



PARENT NEWSLETTER | April 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.

Report Your Volunteer Hours for AC's Make a Difference Service Goal

Join the **Austin College 175th Year Milestone celebration** by adding your service hours to reach the ambitious goal of 17,500 hours this academic year. Any volunteer work you have done individually or with a group since August 2023 can be counted.

Service to others is an integral part of the Austin College experience, and we know that 'Roos pitch in to help their neighbors all the time—and **when your kid's a 'Roo, you're a 'Roo, too.**

[Log Your Service Hours Here](#)

Registration for Fall Term '24 Begins April 15

Today, April 12, is the final day of academic advising appointments for students with their mentors. Beginning Monday, **your student will register online according to an assigned time slot.** The course descriptions and schedule can be found on WebHopper. JanTerm registration begins later in April.

Fall and Summer Terms Online Registration	April 15-18
2025 JanTerm Registration	April 23-25

[23-24 Academic Calendar](#)

Miss the JanTerm Webinar? This is For You

If you missed the **JanTerm Parent Information webinar** sponsored by the International Studies office (or if you need good notes), the program is now available on the Parent webpage of the College website. We know parents have many questions about study abroad, and the program addresses topics such as travel documents, safety, financing, and more. If you have questions about study abroad, contact Cheryl Marcelo at cmarcelo@austincollege.edu.

[JanTerm 2025 Program Information](#)

Payment Plans Open for 2024-2025 Academic Year

2024-2025 payment plans through ACI Payments Inc. are *now* open. You can get ahead of next year's costs today!

[2024-2025 Payment Plan Information](#)

Student Health Insurance Opt In/Opt Out Beginning April 26

All registered, full-time students (including International Teaching Assistants) are required to either purchase the **Austin College Student Health Insurance Plan** (SHIP) for the 2024-2025 academic year or show proof of comparable coverage. For instance, your student may be covered through your employer's insurance benefit.

Full details about the plan, coverage, and pricing will be available soon at [Student Insurance](#). Your student will receive this information by email in the coming weeks.

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**, federal deadline. If you have any questions, contact the Financial Aid office by phone at 903.813.2900 or by email at finaid@austincollege.edu.

Class of 2026 & Transfer Students Celebrate an Important Milestone

Sophomores and transfer students will celebrate **Austin College Declaration Day** next Monday April 15, at a luncheon in Wright Campus Center, Mabee Hall. This event recognizes the importance of 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 have received an email with information about this event.

Semester Drawing to a Close—But First...Final Exams

That was fast. With only three weeks of regular classes remaining, students will be marking their calendars for Spring Term 2024 final examinations. Tests begin Friday, May 10 and conclude Wednesday, May 15.

Any courses held in the evening will test during the regular class time during finals week, and all final exams are held in the regularly scheduled classroom. Any students who have testing accommodations from the Center for Student Success and Access Services should contact their professor at least one week before the exam to make arrangements.

[Spring Term 2024 Final Exam Schedule](#)

Residence Halls: The Move Out Plan

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 15. Students will need prior approval from the Community Coordinator to stay in campus housing past that time.

Anyone needing an extension, *including graduating seniors involved in Commencement*, must complete the **Extension Request Form by May 8, 5 p.m.** Upon request, graduating seniors may move out by noon, Sunday, May 19. The Extension Request Form is available to students on the Residence Life Important Dates webpage.

Residence Life Important Dates

Congratulations to 2024 Graduates!!

The **2024 Commencement Ceremony** is Saturday, May 18, at 8:30 a.m. at the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court, with plentiful outdoor seating for guests.

Four Rain Tickets will be issued to each graduating senior April 22-24; from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Wright Campus Center, outside the Pouch Club. 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 a comprehensive guide to the weekend events, go to the webpage.

Commencement 2024—What You Need to Know

Extra news you can use!

Q: My student has a LOT of Hopper Dollars left in their account. What happens to those at the end of the school year?

A: Although Hopper Dollars rollover from the Fall Term to the Spring Term, they expire at the end of the spring semester. Hopper Dollars may be used for purchases in the Kangaroo Coffee Shop, Hopper Store, Pouch Club, and dining hall. They may NOT be used to purchase beer or wine in the Pouch Club.

Students are encouraged to spend their Hopper Dollars before May 15. Use 'em or lose 'em! For more information, go to [Austin College Dining Services](#).



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