

PARENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY®



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Dean of Students' Office &	
Office of Parent & Family Services	662.325.3611
MSU Police Department.....	662.325.2121
Campus-wide Emergency Info Line	662.325.5555
Longest Student Health Center	662.325.7539
OCH Regional Medical Center in Starkville:	
Main Number	662.323.4320
Emergency Room.....	662.615.2692

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Assessment and Testing Services.....	662.325.6610
Barnes & Noble at MSU Bookstore	662.325.8361
Center for America's Veterans	662.325.6719
Colvard Student Union.....	662.325.2513
Counseling Center	662.325.2091
Disability Resource Center.....	662.325.3335
Dean of Students	662.325.3611
Dining Services.....	662.325.7120
Greek Life	662.325.2930
Health Center.....	662.325.7539
Holmes Cultural Diversity Center.....	662.325.2033
Housing and Residence Life.....	662.325.3555
Maroon Volunteer Center.....	662.325.2150
Parent & Family Services.....	662.325.3611
Police	662.325.2121
Recreational Sports	662.325.7529
Residence Hall Association	662.325.2255
Student Affairs	662.325.3045
Student Involvement.....	662.325.2930
Student Leadership.....	662.325.0244
Student Support & Outreach	662.325.7520

ACADEMIC COLLEGES

Agriculture and Life Sciences.....	662.325.2110
Architecture, Art and Design	662.325.2202
Arts and Sciences	662.325.2646
Bagley Engineering	662.325.2270
Business.....	662.325.2580
Education.....	662.325.3717
Forest Resources	662.325.2952
Veterinary Medicine.....	662.325.3432

OTHER CAMPUS UNITS

Academic Affairs	662.325.3742
Admissions and Scholarships.....	662.325.2224
Alumni Association.....	662.325.7000
Athletics.....	662.325.2532
Band	662.325.2713
Career Center &	
Cooperative Education	662.325.3344
Center for Academic Excellence	662.325.2957
Cheese Store.....	662.325.2338
Financial Aid	662.325.2450
Florist	662.325.3585
Information Technology	
Services Help Desk	662.325.0631
International Institute.....	662.325.8929
MSU Libraries.....	662.325.7668
MSU Directory Assistance	662.325.2323
Parking Services	662.325.3526
U.S. Postal Service Office	662.323.5772
Registrar	662.325.2022
ROTC/Air Force	662.325.3810
ROTC/Army	662.325.3503
Shackouls Honors College	662.325.2522
Undeclared Majors	662.325.4052
WMSV Radio Station	662.325.8034

Residence Halls:

Cresswell	662.717.1204
Critz.....	662.325.8858
Deavenport.....	662.717.0043
Dogwood (main housing office)	662.717.0061
Griffis.....	662.717.0798
Hathorn	662.717.0143
Herbert.....	662.325.2867
Hull	662.325.8156
Hurst	662.717.0645
Magnolia.....	662.717.0028
McKee.....	662.325.3214
Moseley.....	662.717.0964
Nunnelee.....	662.717.0947
Oak	662.717.0012
Ruby.....	662.717.0150
Sessums.....	662.325.3440

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Notes

Dear Bulldog Parents and Family Members,

We are so excited your student has chosen Mississippi State as their college home and are delighted to welcome you to the Bulldog family! This is an exciting time for you and your student and our goal is to share the information and resources needed to assist your student in making a smooth transition to campus. Our mission in the Division of Student Affairs is centered on supporting your student's academic, career, and personal goals and we achieve that mission through the many programs, services, and activities you will learn about in this handbook.

You and your student will hear and read a great deal about what it takes to be a successful student. We believe there are some simple principles to guide your student's success: Go to class, Get involved, Ask questions. These basic ideas can help your student successfully navigate the transition to college and help them to achieve any goals they may have.

As partners in your student's success, we hope the resources and information presented here will help shape your student's experience. Our goal is to ensure their preparation for a life after college, helping them to develop the capacity to be lifelong scholars and productive citizens of the world. We value the critical role parents and family members play in the lives of our students, so if we can be helpful to you or your student in any way, we hope you will reach out.



Hail State!

Regina Young Hyatt

Regina Young Hyatt, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs



JUST FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES

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JUST FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES

Mississippi State is committed to our partnership with families. We have compiled this book to guide and assist you in navigating through our many different university resources. By becoming familiar with these resources, you can help your student find success.

DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS
Mississippi State, MS 39762
dos@msstate.edu
students.msstate.edu | 662.325.3611

The Dean of Students' Office (DOS) serves the overall needs of you and your student, helping you form relationships with the university, as well as other students and parents. If your student has questions or concerns about any issue, encourage him or her to make an appointment for a visit.

This office serves as an information center for referrals and questions regarding university life. Staff members are advocates for the needs of students and parents and strive to promote a positive and healthy learning environment in which students may achieve their full academic and personal potentials. Overall, we feel our role in the DOS office is to help students through situations, rather than help them out of situations.

OFFICE OF PARENT & FAMILY SERVICES

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS
Mississippi State, MS 39762
family@msstate.edu
family.msstate.edu | msstate.campusesp.com | 662.325.3611

The Office of Parent & Family Services serves as your liaison to Mississippi State, providing assistance in navigating through the vast resources and administrative processes of the university. A "one-stop shop," we will connect you with the appropriate department and contact to address any of your questions or concerns. We also strive to connect you with your student and the university.



WAYS TO HELP YOUR STUDENT SUCCEED

SHOW YOUR STUDENT HOW

Show your student how to function and live properly on their own. Encourage your student to pick their own classes and set up their own meetings. They will need your help along the way but encourage them to make their own decisions. Instead of taking a lead role, learn to help in more subtle ways. Take time to study the MSU website, review the orientation materials and this handbook, and become familiar with campus services to help your student succeed.

DO REFER

Don't forget that the Dean of Students' Office is here for all students. It serves as a campus advocate and resource center to help address any problem they may encounter. Talking with a staff member is as easy as stopping by the 1st floor of the YMCA, telephoning 662.325.3611, or visiting family.msstate.edu.

HAVE EXPECTATIONS

You are still the parent and it's OK to have expectations. Your student may be an adult but that doesn't mean your parenting days are over. While a curfew will be hard to enforce, an insistence on class attendance should not be. Make your student aware of your expectations for them to go to class, study, and overall succeed to the best of their ability.

IF THEY ARE HOMESICK

Encourage your student to get involved with extracurriculars. Strongly discourage coming home every weekend during the first semester. While this is a natural tendency, all new students need to begin regarding Mississippi State as their current home. If homesickness persists beyond the first few weeks, don't hesitate to telephone the Office of Parent & Family Services at 662.325.3611 so we can work with you to help your student.

EXPECT CHANGE

Your student will experience many changes after coming to Mississippi State and there is nothing wrong with that. The change may evolve over years or take place in a matter of months, but it will happen. Understand that your student is becoming an independent adult. They are figuring out life and the path they wish to take. Lend support or a helping hand; this change may be a difficult journey.

VISIT

While there are times students may feel like families are invading their new world, there may be many times they need and want them around. Occasionally spending time with family can give students a feeling of home that they desire. Plan a visit with your student so they can show you their new favorite spots around campus and their new community.



KNOW THE RIGHT QUESTIONS TO ASK

When you come to campus, consider in advance the best questions to ask such as questions about grades and classes, social activities and getting involved, or personal relationships and new friendships. Plan some one-on-one time with your student to talk through important questions.

TRUST THEM

Relationships built on trust by both sides will be the most beneficial for the entire family. This is a new and exciting journey for every student. Help guide them along the way but also trust them to make the right decisions on their own. This is their first taste of adulthood, trust that you have prepared them for this new adventure.

NEWFOUND FREEDOM

A student's first visit home can be challenging for both you and your student. Experiment with a more flexible set of rules to help acclimate your student to being home again while also instilling the freedom that they are now used to.



QUICK TIPS FOR FAMILIES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

CAREERS AND MAJORS

Mississippi State University has a wide variety of majors, minors, and career options. Encourage your student to review these options and make decisions that would best suit them. Choosing a career path can be difficult for some students, but encouragement and guidance from you can help. Your student will study this major or career path intensively; help them choose something they are interested in and could see themselves enjoying for many years to come.

DOUBLE MAJOR/MAJOR AND MINOR

Some students choose to pursue a double major for academic or intellectual reasons. Make sure your student understands that if they choose to pursue a double major/major and minor that they may have a heavier class load than other students. A double major/major and minor can broaden future career opportunities.

GRADE-POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Students should be encouraged to make academics one of their highest priorities. Some students may take a while to adjust to the academic demands of higher education. Maintaining a high GPA can be very important for scholarships, financial aid, joining social groups, and future employment.

OBTAINING MARKETABLE SKILLS

Most employers put more emphasis on skills than on an academic major. Encourage your student to develop strengths in at least two or three skill areas. These might include computing, quantitative analysis, communication, marketing and selling, science proficiency, foreign language or demonstrated leadership abilities.

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Many employers tend to rate demonstrated leadership activities as being more important than grade-point averages. For this reason alone, your student may find it beneficial to become involved in activities or organizations that offer the potential for leadership roles.



PLANNING FOR GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

Some students may decide that they wish to attend a graduate or professional school program. Encourage your student to research all their options before making a final decision. Having a variety of options can increase acceptance rates for your student. Have them discuss their options with their academic advisor.

CAREER SERVICES

Future employers often like for applicants to have work experience. The Career Center can assist students in finding a part-time job, obtaining a summer internship, and even improve a résumé. Students can begin visiting the MSU Career Center as early as their freshman year. Individual career counseling and advising, career-planning workshops, internship assistance, and career fairs and programs are among the many services offered.

TYPICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT HIGHER EDUCATION



WHAT COURSES WILL MY STUDENT TAKE?

A course schedule is determined by your student's major and/or advisor. Class size varies depending on the subject. Whatever the course, regular class attendance and daily study for each course are essential for success.

HOW WILL MY STUDENT BE GRADED?

Grades are assigned on a letter scale that carries a numerical value. These are called grade points. For each credit hour, a grade of A equals four points; B, three; C, two; and D, one. No grade points are assigned for an F, nor for an incomplete (I grade) or withdrawal (W grade). A GPA is determined by dividing the sum of all quality points earned for a semester, or for the entire time of study, by the sum of all credit hours attempted for that semester or academic career.

(See page 35 for the formula.)

WHAT IF MY STUDENT IS HAVING TROUBLE WITH CLASSES?

Encourage your student to ask questions in class or meet with their instructor. The Center for Academic Excellence offers programs and services to enhance learning and promote academic success, including both credit courses and non-credit services. To get help from CAE, a student can call 662.325.2957 or visit cae.msstate.edu.

WILL I RECEIVE A COPY OF MY STUDENT'S GRADES OR HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR ACCOUNT?

Federal law makes the distribution of adult (18 or older) academic records to any person other than the student illegal. Mississippi State students will be treated as adults since the university complies fully with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (F.E.R.P.A.) of 1974 that protects their records. Although students may have access, with limited exception, to all records about themselves maintained by the university, no information from a student's record will be disclosed to any individual, without the student's prior consent.

A student can authorize Mississippi State to grant a parent or family member access to certain educational records through the University's Parent Portal online system. **(See page 51 for details.)**

WHAT ADVICE SHOULD I GIVE MY STUDENT REGARDING ACADEMICS?

It is important for your student to develop a schedule that includes study time for each class as well as their social activities. To help adjust to class routines, your student can schedule a meeting with instructors and advisors during the first few weeks of school to become familiar with the requirements of their major. Most importantly, read emails!

ISSUES STUDENTS MAY EXPERIENCE **DURING THEIR FRESHMAN YEAR**

- Homesickness/Loneliness
- Home relationships
- Adjustment (academically and socially)
- Financial concerns
- Time management/
Organizational skills
- Test anxiety
- Roommate/Friend conflicts
- General stress
- Health concerns
- Academic uncertainty, difficulty
choosing a major





ACCESS TO RECORDS

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 university account. While parents should encourage their student to share the grades, federal law makes records distribution illegal to any person other than the student.

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. After reviewing details on page 51, contact the Office of Parent & Family Services at 662.325.3611 or family@msstate.edu to obtain help in navigating this process.

A student may restrict the release of his or her basic contact information published annually in the campus and online directories. Those desiring to restrict directory information may do so online at my.msstate.edu.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The Dean of Students' Office (DOS) is responsible for adjudicating cases of alleged individual and organizational violations of the code of student conduct.

The DOS staff addresses behavior in a manner consistent with core values of fairness, honesty and integrity while promoting the university's educational mission. Our mission is to promote responsibility and standards of conduct for Mississippi State students through a fair and objective process. By fostering concepts of fairness, civility and encouraging personal responsibility, we are striving to ensure a safe and healthy university community by:

- Administering the Code of Student Conduct while ensuring the principles of due process.
- Serving as a consultant and resource for students, faculty, staff and parents concerning student conduct expectations and rights including university policies and procedures related to student life.
- Assisting and counseling victims and those accused of conduct violations.
- Offering conflict and dispute management.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Reports of possible policy violations and other alcohol-related incidents are forwarded to the Dean of Students' Office. Students found to have violated the alcohol policy may be required to attend alcohol education classes, undergo individual alcohol assessments, perform community service, and/or have their parents or legal guardians notified. The office also notifies parents in alcohol and drug cases in which an involved student is under the age of 21.

Students are coming to an environment in which they will likely be exposed to alcohol and other drugs. Some may not make the smartest choices in dealing with related situations that may arise. DOS staff members are available to both you and your student for discussion of any issue.

CAMPUS CONDUCT PROCESS

While parents never want their child to get in trouble, college students occasionally put themselves in situations where they may interact with the campus conduct process. Below are some things to know about the differences between campus and criminal justice processes.

Because the Dean of Students' Office strives to provide an atmosphere that is both supportive and welcoming, the campus conduct process is much less formal than criminal proceedings. Our actions are intended to be educational rather than punitive. It should be noted that cases involving more serious charges tend to be accompanied by a more formal process in an effort to protect the students' rights.

Charges involving alleged violations of the MSU Code of Student Conduct may or may not be violations of local, state or federal law. Because campus conduct and criminal justice processes are not mutually exclusive, a student may be charged in both the criminal justice and campus conduct systems.

Campus conduct cases are confidential, in compliance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. On the other hand, criminal records are public records, and information in them may be shared with the larger community.

The standard of information in determining a student violation is not as high as those for the criminal process. In this regard, legal rules of evidence, whether something is admissible, do not apply in campus conduct cases. The hearing officer will gather and utilize any information that is deemed relevant.

Students do not have the right to attend Mississippi State University; rather, it is a privilege. Removal of a student from campus through a sanction of suspension or dismissal is a possibility in certain circumstances.

A student is entitled to an advisor, but that advisor may not represent the student in proceedings. Students are expected to speak for themselves at all times during the process, and an

advisor that disregards this rule will be asked to leave the room. Some students may face the MSU Conduct Board. Made up entirely of students, this body makes recommendations to the Dean of Students regarding sanctions for committed violations.

All parents of Mississippi State students who are under 21 years old and found guilty of violating the university's alcohol or drug policies will receive a notification letter stating the violation.

Parts adapted from the ASJA publication, THE STUDENT CONDUCT PROCESS: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS, copyright 2006.

The Dean of Students' Office is located on the 1st floor of the YMCA building. A listing of all University Policies can be viewed at policies.msstate.edu.





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A group of students are participating in a cross-country race on a grassy field. In the foreground, a young Black woman is running with a determined expression, her mouth open as if shouting or breathing hard. She is wearing a black t-shirt and grey shorts. Behind her, several other students are also running, some looking back over their shoulders. The background is filled with more runners and spectators, all in a natural, outdoor setting with trees in the distance. The entire image has a semi-transparent dark overlay to make the text stand out.

STUDENT LIFE

Mississippi State wants students to try new things. Encourage your student to take risks - join a registered student organization, try a new sport, or apply for a student leadership position. The only way to know if an activity is right is to give it a try. If an organization doesn't seem like a good fit, there is always an opportunity to try something else.

HOLMES CULTURAL DIVERSITY CENTER

Colvard Student Union, Suite 222
hcdc.msstate.edu | 662.325.2033

In 1991, the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center (HCDC) was dedicated to Dr. Richard Holmes, the first African American to enroll at Mississippi State University. HCDC strives to enhance the college experience of students and is committed to cultivating a welcoming and inclusive environment that supports underrepresented student populations as a “home away from home”. HCDC is dedicated to aligning retention factors by creating opportunities to implement holistic approaches to student success and degree attainment. Additionally, we support students by connecting them to resources and opportunities that assist them to grow intellectually, develop personally and professionally, and improve their overall wellbeing. Our aim is to cultivate equitable pathways that empower students to learn, live, and lead in a global and ever-changing world.

Through its many programs and services, HCDC strives to:

- Promote student success by increasing the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students.
- Develop communities of support, involvement, and advocacy for underrepresented students.
- Provide educational opportunities for the university to foster a culture of access, diversity, inclusion, and equity.
- Implement and develop a structure to holistically assess experiences of students and outcomes of HCDC’s programs.

HCDC organizations include:

- Black Student Association
- Black Voices Gospel Choir
- FLARE (Fostering LGBTQ+Advocacy, Resources and Environments)
- HCDC Visionary
- I.D.E.A.L. Woman
- Indigenous Students and Allies Association
- International Student Advisory Board
- Latino Student Association
- Linking International Students in the Community (LINC)
- Men of Excellence
- NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)
- Safe Zone



CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Colvard Student Union, Suite 314
union.msstate.edu/student-activities
662.325.2930

COWBELL CONNECT

cowbellconnect.msstate.edu

While it's true that Mississippi State is composed of classrooms, offices and residence halls, there is a lot more to our campus. MSU boasts over 300+ student organizations, allowing multiple ways for your students to get involved, meet other people, and make the most of their college experience. You can view student organizations, events and service experiences by visiting cowbellconnect.msstate.edu.

Students are also encouraged to stop by and visit the office or give them a call to meet with staff individually and see what is available to make their time at MSU worthwhile.

LYCEUM SERIES

lyceum.msstate.edu

Mississippi State University continues to be committed to the arts and one great way to expose students, faculty, staff and the community to the art of performance is the Lyceum Series. The annual Lyceum Series offers exposure to the talents of national artists in a variety of performance areas, ranging from music to drama to dance. In recent years, artists have included B.B. King, The Acting Company, Merle Haggard, Patti LaBelle, and The Russian National Ballet.

MUSIC MAKER PRODUCTIONS

msuconcerts.org

Music Maker Productions is a student organization at MSU specializing in campus concerts. For decades, the Music Makers have brought a variety of famous acts to MSU, including Bob Dylan, Stevie Nicks, Willie Nelson, Garth Brooks, and Bon Jovi. In recent years, artists have included the Zac Brown Band, NEEDTOBREATHE, fun., 2 Chainz, A\$AP Ferg, X Ambassadors, and Jack White.

COLVARD STUDENT UNION ART GALLERY

union.msstate.edu/visit/art-gallery

The Colvard Student Union Art Gallery regularly features exhibitions that range from nationally known figures, local artists from the Starkville community, and MSU faculty, staff, and students.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION

sa.msstate.edu

The Student Association (SA) at Mississippi State is a student-run organization that acts as the governing body for the students.

The SA Executive Council and Cabinet members are responsible for bringing fun, imaginative, diverse, educational, and entertaining events and programs to Mississippi State. From casual to cultural, serious to witty, committees capture the diversity of the campus and produce a wide variety of events for the campus and surrounding community. The most popular annual events include Bulldog Bash, Costume Carnival, the True Maroon campaign, Cowbell Cabs, and Block by Block. In addition, some Cabinet positions oversee all matters regarding academic policies and other areas of student concerns.

DANCE MARATHON

Mississippi State Dance Marathon, otherwise known around campus as StateDM, is a student-led philanthropy organization. The goal of this program is to allow students the opportunity to both fundraise and bring about awareness for the children and families of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. Located in Memphis Tennessee, Le Bonheur serves both Tennessee and Mississippi residents as the number one pediatric trauma center. By allowing our students first-hand interaction with our Miracle families, they get a sense of purpose as to the "why" of Children's Miracle Network and Dance.

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS

union.msstate.edu/student-activities

Along with housing the various organizations mentioned here, the Center for Student Activities also offers a variety of programs and events to encourage involvement and provide entertainment for the campus and surrounding community. **Dawg Days** is a host of different activities designed to welcome students at the beginning of the fall semester. During Dawg Days, the Center for Student Activities also sponsors Shades of Starkville, a large student organization fair which features a number of local restaurants, shops, and other businesses from around the local area. **Dawgs After Dark**, provides free, fun weekend activities that are safe and easily accessible to students. Lastly, this office is responsible for both the Miss Mississippi State University pageant, a preliminary for the Miss Mississippi pageant, and the Miss Maroon and White pageant.



NEW MAROON CAMP

newmaroon.msstate.edu

662.325.4510

New Maroon Camp (NMC) is MSU's first-year experience legacy camp hosted prior to the start of classes in the fall. NMC is a student-led and managed program that allows first-year students to prepare for their transition to college life through learning about MSU's rich history and traditions, hearing advice from current MSU students, learning tips on how to be academically successful, and participating in team building activities! NMC also provides a way to quickly form friendships with other first-year students and upperclassmen. Incoming students are encouraged to sign up for NMC online.

INVOLVEMENT AMBASSADORS

Involvement Ambassadors is a program hosted by the staff and students of the Center for Student Activities. This organization is composed of dedicated and motivated students who are interested in talking with students on how to get involved at MSU, promote the programs and opportunities for student involvement, and assist with activities and events that encourage student participation.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

313 Mary Lyn and Niles R. Moseley Hall
mlp.msstate.edu | 662.325.0244

The G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Leadership Program (MLP) was established in 2006 to provide a select group of upperclassmen with unparalleled access to activities and recognized local and national leaders to assist in developing their leadership potential. Participants are chosen based on their recognized academic, leadership, and character traits. This multi-semester program allows students to study leadership theories while engaging with the local community through service. Among these activities, MLP Scholars serve as leaders and mentors for groups of freshmen within the Day One Leadership Program and leave their legacy through a capstone leadership project their final semester. Our vision is that MLP Scholars will become tomorrow's leaders, individuals who can transform the world through impeccable character, courageous leadership, and selfless service. Interested sophomores and juniors can apply at the start of each fall semester at mlp.msstate.edu.



DAY ONE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

313 Mary Lyn and Niles R. Moseley Hall
dayone.msstate.edu | 662.325.0244

The Day One Leadership Program (Day One) develops the leadership potential of incoming freshmen during their fall semester while helping them transition to college life. Students learn together in weekly class meetings where the focus is on leadership ethics and practical "how-to" leadership skills that maximize the potential for academic, social, and professional success. Students are placed into teams of 5 - 7 individuals with a mentor, and each team is matched with a community partner. Each team completes a service-learning project throughout the semester for their community partner, while each team member provides 20 hours of service outside of class.

We want you and your student to join the Day One family because, at MSU, leadership begins with Day One! Interested incoming freshmen can apply online at dayone.msstate.edu.

MAROON VOLUNTEER CENTER

306 Mary Lyn and Niles R. Moseley Hall
mvc.msstate.edu | 662.325.2150

The Maroon Volunteer Center (MVC) serves as a conduit to match volunteers with community partners through meaningful service opportunities. The MVC also directs, develops, and facilitates activities that foster an opportunity for the MSU community to utilize its talents, skills, and resources in collaboration with our surrounding community members to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

Students interested in learning more about the Maroon Volunteer Center's programs and events, including volunteer awards, jobs, and leadership opportunities, are encouraged to sign-up for the weekly volunteer newsletter by contacting the Maroon Volunteer Center at volunteer@saffairs.msstate.edu.



ALTERNATIVE BREAK TRIPS

mvc.msstate.edu

Alternative Break Trips are an opportunity to serve alongside a different community to explore and address prominent social issues affecting the members of that area, discover your perceptions of influence surrounding the trip topic, and is a great way to build relationships across our state, the nation, and the world. These trips are weekend to week-long trips full of hours of volunteering and are centered around SERVICE, social justice, and leadership. Our trips are crafted to be affordable but may come with an associated trip cost depending on the destination. This fee covers, transportation, lodging, food, and recreation while on the trip. Things to know:

- This is an immersive community experience - we strive to build relationships with our MSU friends and our organizations' partners!
- We will enter spaces not as the expert, so be open to new knowledge!
- We strive to operate from the lens as a guest of the community.
- Have a great time! Don't want to go alone? Invite a friend to join you!

Learn more about our trips by contacting the Maroon Volunteer Center at volunteer@saffairs.msstate.edu.

OFFICE OF **FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE**

greeks.msstate.edu | 662.325.2930

Mississippi State is home to 37 nationally recognized fraternity and sorority chapters. Fraternities and sororities at MSU promote a balance of scholarship, leadership, service, and friendship. Members of Greek organizations are expected to maintain high grades, volunteer in the local community, and become leaders through their involvement with other areas on campus. Greek members are dedicated to their philanthropic efforts and perform thousands of hours of community service, resulting in thousands of dollars of donations annually to local and national charities. Membership in a Greek organization is a lifetime commitment and in return, members can expect to make lasting memories and life-long friends.





CAMPUS LIFE

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CAMPUS LIFE

As a comprehensive institution of higher learning, Mississippi State has everything students could want in their “home away from home.” In addition to beautiful, comfortable residence halls, the campus is home to numerous dining facilities. A shuttle system gets students around quickly without having to search for a parking spot.

HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE



*Dogwood Hall, Ground Floor
705 George Perry Street • P.O. Box 9502
Mississippi State, MS 39762
housing@saffairs.msstate.edu
housing.msstate.edu | 662.325.3555*

Residence halls at Mississippi State offer the opportunity to meet new friends, get involved, and experience educational and social events. As part of MSU's commitment to academic success, we require first-time freshmen to live on-campus in residence halls.

Housing and Residence Life Staff: Our department's staff is dedicated and trained to assist students during their transition to college life. Information Assistants (IAs) are trained student workers who work at the front desk of each residence hall. Our front desks are open seven days a week during the academic term. Resident Advisors (RAs) are trained student workers who live on each hallway and provide support to residents. Community Directors (CDs) are full-time staff and Graduate Residence Directors (GRDs) are graduate student staff who live in the building to oversee day-to-day residence life, supervise the RAs and provide support to students living in their building. CDs and GRDs have office hours. Students are encouraged to visit with their RA, GRD, or CD. The department also employs a variety of support and professional staff to make the student-living experience at Mississippi State an exceptional one. To learn more about our staff or access contact information, please visit: housing.msstate.edu/directory.

Maintenance Requests/Fix-Its: If a student finds something in their room is broken or needs attention, they can submit a fix-it ticket online at any time by logging on to my.housing.msstate.edu, their housing portal.

Safety and Security: The safety and security of students is of the utmost importance. Residents must have their MSU ID card to access the residence halls 24 hours a day. Card readers use MSU ID cards to allow those residents who live in that hall, or in some instances, on the specific floor to enter the building, floor, or hallway. Guests must use the front entrance, check-in at the front desk, and be escorted by their host at all times.

Visitation: Visitation hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., Monday-Sunday. Violation of the visitation policy may result in the loss of visitation privilege. Students who would like to have overnight guests of the same sex must request an overnight guest form from their front desk and have their roommate and Resident Advisor (RA) sign/approve it.

Roommates and Room Changes: The opportunity for students to experience a college roommate is exciting and significant. As with most situations in life, there will be ups and downs. We encourage students to communicate often and face-to-face with their roommate. There are times when students find themselves looking for a new roommate or wanting a room change. If this happens, students are encouraged to meet with their Resident Advisor (RA) first, then the Graduate Residence Director (GRD)/Community Director (CD) to explore all options.

Kitchens: Our residence halls have common kitchens for students to use. Kitchens are available for use 24/7. Most hall front desks have pots and pans available for students to check out. Students are expected to clean up after each use.

Vending Areas: There are snack and beverage vending machines in common areas of each residence hall. Most vending machines accept cash, coins, and credit/debit cards.

Laundry: Washing machines and dryers are provided in each residence hall for students' convenience. The cost is \$1.50 per cycle. Students can pay by quarters, credit or debit card, and/or bank-issued gift cards. Laundry rooms are open 24/7 and can be used by students at any time. Students are encouraged to use the app **Clean Cash**. The app allows you to load money to use the washers and dryers, see what units are open, and receive notifications when the laundry cycle is finished. Once

the app is downloaded, register and find your location using the registration code: WCL0922 to load money into your account with your credit or debit card. Start the machine by scanning the QR code on the machine or entering the machine number.

Ice Machines: There are ice machines in each residence hall students can access at any time. Ice makers are not provided in the freezers of the refrigerators in student rooms.

Additional Furniture: Students are welcome to bring items that will make the space in their rooms feel like home. Please remember if you are bringing any type of additional furniture, the furniture or items the Department of Housing and Residence Life provides in the room may not be removed. There is a microwave and a refrigerator provided in each residence hall room for student use. Students are not allowed to bring in additional microwaves or refrigerators.

Lock-outs/Keys: Depending on which residence hall a student is living in, they will either use their MSU Student ID or a university-issued hard key to access their room. If a key is lost or stolen, the resident is responsible for reporting it to the GRD/CD and for paying a lock change fee. Because of the security risk, it is important to report lost keys immediately. Residents will be charged each time a staff member must open a door because of a forgotten or misplaced MSU Student ID or key.

Internet Access: Students have access to university Wi-Fi and Ethernet in their residence hall room. There are no additional charges for this service and it is included as part of a student's housing rates. Wireless routers are not permitted.





Mail and Packages: There are detailed instructions, residence hall addresses, and information about service providers on our website regarding sending and receiving mail and packages. We encourage you to read more at housing.msstate.edu/resources/mail-packages prior to sending students' mail or packages.

Other Policies and Procedures: The Department of Housing and Residence Life and Mississippi State University have a number of policies and procedures that are important and relevant to a student's time on campus. We encourage you to become familiar with them. More information regarding those policies can be found at students.msstate.edu and housing.msstate.edu. Updates/edits are often made to policies and procedures.

Breaks: The residence halls are open from fall opening day to spring closing day except during the university's Winter Break. If a student is interested or needs to stay during the Winter Break they are welcome to apply for Winter Break Housing through the housing portal. More information regarding breaks and check-out processes can be found on our website.

RSVP: Current residents who wish to continue living in university housing after their first year can apply through the Renewal Selection Verification Process (RSVP). Students can apply for RSVP through their housing portal to request to live on campus for the upcoming academic year, then participate in online room selection.

Move-In Checklist: (What to bring and what not to bring.) A helpful move-in checklist can be found on our website: housing.msstate.edu/move-in.

MAIL AND PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

All students residing in on campus residence halls are required to obtain a P.O. Box to receive USPS mail. To obtain a P.O. Box, a student must complete an application (applications are available at the MSU Post Office) and turn it in to USPS staff. Two forms of identification are required to apply. **Fees begin at \$65**, depending on the box size. Two keys are provided to each box holder. **Roommates can not share a box.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- » Most online shopping is delivered by the Post Office and is dropped off by FedEx and UPS to the Post Office, so it is very important that your student has their own P.O. Box.
- » The MSU Post Office will also accept packages from UPS, FedEx and DHL addressed to a student's P.O. Box. All packages are held at the Post Office until the student picks them up

Mailing addresses for campus residence facilities include:

College View Apartments, 385 College View Drive
Cresswell Hall, 36 Magruder Street
Critz Hall, 685 Barr Avenue
Deavenport Hall, 220 Bailey Howell Drive
Dogwood Hall, 705 George Perry Street
Griffis Hall, 500 Bailey Howell Drive
Hathorn Hall, 76 Magruder Street
Herbert Hall, 170 Herbert Street
Hull Hall, 85 Walker Road
Hurst Hall, 95 Hurst Lane
Magnolia Hall, 15 Morgan Avenue
Moseley Hall, 55 Magruder Street
McKee Hall, 450 Lee Boulevard
Nunnelee Hall, 215 Hurst Lane
Oak Hall, 205 Magruder Street
Ruby Hall, 75 Hurst Lane
Sessums Hall, 459 Lee Boulevard

Students who have a P.O. Box should address their mail in the following manner:

Sally Student
P.O. Box ____
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Students who do not have a P.O. Box will not be able to receive mail via the USPS while living on campus. Letters or magazines addressed to the residence halls will be returned to sender.

If a student is receiving a package via DHL, Fed Ex, or UPS they should address their package in the following manner:

Sam Student
____ Residence Hall
Room ____
Street Address (see left)
Mississippi State, MS 39762*

* As with USPS boxes, all campus residence halls are at Mississippi State, MS 39762

NOTE: Providers such as DHL, Fed Ex, or UPS do have national contracts with USPS. Often times these providers will have USPS deliver these packages on their behalf. With that being said, sometimes even if a package is from DHL, Fed Ex, or USP, it will be delivered to the Post Office (USPS) and the Post Office (USPS) will then become responsible for the delivery/pick up of that package. That is why it's best for students to have a P.O. Box while on campus.

TIPS FOR NAVIGATING BULLDOG BUNDLE

- All undergraduate students, excluding Gulf Coast Engineering, are automatically enrolled and provided access to all required textbooks, lab manuals, access codes and electronic book versions in a convenient bundle before the first day of class.
- All electronic books and access codes will be delivered through the student's Canvas page. All printed titles can be picked up in store or shipped to an address provided for a small fee.
- All printed books, not listed as consumables, will be a rental on the student's account and must be returned by the last day of finals.
- Cost of the Bulldog Bundle is \$20 per credit hour and will be applied to the student's account at the same time tuition is charged.
- Students will receive an email 30 days before classes start reminding them to verify and reserve their textbooks. At this time, students can choose to opt-out if they believe the program is not the best cost-efficient option for them this semester.
- If students do opt-out and change their mind, they have until the last day to add a course to enter back into the program.
- Downloading the My College Bookstore app will enable the tracking of online orders, as well as receiving rental reminders and B&N special offers.

For any further questions please reference msstate.edu/bulldogbundle or email sm204@bncollege.com.

BARNES & NOBLE AT MSU

*Cullis Wade Depot • 75 B.S. Hood Drive
Mississippi State, MS 39762
msstate.bncollege.com | 662.325.8361*

The campus bookstore provides the flexibility and convenience Mississippi State students need for class. A wide selection of general reading and reference books, school supplies, campus-life products, physical and digital textbooks, and Mississippi State apparel and gifts are available at the bookstore. Home to Bully's Cafe and MSU Bully Tartan.



MEAL PLANS

MSU DINING SERVICES

85 Old Main • P.O. Box 6229

Mississippi State, MS 39762

msstatedining.com | 662.325.7120

Our all-you-care-to-eat Residential Dining Halls offer the most innovative dining on campus by providing unique menus with authentic flavors. With professional chefs working hard to ensure fresh ingredients, quality products, and superior service, we're sure to satisfy everyone's appetite.

Convenient and continuous hours, grab-n-go options, and late-night dining are all designed with your student in mind. Dining locations, with hours ranging from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., provide students with a wide variety of options all across campus. Our Meal Plans offer the flexibility to eat when and where they want.

We want to ensure that every student has the opportunity to enjoy a tasty and nutritious meal. We understand and accommodate the varying needs of our students on campus. Our recipes focus on "right-size" portions and our vegan and vegetarian dining, allergen-solution options, and low-calorie menus are sure to meet any dietary needs.



Meal Plan options for first-time freshmen living on campus:

Ultimate – Unlimited Block Meals & \$150 Flex

Gold – 225 Block Meals & \$200 Flex

Silver – 175 Block Meals & \$250 Flex

Upperclassmen have the option of choosing any of the plans listed above, or:

Bronze – 100 Block Meals & \$515 Flex

Greek – 60 Block Meals & \$500 Flex

Campus Connector – 70 Block Meals & \$150 Flex

Flex Plan – \$350 Flex

Freshmen are automatically enrolled in the Ultimate Meal Plan. In addition to the top 3 Meal Plans, freshmen who pledge a Greek organization have the additional option of choosing the Bronze or Greek Meal Plan. Meal Plans are a two-semester commitment.

Block Meals are primarily used at campus Residential Dining Halls. One swipe of the student ID will provide an all-you-care-to-eat meal. Flex Dollars, a declining balance on the student ID, are redeemable at all MSU Dining locations on campus. Block Meals expire at the end of each semester, but Flex Dollars roll over from fall to spring before expiring. Students can now download the **Transact Mobile Ordering** App to make mobile purchases with their Block Meals & Flex Dollars. Credit and debit cards are also accepted.

Meal Equivalency enables students to use a Block Meal at certain retail locations twice per day. Meal Exchange is a Block Meal that can be used at P.O.D Markets for a set "pick 3" meal. Time periods for both are 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. and again from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Having these options essentially adds more Flex Dollars and variety to the Meal Plan.

CAMPUS DINING

Einstein Bros. Bagels at Mitchell Memorial Library, a deli and café serving a wide assortment of fresh baked bagels, sandwiches, salads and wraps, as well as a full-service coffee bar with favorite specialty beverages.

The **Fresh Food Company** offers a variety of healthy choices and made-to-order meals served from several different cooking stations in view of customers.

JUVA at the Joe Frank Sanderson Center serves hand-blended smoothies for pre- or post-workout supplements. JUVA can also be found at State Fountain Bakery in the Union.

The Marketplace at Perry Dining Hall, an all-you-care-to-eat dining facility is located in the heart of campus. With several different cooking stations, Perry features a wide variety of menu options and healthy choices.

Maroon Markets at Griffis & Wise are 24-hour self-checkout convenience stores where students can grab snacks, grab-n-go meals, Starbucks Coffee, and more. Students swipe their Student ID for entrance and then use the self-checkout kiosk for a quick and convenient checkout process.

McArthur Café Express is one of the best-kept campus secrets. Located on the first floor of McArthur Hall, it offers Southern-style cooking and grab-and-go items.

Moe's Southwest Grill serves Tex-Mex fare in a laid-back environment. It features low-calorie, vegetarian, and gluten-free menu items.

Pegasus Dining at the Wise Center is a retail dining venue at the College of Veterinary Medicine that is open to all. Options include a daily hot line and grill, with a wide selection of made-to-order entrees, sandwiches, vegetarian options, salad bar, and desserts.

P.O.D. Markets are located across campus. These convenience stores offer students the flexibility of purchasing quick and convenient snacks, grab-n-go items, frozen foods and meal replacements. Other convenience items include chargers, batteries, medicine, paper towels, and more.

Steak 'n Shake at the Roberts Building, offers its signature hand-dipped shakes and burgers even at late night hours.

Subway has two serving lines for fast and efficient service and a wide variety of sandwiches, soups, salads and more.

GADDIS HUNT COMMONS

at the Colvard Student Union a seven-venue food court at the center of campus:

Chick-fil-A, a national fast-food restaurant chain specializing in chicken entrees.

Newks, a local partnership offering your favorite high-quality, feel-good comforts like sandwiches, soups, and desserts.

Panda Express, an authentic Asian eatery serving favorites such as stir fry vegetables, noodles, rice, spring rolls, wontons and other dishes.

Pizza Hut, another national fast-food chain offering favorite, portable meals.

P.O.D. Market, a convenience store stocked with a selection of snacks, drinks, and grab-n-go items, as well as health and beauty products.

Starbucks, a full-service operation serving favorite coffees, specialty drinks, espresso beverages, hot sandwiches, snacks, and pastries.

State Fountain Bakery has been an MSU Staple since 1921. Find daily dessert specials, as well as Mississippi State® made Ice Cream, & Umble Coffee, a local coffee brand.

PARKING AND TRANSIT SERVICES

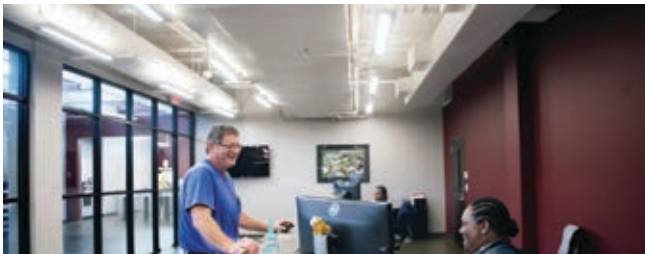
PARKING SERVICES

412 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box 6350
Mississippi State, MS 39762
parkingservices.msstate.edu | 662.325.3526

The Department of Parking Services works to ensure safe and reliable campus parking. Starting in Fall of 2023 all student permits will be digital, no physical permit or sticker will be needed. All permits will be registered to the license plate of the student's vehicle. Students may purchase parking permits online at MyParking.msstate.edu. Once a student has logged in, using the NetID and Net Password of the student, select the "Get Permits" option to start the registration process. In addition to registration information, zone maps may be downloaded at parkingservices.msstate.edu. Complimentary on campus jump-offs and tire air are also available. Every car on campus must be permitted, parked in the appropriate zone, and all ADA placards must be registered.

Citations will be given to anyone found in violation of parking regulations. Appeals may be filed online or in the Dean of Students' Office. If the appeal is won, no fine will be assessed; if the appeal is denied, the charge will include the original amount plus an administrative fee.

To appeal online, go to MyParking.msstate.edu and login using a NetID and Net Password, and select the "View Your Citations" option. Select the citation for appeal and continue following the directions online. After examining and discussing the case, the appeal board will announce its decision via e-mail.



TRANSIT SERVICES | STARKVILLE-MSU AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART)

95 B. Buckner Lane • P.O. Box 6350
Mississippi State, MS 39762
smart.msstate.edu | 662.325.5204

The Department of Transit Services provides a broad range of transportation services for campus, Starkville, and the Golden Triangle area. In particular, the free Starkville-MSU Area Rapid Transit, or SMART, features daily routes covering campus and Starkville, with free connections to the Golden Triangle Regional Airport. Welcoming all passengers, SMART shuttles are equipped with wheelchair lifts and service animals are welcomed.

Download the **DoubleMap** app today on your smartphone or tablet to track your bus. smart.doublemap.com/map

Transportation services include:

- ParaTransit, a curb-to-curb, demand-response service for disabled riders.
- The GTRA Express Route, transportation to and from the airport.
- Reservation shuttles, fun and safe transportation option for campus groups.

Visit smart.msstate.edu for details on shuttle tracking, maps, routes, announcements, and service times.



STUDENT SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

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A young man with a beard and sunglasses is riding a mountain bike on a paved path. He is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and blue jeans. The background shows a campus with trees, a brick building, and a street lamp. The image has a semi-transparent dark overlay.

STUDENT SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

Students at Mississippi State University are supported through a number of dedicated resources. Through service excellence, these resources include student support, health care, education, counseling, and spiritual connection.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

With a goal to treat acutely ill students within 24 hours, LSHC services include:

- Board-certified physicians
- Family-practice nurse practitioners
- Mental health nurse practitioner
- Laboratory and X-ray
- Allergy and travel clinic
- Referral services to specialists, as needed and determined by LSHC staff
- ADD/ADHD management (Test results from psychiatrist or psychologist required)
- Women's health

Pharmacy

The full-service pharmacy accepts prescription transfers. Charges are transferred to student accounts daily if not paid at time of service. Insurance claims will be filed, and most major pharmacy coverage plans are accepted.

OCH Regional Medical Center

400 Hospital Road Starkville, MS 39759
och.org | 662.323.4320 front desk
662.615.2692 emergency room

OCH Regional Medical Center is located just north of downtown Starkville and provides comprehensive hospital services that include a fully staffed emergency room.



STUDENT HEALTH

LONGEST STUDENT HEALTH CENTER (LSHC)

360 Hardy Road • P.O. Box 6338

Mississippi State, MS 39762

healthcenter.msstate.edu | 662.325.2431 Main

The health of our students is of primary importance and Mississippi State has up-to-date facilities to help maintain their well-being. For students of the Starkville campus or the College of Veterinary Medicine, there is no charge for primary-care physician services (which are covered through tuition). Clinic fees that are transferred to a student's account include laboratory work, X-rays, mental health, and pharmacy services. Insurance will be filed, and the student account will be credited with any payments received from the insurance company. Students are responsible for providing insurance coverage information to the center and are encouraged to bring an insurance card at time of service. An ACA-compliant policy tailored to the needs of our students is available for a reasonable rate. Spouses and dependents may be added for an additional cost. For more information on insurance, visit healthcenter.msstate.edu or telephone 662.325.7637.

STUDENT SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

OFFICE OF CARE, CONCERN & WELL-BEING

DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS

Mississippi State, MS 39762

dos@msstate.edu | students.msstate.edu | 662.325.3611

Dean of Students' Office serves as a first point of contact when students are experiencing academic, personal, or transition issues. This office provides assistance and case management for students in crisis and referrals to additional resources, if needed. It also provides outreach to parents and families. The staff in this area coordinates a range of services to assist students with issues and concerns that may interfere with their academic success.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ACCESS & SUPPORT

firstgen.msstate.edu | 662.325.7250

The Office of Academic Access & Support (AAS) create pathways of services and support that enhances academic success, promotes career readiness, and achieves degree completion for first-generation, limited-income, and vulnerable student populations. AAS is composed of three programs which includes the Promise Scholars Program, Thrive Scholars Program, and TRiO Support Services all aimed at supporting students through their collegiate experience.

HEALTH PROMOTION & WELLNESS (HPW)

205 Famous Maroon Band Street | P.O. Box 6346

Mississippi State, MS 39762

healthpromotion.msstate.edu | 662.325.2090

HPW provides student experiences that support and encourage the development of positive life changes and healthy choices. The HPW team offers educational presentations and outreach events covering nutrition, sexual health, alcohol and other drugs, and mental health. Free nutritional counseling is provided by the registered dietitian housed at Longest Student Health Center. HPW is also home to G.A.I.N. (Goal-Driven Alcohol/Drug Intervention Network), an evidenced-based program focused on reducing substance use and the Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC), a program supporting students in recovery from alcohol, drugs, and all process addictions. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @MSUHPW to learn more about our well-being programs and initiatives.



DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)

01 Montgomery Hall • P.O. Box 806
Mississippi State, MS 39762
drc.msstate.edu | 662.325.3335

Mississippi State University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The DRC collaborates with students who have disabilities to arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have or think you may have a disability, please contact DRC staff to arrange a confidential discussion. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, conditions related to mental illness, chronic illness, attention, learning, autism, brain injury, vision, hearing, mobility, speech, or intellectual disabilities. In the case of short-term disabilities (e.g., broken arm), students and instructors can often work to minimize barriers. If additional assistance is needed, please contact the Disability Resource Center at drc@saffairs.msstate.edu.

STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

115 Hathorn Hall • P.O. Box NL
Mississippi State, MS 39762
counseling.msstate.edu | 662.325.2091
662.325.3333 SafeLine - Confidential sexual assault assistance

Student Counseling Services (SCS) is dedicated to providing therapeutic and outreach services to promote the mental wellness of our students. Our office is located at the entrance, to the far left of Hathorn residence hall. Our clinical staff consists of licensed or licensed eligible social workers and counselors, in addition to a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Longest Student Health Center to provide psychiatric services. We provide individual, group, and couple's therapy to build on our student's strengths and promote their personal growth.

A variety of groups are provided each semester to address issues related to anxiety, depression, grief, and trauma. Other services include crisis walk-in services, 24-hour crisis response,

and preventative psycho-educational programming. It is our goal to provide free, confidential services in a safe and inclusive environment that values and embraces diversity.



G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY CENTER FOR AMERICA'S VETERANS

Nusz Hall • P.O. Box 6283
Mississippi State, MS 39762
veterans.msstate.edu | 662.325.6719

The Center for America's Veterans offers a variety of student support services focused on the unique needs of today's military veterans, service members and family members. In particular, it provides a comprehensive counseling program to help students maximize their G.I. Bill educational benefits, tuition assistance for active duty, National Guard and Reserve members as well as scholarships and a 100% waiver of out-of-state tuition.

The center has programs to help ensure a smooth transition to higher education and academic success after enrolling. Nusz Hall has a computer lab, individual study rooms, lounge with TV, kitchen area, outdoor space and an office for the Student Veteran Association.

UNIVERSITY RECREATION



JOE FRANK SANDERSON CENTER

225 Bailey Howell Drive • P.O. Box 6285
Mississippi State, MS 39762
urec.msstate.edu | 662.325.7529

The Joe Frank Sanderson Center, an award-winning recreation facility, is a 150,000 square-foot complex that has become one of the most popular student areas at Mississippi State. Serving more than 2,000 patrons daily during peak times, this building on the north side of campus is home to two gymnasiums, two fitness training areas, studios for group exercise, dance, and martial arts, racquetball courts, a natatorium, jogging track, climbing wall, locker rooms, and meeting rooms. Access to the Sanderson Center is FREE to all full-time students.

GROUP FITNESS

urec.msstate.edu/fitness | 662.325.0022

Our group fitness program offers quality exercise classes to all members of the Sanderson Center. With over 60 classes offered per week during the fall and spring semesters, there is something for all levels and abilities! Multiple formats are available with classes as early as 6:00 a.m. and as late as 8:00 p.m. Our certified instructors provide a workout experience that

is sure to leave participants wanting more! All group fitness classes include modifications for all fitness levels to ensure that everyone can meet their fitness goals.

If you are interested in leading classes or becoming certified to teach classes, view upcoming workshops under the "Certification Workshops" link or contact us at fitness@saffairs.msstate.edu.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

urec.msstate.edu/outdoors | 662.325.3633

Snow sports in Colorado, snorkeling in the Florida Keys, spelunking in nearby caves, kayaking or rafting various rivers, and backpacking in the southeast. These are just a few examples of adventure trips available through Outdoor Adventures. Our aim is to encourage and provide opportunities for students to get out more. Adventures range from day trips to week-long excursions. Students can also get involved with Outdoor Adventures by visiting the rock-climbing wall and outdoor rental center in the Joe Frank Sanderson Center. The climbing wall has options for beginners to expert climbers and the outdoor rental center has all the gear necessary for students to embark on their own adventure. Outdoor Adventures strives to provide students with low-cost and high quality experiences!

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

urec.msstate.edu/intramurals | 662.325.0349

Mississippi State has one of the most active intramural programs in the state, with more than 9,000 participants annually. We offer a variety of activities for men's, women's, Greek and open teams, including numerous individual and dual sports.

SPORT CLUBS

urec.msstate.edu/clubs | 662.325.0349

The Sport Clubs program allows students the opportunity to engage in the activity of their choice at various skill levels, contribute to the development of student leadership, learn responsibility, and encourage and develop a healthy lifestyle. Some of the clubs are competitive in nature (they compete against other universities), and some of the clubs are instructional in nature.



AQUATICS

urec.msstate.edu/aquatics | 662.325.7946

Swimming is an ideal way to get a great workout with minimal impact on the body. The Sanderson Center Natatorium features a 500,000 gallon pool with several 25 meter lanes for lap swimming and a large shallow end for a variety of fun activities: Battleship, water polo, and volleyball to name just a few. During the warmer months, students can relax on the sundeck with a good book or catch some rays after a swim. Additionally, lifeguarding classes and swim lessons are offered at various times throughout the year. The pool provides a safe and fun environment for students to get some good exercise or enjoy a break from classes.

MSU GOLF COURSE

1520 Highway 182 East
Mississippi State, MS 39762
golf.msstate.edu | 662.325.3028

Located east of campus on State Highway 182, the 18-hole, par 71, 6,927-yard, PGA sanctioned facility regularly is ranked as among the nation's best college golf courses. Amenities include a 5,000-square-foot clubhouse, complete with a fully stocked golf shop, men's and women's locker rooms and snack bar; an 18-hole cart path; and a driving range and putting and chipping greens. Prices are competitive and tee times may be made up to one week in advance.

UNIVERSITY COMMON MINISTRY

Serving Mississippi State by affirming the spiritual lives of university students, faculty, and staff.

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Campus Ministers: Michael Ball and Daniel Herndon
msubsu.com | 662.323.5761

CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

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msuchaplain@gmail.com; resurrectionstarkville@gmail.com
canterburymso.org | 662.323.3483

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Minister: Joseph Terbrack
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CHOSEN CAMPUS MINISTRY

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CRU

Campus Ministers: Duane and Alice Walters
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LUTHERAN STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

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MSU HILLEL: JEWISH LIFE ON CAMPUS

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REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

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WESLEY FOUNDATION

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UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN STUDENT CENTER

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* Any student feeling that his or her spiritual needs cannot be met by any of the above organizations should contact the Dean of Students for further guidance at 662.325.3611.



ACADEMICS

ACADEMICS

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ACADEMICS

Mississippi State is recognized as a place where learning is a top priority. For more than a century, our graduates have established a proud record of admission to medical and law schools, as well as to other graduate and professional programs. Not to mention, our students are in high demand by employers. Academic success matters here and we are committed to helping our students reach their full potential.

STUDENT SCHEDULES

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Garner Hall • P.O. Box 5268

Mississippi State, MS 39762

registrar.msstate.edu | 662.325.2022

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for the academic records, academic calendar, examination schedules, an undergraduate bulletin, master class schedule, course articulation, and undergraduate readmission. In addition, the office provides transcripts and degree and enrollment verifications.

Prior to a new semester, all students must register online through their Banner account accessed via **my.msstate.edu**. Students should complete their own registration process. Any questions about course selection should be directed to the assigned academic advisor who will, in turn, release the student to register for the next semester.

Registration holds are put in place for various reasons to prevent students from being able to register for classes. To remedy the situation, an affected student first must determine the cause by contacting the office issuing the hold.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students may add/drop a class by accessing their university Banner account via **my.msstate.edu**. During the fall and spring, a student has through 11:59 p.m. of the semester's 5th class day to drop a course and until 5 p.m. of the 6th class day to add a course, without being assessed a fee or academic penalty. After the fifth class day and through the 36th class day, the decision to drop a course requires the approval of a student's academic advisor. In addition, a "W grade" will be entered on his or her academic record and a fee assessed.

After the 36th class day, a course may not be dropped except in documented cases of serious illness, extreme hardship or failure of the instructor to provide a significant assessment of academic performance. Also, the request to drop a course after the 36th class day must receive the approval of both a student's advisor and academic dean. Any student permitted to drop will receive a "W grade" on the academic record, be assessed a fee after the last day to drop, and have tuition costs applied.

To locate the MSU master schedule online:

- Go to **registrar.msstate.edu**
- Click on "STUDENTS" in the upper-left corner
- Click on "Schedules"
- Under "Class Schedules" click on "Go to myBanner"

To search the master schedule online:

- Choose the appropriate term.
- Current: For fall and spring terms, choose "All Parts of Term"; for summer, select "All" or choose a specific session.
- Edited: You can choose either "All Parts of Term" or a specific session (examples: Winter, Full, 1st Mini Term, 2nd Five Week, etc.)
- For most students, the campus will be Starkville.
- If known, choose a desired subject (example: EN – English).
- Advanced Search options are available to refine your search

HOW ARE STUDENTS CLASSIFIED?

FRESHMAN

29 or fewer semester hours

SOPHOMORE

30 - 59 semester hours

JUNIOR

60 - 89 semester hours

SENIOR

90 or more semester hours

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE LISTED AS A SCHOLAR?

PRESIDENT'S LIST

3.80 - 4.00 GPA

DEAN'S LIST

3.50 - 3.79 GPA

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO GRADUATE WITH HIGH HONORS?

CUM LAUDE

Overall & MSU 3.40 - 3.59 GPA

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Overall & MSU 3.60 - 3.79 GPA

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Overall & MSU 3.80 - 4.00 GPA

STUDENT COURSE LOAD

INCOMPLETE GRADES

A grade of Incomplete, or "I", may be submitted in lieu of a final grade when the student, because of illness, death in the immediate family or similar circumstances beyond control, is unable to complete the course requirements or take final examinations.

The decision to issue an "I grade" rests solely with the faculty member of record for the course.

An undergraduate student receiving an "I grade" then must complete all work within 30 calendar days from the date of the next enrollment. A student receiving an "I grade" may make up only that part of coursework not completed because of an emergency.

If not resolved into a passing grade within the allotted time, the "I grade" will become an F.

If an undergraduate student then does not enroll in the university within a year of receiving an "I grade", it converts to a permanent grade of "WI" and the opportunity to change that grade will have passed.

ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS, OR COURSE-RETAKE, POLICY

For specific regulations and instructions on academic forgiveness, or course retakes, students should contact the Office of the Registrar or refer to the Academic Operating Policy on Undergraduate Academic Forgiveness (AOP 12.20). This policy will be applied only to courses taken at Mississippi State University.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

University class attendance is strongly correlated to student success, with numerous studies indicating how students with two or fewer absences tend to make higher grades and are more successful than those with more absences. Mississippi State freshmen repeatedly are encouraged to attend every class and make every effort to not be absent. The Academic Operating Policy on Class Attendance is (AOP 12.09).



WITHDRAWAL

A student leaving the university prior to the end of the period of enrollment, except for temporary absences, should initiate the withdrawal procedure by accessing their university Banner account via **my.msstate.edu**. Completion of this simple procedure will help prevent difficulties when obtaining transcripts and re-entering the university. It also avoids having a grade of "F" automatically recorded for all courses taken during the semester.

A student withdrawing after the 10th class day will receive a "W grade" for each course scheduled. Withdrawals are not allowed during the last two weeks before final examinations begin in the fall and spring semesters. This also applies during the final week prior to beginning examinations for each five week/ten week summer term.

In highly unusual circumstances resulting from extreme hardship, a student may petition to withdraw retroactively from a semester within one calendar year. The request for withdrawal will be considered only when accompanied by appropriate documentation of the situation (e.g., medical emergency or administrative error) that relates to academic performance during the recorded semester in question. Such requests must be approved by the student's advisor, department head and academic dean, as well as the university provost. For cases other than administrative error in which final grades were recorded, a student's instructors should be consulted before a final decision is rendered and should be notified after the decision is made. In no case will more than one semester's work be retroactively withdrawn during a student's matriculation at Mississippi State.

For further questions or concerns about adding or dropping a class, contact the Office of the Registrar at 662.325.2022 or visit **registrar.msstate.edu**.



ACADEMIC ADVISING

Each student is assigned an academic advisor. Students are able to locate their academic advisor information (if assigned) by logging into their myState student portal. Students are expected to become familiar with the requirements for their majors, to know how to access online campus resources, to know who their advisors are and to meet regularly with them. Advisors are available to assist students in processes such as adding and/or dropping courses, as well as providing general education information and help seeking career advice.

Formal academic advising is held each semester prior to the registration period. During the advising period, which generally lasts about two weeks, students should schedule an appointment to meet with their advisor regarding course selections for the upcoming semester. Students cannot register until they have been released by their advisor.

ADVISOR CONTACTS

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HOW TO CALCULATE GPA

Use this formula for each course to calculate grade point average (GPA).
Multiply grade quality points by course hours; then divide by the total number of hours.

	GRADE		QUALITY POINTS
excellent	A	=	4
good	B	=	3
satisfactory	C	=	2
poor	D	=	1
failure	F	=	0

EXAMPLE:	GRADE		QUALITY POINTS	COURSE HOURS	TOTAL
en comp 1:	B	=	3	x 3	9
gen. psychology:	A	=	4	x 3	12
biology 1:	B	=	3	x 4	12
early u.s. history:	C	=	2	x 3	6
				13	39

Calculate Your GPA:	TOTAL QUALITY POINTS		TOTAL COURSE HOURS		GRADE POINT AVERAGE
	39	÷	13	=	3.0

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Mississippi State University offers a wide range of services and programs to help all students succeed in their academic endeavors.

THE CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

1st Floor YMCA Building • P.O. Box 9710
Mississippi State, MS 39762
studentsuccess.msstate.edu
662.325.2957

The Center for Academic Excellence works toward the success of all Mississippi State students. The Center promotes student learning and an enriched Mississippi State student experience by providing services, programs, classes, and resources that:

- Help students make the transition into university life
- Aid students' decision-making, especially during their freshman year
- Help students achieve personal and academic progress and growth, targeted toward graduation
- Aid students in time management, study skills, and other habits that will help them be successful

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

si.msstate.edu

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a free academic resource designed to help

students succeed in historically difficult courses. SI offers regularly scheduled study sessions where students work collaboratively to break down complex topics. Study sessions are led by SI Leaders, students who have already taken the class and succeed. SI Leaders attend all class lectures, take notes, meet with their assigned faculty member, plan for study sessions, and lead study sessions.

FRESHMAN-YEAR NAVIGATORS

freshman.msstate.edu

Navigators are Mississippi State students who work through the Center for Academic Excellence with every freshman. Each freshman is assigned a specific Navigator that will reach out to their students throughout the year via emails, text messages, phone calls, and one-on-one meetings. Communications are designed to answer questions and locate resources in order to help students succeed in school.

PATHFINDERS

pathfinders.msstate.edu

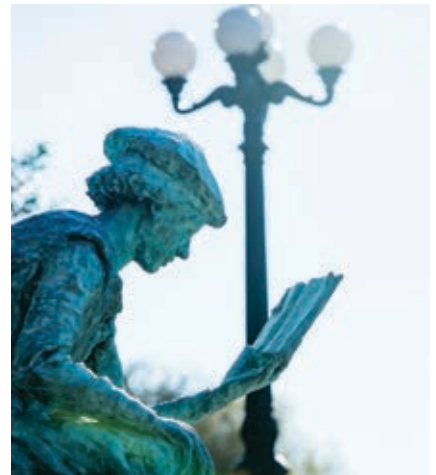
For many students, transitioning from high school to college means moving from a relatively controlled and directed environment to one with a great deal of freedom. Success in this new environment requires a well-developed sense of personal responsibility. For many freshmen the first challenge they

face is to be personally responsible about attending class regularly. Pathfinders encourages regular class attendance and also intervenes when a freshman begins missing class. Residence Hall Assistants meet one-on-one with freshmen accumulating absences early in the semester. The contact is non-confrontational and emphasizes the need for personal responsibility and talking with their instructor and advisor if they are having difficulty.

TUTORING

tlc.msstate.edu/tutoring

Tutoring is offered to every undergraduate student at Mississippi State. Sessions are predominantly done in a face-to-face setting but can be moved online if the need arises. Tutoring is offered in math courses, chemistry courses, and physics courses. All other undergraduate courses are offered by request.



THE WRITING CENTER

Online Scheduler: msstate.mywconline.com
writingcenter.msstate.edu
662.325.1045

The Writing Center is dedicated to helping all MSU students develop as writers and critical thinkers. Available online and in person, its staff of writing consultants includes undergraduate and graduate students trained in writing-center theory, practice and research, and faculty members from our writing program. Scheduled 30-minute and 60-minute consultations are available to all Mississippi State students free of charge; walk-in appointments are also welcome, though availability cannot be guaranteed. Assistance is provided to writers in a variety of genres, including class assignments and professional documents and material. During any stage of the composition processes, staff members are available to help with brainstorming, development, and revisions.



MSU LIBRARIES

Mitchell Memorial Library
395 Hardy Road • P.O. Box 5408
Mississippi State, MS 39762
library.msstate.edu | 662.325.7668

MSU Libraries are at the forefront of research and technology. Whether using Mitchell Memorial Library or one of the branch libraries, students, faculty, and researchers will find books, online resources, primary source documents, and other research tools. Through our extensive collections of online journal and e-books databases as well as our digital collections, students can do research from anywhere. Students needing research help can visit the Access & Information Desk, send an email, use the chat feature, schedule a consultation, or attend a workshop.

The Libraries provide students with a variety of non-traditional services including access to computers, equipment checkout, 3D printers, 3D scanners, color printing, and VR. Additionally, students can explore our unique collections and spaces including the Mississippi Political Collections, Grant Museum, Templeton Museum, Frank and Virginia Williams Collection of Lincolniana, and the John Grisham Room.

The MSU branch libraries provide focused services and collections. They include the College of Veterinary Medicine Library, the CAAD Library, the

Jackson Design Center Library, and the Phil Hardin Foundation Libraries on the MSU-Meridian campus.

The MSU Libraries are home to friendly and knowledgeable staff and faculty members ready to help.

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING SERVICES

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testing@saffairs.msstate.edu
cbt.msstate.edu | 662.325.6610

Computer-Based Testing Services administers a variety of computer-based and traditional paper-pencil format standardized exams to both MSU students and members of the general public.



OFFICE OF STUDY ABROAD

116 Allen Hall • P.O. Box 6144

Mississippi State, MS 39762

studyabroad@msstate.edu

studyabroad.msstate.edu

662.325.8929

The Office of Study Abroad currently offers more than 1,000 educational experiences in over 80 different countries. All undergraduate and graduate students may earn academic credit towards their degrees by participating in MSU affiliated programs.

Knowledge of a foreign language is not required, and courses can be selected to meet the requirements of any academic major or minor. Costs vary, depending on location, length, and program type, but financial aid and scholarships are available.



Seville, Spain



Akureyri, Iceland



Berlin, Germany



Paris, France



Munich, Germany



To: Mom & Dad

from: Dawgs Abroad

JUDY AND BOBBY SHACKOULS HONORS COLLEGE

C210, Griffis Hall • P.O. Box EH, Mississippi State, MS 39762
shackoulshc@honors.msstate.edu | honors.msstate.edu | 662.325.2522

Academically talented Mississippi State students seeking to enhance and enrich their higher education experience should join the university's Shackouls Honors College. While the college enrolls more than 2,400 students, honors classes typically are limited to no more than 20. As a result, students receive individualized instruction from faculty members who challenge them to explore their full potentials.

Some advantages of being a part of the Shackouls Honors College include:

- All Honors freshmen typically live together in Griffis and Nunnelee halls, where they are encouraged to academically excel while enjoying the benefits of a dynamic social life. Both feature state of the art classrooms. Griffis is home to college offices, and both halls are located in the Zacharias Village.
- Freedom to explore and be challenged in small classes taught by top professors.
- Working directly with research faculty members.
- Individualized mentoring and assistance with applications for national and international fellowships and awards.
- Financial support for a variety of global adventures in, among other locations, England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, Jamaica, Ecuador, Italy, and Spain.
- Opportunities to represent the college's student body and hone leadership skills by service on the Honors Council.
- Opportunities to give back to society through community service programs.
- Afforded priority registration status within an honor student's class cohort.
- Honors Diploma* and honors distinction on transcripts.

*Honors Diploma awarded to those students who successfully complete the Cursus Honorum.

honors.msstate.edu/curriculum/cursus-honorum

WHAT ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP MY STUDENT SUCCEED IN CLASS?

Most students who exhibit poor academic performance and/or withdraw from MSU find themselves having academic difficulties very early during their first semester.

The most effective steps that students can take to increase their chances of success in college include:

- Go to class. Students should not miss classes, even during the first days of the semester.
- If a class is missed, the instructor should be notified, and the absence explained.
- Find out what is expected and how performance will be evaluated.
- Meet with instructors if any material or requirements are unclear or confusing.
- Most situations or requests are covered by one or more Mississippi State policies.
- Most Mississippi State policies may be found under this web address: **policies.msstate.edu**
- Students should review policies early in their academic career and consult them when questions arise.

IMPORTANT DATES DURING FALL 2023

AUGUST

1 Deadline for payment in full or enrollment in payment plan

14 New freshmen and transfer student orientation

16 Classes begin

22 Fall Convocation

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

23 Last day to register or add a course (6th class day) 5:00 p.m.; Last day to request undergraduate academic forgiveness

28 Apply online by **October 20** via myState for December 2023 degree - \$50 fee

SEPTEMBER

4 Labor Day Holiday - no classes scheduled

14 Deadline for undergraduate students receiving incomplete grades in a previous semester to submit the coursework. (30th calendar day)

27 First progress grade reporting deadline (30th class day)

OCTOBER

5 Last day to drop a course with a "W" grade (36th class day) 5:00 p.m.

12 & 13 Fall Break - no classes scheduled (subject to change)

20 Last day to apply for December 2023 degree via myState - \$50 fee

Second progress grade reporting deadline (end of week 10)

21 - NOVEMBER 27 Late December 2023 degree application via myState - \$50 fee plus \$100 late fee

23 - NOVEMBER 3 Faculty advising for pre-registration (Some departments begin advising earlier)

NOVEMBER

6 - 17 Pre-registration period for spring semester

13 Last day to withdraw from university (ten days of classes remaining)

22 - 24 Thanksgiving holiday - no classes scheduled

27 Classes resume

Progress grade reporting closes

Deadline to apply for December 2023 degree via myState - \$50 fee plus \$100 late fee

29 Classes end

30 Reading Day (No mandatory class assignments, requirements, meetings.)

DECEMBER

1 Final examinations (December 1, 4, 5, 6, 7)

2 Make-up day (if needed)

7 MSU-Meridian Commencement 11:00 a.m. - MSU Riley Center

8 Last day for December 2023 degree applicants to pay account balance 3:00 p.m.

Starkville Campus

Commencement - 9:30 a.m.

(Graduates march at 9:00 a.m.)

College of Architecture,
Art & Design

College of Arts and Sciences

College of Education

University Studies (C2C)

Starkville Campus

Commencement - 3:30 p.m.

(Graduates march at 3:00 p.m.)

College of Agriculture &
Life Sciences

College of Business

Bagley College of Engineering

College of Forest Resources

College of Veterinary Medicine

11 Final Grades Due 10:00 a.m.

20 Winter Holidays begin

*All deadlines are at midnight unless otherwise stated. All dates and deadlines are subject to change. Visit **registrar.msstate.edu** for the most current calendar.*

STUDENT HONOR CODE

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS
Mississippi State, MS 39762
studenthonorcode@saffairs.msstate.edu
honorcode.msstate.edu | 662.325.9151

The purpose of the Student Honor Code is to promote the highest standards of integrity and honor for MSU students both inside and outside the classroom. The code reads: “Academic dishonesty is a corrosive force in the academic life of a university. It jeopardizes the quality of education and depreciates the genuine achievements of others.”

Each student enrolling in the institution agrees to abide by the honor code by declaring “As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

The Student Honor Code Office leads the university’s efforts to promote academic integrity, as well as reduce academic misconduct. In the process, the office works to foster an environment that promotes fairness, personal responsibility and integrity. The office’s core functions include:

- Administering the honor code while ensuring the principles of due process.
- Providing assistance to students accused of violations.
- Assisting faculty members that suspect an academic misconduct has occurred.
- Serving as the central office responsible for maintaining records and coordinating communication, prevention, training, remediation and adjudication efforts for all cases of academic misconduct.
- Monitoring all relevant data pertaining to academic integrity and dishonesty.
- Assessing effectiveness of intervention strategies designed to promote academic integrity.
- Serving as a resource and consultant to faculty, students, staff, and parents regarding honor code expectations.
- Coordinating campus-wide programs designed to foster a culture of honesty and integrity.

Students may assist the honor code office by serving on the Student Honor Code Council.

Members of the honor code office staff are devoted to making a positive impact in the lives of students. Believing that values associated with academic integrity are vital to higher education and society, they welcome opportunities to speak with faculty members, classes, student organizations, parents and individuals about the honor code.





MONEY MATTERS

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A hand is shown in the upper right corner, placing a coin on top of a tall stack of coins. In the foreground, there are three other stacks of coins of increasing height from left to right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

MONEY MATTERS

Mississippi State understands higher education involves a major financial commitment. Here are resources to help explain the ins and outs of some important topics, including scholarships, loans, grants and general banking information.

FINANCIAL AID: A QUICK COURSE

FINANCIAL AID

Garner Hall • P.O. Box 6035
Mississippi State, MS 39762
financialaid@msstate.edu
sfa.msstate.edu | 662.325.2450

Financial assistance to help pay for higher education comes primarily in the following forms:

- Grants and scholarships that don't have to be repaid.
- Loans, borrowed money that must be paid back.
- Federal Work-Study program to help cover expenses besides tuition and room and board, including books, supplies, transportation, etc.

Also, MSU's Center for America's Veterans was created to assist students that are current or former members of the military or their dependents. For complete information about veteran and military education benefits, contact the center at 662.325.6719 or veterans.msstate.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Students must be admitted to MSU in order to apply for scholarships. Once admitted, students should log in to their myState account, then complete, save, and submit the General Scholarship Application. After submitting this general application, additional opportunities may be recommended in your myState account based on your test scores, GPA, leadership and service, and applicant record. More opportunities, like departmental scholarships, may become available over time.



GRANTS

Grants provided to students by federal, state and institutional organizations are awarded on the basis of a family's financial need. The State of Mississippi provides several for state residents not based on financial need and in amounts that may vary each year. To apply each year:

- Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form.
- Mississippi resident students also should complete the online application at msfinancialaid.org.

Other sources of scholarships and financial assistance may be available through hometown clubs, churches and community organizations.

LOANS

Major federal student loans at MSU include:

- Federal Direct Stafford Loans (subsidized, based on financial need; unsubsidized, not based on financial need)
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan (credit based loan program for a dependent student's parents.)

On some loans, students may choose not to make payments while enrolled at least half-time. Student borrowers must start repaying loans, however, after leaving school or dropping below half-time enrollment status. Students may choose to pay interest only while in school on the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan. Students qualifying for a loan will find out through the award letter. After the offer is accepted, completion of additional forms will be required. The award letter and MSU Student Financial Aid website at sfa.msstate.edu will provide details.

WORK-STUDY AND STUDENT JOBS

Work-study and student jobs taking place part-time on campus are additional ways to help offset educational expenses. Some tips here include:

- A parent and student should submit FAFSAs early.
- Any amount for which the student qualifies will be indicated in the award letter and is the maximum amount that may be earned through the Federal Work-Study Program during the school year.
- A typical work week usually involves 10-15 hours.
- Overtime shouldn't be considered since a student cannot earn more than the amount listed in the award letter.
- Since paychecks are issued semi-monthly, students should ensure the money goes to good use (for instance, textbooks instead of snacks).
- Because it covers hours actually worked during the previous pay period, the semi-monthly paycheck will not be available at the beginning of the semester for tuition and other charges.
- Within the first three workdays, a student must provide the employing office with an original passport, Social Security card or birth certificate, along with the student ID card/or driver's license.

For details on grants, loans, and work study, go to: sfa.msstate.edu.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AID

COMPLETE THE 2023-24 FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

To apply for federal and state financial aid, first complete the 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the primary form for all types of federal aid, as well as some state and institutional aids. The steps to complete the FAFSA include:

- Both parent and student will need to use their 2021 federal tax return information when completing the 2023-24 FAFSA. It is highly recommended that parents

and students use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DTR) when completing the income section on the DTR.

- Before beginning the FAFSA, go to studentaid.gov and create a U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid identification. (Because the FSA ID is used as an electronic signature on the FAFSA, both student and parent must apply for an FSA ID.)
- Once the FSA IDs are received, complete the 2023-24 FAFSA on the same studentaid.gov website.
- After completing the FAFSA, both parent and student will be asked to input each FSA ID.
- Once the electronic signatures are accepted, the student will receive a confirmation number.
- Mississippi State will receive an electronic copy of the student's FAFSA within seven business days.
- Regularly check the student myState account for FAFSA updates.

To receive maximum consideration for financial aid, it is critical for parents and students to submit the FAFSA and any required supporting documentation on or before April 1, 2023. The earlier a student submits the documents, the better chances he or she will have for available grants and work-study opportunities.

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT FAFSA

Remember that some federal supplemental grants and institutional grants have limited funding and may be depleted by the time late applications are received. If the deadline is missed, any financial aid for which the student does qualify may not be finalized by the time classes start in the fall.

The Federal School Code is **002423** when listing Mississippi State University as the institution to receive the FAFSA results.

The student is responsible for periodically checking the FAFSA website regarding the application status or processing problems notifications. Status checks may be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week through myState using the MSU NetID and NetPassword.

Once admitted to MSU and after FAFSA results and other required documents have been received, MSU's Student Financial Aid Department will determine the student's eligibility for aid and process an award. The student will be prompted by letter and/or e-mail to complete the online MSU Award Notification Letter.

STATE AID

Student aid from the State of Mississippi is for Mississippi residents only. (ex. Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant, Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant, Nissan Scholarship Program (March 1 deadline), H.E.L.P. Program) Complete the application as soon as possible after October 1 each year for the coming school year with application deadlines of March 31 and September 15. Apply online at msfinancialaid.org.

Students must earn 15 hours to be eligible for the following state aid programs:

- Higher Education Legislative Plan for Needy Students Scholarship (HELP)
- Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG)
- Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant (MESG)
- Law Enforcement Officers and Firemen Scholarship (LAW)

The Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid in Jackson will communicate with Mississippi students that submit an online state-aid application regarding proof of residency documentation, other required documents and state aid award amounts. For additional information, telephone 1.800.327.2980.

FINALIZE THE AWARD

Entering students will receive an "Informational" award notification that will display initial awards that have been processed. The award recipient will be directed to myState to log in using his or her MSU NetID and NetPassword. The final step involves accepting or declining the awards and completing the online Supplemental Information Form.

RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

Even after completing all FAFSA paperwork and receiving an award notice, a student is not yet done with the financial aid process. Some final steps include:

- A requirement for first-time recipients of a federal student loan to complete online entrance counseling that basically outlines what the loan is meant for, and responsibilities that the student must now manage the account. Go to studentaid.gov to complete the Stafford Entrance Loan Counseling.
- For first-time students borrowing with a Federal Direct Stafford Loan, there is a requirement to complete and submit a Master Promissory Note. Parents may also be required to complete a similar form for the Federal Direct PLUS Loan.
- Grant, scholarship, and loan funds typically are available at the beginning of each semester. As mentioned previously, work-study funds are earned and students **are paid twice per month for the hours** actually worked during the previous pay period.

LOSS OF AID AWARDS

To keep from losing some aid awards, a student must maintain satisfactory academic progress and meet other renewal guidelines. In addition to maintaining a minimum grade-point average, this would include not withdrawing from too many classes and passing a minimum number of courses.

Students receiving financial aid who withdraw or drop courses during a semester may have to repay funds already received. In some cases, educational award funding from external sources, other than those shown in the award letter, may cause what is known as an "over award" that results in a reduction or cancellation of federal, state or institutional awards previously provided.

ACCOUNT SERVICES

158 Garner Hall • P.O. Box 5328
Mississippi State, MS 39762
paymybill.msstate.edu
studentaccounts@msstate.edu | 662.325.2071

TUITION AND REQUIRED FEES

Tuition is the basic, comprehensive, multi-purpose charge all students must pay as a condition for enrollment. Tuition and required fees cover the costs of education, as well as some student services and facility operations. To view current tuition and fee rates, visit paymybill.msstate.edu.

ACCOUNT BILLING

MSU provides a consolidated, online billing statement around the 15th of each month, with a payment due date of the 1st of the following month. Payment due dates for each semester are as follows:

- Fall Term: August 1
- Spring Term: January 1
- Summer Term: July 1



QUIKPAY® - AUTHORIZED PAYERS

QuikPAY® is an online service that allows students to make payments, enroll in a payment plan, review their monthly billing statement, and review their account transactions. The QuikPAY® system is available 24/7/365.

QuikPAY® allows students to authorize a payer (usually a parent) to access account information and make payments on their behalf. Students must initiate the process, and the authorized payer will complete the process. Instructions for authorizing a payer can be found online at controller.msstate.edu/accountservices/resources/payer. When complete, the authorized payer will have a log in name and password and be able to access the system directly at quikpayasp.com/msstate/studentaccounts/authorized.do.

ACCOUNT REFUNDS

Student refunds are issued in one of two ways:

- **e-Refund** (Direct Deposit) to a student's checking or savings account. This is the preferred refund method because it is fast, safe, and easy to set-up. e-Refunds are processed on a daily basis. A confirmation email will be sent to your student's msstate.edu email address. Bank account information must be updated whenever an account change has been made. Failure to update this information may result in a delay of your student's e-Refund.
- **Paper check** refunds are processed weekly. Checks are mailed to the student's home address on file with the university.

HOW/WHEN IS FINANCIAL AID APPLIED TO MY ACCOUNT?

Financial aid is applied to the student account as soon as it is available in the system. Financial aid will be presented in one of two ways: (1) Pending or (2) Received.

Pending financial aid refers to aid that is still being processed, but we take it into consideration when computing the amount owed on the student account. Pending aid is displayed separately on the student billing statement and in the QuikPAY® system.

Once pending aid has been completely processed, it will be disbursed to the student's account. Once disbursed, it will be displayed as a received payment on the billing statement and in the QuikPAY® system.

IMPORTANT: If pending aid is canceled or expires, the account balance will increase by the amount of the canceled/expired aid. Payment of account balances previously covered by canceled/expired aid will be due by the first day of the following month.

WHAT IS A 1098T TAX FORM AND WHERE CAN I GET ONE?

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1098T forms report the amount of payments applicable to qualified tuition related expenses and/or scholarships and grants applied to a student's account within the reporting calendar year. Students may access this information through the MSU myState portal by selecting the "Tax Relief Act Information" link or access their official 1098T form by logging in to heartland.ecsi.net. For more information about 1098T forms, visit paymybill.msstate.edu.



MSU ID CARD

All MSU students may obtain their official university identification card through the Campus Card Office in 108 Allen Hall. The card should be carried at all times since it is required for a variety of important services, including meal plans, residence hall access, admissions to certain athletic events, class attendance tracking, and accessing MSU accounts with Account Services.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT LOSES THEIR MSU ID CARD?

When an MSU ID card is lost or stolen, a student should immediately report it by contacting the Campus Card Office at 662.325.3387 or, after business hours, the MSU Police Department at 662.325.2121. The MSU ID card will then be deactivated and become useless to anyone. To obtain a new MSU ID card, visit the Campus Card Office as soon as possible in 108 Allen Hall. A replacement fee will be charged.

ACCOUNT SERVICES

158 Garner Hall • P.O. Box 5328
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5328
662.325.2071

PAYMENT PLANS

MSU is pleased to offer payment plans that will allow you to pay tuition, residence hall fees, meal plans and other expenses through monthly installments.

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

HOW CAN I MAKE A PAYMENT OR ENROLL IN A PAYMENT PLAN?

Student refunds are issued in one of two ways:

- **Online through QuikPAY®**
 - » Make payments and/or enroll in a payment plan
 - » Payment methods include e-check and credit/debit cards (MasterCard, Discover, American Express, and Visa)
 - » Credit/debit card payments are assessed an additional 2.8% convenience fee
 - » e-Checks are NOT assessed an additional convenience fee
- **In-person at Garner Hall**
 - » Payment methods = cash, check, and money order
- **US Postal Mail**
 - » Payment methods = check and money order
 - » All payments require a student's NetID or MSU ID number
- **Telephone**
 - » e-check payments can be processed over the phone by calling 662.325.2071

LOCAL BANKS

Starkville is home to a number of financial institutions regularly serving the Mississippi State student body. These local financial institutions include:

BANK OF COMMERCE | bankcom.com

BANKFIRST FINANCIAL SERVICES | bankfirstfs.com

BANK PLUS | bankplus.com

CADENCE BANK | cadencebank.com

CB&S BANK | cbsbank.com

THE CITIZENS BANK OF PHILADELPHIA | thecitizensbankphila.com

THE FIRST BANK | thefirstbank.com

GUARANTY BANK | gbtonline.com

REGIONS BANK | regions.com

RENASANT BANK | renasantbank.com

STATEWIDE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION | statewidefcu.com

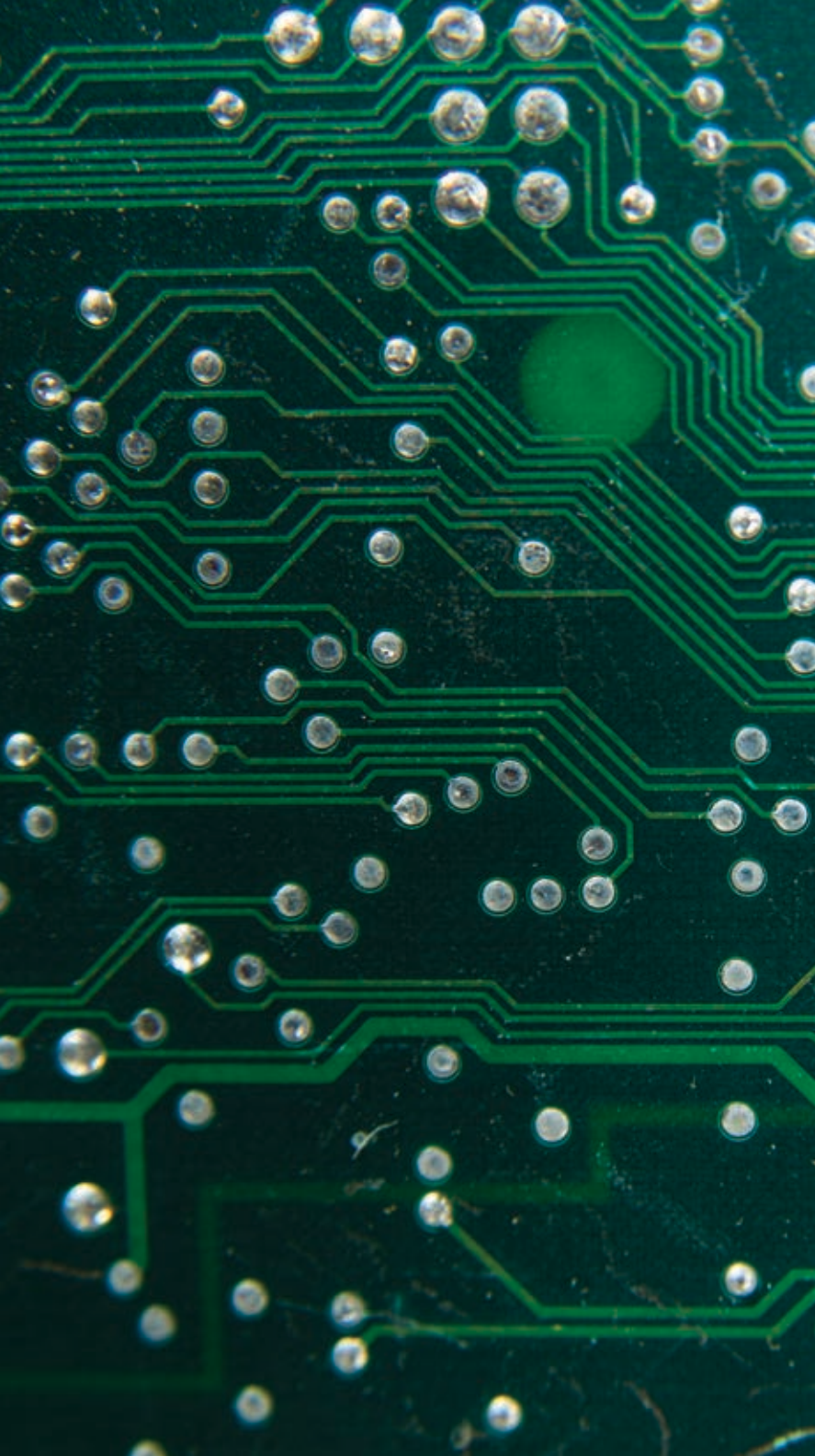
TRIANGLE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION | trianglefcu.com

TRUSTMARK | trustmark.com

Students needing cash while on campus should be aware that several automated teller machines are located on the Colvard Student Union's first floor. Banks with ATMs at MSU include:

Renasant | Regions | Trustmark





COMPUTER RESOURCES

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A close-up photograph of a hand typing on a laptop keyboard. The image is heavily darkened with a semi-transparent black overlay, making the details of the keyboard and hand appear muted. The hand is positioned in the lower-left foreground, with fingers pressing down on the keys. The laptop keyboard is visible in the mid-ground, and the laptop's screen is partially visible in the upper-right background.

COMPUTER RESOURCES

The mission of Information Technology Services (ITS) is to enable learning, research, and service in a modern information technology environment.



SAFE COMPUTING TIPS

- Use strong, hard-to-guess passwords and NEVER share NetPasswords!
- Duo, MSU's Two-Factor Authentication, is required for MSU students. For more information go to **2fa.msstate.edu**.
- Use anti-virus and anti-spyware software that is updated regularly.
- Configure computers to receive automatic updates.
- Download software only from trusted sources after reading terms and conditions.
- Understand that unauthorized downloading or sharing of copyrighted materials such as music and movies is illegal and organizations such as the RIAA and MPAA vigorously pursue violators. For more information see **filesharing.msstate.edu**.
- While social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter have their place, students should exercise caution when posting information of a personal or sensitive nature on such sites. Always think before posting because that information will likely remain on the Internet for a long time.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

117 Allen Hall • P.O. Box 9697
Mississippi State, MS 39762
servicedesk@msstate.edu
its.msstate.edu
662.325.0631 | 888.398.6394

Certain colleges and departments at MSU require their students to own a personal computer. Students who do not own a computer may take advantage of several university open-access computer labs. Some departments and colleges require or recommend specific hardware and software that may vary from the university baseline specifications. Students in the academic units listed below should check the corresponding college or department for recommended computer specifications and guidelines:

- Adkerson School of Accountancy
- Bagley College of Engineering
- College of Business
- Communication
- Landscape Architecture
- School of Architecture
- Interior Design Program
- College of Veterinary Medicine

A student in a college or department other than the ones listed above should follow the minimum specifications for desktop and laptop computers at servicedesk.msstate.edu/computer/studentspecs.

LAPTOP MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS:

Processor: Latest Generation Intel Core i5 or equivalent

Memory: 8 GB

Disk storage: 250 GB Solid State Drive (SSD)

Network connectivity: : 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet and/or 802.11n/ac/ax wireless

Other external ports: USB

Warranty: three-year on-site manufacturer's warranty.

Operating system (64-bit): Windows 10 or 11;
or macOS 13 (Ventura)

DESKTOP MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS:

Processor: Latest Generation Intel Core i5 or equivalent

Memory: 8 GB

Disk storage: 250 GB Solid State Drive (SSD)

DVD-RW/CD-RW drive

Network connectivity: 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet

Warranty: three-year on-site manufacturer's warranty

Operating system (64-bit): Windows 10 or 11;
or macOS 13 (Ventura)



SOFTWARE

MSU policy requires that all computers accessing the University network have anti-virus software installed. There are several anti-virus applications available at no cost for student use. Windows Defender is the anti-virus application included with the Windows operating system. Cisco Immundet is another anti-virus option for Windows computers and is free for personal use.

Students may download software such as Microsoft Office, SPSS, SAS, Autocad, and others at no cost from servicedesk.msstate.edu/software. In addition, students may download a copy of the Microsoft Windows 11 Education Operating System at no cost from OnTheHub at msstate.onthehub.com. Other discounted software is available to students through Barnes & Noble's campus e-store at thinkEDU.com/BN.

NETWORK CREDENTIALS

NetID

Each MSU student is issued a unique electronic network identifier, or NetID, which is used to access a variety of MSU information technology systems and services on the campus network.

NetPassword

A NetPassword is used in conjunction with a NetID when logging in to MSU information technology systems and services. The NetPassword website, netpassword.msstate.edu, is used to:

- Set an initial NetPassword prior to logging in to MSU information technology systems and services for the first time
- Change a NetPassword periodically to keep it secure
- Reset a forgotten NetPassword

Duo

Duo is MSU's two-factor authentication, 2FA, application which adds another layer of security when logging in to MSU information technology systems and services. The first factor required to log in is something you know, i.e. your NetID/NetPassword. The second factor is something you have, typically your smartphone or tablet. Therefore, even if a hacker is able to get your NetID/NetPassword, they should not be able to log in to your account because they do not have your second factor. For more information visit 2fa.msstate.edu.

MSU ID Card

The MSU ID card is key to accessing goods and services, including meal plans, residence hall door access, sporting events and electronic class attendance.

NETWORK CONNECTIVITY

Access to the MSU network and all its resources is provided via wired Ethernet ports in all major buildings and residence halls and by comprehensive wireless coverage. Students with a laptop are encouraged to have the necessary hardware for both wired and wireless connectivity. Although wireless access is convenient, a wired connection is significantly faster and more reliable. Residence halls have high-speed Ethernet ports. Each port can accommodate a single computer. To take advantage of this high-speed network connection, students must have an Ethernet adapter in their computer and an Ethernet patch cable. This cable, which is not the same as a phone cord, connects the Ethernet adapter in the computer to one of the room's Ethernet ports.

Wireless Network Connectivity

Full 802.11 a/g/n/ac/ax wireless network coverage is available. Instructions on configuring a laptop for the MSU wireless network, eduroam, are available on the ITS website at servicedesk.msstate.edu/eduroam. Also, alternative wireless network authentication methods are available for consumer devices, such as gaming consoles, in residence halls. Instructions on configuring consumer devices for the MSU wireless network are available on the ITS Service Desk website at servicedesk.msstate.edu/msu3.

Network Quarantine

At times, it becomes necessary to isolate a computer from the campus network in order to protect the integrity of the network. This typically happens when a computer is infected with a virus or is used for illegal sharing of music or movies. Students whose machines are quarantined are presented with a description of the problem when they try to use the network and are typically given the opportunity to fix the problem themselves. Repeat offences or violations of a severe nature can result in a referral to the Dean of Students' Office. Organizations such as the Recording Industry Association of America and the Motion Picture Association of America spend a great deal of effort in the investigation of music and movie piracy and students are cautioned to avoid such illegal activities.

myState

myState, MSU's web portal, offers single sign-on access to systems and services such as Banner, Canvas, and eForms. myState is available at my.msstate.edu or through the myState link located in the upper right portion of the MSU home page, msstate.edu.

myState Mobile

The myState Mobile app is available at no cost for both iOS and Android devices. The app provides access to general information such as campus maps and directions, shuttle routes, and the campus directory. Students may log in to the app with their NetID and NetPassword to gain access to additional information and services such as class schedules, grades, account balances, and payment options. The myState Mobile app is available from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

myBanner

myBanner allows students access to a number of services including registration, academic records, financial aid and scholarship information, account information, enrollment verification, and personal information. myBanner is available within the myState portal by selecting the Banner page from "Apps & Services" sidebar menu.

Canvas

Canvas is the learning management system (LMS) used in the delivery of online instruction at MSU. Canvas is accessed through the myState portal by selecting Canvas from the "Apps & Services" sidebar menu or by going to canvas.msstate.edu.

Canvas Student Mobile App

The Canvas Student Mobile app allows access to Canvas courses from mobile devices. The app allows students to view grades and course content, submit assignments, keep track of course work, send and receive messages, post to discussion groups, and watch videos. The app is available at no cost for iOS and Android devices from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

Parent Portal

Students can give parents and others access to view a summary of their academic information including class schedule, grades, absences, account balance, financial aid, and meal plan use. To grant someone access to the Parent Portal, go to the myState portal, choose Banner from the Apps & Services sidebar, and under the Student drop down menu, choose F.E.R.P.A. Release & Parent Portal Access.

Microsoft 365 - Student Email

The University assigns every student an official email address of netid@msstate.edu and uses this email address for official communication with students. It is important that students regularly check their Microsoft 365 email (Outlook) and maintain it in good working order. To access Microsoft 365, select Microsoft 365 from the "Apps & Services" sidebar menu of the myState portal or browse to m365.msstate.edu.



JUMP START FOR NEW STUDENTS

Open Computer Labs

Open computer labs are available for student use in Mitchell Memorial Library. These open labs have both Mac and Windows computers, as well as laser printers. Charges for printing are automatically assessed and posted to the student's Banner account. Rates for printing, as well as operating hours and other information, can be found at servicedesk.msstate.edu/labs.

ITS SERVICE DESK

108 Allen Hall • P.O. Box 9697
Mississippi State, MS 39762
servicedesk@msstate.edu
servicedesk.msstate.edu
662.325.0631 | 888.398.6394

The ITS Service Desk is available to assist students with computer or network problems.

Hours of operation are:

- Sunday 1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
(midnight by phone)
- Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
(midnight by phone)
- Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

When reporting a problem, please include as much information as possible.

- Set your initial NetPassword. Use a hard-to-guess password, don't share it with anyone, and don't use it elsewhere on the internet.
- Verify registration of your mobile devices in Duo at 2fa.msstate.edu.
- Obtain an MSU ID card.
- Connect to the eduroam wireless network using your netid@msstate.edu email address and NetPassword.
- Update online directory information such as your Maroon Alert cell phone number and choose which directory information other students can see.
- Verify operating system and browser updates are being automatically installed.
- Verify anti-virus software is installed and up-to-date.
- Download the myState Mobile and Canvas Student apps.
- Grant Parent Portal access as appropriate.
- Never open email attachments from unknown people/senders and look out for potential phishes and scams.
- Be cautious of ALL requests for personal information.
- Visit only trustworthy web sites and be alert for web sites that try to imitate MSU resources or solicit personal information.
- Visit filesharing.msstate.edu to understand the consequences of illegally sharing copyrighted materials such as movies and music.

Be careful about what you post on social media.

Make regular backup copies of data, especially if essential to school or work.

Never leave a laptop or mobile device unattended in a public setting.

ITS will NEVER ask for your NetPassword, be cautious of anyone who does.

The ITS Service Desk is available to answer questions and assist as needed.





CAREER PLANNING

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THE CAREER CENTER

Mississippi State students are encouraged to visit the Career Center early and often during their time on campus. Career Center liaisons regularly provide assistance in choosing an academic major, drafting and polishing résumés, locating internships and preparing to land that first job after graduation, and everything in between!

THE CAREER CENTER



300 Montgomery Hall • P.O. Box P
Mississippi State, MS 39762
career@career.msstate.edu
career.msstate.edu | 662.325.3344

CHOOSING OR CHANGING A MAJOR

Eighty percent of students entering higher education admit uncertainty about the academic area in which they wish to major—sometimes, even after having declared one. As proof, consider that 50 percent will change their major at least once before graduation; some, several times. Should your student either be undecided about or considering changing a major, the following strategies may help.

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO GET TO KNOW THE MAJORS AT MSU

Begin by briefly surveying the list of all MSU majors, including degree requirements and course descriptions, found at catalog.msstate.edu.

MAKE SURE THEY TALK TO PEOPLE "IN THE KNOW"

Talk to people “in the know.” Every major has an academic advisor or undergraduate coordinator who can answer questions about degree offerings and requirements. Career Advisors also have names of graduating seniors who will share their firsthand knowledge of a particular course of study.

ADVISE YOUR STUDENT TO TAKE CAREER ASSESSMENTS

Take advantage of several career assessments available at the Career Center to help gain a better focus on major options based on individual interests, personality, and related factors.

SUGGEST THAT YOUR STUDENT MEET WITH A CAREER ADVISOR

While at the center, ask to meet with a career advisor. These staff members are available throughout the school year to provide guidance in navigating the entire process.

CAREER CENTER SERVICES AND EVENTS

CONNECTIONS

Connections, the Career Center job portal, is designed to connect students to employers, job opportunities and career related events. After logging in your student may:

- Search for part-time, full-time, internship, federal work-study, and student worker postings
- Schedule campus interviews
- Post resumes and research employers
- Keep up with upcoming dates and related details about campus career fairs and information sessions

CAREER CENTER WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

The Career Center offers an array of workshops and events each semester. At their core, the workshops are designed to develop a strong sense of professionalism in students to increase their opportunities post-graduation. Topics include but are not limited to enhancing interviewing skills, resume and cover letter preparedness, salary negotiation, professional communication, and job/co-op and internship search. Career-related events provide an opportunity to interact and network with potential employers, as well as representatives of graduate schools and other organizations. For a full list of workshops and events, visit career.msstate.edu/events.

ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWING

Each fall and spring semester, over 1,500 job interviews are scheduled through the Career Center's Connections portal for students seeking full-time, part-time, internship, and cooperative education opportunities.

CAREER-PLANNING CLASSES

Career-planning classes are available for undecided students. COE 1323/Academic and Career Planning is a three-credit-hour course providing a step-by-step approach for choosing a major, focusing on career assessments, major and career research and informational interviews.



COOPERATIVE EDUCATION & INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Co-op and Internship Program's mission is to help students identify relevant, quality work experience to enrich their academic program of study with planned, progressive, and monitored work experience. For more information about this program, please see page 57.

PART-TIME JOB SEARCH

Finding a part-time job while attending school may often be a challenge. Here are some helpful tips:

- Attend the Part-Time Jobs Fair, commonly held the first week of the fall semester
- Visit Connections, the Career Center's job portal.
- Visit campus departments that may be hiring, including Dining Services, Facilities Management, Housing and Residence Life, Mitchell Memorial Library, and the Sanderson Center.
- Visit local businesses, restaurants, and retailers.
- As appropriate, utilize friend and family networks.

HELPFUL JOB-HUNTING HINTS:

Check your resume carefully.

Complete a careful resume review to make certain there are no typographical errors and all contact information is current.

Dress the part.

While some jobs may not require business attire, it is always important to look and act professional when meeting with potential employers. (In-person or virtually)

Know your academic schedule.

Being knowledgeable about your class schedule allows you to inform employers about possible class schedule changes you can make to meet their needs.

Be confident.

Confidence during the interview process begins with a firm handshake, established and maintained eye contact, and a constant smile.

Stay positive.

Campus departments are not required to post open positions on the Connections site. Look for a job both on and off campus.



FAMILY ASSISTANCE WITH CAREER DEVELOPMENT

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO VISIT THE CAREER CENTER

Provide assurance that meeting with a career advisor may take place at any point while in school.

ADVISE YOUR STUDENT TO WRITE A RESUME

Recommend preparation of a resume; visit our site for reference.

CHALLENGE YOUR STUDENT TO BECOME

“OCCUPATIONALLY LITERATE”

Students should complete a personal assessment and research various interesting career fields and employers.

ALLOW YOUR STUDENT TO MAKE THE DECISION

Keep in mind that the sudden change in an academic major is not unusual. Also, don't fret when what seems as an outrageous or impractical career idea is broached. Even though you may not agree with the decision, parental patience, sympathy, and understanding are critical at this point.

EXPOSE YOUR STUDENT TO THE WORLD OF WORK

Understand that most their age tend to have a stereotypical view of the workplace.

EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Internships, Cooperative Education (Co-op), Job Shadowing, Externships, Program Capstone Classes, Service Based Learning, and other forms of Experiential Learning expose students to real life, on-the-job training and exposes them to potential employers.

ENCOURAGE EXTRACURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

Interpersonal and leadership skills, qualities valued by future employers, are often developed while participating in extracurricular activities.

PERSUADE YOUR STUDENT TO STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH CURRENT EVENTS

Students should know what is going on around them. Worldly knowledge about current events will help students make connections with potential employers.

TEACH THE VALUE OF NETWORKING

Recommend contacts in your own personal and professional networks that may have information on summer or part-time jobs. Encourage the “shadowing” of someone in the workplace as a way to increase awareness of an interesting career field.

HELP THE CAREER CENTER

Help the Career Center by making contact whenever your place of employment has an appropriate job opening. If your business hires interns, list the internship information with the Career Center.



COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

335 McCain • P.O. Box 6046

Mississippi State, MS 39762

coop@career.msstate.edu

career.msstate.edu | 662.325.3823

WHAT IS COOPERATIVE EDUCATION (CO-OP)?

As a special academic program allowing students to obtain “real world” experience related to their field of study while still in school, it involves alternating work semesters with school semesters. After completing three work semesters, most students should have gained 52 weeks of work experience before graduation.

While at work, students retain their full-time student status; scholarships, insurance, and school loans are not affected. A 2.5 minimum overall grade-point average is required to participate. Freshmen are eligible to begin work after two semesters at MSU and transfer students, after one semester.

WHAT IS AN INTERNSHIP?

Usually occurring during the summer but also during regular academic periods, it is a paid or unpaid full-time, practical work experience for one to two semesters. While the work may involve a specific project based on the company’s need, it should be related to the student’s professional interest and/or major. As with the Cooperative Education Program, interning students maintain full-time enrollment status, with scholarships, insurance, and school loans unaffected. Requirements to participate are based on the type of internship, but for Professional Practice, 60+ semester hours must be completed with a minimum 2.75 GPA. For congressional, Disney, and Career Center internships, students must have full-time status and good academic standing with the university.

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE.

Successful employment most often is the primary goal for students after graduation. In today’s economy, however, dedicated study and good grades no longer are enough. To gain a competitive edge, students must have accumulated practical work experience related to their major field of study. That “edge” is something employers desire in new hires; having it can make the difference in pre-graduation job searches.



JAMES WILLIS
MAJOR: MARKETING
CURRENT STUDENT

W
Welcome Y'all
Cajun



MSU



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COMMUNITY INFO

Starkville is a vibrant city with abundant access to cultural events, a thriving downtown area and a full offering of leisure activities to help create a wonderful quality of life.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES | starkvillearts.net

Art in Public Places is a year-round program where artists are given public exhibit space to sell their work in a variety of group and solo shows.

BULLDOG BASH | msubulldogbash.com

Bulldog Bash takes place each fall on an away football game weekend in downtown Starkville. In addition to live musical concerts, the event features a major pep rally and an array of food vendors.

CHARLES TEMPLETON RAGTIME JAZZ FESTIVAL | festival.library.msstate.edu

Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival is held during the spring semester and features a blend of major and mini concerts, seminars and tours of the Charles H. Templeton Sr. Music Museum at Mitchell Memorial Library.

COTTON DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL AND TASTE OF STARKVILLE | starkvillearts.net

Held each fall in the historic Cotton District in Starkville, Mississippi, the festival blends incredible art, music, and food into a showcase event. The festival is host to more than 125 artisans, as well as a Juried Art competition and show, Writer's Village, Taste of Starkville restaurant competition, Pet Parade, Student Art competition, and much more.

INTERNATIONAL FIESTA

International Fiesta is sponsored each April by the Richard Holmes Cultural Diversity Center. Members of the campus and Starkville communities come together to celebrate and experience various world cultures, including representative food items and entertainment activities.

KING COTTON CRAWFISH BOIL | starkville.org/visit/events/king-cotton-crawfish-boil

Held at the Fire Station Park in downtown Starkville, bragging rights are on the line as local cooking teams show their best crawfish recipes along with add-ins and fixins.

MAGNOLIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL | magnoliafilmfest.com

Mississippi's oldest film festival, Magnolia Independent Film Festival is held in February and affords opportunities to view more than two dozen independent films.

PUMPKINPALOOZA | starkville.org/visit/events/pumpkinpalooza

Pumpkinpalooza is a fall semester family event held around Halloween in downtown Starkville that features a locally grown pumpkin patch, trick-or-treating with local merchants, live music and other fun events.



OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS
Mississippi State, MS 39762
ocss.msstate.edu | 662.325.3611

Mississippi State University's Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) exists to positively impact and benefit students, the university, and the surrounding area. OCSS provides centralized resources and support to cultivate independent life skills, develop strong civic leaders, and foster involvement in the University and the Starkville community.

We help students who are currently, or considering, living off campus and strive to provide students with the resources necessary to have a positive off-campus experience. OCSS is housed within the Dean of Students' Office, a part of the Division of Student Affairs.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

SAM D. HAMILTON NOXUBEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

fws.gov/refuge/noxubee

Located 13 miles south of Starkville, the 48,000-acre Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee Wildlife Refuge is home to bald eagles, alligators, red-cockaded woodpeckers, bobcats, wild turkeys and other animals native to the region. In addition to hunters and fishers, regular visitors include birdwatchers, hikers and photographers. The Refuge, as it's known to most, also has several nature trails and observation decks.

OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Also near Starkville are the John W. Starr Memorial Forest, an 8,200-acre natural woodlands park to the south; and the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway to the east that offers 1,000 miles of shoreline and 110,000 acres of land and water for fishing, boating, skiing, camping, hiking, and swimming.

Within the city limits, Starkville's Parks and Recreation Department maintains six public parks (662.323.2294, starkvilleparks.com). Starkville in Motion, a private organization, promotes bike trails, hiking trails, sidewalks, and more within the city.

Starkville, which bills itself as "Mississippi's College Town," offers a variety of entertainment opportunities that range from concerts to rodeos. To check the calendar of events, visit members.starkville.org/events/calendar.

Additional entertainment options include:

- **UEC Hollywood Premier Cinemas**, a 10-screen movie theater | uecmovies.com | 662.320.9000
- **Skate Odyssey** roller skating rink | msskate.com | 662.323.8821
- **Southern Billiards** | 662.323.7665
- **Mississippi Horse Park, Agricenter and Fairgrounds** | mshorsepark.com | 662.325.9350
- **Starkville Community Theatre** | sct-online.org | 662.323.6855

DISTINCTIVE DISTRICTS

COTTON DISTRICT

Probably Starkville's most photographed area and a model for "New Urbanism" architecture, this area just off campus once included a collection of row houses and substandard residences associated with the neighborhood cotton mill. Today, it is filled with award-winning, brightly colored buildings evocative of Savannah, Charleston and New Orleans.

DOWNTOWN STARKVILLE starkville.org | 662.323.3322

The city's earliest identity as "Boardtown" disappeared with the massive sawmill and literal boardwalks, but Starkville has kept the flavor and character of its "boomtown" years around the turn of the 20th century. Well-preserved churches and the downtown 1925 Hotel Chester (on the National Register of Historic Places) add character and charm.

NASH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

MSU faculty and staff members built this neighborhood, Starkville's earliest subdivision, consisting of Tudor-Revival, bungalow and craftsman styles dating from the early- and mid-20th century.

GREENSBORO STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Cotton-hauling wagons that negotiated "Greensboro Road" on their way to the Tombigbee River were long gone by the time Starkville's prosperous merchants and professionals made Greensboro Street the address of choice for their Victorian, Tudor-Revival, bungalow and craftsman homes from the 1860s through the 1930s.

OVERSTREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Houses built close to both downtown and Overstreet School (circa 1894) form Starkville's largest historic district. Overstreet homes range from ornate Queen Anne to mid-20th century craftsman and bungalow styles. An occasional cook's or smoke house found behind some main structures are reminders of another era. The district is bordered by Washington Street to the west, Wood Street to the south, South Montgomery to the east and Hogan Street to the north.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Butler Guest House (MSU)

42 Walker Road
662.325.4140
housing.msstate.edu/guest

Comfort Suites

801 Russell Street
662.324.9595
comfortsuites.com

Courtyard Marriott

100 Mercantile Street
662.338.3116
marriott.com

Days Inn & Suites

119 Highway 12 West
662.270.5995
daysinn.com

Hampton Inn

700 Highway 12 East
662.324.1333
hamptoninn.com

Hilton Garden Inn

975 Highway 12 East
662.615.9664
hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

110 Highway 12 West
662.324.0076
hiexpress.com

Historic Hotel Chester

101 North Jackson Street
662.323.5005
866.325.5005
historichotelchester.com

La Quinta Inn & Suites

982 Highway 12 East
662.270.4100
lq.com

Microtel Inn and Suites

12104 Highway 182 East
662.268.2158
microtelinn.com

UTILITIES

Starkville Utilities

Provides electric, water, sewer, and garbage service inside the city limits.
200 North Lafayette Street
P.O. Box 927
662.323.3133
starkvilleutilities.com

4-County Electric Power Association

Provides electric service outside the city limits.
9776 Highway 25 South
P.O. Box 827
662.323.4502
4county.org

Atmos Energy

atmosenergy.com

AUTO REPAIR

A&R Foreign Auto Service

1410 Louisville Street
662.324.1245
aandrforeignauto.com

Automotive Service Center

310 Industrial Park Road
662.323.3336

**Cannon Ford-Lincoln of
Starkville**

12249 MS Highway 182 East
662.546.4201
cannonfordlincolnofstarkville.net

Cole Auto Repair

209 Highway 12 West
662.323.1245

**Express Oil Change &
Service Center**

305 Highway 12 East
662.615.4200
expressoil.com

Mike's Automotive

1711 Old Highway 25
662.418.0849

**Paddock Auto Sales
& Service**

121 Highway 12 West
662.323.5814

**Parker-McGill Chrysler
Dodge Jeep Ram**

105 Parker-McGill Drive
662.268.2048
parkercdjr.com

Performance Automotive

13927 Highway 182
662.323.7862

Pete's Transmission Shop

1214 Louisville Street
662.323.2795

Raymond's Auto Repair

46 Crosstie Street
662.323.4045

R&M Tires

117 Highway 12 West
662.323.1026
randmtirepros.com

Tri-Starr Muffler & Brakes

105 Avenue of Patriots Street
662.324.1940
tristarrautoservice.com

**Waltmon Frame &
Body Shop**

1105 Stark Road
662.323.0516
waltmonautobody.com

**William Wells Tire &
Auto Repair**

12919 Highway 182 East
662.324.1006
williamwellstireandauto.com

BANKS

**Bankfirst Financial
Services**

101 Russell Street
662.323.9599
1000 Highway 12 West
662.323.3995
bankfirstfs.com

Bank of Commerce

315 University Drive
662.324.0001
bankcom.com

Cadence Bank

400 University Drive
662.323.9393
802 Highway 12 West
662.324.5500
cadencebank.com

CB+S Bank

303 Highway 12 West
662.324.4864
cbsbank.com

The Citizens Bank

201 Highway 12 West
662.323.1420
thecitizensbankphila.com

Mississippi Land Bank

972 Highway 12 East
662.323.8150
mslandbank.com

Regions Bank

300 University Drive
662.765.3740
regions.com

Renasant Bank

500 East Lampkin Street
800.680.1601 or
662.338.1200
renasantbank.com

**Statewide Federal
Credit Union**

333 Highway 12 West
662.323.5020
statewidedfcu.org

Trustmark

128 Highway 12 West
662.324.4888
trustmark.com

GROCERS

Aldi

671 Highway 12 West
855.955.2534
aldi.us

Kroger

826 Highway 12 West
662.324.8032
kroger.com

**Walmart Neighborhood
Market**

105 Market Street
662.270.6295
walmart.com

Walmart Supercenter

1010 Highway 12 West
662.324.0374
walmart.com

FLORISTS

Fleur-de-lis

222 E Main Street
662.498.1011
floristnstarkvillems.com

Flowers by the Bunch

706 Louisville Street
662.323.9580
flowersbythebunch.biz

State Floral

401 University Drive, Suite 3
662.268.8177
shopstatefloral.com

The Flower Company

401 East Lampkin Street
662.320.9040
theflowercompanystarkvegas.com

University Florist (MSU)

100 Lee Boulevard
662.325.3585
florist.msstate.edu

PHARMACIES

BJ's Family Pharmacy

605 South Jackson Street
662.324.7112

CVS

401 Highway 12 West
662.615.6033

Kroger Pharmacy

826 Highway 12 West
662.324.8053

**Longest Student Health
Center Pharmacy (MSU)**

360 Hardy Road
662.325.8205

Walgreen's Pharmacy

220 Highway 12 West
662.323.2129

Walmart Marketplace

105 Market Street
662.270.6296

Walmart Pharmacy

1010 Highway 12 West
662.324.1901







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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In case of emergency 911
MSU Police Department 662.325.2121
Campus-wide emergency info line..... 662.325.5555
Longest Student Health Center..... 662.325.7539
OCH Regional Medical Center
 Main number 662.323.4320
 Emergency room..... 662.615.2692
Dean of Students' Office 662.325.3611
 Office of Parent & Family Services, same as above
 Thomas Bourgeois,
 Dean of Students' cell 662.312.1996
Office of Emergency Management..... 662.325.4521

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ready.msstate.edu | ready@msstate.edu

MAROON ALERT

Maroon Alert is Mississippi State University's official emergency notification system and includes several methods for relaying information about a current or anticipated crisis. Maroon Alerts are only sent for emergencies or periodic tests. To learn more about the Maroon Alert System, contact the Office of Emergency Management: ready@msstate.edu or visit ready.msstate.edu.

MAROON ALERTS FOR THE UNIVERSITY

(INDIVIDUALS WITH A NETID & PASSWORD)

Full-time Mississippi State University students are automatically enrolled in Maroon Alert. To update or verify your Maroon Alert information, follow these steps:

Log in to my.msstate.edu with your MSU NetID & NetPassword.

- Click the three bars on the left side of the page to open the menu.
- Click "Banner" and then click the "Personal Information" tab.
- Click "Update Your Maroon Alert Information" to verify your enrollment and contact information. You may also log into the Everbridge Portal to conduct a self-test.
- Don't forget to log out of my.msstate.edu.

Please Note:

It may take up to 24 hours for contact information updates to take effect. Cell phone numbers listed in the Maroon Alert System are not published in the directory and are only used for emergency notifications or periodic tests.

Delivery methods will include the Maroon Alert app (if installed), SMS text, university email, and a phone call. When an emergency exists, the Maroon Alert system will try to reach you through each of these methods. If you receive an alert and have moved to safety, confirm receipt of the alert so the system knows it was successfully delivered. This will stop further attempts to reach you with the same message.

Maroon Alert App from Everbridge

The Maroon Alert App from Everbridge is the fastest way to receive alerts. Search for Everbridge in your app store to get started. For installation and registration details, visit emergency.msstate.edu/app for installation and setup instructions.

MAROON ALERTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Families and friends can sign up for Maroon Alert by texting "MAROONALERT" to 888777. This keyword is not case-sensitive. You will be enrolled in the Maroon Alert Community Engagement and will receive a text from 888777 anytime an alert is issued. You may text "STOP"

to 888777 at any time to be removed from the system.

Community members are also encouraged to follow [@MaroonAlert](https://twitter.com/MaroonAlert) on Twitter to receive advisory and emergency update information.

OTHER WAYS TO GET EMERGENCY ALERTS

The Emergency Management homepage will display the most recent Maroon Alert tweet. The site also provides emergency response steps as well as preparedness information. Visit ready.msstate.edu to learn more.

Maroon Alerts will be displayed on university desktops and many campus display screens. The message will remain visible for two minutes unless canceled by the desktop user. Additionally, university webpages will display a yellow or blue banner at the header to indicate an alert has been issued. Click the link in the message to be directed to the Emergency Management homepage. A yellow banner indicates an emergency and a blue banner is used for an advisory.

Outdoor Warning Sirens are positioned throughout campus and Starkville and may be used to notify the campus community of approaching severe weather. Additional information and updates may be shared through [@MaroonAlert](https://twitter.com/MaroonAlert) on Twitter. Outdoor Warning Sirens are tested at noon on the first Tuesday of each month during clear weather.

EMERGENCY UPDATES

After a Maroon Alert has been issued, follow-up information and updates may be provided on the Maroon Alert Twitter account: **@MaroonAlert**. Follow this account and turn on notifications to be stay informed of developments. You may also view the latest tweet on the Emergency Management homepage, ready.msstate.edu.

ACTIONS TO TAKE

If a Maroon Alert is issued for an emergency:

- Notify those around you. Make sure others received the alert. Their phones may be on silent or they may not be enrolled in the Maroon Alert system.
- Get to a safe place. If the danger or hazard is not near you, continue to stay in a safe place. If you feel you are not in a safe place, quickly and calmly get to safety.
- Stay safe and wait for updates/instructions. Follow **@MaroonAlert** for further instructions and to monitor conditions. Do not share or retweet information from unverified sources.



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE

25 Walker Road • P.O. Box BJ
Mississippi State, MS 39762
police.msstate.edu |
662.325.2121 call or text

The Mississippi State University Police Department (MSUPD) is dedicated to providing the campus community with the highest quality law enforcement and crime prevention services. In support of the university's overall academic mission, the MSUPD strives to perform a vital role in enhancing that mission.

The department's more than 34 sworn officers are certified through the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy and hold constable powers under authority of state statute. The MSUPD has jurisdiction for enforcement of institutional rules and regulations and State of Mississippi laws on all university-owned, -rented or -leased properties.

SAFE WALK

Safe Walk is a 24/7 service operated by the MSUPD to safely escort individuals to their vehicles, buildings or other campus destinations. Telephone or text

662.325.2121 and an escort will be sent to walk students to their destination. Safe Walk members are equipped with two-way radios and wear reflective vests. At night, patrol members travel throughout campus in golf carts to provide extra sets of eyes and ears for officers on duty and report any activity that may require law enforcement response. Hours of operation vary but the generally begin at dark and continue until the early morning hours.

WEAPON POSSESSION

While MSU understands that many are hunters, its students should be aware that possession of any weapon on campus represents a serious concern. Under most circumstances, possession violates both university policy and state law. Because it is a felony, any student found in possession within campus boundaries may be subject to arrest and confiscation of the weapon. Additionally, an arrested student may immediately be suspended from classes, pending a disciplinary hearing.

ALCOHOL & ILLEGAL DRUGS

Mississippi State prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on university property. Any student failing to observe these policies will be subject to institutional sanctions in accordance with established disciplinary procedures including suspension or expulsion. In addition to university sanctions, a student found in violation of the drug and alcohol policy may be referred to the appropriate authorities for prosecution. Under local, state and federal laws, legal sanctions may include fine, imprisonment or both.

PARENT & FAMILY SERVICES

Congratulations and welcome to Parent and Family Services. You automatically are a member when your son or daughter enrolls, and there is no fee to join. Our goal is to keep you informed about campus events, important dates and information that you and your student will find helpful. Please fill out the information form below and you will receive our electronic newsletter.

Student's Name: _____ Student's Cell Phone: _____

Student's Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

PARENT | FAMILY INFO:

Contact Name: _____

Relationship: (check one) ☐ Father ☐ Guardian
☐ Mother ☐ Step-parent
☐ Grandparent ☐ Other

E-mail: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

Contact Name: _____

Relationship: (check one) ☐ Father ☐ Guardian
☐ Mother ☐ Step-parent
☐ Grandparent ☐ Other

E-mail: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

NOTES

[illegible]



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

OFFICE OF PARENT
AND FAMILY SERVICES

662.325.3611 | family@msstate.edu | family.msstate.edu