to other students and colleagues!

“Images of Success: Making Dreams a Reality”
Monday, January 28th at 7:00 pm-8:15 pm in Koldus 146
Join this group discussion on the effects of popular television, music, and film in perpetuating the achievement of the American ideal for success. We will look at examples from My Sweet Sixteen, the Bling phenomena in Hip Hop, and fashion brands.

*** “Multiculturalism Through the Lens of Battlestar Galactica”
Monday, February 11th at 5:30 pm-6:45 pm in Koldus 144
Dr. Kraft will lead a group discussion to explore the characteristics of the show about diversity.

“Reading & Watching Romance”
Monday, March 31st at 5:30 pm-6:45 pm in MSC 027
Dr. Kraft will lead a discussion on the relationship between romance, feminism, and contemporary culture.

“Reality TV: Is it Really About Reality?”
Monday, April 14th at 5:30 pm-6:45 pm in Koldus 144
Join in on the discussion about the reality and impact of Reality television. We will examine examples ranging from the Real World to Survivor to Flavor of Love.

*** “REPEAT PROGRAM: “Multiculturalism Through the Lens of Battlestar Galactica”
Wednesday, April 14th at 6:00 pm-7:30 pm in Wehner 154
In case you missed Dr. Kraft’s presentation on “Battlestar Galactica,” you can attend another discussion on the show and diversity.

“Cars & Identity”
Monday, April 28th at 5:30 pm-6:45 pm in MSC 027
Join in on the group discussion about how our love for cars affect our perceptions. This dialogue will be great for all car-lovers!

We are also proud to offer other series including our CommUnity Conversations series, “Experiencing the ‘Other’ Through Film” film series, “Living Through Literature” book club, Inclusive Leadership series, the Diversity Training Institute (for faculty and staff), and an “Unpacking Your Toolkit” Student Diversity Retreat (for students). You can find information about these events on our website.

For more information about our Popular Culture series, please visit our website at aggieculture.tamu.edu under “Diversity.”
WHOOPIN' WEEKEND

The Aggie Recruitment Committee will be hosting their annual Whoopin' Weekend conference February 28th - March 1st to recruit 275 future Aggies!

The Aggie Recruitment Committee is in need of approximately 150 hosts who would be willing to house conference participants in their residence hall for the nights of February 28th and February 29th. Completed applications can be turned in to the C-6 lockbox in the Department of Student Activities.

Who?

275 High School Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors and YOU!

When?

The nights of February 28th and February 29th

Where?

On Campus- In your room!

What?

Your responsibilities include:
- Allow 2 participants to stay with you in your on-campus room
- Provide a safe and unique environment showcasing Aggie Residence Hall Life
- Share your experiences and stories about this great institution
- Pick up your participants each night and take them to breakfast in the morning
- They will be bringing sleeping bags so you do not have to give up your bed!
- Attend only ONE hosting informational

Hosting applications and additional information are available at http://arc.tamu.edu.

Other questions? arc@stuact.tamu.edu

BADGER DAY?

HOW THE GROUNDHOG GOT A DAY OF HIS OWN

The lowly groundhog, often called a woodchuck, is the only mammal to have a day named in his honor. How did the groundhog come by this honor?

It stems from the ancient belief that hibernating creatures were able to predict the arrival of springtime by their emergence. The German immigrants known as Pennsylvania Dutch brought the tradition to America in the 18th century. They had once regarded the badger as the winter-spring barometer. But the job was reassigned to the groundhog.

The groundhog and badger were not the only animals that have been used to predict spring. Other Europeans used the bear or hedgehog--but in any case the honor belonged to a creature that hibernated. Its emergence symbolized the imminent arrival of spring.

As taken from http://wilstar.com/holidays/grndhog.htm