

PARENT NEWSLETTER | April 2023 Edition

Hello! We're happy to bring you exciting and important news especially for 'Roo Parents and other supporters. The topics below are timely and of interest to Austin College families from first year to final year. If you have questions about anything covered here, please contact us by email at <u>vicepresident@austincollege.edu</u>.



You are invited to a **Student Affairs Webinar** for parents to hear updates on residence hall modernization plans, campus safety, and reminders about Spring Term move out. Register now to receive a personalized Zoom link and instructions to join the webinar.

Student Affairs Updates: Webinar for Parents Wednesday, April 19 6 p.m. on Zoom

Hosted by VP for Student Affairs Carllos Lassiter and ACPD Chief Joe Keitz



Commencement and the Rain Plan

The 2023 Commencement Ceremony is Saturday, May 20, at the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court with plentiful outdoor seating for guests. **Four Rain Tickets will be issued to each graduating seniors April 25-27; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Wright Campus Center.** Students who are not on campus should email alumni@austincollege.edu.

Please note: Rain Tickets will not be reissued if lost or destroyed, and no tickets will be available on Commencement morning. For related information go to <u>Commencement</u>.

Spring Residential Hall Move-Out Guide

Students (except those living in the Hass Village on Grand) must move out 24 hours after their last final exam—no later than 5 p.m. on May 17.

Students will need prior approval from the Community Coordinator to stay in the dorm past that time. Anyone needing an extension, *including graduating seniors involved in Commencement*, must complete the Extension Request Form by May 3. Upon request, graduating seniors may vacate by noon, Sunday, May 21.

The Extension Request Form is available to students on the <u>Residence Life Important Dates</u> webpage.

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Fall '23 Class Registration Starts Next Week

Students should have met with their faculty mentors between April 3 and April 14 to prepare for Fall '23 class registration. Between April 17-19 your student will have an assigned time to complete their schedule request using WebHopper. JanTerm Registration begins separately on April 25. Course descriptions are available on <u>WebHopper</u>.

Telehealth Services Available for All Students

Students facing everything from spring pollen to stress in the final weeks of the semester often buckle to the symptoms of illness. Austin College provides *all* students access to a free, 24-hour telehealth resource by <u>Academic LiveCare</u>. The help is available regardless of the student's health insurance and housing status and is intended to help with non-emergency physical and mental health conditions. The student should:

- 1. Student makes an account with <u>Academic LiveCare</u>.
- 2. Use this Service Key: ALC
- 3. Use this Coupon Code: ALCROOS

Everybody stay well! Austin College Health Services.

Returning Fall 2023 students who have received grant aid and use federal student loans, need to complete the <u>FAFSA</u> by the May 1, 2023, deadline. If you have any questions, contact the Financial Aid office by phone at 903.813.2900 or by email at <u>finaid@austincollege.edu</u>.

New Fixed-Rate Loan Available to Eligible Students

If your student is a Texas resident and a computer science major and/or working toward the Austin Teacher Program (master's degree) there's a new loan available. Eligible students who have completed at least 50% of their required coursework toward graduation can apply for a new loan by The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The FORWARD loan (Future Occupations & Reskilling Workforce Advancement to Reach Demand) currently sits at a fixed rate of 3.35% for those who meet credit qualifications.

FORWARD Loan Program

Student Health Insurance Opt In/Out by June 17

All registered, full-time students (including International Teaching Assistants) are required to purchase the Austin College Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) for the Fall *unless proof of comparable coverage is furnished* before June 17, 2023. This is an annual requirement.

SHIP, through Wellfleet, provides a nationwide PPO network of comprehensive medical care. Benefits of SHIP include a \$500 deductible per person per plan year, a \$25 physician office visit copay, and pharmacy copays of \$20 for Tier 1 Prescription Drugs, \$45 for Tier 2 Prescription Drugs, and \$60 for Tier 3 and Specialty Prescription Drugs. Enrollment also includes access to online programming aimed at protecting students' physical, mental, and financial wellbeing.

For full details about the plan or to waive the AC Student Insurance for academic year 2023-2024, please visit <u>austincollege.myahpcare.com</u>.

Could Your Student Use Academic Accommodations?

Students who already have accommodations on file with the Center for Student Success and Access Services will renew those in August 2023 before the Fall Term. But, maybe your student passed on the opportunity for accommodations or has discovered a learning difference that they could use help with—the CSSAS staff is interested in meeting with them. Please reach out to James Reed, Director of Student Accessibility Support Services for more information. Email at jreed@austincollege.edu.

For more information about academic support available to all students, go to <u>Center for Student</u> <u>Success and Access Services - Austin College</u>







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