

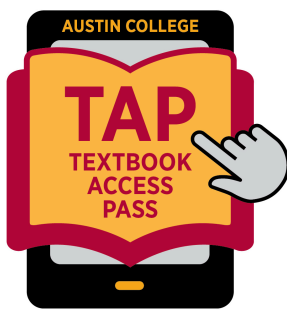


## PARENT NEWSLETTER | March 2024 Edition

*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 [vicepresident@austincollege.edu](mailto:vicepresident@austincollege.edu).*

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### Austin College Launches Textbook Access Pass Program



Starting in the 2024-2025 academic year, **all course textbooks are included with tuition**—meaning you won't have any out-of-pocket cost for textbooks (print or digital) at the start of the semester. In partnership with our campus bookstore vendor Follett, all required textbooks will be provided for students automatically through our new **Textbook Access Pass (TAP)** program, either at the Campus Bookstore or electronically through Moodle.

This will ensure that all students have their essential texts from day one and will take away the uncertainty of searching online for the best price, borrowing from a classmate, or doing without. We want all our students to have what they need for this transformative education.

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### Payment Plans Open for 2024-2025 Academic Year

**2024-2025 payment plans** through ACI Payments Inc. opened on **March 1**. If you select the 12-month plan, payments will begin in April. You can get ahead of next year's costs today!

[2024-2025 Payment Plan Information](#)

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### International Studies Office to Host JanTerm Webinar for Parents

If your student is interested in **studying abroad during JanTerm 2025**, please register for the upcoming **parent webinar** to be held on Zoom on April 3, 6-7 p.m.

We know parents have many questions about study abroad, and we will address topics such as travel documents, safety, financing, and more. If you have questions about the webinar or study abroad, contact Cheryl at [cmarcelo@austincollege.edu](mailto:cmarcelo@austincollege.edu). Register for the webinar today!

## [Register for 2025 JanTerm Parent Webinar](#)

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### **Austin College Scholars Conference Highlights Student Research & Performance**

The annual **Austin College Scholars Conference** (ACSC) is March 22-23 with panel discussions, poster presentations, a theatre performance, and music recital. All are welcome to attend, and a detailed schedule of events will be available soon at [2024 ACSC](#).

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### **Academic Advising for Fall Term '24 Starts Soon**

In the coming weeks, your student should be reflecting on their hopes for Fall Term 2024 to be prepared for an **appointment with their academic advisor**. The course descriptions and schedule can be found on WebHopper in early April.

Advising Appointments	April 1-April 12
Fall and Summer Term Online Registration	April 15-18
2025 JanTerm Registration	April 23-25

### [Academic Calendar](#)

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### **Class of 2026 & Transfer Students Celebrate an Important Milestone**

Sophomores and transfer students will celebrate **Austin College Declaration Day on April 15** at a luncheon in Wright Campus Center, Mabee Hall. This event, in only its second year, recognizes the importance of choosing a focus of study and declaring a major, and celebrates the half-way mark of the students' journey at Austin College.

President Steven O'Day will present each student with a **commemorative coin** as they declare their chosen academic major and minor. Other guests at the luncheon include members of the faculty, Center for Student Success and Transition, Registrar's office, and Center for Career and Professional Development. Students will receive an email with information about this event.

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### **Annual Requirement: FAFSA Deadline is May 1**

Returning Fall 2024 students who have received grant aid and use federal student loans, need to **complete the FAFSA by the May 1, 2024**, deadline. If you have any questions, contact the Financial Aid office by phone at 903.813.2900 or by email at [finaid@austincollege.edu](mailto:finaid@austincollege.edu).

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### **Extra news you can use!**

#### ***Q: What's going on around campus for fun or enrichment?***

**A:** As we look forward to the second half of the spring term, there are many ways your student can engage on campus. Here are some activities to note in the next few weeks:

Shine All Campus Event	March 22
Holi Celebration	March 25
Comedian Spotlight: David James Presents	April 3

Austin College Posey Leadership Award Convocation	April 4
Spring Fling	April 5
Art Show on the Lawn	April 10
Kangapalooza Concert	April 19
Slide into Summer Celebration	May 4
Mother's Day Tea	May 5

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Austin College  
 900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6G  
 Sherman, TX 75090-4400  
 903.813.2000

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