

# STUDENT 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

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CONTACTS (inside front cover)

### JUST FOR STUDENTS

Dean of Students' Office .....	1
Parent & Family Services .....	1
23 Rules of College Etiquette .....	2
Keeping Parents Informed .....	5
MSU Traditions .....	6
MSU Dictionary .....	8
Access to Records .....	10
Student Conduct .....	10
Campus Conduct Process .....	11

### STUDENT LIFE

Holmes Cultural Diversity Center ...	12
Cowbell Connect .....	13
Lyceum Series .....	13
Music Maker Productions .....	13
Art Gallery .....	13
Student Association .....	13
Dance Marathon .....	13
Student Activities Programs .....	14
New Maroon Camp .....	14
Involvement Ambassadors .....	14
Montgomery Leadership Program..	15
Day One Leadership Program .....	15
Maroon Volunteer Center .....	16
Alternative Break Trips .....	16
Fraternity and Sorority Life .....	17

### CAMPUS LIFE

Housing and Residence Life .....	18
Mail and Packages Delivery .....	21
Barnes & Noble at MSU .....	22
Meal Plans .....	23
Campus Dining .....	24
Parking and Transit Services .....	25

### STUDENT SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

Longest Student Health Center .....	26
Care, Concern & Well-Being .....	27
Academic, Access & Support .....	27
Health Promotion & Wellness .....	27
Disability Resource Center .....	28
Student Counseling Services .....	28
Center for America's Veterans .....	28
University Recreation .....	29
University Ministry .....	31

### ACADEMICS

Schedules .....	32
Student Course Load .....	33
Withdrawal .....	34
Academic Advising .....	34
College Advisors .....	35
How to Calculate GPA .....	38
Academic Services .....	39
Study Abroad .....	41
Shackouls Honors College .....	42
Academic Calendar .....	43
Honor Code .....	44

### MONEY MATTERS

Financial Aid .....	46
Account Services .....	49
ID Card .....	50
Payment Plans .....	51
Banks .....	51

### COMPUTER RESOURCES

Safe Computing Tips .....	52
Personal Computers .....	52
Software, Credentials, & Connectivity .....	53
ITS Service Desk .....	55

### CAREER PLANNING

The Career Center .....	56
Services and Events .....	57
Family Assistance .....	59
Co-op and Internships .....	60

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International Services Office .....	62
Getting Involved .....	65
11 Places to Visit .....	67

### COMMUNITY INFO

Festivals and Events .....	70
Off-Campus Student Services .....	71
Outdoor Recreation .....	71
Entertainment .....	71
Distinctive Districts .....	72
Accommodations .....	72
Utilities .....	72
Telephone .....	73
Cable .....	73
Dining .....	73
Coffee & Desserts .....	74
Auto Repair .....	75
Banks .....	75
Grocers .....	75
Florists .....	75
Pharmacies .....	76

### EMERGENCY

<i>Emergency Numbers</i>	
Emergency Management .....	78
Maroon Alert System .....	78
MSU Police .....	79
Safe Walk .....	79
Weapon Possession .....	79
Alcohol and Illegal Drugs .....	79



# JUST FOR STUDENTS

Dean of Students' Office .....	1
Office of Parent & Family Services .....	1
23 Rules of College Etiquette .....	2
Keeping Parents Informed .....	5
MSU Traditions .....	6
MSU Dictionary .....	8
Access to Records .....	10
Student Conduct .....	10
Campus Conduct Process .....	11

# JUST FOR STUDENTS

Mississippi State is committed to our partnership with students. 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 be successful here at State.

## DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

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

Mississippi State, MS 39762

[dos@msstate.edu](mailto:dos@msstate.edu)

[students.msstate.edu](http://students.msstate.edu) | 662.325.3611

The Dean of Students' Office (DOS) serves your overall needs, helping you form relationships with the university, as well as other students. If you have questions or concerns about any issue, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to visit the DOS.

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](mailto:family@msstate.edu)

[family.msstate.edu](http://family.msstate.edu) | 662.325.3611

The Office of Parent & Family Services serves as your liaison to Mississippi State, helping you navigate 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.



# 23 RULES OF COLLEGE ETIQUETTE

## **RESPECT AND FOLLOW OUR SCHOOL'S HONOR CODE**

This is the most important rule of all. Don't cheat and don't steal information. Cheating can occur in many forms—from copying a paper a friend turned in a semester before to stealing music off of the Internet.

## **GO TO CLASS AND GET THERE ON TIME**

It is disrespectful to your professor and distracting to your classmates to walk into a class or lecture late. You need to do everything you can to avoid missing class. If you don't think the professor has something valuable to teach you about the subject, then don't take the class.

## **BE PREPARED FOR CLASS AND BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT**

When professors give reading assignments for the next class, they expect that you will have read the material prior to when you arrive. If you have a question about the topic in the lecture, raise your hand, wait to be called on, and ask the question. More than likely, others are confused about the same point and will appreciate you asking the question.

## **DON'T MONOPOLIZE THE DISCUSSION**

Inevitably, in every class, there is one person who wants to comment on every single topic. This person will normally have his or her hand raised during the entire class and also will want to talk to the professor afterward. Don't be this person. Give other people a chance to speak and ask questions. You will learn from them.

## **USE SOCIAL MEDIA CAREFULLY**

Remember that anything you put on the Web is public—even if you have to approve friends to see your page. What may seem appropriate now—making fun of an organization or photos of you after too many drinks at a party—may not be appropriate later. Remember that professors, employers and graduate schools have access to these Web pages, too. You don't want your election for U.S. senator to be marred by your former behavior.

## **NEVER TYPE SOMETHING YOU WOULDN'T OR SHOULDN'T SAY**

Sometimes it is easy to sit at your computer and write a harsh e-mail to a friend or professor. Remember that tone is hard to read in an e-mail and that face-to-face communication is always better. If you wouldn't say it to a professor or friend's face, then don't assume it is appropriate for e-mail either.

## **DON'T TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS IN CLASS**

You are in class to learn, not to socialize. If you are taking a class with friends, try to sit alone so you won't be distracted. If you do sit with friends, remember this—it is rude to laugh and talk during class. You'll bring attention to yourselves that you will not want. Most likely, the professor will call on you more or evaluate your class participation grade lower.

## **TURN OFF THE GADGETS**

(Cell Phone, iPhone, Black-Berry, internet)

It is fine to take notes on a laptop (try to type quietly), but it is not fine for your cell phone to ring during lecture. It is not OK to send text messages during class. And, you shouldn't be playing Internet poker during Psychology 101, either.

## **DON'T TALK ABOUT OR COMPLAIN ABOUT GRADES**

The best rule to follow here is to treat grades as personal and private. Don't obsess about them before a test, and don't compare them after a test. Nothing good can ever come of talking about grades. If you got a better grade, you'll make the other person feel bad. If the other person did, he or she will make you feel bad. Just remember, not every person is a straight-A student. You may know that you excel in the humanities, but math and science are challenging for you. Comparing grades will only make you or others feel terrible.

## **KEEP YOUR COMMITMENTS**

Make commitments carefully, and once you make them, keep them. This is especially important when working on group projects and in organizations. If people are depending on you, you need to be worthy of their trust.

## **DON'T GO TO A PROFESSOR'S OFFICE HOURS TO LOBBY FOR A BETTER GRADE**

Make commitments carefully, and once you make them, keep them. This is especially important when working on group projects and in organizations. If people are depending on you, you need to be worthy of their trust.

## **DON'T BE A MOOCH**

Don't ask people to lend you money and then neglect to pay them back. Don't ask people to pay for the pizza and then forget to pay your share. Don't always drink your roommate's Cokes without bringing a six-pack every now and then. When in question, contribute more, not less.

## **CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF**

This should be a no-brainer, but it isn't for everyone. Here's the bottom line—throw away your trash. Don't make messes in common areas. Don't let your clutter infringe on your roommate's space.

## **BE A GOOD LISTENER**

To be a good friend, you have to be a good listener. Remember the old saying that you have two ears and one mouth for a reason so act accordingly.

## **KEEP SECRETS AND DON'T GOSSIP**

Anything that is shared in confidence with you should stay that way. For you to be trusted for your advice and counsel, you must first be seen as someone who can be trusted.

## **SHARE EVERYTHING YOU CAN**

Share your class notes, clothes, iPod—whatever a roommate, friend or classmate might need. In college, what goes around, comes around. Someday it will be you needing the class notes, shirt for the big date, or the iPod for your long run. If you share with others, they will share with you.





# 23 RULES OF COLLEGE ETIQUETTE

## **ASK FIRST, BORROW SECOND**

Remember that you should never borrow anything without asking first. This is one of the easiest ways to ruin a great relationship with a roommate. Just because it was OK for you to borrow his or her iPod today does not mean it's OK to borrow it tomorrow.

## **CONEY MESSAGES PROMPTLY**

If someone stops by or calls for your roommate and you take a message, don't forget to leave that message. This is another way to prevent a major battle with your roommate.

## **CONTROL YOUR USE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

Without passing judgment on the advisability of the use of alcohol and drugs, know that if you get trashed or baked, or both, you become a safety concern and a burden on your friends and roommates. You should never allow yourself to lose control of your faculties to the point that you must rely on others for your safety.

## **WATCH AFTER YOUR FRIENDS AND ROOMMATES**

Remember to do things in groups and keep an eye on everyone in your group. Talk to each other and reach an agreement before you go out about what the rules of the road are going to be. Do you all go home together at a certain time? Do you wait for each other? Do you have a code that means "This person is scary-help"? Most of the bad things that will happen to you or a friend in college will occur if you are alone or without your friends to help you make good decisions.

## **PRACTICE SAFE SEX**

In this era of casual sexual "hookups" on campus, condom use should be the rule and should be assumed. It can sometimes be awkward to initiate a discussion about protection in the heat of passion. Often, one partner will wait for the other to start the discussion, and unfortunately the result, many times, is that neither one does start, exposing both partners to the risk of

sexually transmitted disease and unwanted pregnancy. Don't wait for the discussion. Assume safe sex to be the rule as a gesture of mutual respect.

## **DON'T DATE YOUR ROOMMATE'S OR FRIEND'S SIBLINGS OR EXES**

This is the quickest way to lose your roommate and/or your friend. Think about this: will you be comfortable in a long-term relationship with someone who also dated your roommate? Would you be comfortable dating your best friend's brother or sister; visiting them on holidays and vacations? What if he or she cheats on you? What if you cheat on him or her? What if the relationship ends badly? You could easily lose both your friend and your romantic partner.

## **RESPECT DIFFERENCES IN TASTE, OPINION, POLITICS, RELIGION, AND SEXUAL PREFERENCE**

Although most of us are naturally drawn to people who look, act and think like we do, college is a diverse world full of people who don't. Remember that college is a time of exploration and personal growth for almost everyone. Learn to embrace diversity and strive to understand other people's points of view and perspectives, even if ultimately you don't agree with them. Listen more and judge less, and with some luck, you will be treated the same way by others.



# KEEPING YOUR PARENTS INFORMED

## KEEPING YOUR PARENTS INFORMED

As you prepare to go to college, you are probably excited or anxious, or both. You have had your parents to help you the last several years, so you will probably plan to rely on them during your adventure at college. Parents are a perfect sounding board for ideas and for administering advice. Sometimes, parents can be too involved in your college experience. Here are some ideas about how to set boundaries on what you should and should not ask your parents to do.

## SET UP A SCHEDULE FOR CHECKING IN

Talk to your parents before you go to college about when you will talk and how you will communicate. Your parents might be fearful that you are basically going off into the jungle. Giving them set times to hear from you will reassure them that you are not gone forever. A good idea is to agree to talk every other day or every third day. Some students like to send an e-mail to parents every other day that says, "I'm doing fine. Don't worry." Of course, you can tell them more if you want to, but at least this way, they will know you are alive and kicking.

In addition, it's a good idea to have a "date" each week for a lengthy conversation about what all has happened at MSU. Sunday nights are often a great time for you and your parents to talk about everything. It might even become a ritual for you to talk about the past week to prepare for the upcoming week. Know that if you set a time with your parents, you need to stick to it. They will really look forward to hearing from you.

## CALL YOUR PARENTS ON THE GOOD DAYS

When things go wrong—and things will go wrong—you are going to want to call home. Do it. Call home and get advice about how to mend the relationship with your roommate, how to study harder for the next exam, and how to change a flat tire. But, remember to call home on the good days, too. A lot of times when you are hanging out with friends, joining fun organizations, and doing well in class, you don't call home. Things are going so well that you don't need support. Your parents want to know when you do well just as much as they want to know when you need help. Call and tell them.

## SCHEDULE CAMPUS VISITS FOR FAMILIES

There is nothing worse than having your parents show up unexpectedly

at your dorm when you are about to go out with friends. They might even want to come in and look around. Imagine how shocked they will be to see seven half-empty pizza boxes and six weeks of dirty laundry scattered across the floor. Plus, it's hard to choose between doing something you really want or have to do and spending time with your family when they show up unexpectedly. Ask your parents to call first.

## ASK YOUR PARENTS BEFORE YOU BRING A FRIEND OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER ALONG

A lot of times when your parents come to campus for a night or a weekend, they are desperate to spend some time alone with you. The same thing is true for when you go home for the weekend. If you bring a buddy to tag along, it's hard for your parents to feel like they really got to spend quality time with you. Even if your parents adore the guy or girl you have been dating for the last three years, they will still want some time with you alone. Talk to them about it so that no feelings are unintentionally hurt.

## WEEKENDS AT HOME

Parents are not mind readers—even though they try to be. Let them know exactly what you plan to do when you are home for a weekend. Often this is what happens—you tell your mom and dad that you'll be home Friday night for the weekend.

**Their plan:** They have your favorite meal, on the table at 6 p.m. sharp. They have already made plans to go get your hair cut bright and early on Saturday morning, followed by a day of manual labor in the yard finishing up a project they need help with. Sunday will be early church, a family lunch and then a quick trip to visit your grandmother in the nursing home.

**Your plan:** You planned on getting to your hometown at about 8 p.m., changing clothes quickly and going out with high school friends at 9. You'll stay out late catching up and partying until 2 or 3 a.m., then sleep until noon on Saturday. That afternoon, you want to go by the mall to get a new shirt for the upcoming game. Saturday night, you want to go to the movies and then on Sunday you'll leave early to get back for a group study session. To prevent this, talk to your parents before you get home. You'll be glad you did.

# MSU TRADITIONS

## THE BULLDOG

Mississippi State University athletic teams are called Bulldogs, a name earned and maintained over the decades by the tough, tenacious play of student-athletes wearing the maroon and white. The official school mascot is an American Kennel Club-registered English bulldog, given the inherited title of "Bully."

As with most universities, State teams answered to different nicknames through the years. The first squads representing Mississippi A&M College were proud to be called Aggies, and when the school officially became Mississippi State College in 1932, the nickname Maroons, for State's uniform color, gained prominence. Bulldogs became the official title for State teams in 1961, not long after State College was granted university status. Yet, references to school teams and athletes as Bulldogs actually go back to early in the century, and this nickname was used almost interchangeably with both Aggies and Maroons, since at least 1905.

On Nov. 30 of that year, the A&M football team shut out their arch-rivals from the University of Mississippi 11-0 in Jackson. The campus newspaper, *The Reflector*, reported: "After the game, filled with that emotion that accompanies every great victory, there was nothing left for the cadets to do but to complete the great victory by showing sympathy for the dead athletic spirit of the University, by having a military funeral parade.

"A coffin was secured, decorated with University colors and a bulldog pup placed on top. It was then placed on the shoulders of a dozen cadets, and the procession started down Capitol Street, preceded by the band playing a very pathetic funeral march."

Other newspaper reports of the victory commented on the "bulldog" style of play by the A&M 11, and the bulldog was soon publicly accepted as a school athletic symbol. Accounts of a 1926 pep rally in Meridian had another bulldog parading with students.

Use as an official game mascot began in 1935 when Coach Maj. Ralph Sasse, on "orders" from his team, went to Memphis, Tenn., to select a bulldog. Ptolemy, a gift of the Edgar Webster family, was chosen and the Bulldogs promptly defeated Alabama 20-7. A litter mate of Ptolemy became the first mascot called "Bully" shortly after Sasse's team beat mighty Army 13-7 at West Point that same year, perhaps the greatest victory in MSU football history. But Bully I earned more fame the hard way when, in 1939, a campus bus cut short his career—and his life. Days of campus mourning followed, as Bully lay in state in a glass coffin. A half-mile funeral procession accompanied by the Famous Maroon Band and three ROTC battalions went to Scott Field where Bully was buried under the bench at the 50-yard line. Even *LIFE Magazine* covered the event. Other Bulllys have since been buried at campus dorms, fraternity houses and also at the football stadium.

For years, Bully was a target for kidnapers, the last incident occurring prior to the 1974 State-Ole Miss game. The Bulldog team won anyway, 31-13. While early Bulllys once roamed campus freely or lived in fraternities, today the official university mascot is housed at the College of Veterinary Medicine when not on duty at State home football games. For all their fierce appearance and reputation, today's mascot bulldogs are good-natured, friendly animals and favorites with children. A student wearing a bulldog suit, also answering to Bully, is part of the MSU cheerleading team and assists in stirring up State spirit at games and pep rallies.



## THE COWBELL

The most unique, and certainly the most resounding symbol of Mississippi State University tradition, is the cowbell. Despite decades of attempts by opponents and authorities to banish it from scenes of competition, diehard State fans still celebrate Bulldog victories loudly and proudly with the distinctive sound of ringing cowbells. The precise origin of the cowbell as a fixture of Mississippi State sports tradition remains unclear to this day. The best records have cowbells gradually introduced to the MSU sports scene in the late 1930s and early 1940s, coinciding with the “golden age” of Mississippi State football success prior to World War II.

The most popular legend is that during a home football game between State and arch-rival Mississippi, a Jersey cow wandered onto the playing field. Mississippi State soundly whipped the Rebels that Saturday, and State College students immediately adopted the cow as a good luck charm. Students are said to have continued bringing a cow to football games for a while, until the practice was eventually discontinued in favor of bringing just the cow’s bell.

Whatever the origin, it is certain that by the 1950s, cowbells were common at Mississippi State games, and by the 1960s were established as the special symbol of Mississippi State. In the 1960s, two MSU

professors, Earl W. Terrell and Ralph L. Reeves, obliged some students by welding handles on the bells so they could be rung with much more convenience and authority. By 1963, the demand for these long-handled cowbells could not be filled by home workshops alone, so at the suggestion of Reeves, the Student Association bought bells in bulk and the Industrial Education Club agreed to weld on handles.

Today, many styles of cowbells are available on campus and around Starkville, with the top-of-the-line a heavy chrome plated model with a full Bulldog figurine handle. But experts insist the best and loudest results are produced by a classic long-handled, bicycle-grip bell made of thinner and tightly-welded shells. Cowbells decorate offices and homes of Mississippi State alumni, and are passed down through generations of Bulldog fans. But, they are not heard at Southeastern Conference games—not legally, at least—since the 1974 adoption of a conference rule against “artificial noisemakers” at football and basketball games. This has done little harm to the cowbell’s popularity, however, or to prevent cowbells from being heard outside stadiums in which the Bulldogs are playing. They can still be heard at non-conference football contests, as well as other sporting events on campus.

## HAIL STATE (FIGHT SONG)

Hail deal 'ole State!  
Fight for that victory today.  
Hit that line and tote that ball,  
Cross the goal before you fall!  
And then we'll yell, yell, yell, yell!  
For deal 'ole State we'll yell like H-E-L-L!  
Fight for Mis-si-sip-pi State,  
Win that game today!

## MAROON & WHITE (ALMA MATER)

In the heart of Mississippi  
Made by none but God's own hands  
Stately in her nat'ral splendor  
Our Alma Mater proudly stands.  
State College of Mississippi,  
Fondest mem'ries cling to thee.  
Life shall hoard they spirit ever,  
Loyal sons we'll always be.

Chorus:  
Maroon & White! Maroon & White!  
Of thee with joy we sing.  
Thy colors bright, our souls delight,  
With praise our voices ring.  
Tho' our life some pow'r may vanquish.  
Loyalty can't be o'er run;  
Honors true on thee we lavish  
Until the setting of the sun;  
Live Maroon and White for ever,  
Ne'er can evil mar they flame,  
Nothing us from thee can sever,  
Alma Mater we acclaim.



# MSU DICTIONARY

**ADD/DROP:** The process by which you can add or remove a class from your schedule.

**ADVISOR:** Person who helps you select coursework and can refer you to the appropriate campus services.

**AC:** Area Coordinator; professional member of housing and residence life.

**BLOCK MEAL:** A meal on the dining plan.

**BULLDOG BASH:** Largest free outdoor concert in Mississippi. Begins with a pep rally and is followed by several musical acts. Located in Downtown Starkville.

**BULLYMAIL:** The university assigns every student an official e-mail address of [netid@msstate.edu](mailto:netid@msstate.edu) and uses this e-mail address for official communication with students.

**CANVAS:** Learning management system (LMS) used for online instruction.

**CANVAS STUDENT MOBILE APP:** Allows access to Canvas courses from mobile devices.

**CD:** Community Director; professional member of housing and residence life.

**CSA:** Center for Student Activities. Located in the Colvard Student Union, Room 314, and is responsible for student organizations, Student Association, and Music Maker Productions.

**DAVIS WADE:** The Davis Wade Stadium is home to MSU Football.

**DAWG DAYS:** Welcome events for all MSU students. Begins with MVNU2MSU (residence hall move-in day) and continues through the first few days of school.

**DIFFERENCE OF ONE:** An online portal with 300 student organizations [one.msstate.edu](http://one.msstate.edu).

**DOWNTOWN DAWG:** Shuttle bus operating on Friday and Saturday nights. Takes students from campus to various locations in Starkville.

**THE DRILL:** Traditional welcome event held on the Drill Field during the first week of classes each year.

**DRILL FIELD:** Grass lawn in the heart of the MSU campus. Built in 1909, it is anchored by Lee Hall on the north, and the Swalm Chemical Engineering building (a mirror image of Lee Hall) on the south.

**DUDY NOBLE:** The Dudy Noble Baseball Field.

**FLEX DOLLARS:** A method of payment that is included in most meal plans and can be used at any Dining Services operation on campus.

**HOLD:** If you have been notified that a hold has been placed on your records, you will need to determine the cause of the hold and remedy the situation in order to register for class. Common reasons for holds are: financial (not paying your myState account) or administrative (academic performance).

**THE HUMP:** Humphrey Coliseum. Home of MSU basketball.

**ITS:** Information Technology Services.

**LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITIES:** Residence hall communities shared by students with common interests. Examples: Shackouls Honors College and Day One.

**MVNU2MSU:** Movin' You to MSU. Opening day in the residence halls.

**MSU ID CARD:** is key to accessing goods and services, including MoneyMate, meal plans, sporting events and electronic class attendance.

# MSU DICTIONARY

**MSU FALL CONVOCATION:** A convocation program emphasizing the importance of academics with the goal of each student being successful in college and life.

**MUSIC MAKERS:** Student organization responsible for MSU concerts.

**MYBANNER:** System that provides online registrations, payment of fees and access to your records.

**MYSTATE:** Online portal that offers access to MyBanner, WebCT courses and university e-mail accounts.

**NAVIGATORS:** MSU students who help freshmen navigate through their first year at MSU.

**NETID:** A unique letter and number combination assigned to you by the university. Found on the front of your MSU ID card. ex. abc123.

**MYSTATE MOBILE:** 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.

**NETPASSWORD:** used in conjunction with a NetID when logging in to MSU systems.

**NIGHT ROUTE:** Shuttle bus operating on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Takes students from campus to various locations in Starkville.

**ORGSYNC:** OrgSync is the way to connect to organizations and communicate with other members. [one.msstate.edu](http://one.msstate.edu)

**PARENT PORTAL:** access to view a summary of their academic information including class schedule, grades, absences, account balance, financial aid, and meal plan use.

**QUIKPAY®:** System that allows you and your authorized users (parents) to make online payments to your account.

**REGISTRAR:** Office that handles transcripts, academic calendars, academic records, and more.

**RA:** Resident Advisor. Undergraduate student living on each floor of the residence hall.

**RD:** Residence Director. Graduate student who manages the day-to-day operations of the residence hall.

**SA:** Student Association. Student body government at MSU.

**S.M.A.R.T.:** The Starkville MSU Area Rapid Transit is a free fixed route shuttle service. [smart.msstate.edu](http://smart.msstate.edu)

**THE REFLECTOR:** MSU student newspaper. Published each Tuesday and Friday during the school year.

**THE UNION:** Colvard Student Union. Home to many aspects of student life, including several food vendors and the offices of many campus organizations.

**TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (DUO):** Two-factor authentication adds another layer of security when logging in to MSU systems. The first factor required to login is something you know, i.e. your NetID/NetPassword. The second factor is something you have, typically your smartphone or tablet.

**WMSV:** MSU's radio station. 91.1 FM.



## 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](mailto: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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the YMCA building. A listing of all University Policies can be viewed at [policies.msstate.edu](http://policies.msstate.edu).







# STUDENT LIFE

Holmes Cultural Diversity Center .....	12
Cowbell Connect .....	13
Lyceum Series .....	13
Music Maker Productions .....	13
Art Gallery .....	13
Student Association .....	13
Dance Marathon .....	13
Center for Student Activities Programs .....	14
New Maroon Camp .....	14
Involvement Ambassadors .....	14
Montgomery Leadership Program .....	15
Day One Leadership Program .....	15
Maroon Volunteer Center .....	16
Alternative Break Trips .....	16
Fraternity and Sorority Life .....	17

A group of students participating in a track race. In the foreground, a young woman with her hair in a bun is running with a determined expression. Behind her, other runners are visible, some smiling and others focused. The background shows a large crowd of spectators and more participants on a grassy field.

# 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](http://union.msstate.edu/student-activities)  
662.325.2930

## COWBELL CONNECT

[cowbellconnect.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://mlp.msstate.edu).



## DAY ONE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

313 Mary Lyn and Niles R. Moseley Hall  
[dayone.msstate.edu](http://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](http://dayone.msstate.edu).



## MAROON VOLUNTEER CENTER

306 Mary Lyn and Niles R. Moseley Hall  
[mvc.msstate.edu](http://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](mailto:volunteer@saffairs.msstate.edu).



## ALTERNATIVE BREAK TRIPS

[mvc.msstate.edu](http://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](mailto:volunteer@saffairs.msstate.edu).

# OFFICE OF FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

[greeks.msstate.edu](http://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

Housing and Residence Life .....	18
Mail and Packages Delivery Services .....	21
Bulldog Bundle .....	22
Barnes & Noble at MSU .....	22
Meal Plans .....	23
Campus Dining .....	24
Parking and Transit Services .....	25

A group of diverse students are gathered around a dining table in a campus cafeteria. They are smiling and looking towards the camera. The table is set with plates of food, glasses, and napkins. The background shows the interior of a large dining hall with other tables and students. The overall atmosphere is bright and positive.

# 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](mailto:housing@saffairs.msstate.edu)  
[housing.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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](https://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](https://students.msstate.edu) and [housing.msstate.edu](https://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](https://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](https://msstate.edu/bulldogbundle) or email [sm204@bncollege.com](mailto:sm204@bncollege.com).

## BARNES & NOBLE AT MSU

*Cullis Wade Depot • 75 B.S. Hood Drive  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[msstate.bncollege.com](https://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<sup>®</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 **TransLoc** app today on your smartphone or tablet to track your bus.

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](http://smart.msstate.edu) for details on shuttle tracking, maps, routes, announcements, and service times.



# STUDENT SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

Longest Student Health Center .....	26
Care, Concern & Well-being .....	27
Academic Access & Support .....	27
Health Promotion & Wellness .....	27
Disability Resource Center .....	28
Student Counseling Services .....	28
Center for America's Veterans .....	28
University Recreation .....	29
University Ministry .....	31

A young man with curly hair and sunglasses is riding a bicycle on a paved path. He is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and blue jeans. The background shows green trees and a building with a blue roof. The image is dimmed to allow text to be overlaid.

# 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:dos@msstate.edu) | [students.msstate.edu](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:drc@saffairs.msstate.edu).

## STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

115 Hathorn Hall • P.O. Box NL  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[counseling.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:fitness@saffairs.msstate.edu).

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

[urec.msstate.edu/outdoors](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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

Campus Minister: Rev. Dr. George Rambow  
msuchaplain@gmail.com; resurrectionstarkville@gmail.com  
canterburymSU.org | 662.323.3483

## CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Minister: Joseph Terbrack  
ccm@stjosephstarkville.org  
msstateccm.org | 662.323.2257

## CHOSEN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Minister: Ra'mon Forbes  
c3chosen@gmail.com  
facebook.com/ChosenC3 | 601.260.6739

## CRU

Campus Ministers: Duane and Alice Walters  
alice.walters@cru.org | 407.495.9178  
duane.walters@cru.org | 662.242.3194  
facebook.com/cruatmsu

## LUTHERAN STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Campus Minister: Rev. David Hartung  
office@saintlukesstarkville.org | 662.694.9201

## MSU HILLEL: JEWISH LIFE ON CAMPUS

Contact: Tyler Daniel  
msujewishlife@gmail.com | 601.918.5867

## REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

Campus Minister: Joe Johnson  
joe.johnson@ruf.org  
ruf.org/MSU | 601.573.5602

## UKIRK

Director: Cate Van Halsema  
ukirkmsstate@gmail.com  
Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram @2msukirk | 616.206.5800

## WESLEY FOUNDATION

Campus Ministers: Hugh Griffith and Ryan Stallcup  
statewesleyfoundation@gmail.com  
statewesley.org | 662.323.1778  
facebook.com/msstatewesley  
Instagram @msstatewesley

## YOUNG LIFE

Campus Minister: Taylor Rorex  
younglifemsu@gmail.com | taylor.rorex.yl@gmail.com  
starkville.younglife.org | 865.216.3466

## UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN STUDENT CENTER

Campus Minister: Shane Meredith  
ministershane@gmail.com  
starkvillechurch.org | 662.323.1499

\* 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

Schedules .....	32
Student Course Load .....	33
Withdrawal .....	34
Academic Advising .....	34
College Advisors .....	35
How to Calculate GPA .....	38
Academic Services .....	39
Study Abroad .....	41
Shackouls Honors College .....	42
Academic Calendar .....	43
Honor Code .....	44

A photograph of three students in a classroom setting. A young man in a maroon shirt is in the foreground, looking down. A young woman in a black jacket is to his right, also looking down at papers. A woman with blonde hair is in the background, looking towards the camera. The image is dimmed and has a dark overlay.

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://my.msstate.edu). During the fall and spring, a student has through 11:59 p.m. of the semester's 5<sup>th</sup> class day to drop a course and until 5 p.m. of the 6<sup>th</sup> class day to add a course, without being assessed a fee or academic penalty. After the fifth class day and through the 36<sup>th</sup> 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 36<sup>th</sup> 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 36<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Undeclared

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ENGINEERING • BAGLEY.MSSTATE.EDU

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## VETERINARY MEDICINE • CVM.MSSTATE.EDU

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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

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

## FOREST RESOURCES • CFR.MSSTATE.EDU

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://msstate.mywconline.com)  
[writingcenter.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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

375 Collegeview Street, Suite 12  
Starkville, MS 39759  
P.O. Box 9747  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[testing@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:testing@saffairs.msstate.edu)  
[cbit.msstate.edu](http://cbit.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](mailto:shackoulshc@honors.msstate.edu) | [honors.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://policies.msstate.edu)**
- Students should review policies early in their academic career and consult them when questions arise.

## 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](http://registrar.msstate.edu) for the most current calendar.*



# STUDENT HONOR CODE

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Mississippi State, MS 39762  
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[honorcode.msstate.edu](http://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

Financial Aid .....	46
Account Services .....	49
ID Card .....	50
Payment Plans .....	51
Banks .....	51

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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://paymybill.msstate.edu)  
[studentaccounts@msstate.edu](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://heartland.ecsi.net). For more information about 1098T forms, visit [paymybill.msstate.edu](http://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

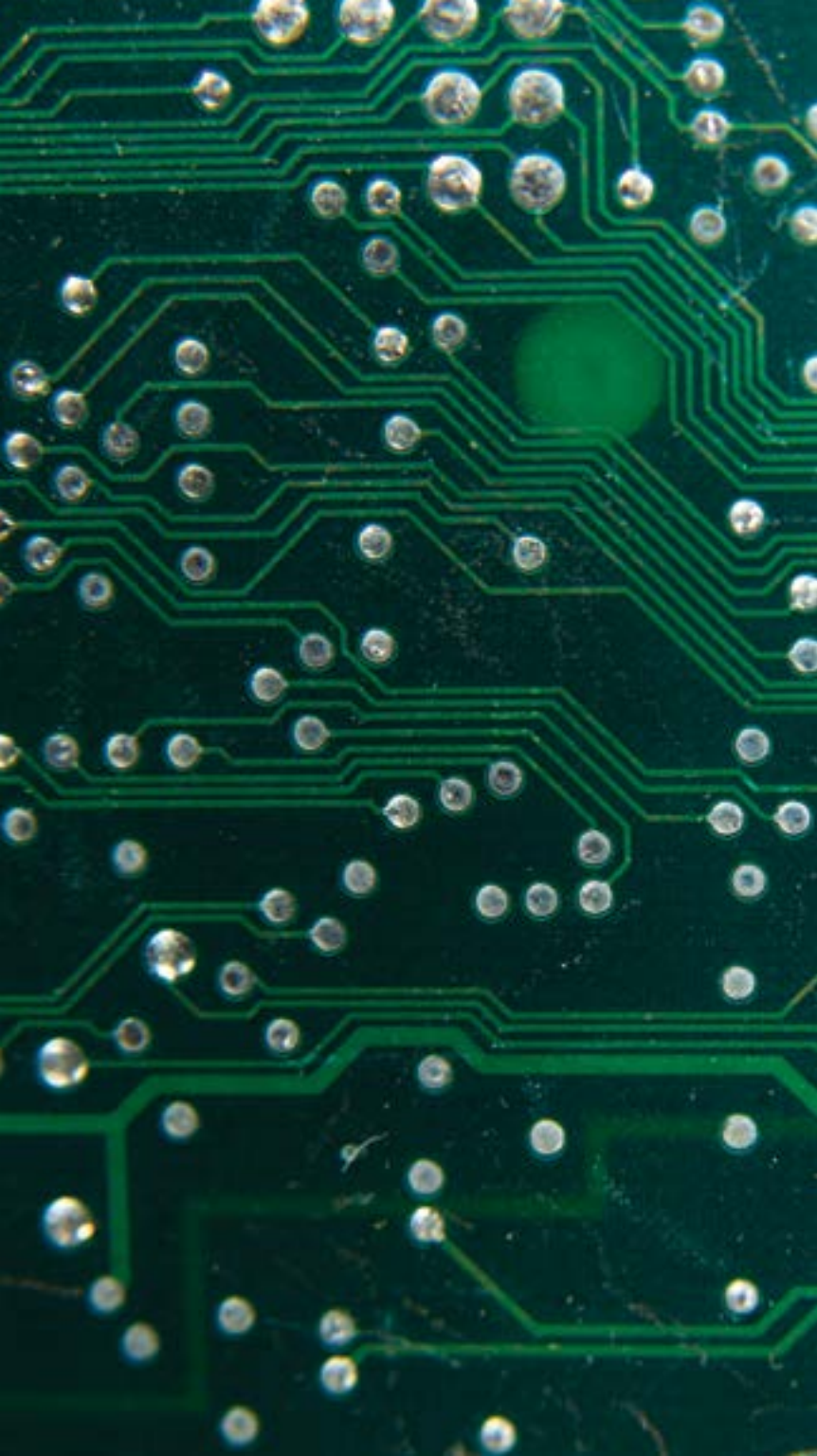
Starkville is home to a number of financial institutions regularly serving the Mississippi State student body. These local financial institutions include:

**BANK OF COMMERCE** | [bankcom.com](http://bankcom.com)  
**BANKFIRST FINANCIAL SERVICES** | [bankfirstfs.com](http://bankfirstfs.com)  
**BANK PLUS** | [bankplus.com](http://bankplus.com)  
**CADENCE BANK** | [cadencebank.com](http://cadencebank.com)  
**CB&S BANK** | [cbsbank.com](http://cbsbank.com)  
**THE CITIZENS BANK OF PHILADELPHIA** | [thecitizensbankphila.com](http://thecitizensbankphila.com)  
**THE FIRST BANK** | [thefirstbank.com](http://thefirstbank.com)  
**GUARANTY BANK** | [gbtonline.com](http://gbtonline.com)  
**REGIONS BANK** | [regions.com](http://regions.com)  
**RENASANT BANK** | [renasantbank.com](http://renasantbank.com)  
**STATEWIDE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** | [statewidedfcu.com](http://statewidedfcu.com)  
**TRIANGLE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** | [trianglefcu.com](http://trianglefcu.com)  
**TRUSTMARK** | [trustmark.com](http://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

Safe Computing Tips .....	52
Personal Computers .....	52
Software, Credentials, & Connectivity .....	53
ITS Service Desk.....	55

A close-up photograph of a hand typing on a laptop keyboard. The image is dimly lit and has a dark, semi-transparent overlay. The text is centered over the image.

# 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](https://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](https://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](mailto:servicedesk@msstate.edu)  
[its.msstate.edu](http://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](https://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 Immune 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](https://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](https://msstate.onthehub.com). Other discounted software is available to students through Barnes & Noble's campus e-store at [thinkEDU.com/BN](https://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](https://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](https://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](http://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](http://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](http://my.msstate.edu) or through the myState link located in the upper right portion of the MSU home page, [msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://servicedesk.msstate.edu/labs).

### ITS SERVICE DESK

108 Allen Hall • P.O. Box 9697  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[servicedesk@msstate.edu](mailto:servicedesk@msstate.edu)  
[servicedesk.msstate.edu](http://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](http://2fa.msstate.edu).
- Obtain an MSU ID card.
- Connect to the eduroam wireless network using your [netid@msstate.edu](mailto: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](http://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

The Career Center.....	56
Services and Events .....	57
Family Assistance.....	59
Co-op and Internships .....	60

A woman in a grey cardigan is pointing at a laptop screen on a table, talking to a woman in a dark blazer. The table has a laptop, papers, and a blue cup. In the background, there are other people and a sign that says "MEN".

# 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](mailto:career@career.msstate.edu)  
[career.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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 60.

## 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







# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International Services Office .....	62
Getting Involved.....	65
11 Places To Visit .....	67



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Home to over 20,000 students, Mississippi State University (MSU) offers an atmosphere of learning, service, and research. MSU provides a strong academic environment that helps students reach their academic goals. Whether attending MSU for an undergraduate degree, graduate studies, or improving English at the English Language Institute, students find Mississippi State offers a combination of diversity and a friendly, supportive atmosphere. The International Institute works to broaden and deepen MSU's partnerships with universities and other organizations abroad. Currently, MSU has over 70 partner schools abroad allowing our students and scholars to work with and learn from a wide variety of international experts. Maintaining these activities and relationships helps to expand MSU's influence worldwide while increasing capacity domestically. As part of our commitment to internationalizing campus, the Institute works with sponsoring agencies, such as the Fulbright Foundation, to attract some of the brightest students and scholars from around the world to collaborate with and broaden the perspectives of our students and faculty. The International Institute works with Mississippi State faculty and students to change lives, change perspectives, and change the world. Mississippi State looks forward to welcoming you to the "People's University."

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

## OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE

Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) at Mississippi State University (MSU) serves as a connection for students, faculty, and staff to the off-campus community and all it has to offer. OCSS is housed in the Dean of Students' Office and is part of the Division of Student Affairs. Our goal is to provide the university with valuable resources to assist them in transitioning to an off-campus environment. Whether you are moving off campus or you have already made the move, let (OCSS) help. Make the most of your MSU experience by using OCSS's resources and services that are especially designed with the off-campus resident in mind.

Making the move off campus is an exciting time in your life. MSU hopes that living in Starkville will provide a memorable and rewarding living experience for students, faculty, and staff. The OCSS guide was developed to assist you in becoming familiar with the various resources on and off campus. As you become a part of the Starkville community, we encourage you to educate yourself about your rights and responsibilities as a resident and to learn about the numerous resources available. Please access the guide online at [ocss.msstate.edu](http://ocss.msstate.edu) to learn more about living off-campus.

For more information on OCSS, visit page 71.

## INTERNATIONAL SERVICES OFFICE

Designed to serve the international student and scholar community in their regulatory compliance obligations with both the federal government and Mississippi State University.

## STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITORS SYSTEM

The Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS) is the system that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) implemented for electronic reporting and record keeping as dictated by a 1996 law. I-20 (document for F status and DS-2019 forms (document for J status) are prepared using SEVIS. Individuals needing F-1, F-2, J-1 or J-2 status must have their information entered into SEVIS. The International Services office on campus is the primary unit with the ability to enter records into SEVIS, but the student/scholar/dependent has a legal obligation to report some of the information to IS. The USCIS says that it is still the non-immigrant's responsibility to make sure that he/she stays in compliance with the laws at all times. The International Services office wants all MSU students and scholars to be able to focus on their studies and research so it is very important that you stay in contact with this office. In order to make sure all documents are in order, please visit International Services before planning any out of the country trips for yourself or your family members.

The following events require that you inform the International Services office in order to retain legal status in the United States. Change of address - All changes of address for students and their dependents must be reported within 10 days of moving. Even if you are just moving down the hall to a different room in the residence hall, you must inform International Services of the change.

Legal name change for the student or his/her dependents must be reported within 10 days.

Any changes (major, funding, program dates, etc.) to the information listed on the I-20 or DS-2019.



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

## GENERAL DOCUMENTS

### Passport

Keep passport valid. ISO recommends that students apply for renewal of their passport at least 6 months prior to expiration.

### I-94

This document shows that you entered the country in a legal status. I-94 is now electronic and can be accessed through [cbp.gov/I94](http://cbp.gov/I94). I-94 should have your class of admission (F-1, J-1, etc.), the day you entered, and an expiration date. For F-1's and J-1's, the expiration should say D/S - Duration of Status - and means that you may remain in the U.S. as long as you continue to have a valid I-20/DS-2019 and pursue the objective listed on that particular document. Anyone who has a specific date written in the space for expiration should bring this to the attention of the International Services office. Any student who is unable to locate their I-94 or who have incorrect information on the I-94 should meet with International Services to have it corrected.

### I-20/DS-2019

This document shows program of study, finances, and start and end dates. End date is very important. If you will not graduate by the end date listed you must request a program extension prior to the expiration date. Visit [international.msstate.edu](http://international.msstate.edu) for details.

## VISA

- Required for entry into the U.S. except for Canadian citizens.

- Shows the dates, number of times, and purpose for which it can be used.
- Might expire while you are here and that is ok. It only needs to be valid at the time of each entry to the U.S.
- Renewal cannot be done within the U.S. Can only be done by application at a U.S. consulate/embassy. Highly recommended that the request be made in the home country.

## GRACE PERIODS

The grace period refers to a period of time during which you are able to stay in the U.S. to prepare for departure or a change to another status. Employment is not allowed during the grace period.

### F-Status

60 days following graduation/completion of program objective

15 days after authorized (by International Services) withdrawal from the university

0 days for unauthorized withdrawal

### J-Status

30 days following graduation/completion of program objective

## EMPLOYMENT

### F-1 and J-1

- Work is limited to 20 hours per week while school is in session
- Work required for an assistantship counts toward the 20 hour limit
- Work hours may not be averaged to equal 20 hours per week
- Example: It is not ok to work 30 hours one week and 10 the next.
- Work must be on campus
- May begin work before obtaining a social security number, but must have the social security number before first paycheck will be issued

- During official school breaks work may be full-time
- The career center in Montgomery Hall maintains a listing of student job openings visit [career.msstate.edu/students](http://career.msstate.edu/students)

## ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Graduate F-1 or J-1 (9 hours each fall and spring term)

Undergraduate F-1 or J-1 (12 hours during each fall and spring term)

Exceptions to the above are limited and require permission from the International Services office. Examples include:

- Medical reasons must be documented and recommended by a doctor and approved by the International Service office.
- Summer sessions - do not require full time enrollment unless your documentation reflects a summer start date.
- During the last semester of study - only need to take what is required in order to graduate.

## TRAVEL

- Must get travel signature from International Services on your particular document.
- For J's the travel signature must come from the office that issued the DS-2019.
- Check passport validity.
- Check visa validity. If your U.S. visa will expire prior to your planned re-entry, you must be prepared to renew the visa during this trip. Visas cannot be renewed within the U.S.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

## SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

Procedure - Obtaining evidence of on-campus employment from the employer and DSO

### Letter from Employer

The SSA will accept a letter or statement from the F-1 student's employer if the F-1 student has not yet started working. An original signature is required and the signatory's title should be shown on the letter. The statement may be typed or written on school letterhead. The statement will contain the employer's name, name of student and the nature of the student's on-campus job.

### DSO Activation

New students who need to obtain an SSN for an on-campus job, must first ensure that their SEVIS record has been activated. Once the record is activated, a student can then apply for the number. Students who have been enrolled at MSU for at least 1 semester do not require this additional step.

### Requirements for getting a SSN:

We suggest you wait until you are in the United States for at least 10 days before you apply for a Social Security number. Take the original documents (I-20, Passport, I-94, offer letter from the employer) and make sure you register for a full course load.

1089C Stark Road

Starkville, MS 39759

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (M, T, Th, F)

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (W)

662.323.9211

The Office of Study Abroad (OSA) offers the students and faculty of Mississippi State University the opportunity to explore academic opportunities outside of the United States. Nearly all programs offer academic credit that will apply toward a degree at MSU. Travel the world. Learn new languages and cultures. Develop skills and experiences outside the traditional classroom. Make new friends!

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

365 Barr Avenue | P.O. Box 6268

Mississippi State, MS 39762

[esl@msstate.edu](mailto:esl@msstate.edu)

662.323.2648

The English Language Institute (ESI) at Mississippi State University offers international students an intensive English language program, with more than 20 hours per week of English language instruction in a traditional southern setting. We want to help you learn English and get involved in the community so that you can get a degree at MSU or go back home with the advanced English skills and USA culture experiences to advance your career. The English Language Institute exists to provide high-quality intensive English instruction enabling students to achieve their individual goals.



# GETTING INVOLVED

Whether involved on campus or in the Starkville community, it is important that you stay active in campus life and in the community. Your college experience will be much richer the more you are connected with the university or Starkville community.

## ON-CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Here's a list of a few international/cultural organizations on campus:

- African Student Association
- Association of Chinese Students and Scholars
- Bangladesh Association
- Black Student Association
- Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.
- Hillel-Jewish Life on Campus
- I.D.E.A.L. Woman
- Indian Student Association
- International Student Advisory Board
- International Student Organization for Languages and Cultures
- Iranian Student Association
- Italian Studies and Culture Club
- Korean Pop Culture Club
- Korean Student Association
- Latino Student Association
- LGBTQ+Union
- Linking Internationals in the Community (LINC)
- Men of Excellence
- Middle East Student Association
- Moroccan Students Association
- MSU French Club
- MSU German Club
- MSU Japanese Club
- MSU Russian Club
- MSU Spanish Club

- MSU Nach
- MSU Spectrum
- Muslim Student Association
- Nepalese Student Association
- Pakistani Student Association
- Saudi Students Association
- Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineering
- Sri Lankan Association
- Starkville Russian Club
- Taiwanese Student Association
- Turkish Student Organization
- Vietnamese Student Association

## HOLMES CULTURAL DIVERSITY CENTER (HCDC)

HCDC is a center on campus that provides services and programs for international students. HCDC staff plan and implement events on campus that bring together international students and share international culture. The International Student Advisory Board is housed in HCDC. This student leadership organization is for both international and domestic students to plan and implement events and initiatives that will enhance the international student experience. Please visit [hcdc.msstate.edu](http://hcdc.msstate.edu) for more information, or visit our office in Suite 220 of the Colvard Student Union.

## LINKING INTERNATIONAL IN THE COMMUNITY (LINC)

(LINC) is a program which helps international students become active within the larger Mississippi State University and Starkville communities through host families and U.S. student mentors.

## INTERNATIONAL FIESTA

The annual International Fiesta is a day of cultural exchange and entertainment. University organizations, clubs, departments, and other communities will have displays and food booths indicative of their countries. Various groups will provide entertainment in the form of dancing, musical instruments, singing, as well as a fashion show. In addition to inflatables, unique cultural games and activities will be available for children.

## GETTING INVOLVED

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INSIGHT DAYS**

Hosted by the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center and the International Institute, the International Student Insight Days consists of various orientation programs designed to help new international students (including freshmen, transfer students, and graduate students) have a smooth transition from their countries or previous locations to student life at Mississippi State University. Students will learn about services of various departments and the policies and procedures of Mississippi State University. In addition, students will be able to build friendships through various interactive activities. Students can also have the immigration hold removed by checking in at the registration booth with the required documents, which is one of the processes that all international students go through in order to register classes.

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LIAISON PROGRAM (ISL)**

ISL is an initiative in which current international and U.S. students support new international students before their arrival and during the orientation, International Student Insight Days. The goal is to help new international students have a smooth transition from their countries and adjust to campus life as well as to make the orientation more interactive and build connections between new and current students.

# 11 PLACES TO VISIT

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

From touring the CNN studios to eating boiled peanuts at a Braves game, Atlanta has no shortage of exciting activities for every age. Some of the attractions include:

- Georgia Aquarium
- Six Flags Amusement Park
- World of Coca-Cola
- Centennial Olympic Park

Visit [atlantaga.gov/visitors](http://atlantaga.gov/visitors) for more information.

## DESTIN, FLORIDA

Emerald Coasting is sugar-white sand and emerald-green water. Its dolphin cruises, open-air shopping and fresh, local seafood restaurants. It is a fun family vacation and a romantic spot for couples. Get a little sand in your soul in Destin, Ft. Walton Beach and Okaloosa Island, the Heart of Florida's Emerald Coast. Some things to consider are:

- Destin Harbor Boardwalk
- Big Kahuna's Water & Adventure Park
- Destin Snorkel
- Destin Beaches

Visit [cityofdestin.com](http://cityofdestin.com) for more information.

## GATLINBURG, TENNESSEE

The City Commission and the administration of the City of Gatlinburg are committed to EXCELLENCE in the provision of QUALITY municipal

services designed to PROTECT the lives and property of visitors and citizens, to PROMOTE the natural beauty and tourism activities of the area, and to PROVIDE for responsible and orderly growth.

- Smoky Mountains Horseback Ride
- Titanic- World's Largest Museum Attraction
- Dixie Stampede
- Ripleys Aquarium of the Smokies

Visit [gatlinburgtn.gov](http://gatlinburgtn.gov) for more information.

## GULF COAST, MISSISSIPPI

Visit the Mississippi Gulf Coast, overlooking the sparkling Gulf of Mexico and 62 miles of scenic shoreline including the world's longest man-made beach. Look for the beach vendors where you can jet ski, aqua cycle etc. Visitors can enjoy our world-class golf courses, artistic and historical museums and after a day of fun, visitors can begin an exciting evening with dinner at a local seafood restaurant before heading off to enjoy 24-hour gaming at one of the coast's casino resorts. Whether you are looking for a relaxing weekend getaway or an adventure-filled vacation, change your pace and visit the Mississippi Gulf Coast!

- The Jefferson Davis Home
- Biloxi Lighthouse
- D'Iberville Town Clock

Visit [gulfcoast.org](http://gulfcoast.org) for more information.

## HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

Huntsville, Alabama USA is one of the most recognized cities in the Southeast - consistently named as one of the best places to live and work by a variety of national publications. Our city is regularly named as a premier location for both business and quality of life.

- U.S. Space & Rocket Center
- Huntsville/ Madison Botanical Garden
- Army's Redstone Arsenal

Visit [hsvcity.com](http://hsvcity.com) for more information.

## MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Memphis is the largest city in the state of Tennessee, the largest city on the Mississippi River, the third largest in the Southeastern United States, and the 20th largest in the United States. Things to do in Memphis are:

- Beale Street
- Elvis Presley's Graceland
- Memphis Zoo
- The Pink Palace

Visit [memphistn.gov](http://memphistn.gov) for more information.



# 11 PLACES TO VISIT

## MISSISSIPPI DELTA, MISSISSIPPI

Adventurous travelers will find the one-of-a-kind experiences they live for here in the Mississippi Delta. Whether you're rolling down blacktop, gravel or dust, the Delta's back roads lead to people, places, events and spur-of-the-moment adventures. Relive southern history on a Mississippi plantation or in an antebellum mansion turned bed and breakfast inn, or walk the battlefields where the fate of the nation was determined during the Civil War. Sway to the soulful sounds of famous blues musicians performing in juke joints, clubs, and bars where the blues is as much a lifestyle as a style of music. Find good fortune in luxurious casino resorts or pluck cotton straight from a field awash in white. Get a taste of Mississippi soul food and savor southern cooking from down-home dishes to gourmet cuisine.

- B.B. King Museum
- Blues & More Driving Tour
- Biedenharn Coca-Cola Museum

Visit [visitthedelta.com](http://visitthedelta.com) for more information.

## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

We invite you to experience for yourself what makes Nashville special during the Spring months. It's a city that resonates with life and vibrates to the beat of every kind of song. It's a town that sizzles with American music, Southern hospitality, unbelievable cuisine and a boundless spectrum of nightlife. Come join us and together we will keep the music playing!

- Country Music Hall of Fame
- The Parthenon

- Ryman Auditorium
- Honky Tonk Highway

Visit [visitmusiccity.com](http://visitmusiccity.com) for more information.

## NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

New Orleans is one of the world's most fascinating cities. Steeped in a history of influences from Europe, the Caribbean, Africa and beyond, it is home to a truly unique melting pot of culture, food and music. You'll find bowls filled to the rim with gumbo, late nights in dark jazz clubs, strolls through historic neighborhoods, and tantalizing festivals throughout the year. Come down and experience New Orleans, one of America's most culturally and historically-rich destinations. [NewOrleansOnline.com](http://NewOrleansOnline.com) can introduce you to all of the Big Easy's greatest charms. As the official New Orleans tourism guide, the site is loaded with resources that will help you make the most of your visit. Download our free New Orleans city guide book for more information on things to do, where to eat and great places to stay.

- Bourbon Street
- Cafe du Monde
- French Quarter

Visit [neworleansonline.com](http://neworleansonline.com) for more information.

## SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Savannah's charm is something out of a fairy tale – it's the most beautiful city in the nation. We're not just saying that – we've actually earned the bragging rights on this one. USA Weekend Magazine declared

Savannah one of the "top 10 Most Beautiful Places in America." The New York Times named us one of the "World's Top Ten Trendy Travel Hot Spots." Conde Nast Traveler picked us as a "Top 10 U.S. City to Visit." Southern Living placed us as second on its "Best Southern City" list. And Outlook Magazine called us one of the "Top 25 Places to Live and Work."

When you're in Savannah, you know it. The City's character has ripened over time by looking to our heritage – honoring and loving it – then driving change to realize dreams. Our gnarled, twisting trees – some hundreds of years old – have witnessed this change, but remain firmly rooted in our community's history. If they could talk, these trees would spin remarkable tales of Savannah's past. But they would tell even better stories about what lies ahead.

- Historic District
- Olde Pink House
- Sixth Sense Savannah Ghost Tours

Visit [savannahga.gov](http://savannahga.gov) for more information.

## TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

Tupelo is a manufacturing, retail and distribution center—a model city of 38,000 citizens offering a high quality of life and a broad range of attractions for both residents and visitors.

- Elvis Presley Lake & Campground
- The Birthplace of Elvis Presley
- The Gumtree Museum of Art

Visit [tupeloms.gov](http://tupeloms.gov) for more information.

Welcome Y'all  
Cajun



MSU



# COMMUNITY INFO

Festivals and Events.....	70
Off-Campus Student Services.....	71
Outdoor Recreation .....	71
Entertainment .....	71
Distinctive Districts.....	72
Accommodations.....	72
Utilities .....	72
Telephone.....	73
Cable .....	73
Dining .....	73
Coffee & Desserts.....	74
Auto Repair .....	75
Banks.....	75
Grocers .....	75
Florists .....	75
Pharmacies .....	76



# 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](http://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 | [msbulldogbash.com](http://msbulldogbash.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.



## OUTDOOR RECREATION

### SAM D. HAMILTON NOXUBEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

[fws.gov/refuge/noxubee](https://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](http://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](http://members.starkville.org/events/calendar).

Additional entertainment options include:

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

## OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

YMCA • 175 Lee Boulevard • P.O. Box DS  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
[ocss.msstate.edu](http://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.

# 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](http://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 20<sup>th</sup> 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-20<sup>th</sup> 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-20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://housing.msstate.edu/guest)

### Comfort Suites

801 Russell Street  
662.324.9595  
[comfortsuites.com](http://comfortsuites.com)

### Courtyard Marriott

100 Mercantile Street  
662.338.3116  
[marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

### Days Inn & Suites

119 Highway 12 West  
662.270.5995  
[daysinn.com](http://daysinn.com)

### Hampton Inn

700 Highway 12 East  
662.324.1333  
[hamptoninn.com](http://hamptoninn.com)

### Hilton Garden Inn

975 Highway 12 East  
662.615.9664  
[hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com](http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com)

### Holiday Inn Express & Suites

110 Highway 12 West  
662.324.0076  
[hiexpress.com](http://hiexpress.com)

### Historic Hotel Chester

101 North Jackson Street  
662.323.5005  
866.325.5005  
[historichotelchester.com](http://historichotelchester.com)

### La Quinta Inn & Suites

982 Highway 12 East  
662.270.4100  
[lq.com](http://lq.com)

### Microtel Inn and Suites

12104 Highway 182 East  
662.268.2158  
[microtelinn.com](http://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](http://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](http://4county.org)

### Atmos Energy

[atmosenergy.com](http://atmosenergy.com)







**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 Crossie 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

**Walton Frame & Body Shop**

1105 Stark Road  
662.323.0516  
waltonautobody.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  
statewidefcu.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  
floriststarkvillems.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







# EMERGENCY

## *Emergency Numbers*

Emergency Management .....	78
Maroon Alert System .....	78
MSU Police .....	79
Safe Walk .....	79
Weapon Possession .....	79
Alcohol and Illegal Drugs .....	79

# 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](http://ready.msstate.edu) | [ready@msstate.edu](mailto: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](mailto:ready@msstate.edu) or visit [ready.msstate.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.



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.





**MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
UNIVERSITY™

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OFFICE OF PARENT  
AND FAMILY SERVICES

662.325.3611 | [family@msstate.edu](mailto:family@msstate.edu) | [family.msstate.edu](http://family.msstate.edu)