



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

OFFICE OF PARENT AND FAMILY SERVICES



COWBELL CONNECTIONS

My Dear Friends,

The fall semester is right around the corner and we are busy preparing for both new and old bulldogs to join us on campus. We want to make sure you have important information at your fingertips, so we may send a couple of emails over the next few weeks.

As always, reach out if you have any questions. We will do our best to help.

Hail State, y'all!

Dr. Cat Walker & Becky Faulk
Office of Parent & Family Services
662.325.3611 | family@msstate.edu

If you know someone who would like to receive our Cowbell Connections communication, please send them the below link to subscribe. To [unsubscribe](#), please click the unsubscribe link [located at the bottom of this email](#).

Cowbell Connections

IMPORTANT DATES

August 1

Deadline for payment in full
or enrollment in payment plan.

Payment Options

August 15

New freshmen and transfer
student orientation

August 17

Classes begin

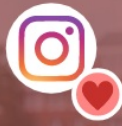
August 23

Fall Convocation

Last day to drop a course without a grade
(5th class day) 11:59 p.m.

Academic Calendar

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@MSSTATEFAMILY



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
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We're updating our social media pages with information that we hope you will find helpful as you prepare for the upcoming semester. Please consider following us so that you do not miss important Mississippi State news.



HAPPY PACKS

The Office of Parent and Family Services creates and distributes “Happys” for students from families during the school year. You can purchase three happy packs (First Day of Class (large), Winter Finals, and Spring Finals) for only \$115. Halloween and Valentine’s Day packages can also be added on to the order separately.

Orders must be placed by **Friday, August 9** (at the very latest) and they go quickly.
There are only a few left!

ORDER HERE

First Day of Class Packs will be delivered to the residence halls by the first day of class. It may take the housing staff a day or two to deliver packs individually to each room.



BULLDOG FAMILY WEEKEND

We are excited to announce the dates of our Bulldog Family Weekend fall event.

Bulldog Family Weekend will be held **October 21-23, 2022**. MSU football will take on the Alabama Crimson Tide in Tuscaloosa, AL and we will host a tailgate and watch party here in Stark Vegas. We are working out the details, but we sure hope you will make plans to join us. It will also be an opportunity to highlight some (other) wonderful things on and off campus.

Our feelings won't be hurt if you would rather come another time to visit with your student and enjoy the area or see a home football game. As we have said in the past, **EVERY** weekend is a great weekend to be on campus. Come whenever it works best for you and your family.

If you're interested in making plans to join us, we would like to encourage you to make your hotel reservations now while rooms are available.

Register
Today

BULLDOG FAMILY WEEKEND T-SHIRT DESIGN Contest



We are calling on our Bulldog students to help us design the Bulldog Family Weekend 2022 t-shirt. The winning design will be featured as our Bulldog Family Weekend event t-shirt and the winner will receive:

- a one-of-kind hand painted cowbell with the winning t-shirt design,
- a free t-shirt,
- four tickets to the 2022 Bulldog Family Weekend tailgate on Saturday, October 22, 2022, and
- recognition at the tailgate event, on the MSU Parent and Family website, social media pages, and the Cowbell Connections email newsletter.

[Learn More](#)



MAROON FAMILY ALLIANCE

We would like to personally invite you to become an inaugural member of our Maroon Family Alliance. The Maroon Family Alliance will financially support programs and events that enhance your student's experience and our campus community as a whole.

The Maroon Family Alliance will meet on a Friday afternoon in both the fall and spring semesters. During these meetings, members will tour some of Mississippi State's top facilities, learn about innovative programs, hear from dynamic faculty and administrators. Most importantly, members will decide as a group how Maroon Family Alliance funds will be used to strengthen Mississippi State University and its Division of Student Affairs. It is a special way for parents and families to become connected with key University members and other Bulldog families.

You can be a part of the Maroon Family Alliance by following the **"JOIN NOW"** link below to make your annual contribution of \$2,500. You may also call Jana Berkery, Director of Development, at 662.325.9129 to make your contribution by phone.

Visit MFA.MSSTATE.EDU for more information and we look forward to working with the new Mississippi State Maroon Family Alliance!

[Join Now](#)



STUDENT ACCOUNTS: REMINDER

In an effort to foster responsible financial management and reduce student debt, we would like to remind you about important payment requirements related to student accounts.

Payment Plans are Available

MSU is pleased to offer payment plans that will allow you to pay for tuition, residence halls, meal plans and other expenses through monthly installments. Learn more on our website at paymybill.msstate.edu.

Payment Due Dates - 1st of Each Month

Your monthly billing statement will be available around the 15th of each month, and the due date is the 1st of the following month. For example, a July 15th billing statement will have a due date of August 1st.

Bills Must be Paid Before the Semester Begins

Before classes begin, you must pay the full balance on your student's account (net of aid) or be enrolled in a payment plan. Otherwise, your student's schedule will be subject to cancellation, and if they are living in campus housing, they will not be permitted to move into their residence hall.

NOTE: If your account balance is displayed in (parentheses), it means you have a (credit balance), and MSU owes you a refund. A (credit balance) means you do not need to make a payment or enroll in a payment plan.

For questions concerning **billing statements or tuition & fees:**

PHONE

Call **662.325.2071** between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

EMAIL

[**studentaccounts@msstate.edu**](mailto:studentaccounts@msstate.edu)

For questions concerning your student's **financial aid:**

PHONE

Call **662.325.2450** between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

EMAIL

[**financialaid@msstate.edu**](mailto:financialaid@msstate.edu)

High call volumes are expected during the first few weeks of classes.



FERPA FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

MSU students are treated as adults and the university complies fully with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, typically referred to as F.E.R.P.A., which protects student records.

Students may view their grades by logging into their personal account via the campus intranet. While parents should encourage their student to share grades, federal law makes records distribution illegal to any person other than the recipient. Although a student may access his or her own university records, with limited exception, the university will not disclose, without prior consent, record information to anyone, including parents.

However, students may authorize MSU to grant a parent or family member access to certain educational records through the University's Parent Portal online system. Find out more information by clicking on the **Parent Portal Guide** button.

[Parent Portal Guide](#)



BULLDOG CHECKLIST

Preparing for the fall semester can be a little overwhelming. We have created a quick checklist to help make sure your student has the necessary tools and resources for a successful and smooth transition to Mississippi State.

Grab a cup of coffee and spend some time reviewing this list together. Good expectations will go a long way.

[Bulldog Checklist](#)



CAMPUS ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

As students return to campus, we would like to ask for you to encourage your student to get involved. Mississippi State has an event resource page called Cowbell Connect that all students can access to look for upcoming event details. There are hundreds of student organizations to match your student's interests or they can start an organization of their own.

Students can also visit the Center for Student Activities, located on the third floor of the Colvard Student Union, to get involved.

Get Started

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



MVNU2MSU time slots are coming!

Before students can sign up for a time slot, they will need to sign the NEW Housing Addendum. The Housing Addendum is now open on the housing portal. Students can log-in at any time to sign their addendum.

Steps for your student to access the Housing Addendum:

1. Log in to the Housing Portal (my.housing.msstate.edu)
2. Select Fall 2022 Housing App
3. Sign the NEW Housing Addendum
4. DONE

Once complete, students will be ready to select their time slot as soon as the time slots open. Students will receive an email with information about signing up for a time slot

Admitted Student?

Steps to Success:

- ✓ **STEP 1** - Complete Pre-Orientation (Required - online thru CANVAS)
- ✓ **STEP 2** - Attend Orientation Session (Required - in person on campus)
- ➔ **STEP 3** - Complete Maroon U (Required - online thru CANVAS)
- STEP 4** - Attend New Maroon Camp (In person on campus)
- STEP 5** - Start Classes!



Maroon U is a free, online course that is required for **all first-time** Mississippi State students. Your student can access this course by logging into CANVAS through their student mystate portal.

Student Loans

Students who have received student loan offers through their FAFSA can now accept or decline those funds. Have your student log into their myState account, select Banner, hover over myBanner for Students, and select the Awards Notification Letter/Supplemental Information link.

Refunds

In order to receive refunds by direct deposit, students must keep updated banking information in their myState portal. Students can learn how to setup or update their banking information by visiting [Account Services](#).

Featured Story



MSU's Raspet Flight Lab working with 911 Security to ensure safe drone use on campus

In another proactive approach to campus safety, Mississippi State University's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory is partnering with Dallas-based 911 Security to assist in monitoring drone activity on campus. Learn more by visiting [**MSU's Newsroom**](#).

Visit us on social media and at [**family.msstate.edu**](https://family.msstate.edu).
Make sure you mention **#MSStateFamily** when you make a post.



Office of Parent and Family Services | 662.325.3611 | family@msstate.edu

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