



September 25, 2020

### **Hello 'RooNation!**

Even in Texas, we're beginning to feel the hints of autumn. Although we're missing some benchmarks of the season such as 'Roo football and tailgates in the Kramer Outback, this remains the same: students are working diligently to learn and grow both on campus and from remote locations.

In light of the COVID-19 protocols that prioritize the health and safety of our entire community, many of the usual back-to-campus events and meetings are either canceled or modified for virtual, online gatherings. After the many months since COVID-19 first disrupted our lives, we opened for Fall Term and have continued our commitment to see the semester through successfully.

Below is some information for you and your student. We hope you'll take time to encourage them as they establish their study habits and make new friends.

### **COVID-19**

Austin College continues to expect members of our community to follow the COVID-19 protocols for health and safety. Everyone on campus, including contractors and approved commuters, have participated in mandatory testing in the past week. Testing will continue in the future to help enhance contact tracing and slow the spread of the virus on our campus. You can follow all updates on the [COVID-19](#) page of the Austin College website. Check frequently for the most current information.

If your student is on campus, either as a resident or commuter, please reinforce their responsibility to keep themselves and others safe by wearing a mask inside and outside, washing their hands frequently, and staying at least 6 feet apart—in class and while socializing.

### **Health Services**

Health Services is available with increased staff to manage and support students with COVID-19 concerns and other medical issues. Services include physician clinics and testing for mono, strep, and flu. A small fee may apply. We also provide samples of over-the-counter medications for symptoms at no charge. Information about hours, forms, and how to make an appointment is available [online](#).

### **Academic and Writing Assistance**

We are wrapping up the fifth week of school. If your student is struggling in class or has not connected to campus, they can find support right here on campus. Academic Skills Center (ASC) in Wright Campus Center and the Scarbrough Center for Writing in Abell Library are available to all students.

ACS provides free individual tutoring, group study sessions, and workshops designed to strengthen reading, writing, and study skills. All Fall Term 2020 tutoring is conducted online. Encourage your student to [make an appointment](#).

The Writing Center has one-on-one peer writing consultations available for all stages of the writing process, from concept to final draft. All appointments are conducted online, and your student can schedule [here](#).

## Coming in October

### TEDxAustinCollege

October 3, 9 a.m. to noon. Students may register to attend in person (limited, distanced seating) and you can register to watch from home! [Register here.](#)

### **Virtual Employment Recruitment Fair**

Tuesday, October 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., companies will be recruiting full-time hires and interns for Summer 2021. Students can visit the [Austin College Career Services webpage](#) for information about this and other opportunities.

### **Fall Break 2020**

Students will not have class on Friday, October 9. Classes resume on Monday, October 12. Those who live on-campus or regularly commute to campus are encouraged *not to travel* and to limit possible exposure to COVID-19 during the break. There will be fun, safe, and responsible programming for students to participate in on campus. Encourage your students to check their Austin College email for important updates around Fall Break programming and throughout the semester.

### January Term Registration

From October 20 to 22 students will register for Austin College's unique January Term experience. Encourage your students to look over course offerings to prepare to make their selection.

Thank you for all you are doing to support your student in this very unique semester. We hope you and your family are well, and we look forward to sending news from campus each month. If you have questions or concerns please address them to [vicepresident@austincollege.edu](mailto:vicepresident@austincollege.edu).

## Go 'Roos!

### **Michael Deen**

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