



Division of Student Affairs

Advice from Current UT Austin Parents – 2018

- Allow them to fly...if they fail they will need you and fly back. Love and support them always.

Cheryl J., rising sophomore parent

- Try to talk to your student once a week. It will make you both feel better during the transition.
- Try to collect a phone number or two from other parents you meet at Mooov-In.

Martha B., rising junior parent

- Give Healthy snack and a medicine box.

Shilpa T., rising sophomore parent

- Remind students-Don't let social media convince you that you're the only one who hasn't figured things out. NO ONE HAS!
- Tell students-Most kids find their friend group in the second semester. Don't stress if you don't have that immediately.

Melanie L., rising sophomore parent

- Prepare mentally for letting go. Cry on the ride home. Keep your goodbye upbeat and encouraging for them.
- Establish talk time. Stick to it. For the most part this will be for you, not your student.

Gabrielle B., rising junior parent

- Tell your child to "Grow where they are planted" and to find the sunlight and water that will help them thrive to explore, ask questions, get rooted, bloom and grow.

Charlene L., rising junior parent

- At Orientation, a wise Dean recommended that parents now graciously accept our new role as "advisor" to our new Longhorn.
- Be interested, not in the way; be supportive, not suffocating; be consistent, accept change; be loving, love being a Longhorn!

Will W., recently graduated senior parent

- Schedule time to talk to your Longhorn every week. Jot down notes during the week so that you don't forget.
- Ask your Longhorn to share their class schedule so that if you need to call you will not interrupt class.

Laura H., recently graduated senior parent

- Please allow your student to make their own choices and live their own life. Expect some trials along the way!
- Set up a budget and expect expenses to change month to month.

Marsha P., rising senior parent

- Relax. Your child is in great hands at UT and is at the start of an incredible journey.

Michelle N., rising senior parent

- Find your balance. Don't hover over your student but make sure they know you're there for them when needed.



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Sharon F., rising sophomore parent

- Let your Longhorn go it alone now. Offer support and unconditional love, but ease off the advice (unless asked).
- Set a weekly call to touch base. Ask "How are you feeling?" Don't ask about grades, roommates, food—they'll tell you.

Kathy M., rising senior parent

- Learn to love them from afar. Be there as a sounding board but let them come to their own conclusions.
- Make suggestions, offer support but don't tell them what they should do.

Maria H., rising senior parent

- Allow them to grow and be themselves. They will find their own path, support them and love them unconditionally.

Veronica T., recently graduated senior parent

- Remind your Longhorn that you love, support and accept them no matter what may happen. You will be there!
- Remember, this is their journey, not yours, their dream, not yours. Support this wholeheartedly, even if it is not your dream.

Jeanette K-M., rising senior parent