

2019 FAMILY ORIENTATION



The University of Texas at Austin

TIPS FOR OUT-OF-STATE PARENTS



Who
Traveled the
Farthest?

Overview

- Residency
- Transportation
- Student Health and Well-Being
- Making Connections
- Mooov-In
- Holidays
- Miscellaneous
- Housing after Freshman Year
- Questions

Establishing Residency

- Establishing residency differs from family to family
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board establishes the rules that govern Texas residency for higher education, not UT Austin
- For information about establishing Texas residency, visit: UT Austin's Graduate and International Admissions Center (office of Texas Admissions)

Establishing Residency

Graduate and International Admissions Center
Website:

<https://admissions.utexas.edu/residency>

Building/Address/Hours:
UT Administration Building (UTA)
1616 Guadalupe Street, Suite 4.202
M-F 8a.m.-5 p.m.

Phone/Email:
512-475-7391/residency@austin.utexas.edu

Transportation and Getting Around Campus

– Walkable campus

- When classes are on opposite sides of campus
 - Talking to professors
 - Forty-Acres looping shuttle

– After-hours options (no cost to students)

- SURE Walk
 - Seven days a week, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. (changes with Daylight Savings Time)
 - Walks or cart rides with 2 SURE walkers: campus and surrounding areas
- UT Night Rides (originate from campus)
 - Seven days a week, 11p.m. to 4 a.m.
 - Provided by Lyft
 - Locations served mirror UT shuttle routes

– Scooters

- Campus rules and regulations for everyone's safety
- Helmets highly recommended by PTS

Transportation and Getting Around Campus

– UT Shuttle Buses

- Looping campus and routes to off-campus student-centric areas

– Bikes

- Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) has a bike auction in the fall
- Repair stations on campus
- Free bike racks; bike lockers for rent in Brazos Garage
- Student must register bike with PTS
- Bike rentals through PTS Orange Bike Project
 - \$50 per semester/\$15 per week/\$10 per weekend/\$5 per day

– Bringing a car

- Not needed first year
- Parking can be remote, can't drive up to classes

Transportation: Getting Around Austin

Capital Metro (City of Austin)

- capmetro.org
- CapMetro App – trip planning and bus arrival information
- UT students ride free with their UT ID

Ride-hailing Services

- Ride Austin: rideaustin.com
- Uber: uber.com
- Lyft: lyft.com

Zip cars

- zipcar.com
- Partnership with UT PTS
- Parked on campus, various makes and models available
- 18+ to use zip cars
- \$25 student membership
- Gas and insurance included

Transportation: Getting Back Home

To Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA):

- Cap Metro's Route 20
 - » To and from ABIA, frequency of every 15 minutes or less
 - » Multiple Campus stops
 - » Free with UT student ID
 - » Approximately 45 minute ride
- Super Shuttle (Supporting member discount)
- Various Taxi Companies and Rideshares

Transportation: Getting Back Home

- Amtrak
- To Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston or San Antonio if using other airports:
 - MegaBus
 - VonLane bus routes (Supporting member discount)

Parent Tip: Save funds or miles for a “just in case” plane ticket allowing your student to fly home or you to come to Austin.

Holidays

Thanksgiving

- Students are off Wednesday-Friday
 - Earlier departures: students should visit with professor who has final say in excusing an absence
- Campus residence halls are open and have reduced dining hours
- Texas Parents eNewsletter gives lists of places serving around town

Winter Break

- Confirm final exam schedules **before** booking flights
- Campus residence halls close, no formal check-out process
- All belongings can stay but no access to rooms over the break
- Students **not** going home at Winter Break:
 - Housing options, process to complete and deadlines emailed in November
 - Per night charge; one residence hall is utilized for all who stay on campus; students do not use their own room

Health and Well-being

- Afternoon Choice Session suggestions:
 - #2 or #3 “Student Health and Well-being” with University Health Services (UHS)
 - #4 “Transitioning Your Longhorn’s Mental Health Care” with Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC)
- No dental or vision care provided at UHS
- The Forty Acres Pharmacy can assist with prescriptions for Schedule II Controlled Substances
- Two major hospitals within minutes of campus:
 - Dell Seton Medical Center at UT Austin (teaching hospital)
 - St. David’s Medical Center (St. David’s Healthcare)

Making Connections

- UT has over 1,200 student organizations
- Always something happening on the Forty Acres
- Every student is different; not necessarily easier for TX residents
- Residence Halls hold events, great way to meet others
- Longhorn Welcome at the start of the fall semester
- There is a great parent community through the Texas Parents Closed Facebook Group (Supporting member benefit)

Parent Tip: Get to know the families of your student's in-state friends so you have a "Texas family" to rely on if need-be.

Mooov-In

- UT Residence Halls, Friday-Saturday, August 23-24
 - Details in Next Steps eNewsletter
 - Early check-in dates available with a fee
 - UT residence halls cannot accept packages prior to Mooov-in
 - Saturday, August 24 is a complimentary Mooov-in Mixer for parents/families
- Don't buy too much ahead of time; anything you have has to be stored in the summer
- Texas Parents supporting members can ship packages to the office prior to Mooov-in No futons, please ☺

Parent Tips:

Order bedding, furniture, and other items online and pick up the items from the store's Austin location.

Come to Austin with your student a few days before Mooov-In to familiarize yourself with the city and campus and to spend time with one another beforehand.

Miscellaneous

Grocery Stores

- HEB, multiple stores on UT Shuttle and Cap Metro routes
- Target, at 21st and Guadalupe (Dobie Center)
- Trader Joe's, direct route Cap Metro route 801

So you'll know...

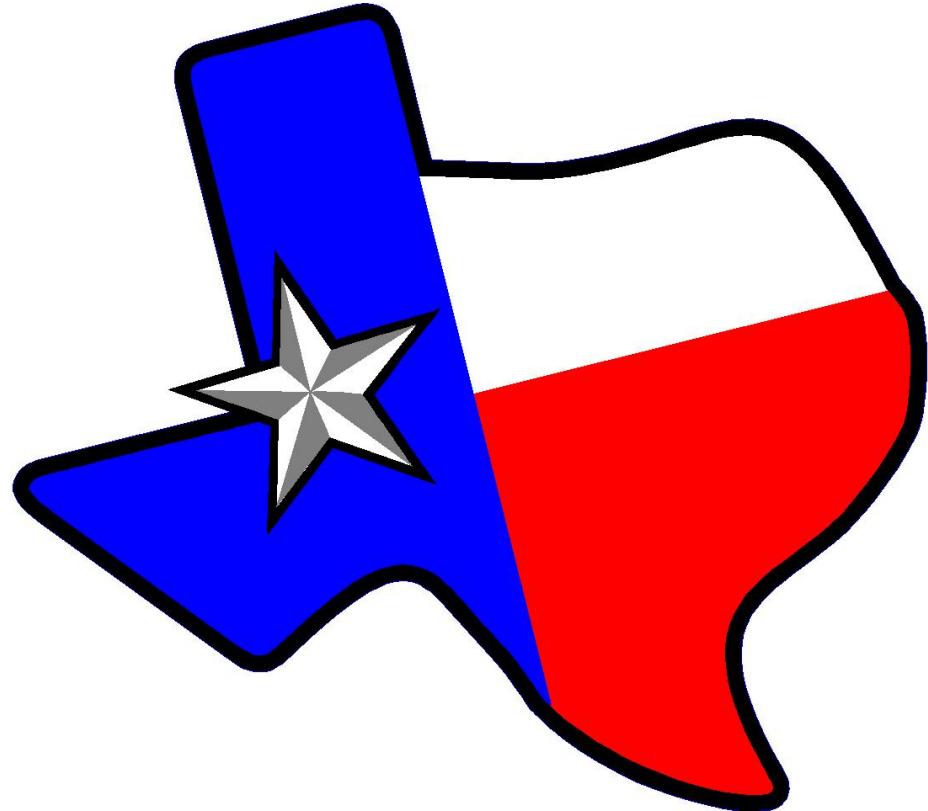
- Austin's plastic bag ban- stores do not provide plastic bags, bring your own or buy at the store
- Austin is a hand's free city for cars and bikes

Homesickness/Communications

- Everyone feels homesick, not just-out-of-state students
- Homesick vs. bummed (Susie's observation from talking to many parents)
- Time Zones, Texting, Talking and FaceTime...from our student's perspective

Housing After Freshman Year

- Many students start their search for the next year's apartment during the fall semester, especially when they want to live in the neighborhoods closest to campus.
 - Typical leases are for twelve months.
- Texas Parents supporting members have discounts with certain moving and storage companies: Bellhops, Collegeboxes, Crampt Storage on Demand, Watson and Taylor Self-Storage and Dorm Room Movers.
 - eNewsletter includes a list of storage providers in spring issues



Questions?