
Bulldog Checklist

Between Orientation and the first day of class, we believe it's important for you and your student to spend some time together discussing their transition to university life. Please take a moment to go over the following information, ensuring your student is positioned for a successful year. As always, you are welcome to contact the Office of Parent and Family Services if you ever have questions or need guidance.

☐ **Encourage your student to:**

- SYNC Microsoft 365 (student email account) with their phone (and check email daily)
- Make sure Banner info is always updated with current contact information (student info)
- Enroll in Duo two-factor authentication (details explained at servicedesk.msstate.edu)
- Download CANVAS app
- Use a calendar daily (ex. syllabus due dates, advising appointments, academic calendar, holidays, finals)
- Stick with their schedule and DO NOT drop/add classes without academic advisor approval
- Get to know their Navigator at freshman.msstate.edu (if a freshman) and Advisor
- Attend class and purchase ALL class materials (books, access codes, supplies, etc.) Reduce the cost of traditional textbooks by up to 50% with Bulldog Bundle!
- Read/follow syllabus and get to know their professors
- Only park in designated spots to avoid tickets (transportation.msstate.edu)
- Learn and utilize the shuttle system (download TransLoc transportation app)
- Get involved and make friends
- Be familiar with scholarship and financial aid requirements
- Be resourceful and use student resources such as:

Career Center
Center for Academic Excellence
Center for Student Activities
Dean of Students' Office Holmes

Center for Student Success
Math Domain
Mitchell Memorial Library
Writing Center

☐ **Talk to your student about:**

- Being themselves
- Asking for help when needed
- Being responsible (sleep, eat and exercise)
- Being respectful (roommate expectations/classroom conduct)
- Expectations and consequences (G.P.A., scholarship and financial aid requirements, behavior, money, etc.)
- Campus safety and awareness (emergency.msstate.edu)
- Communication expectations (frequency of phone calls, texts, emails, etc.)
- Time management and managing freedom
- Code of Student Conduct (policies.msstate.edu/policy/91100)

☐ **Know important dates, fees, and deadlines**

- Tuition Dates: Fall (August 1) | Spring (January 1)
Enroll in a payment plan or pay the full balance on your student's account by the above deadline.
- Academic Calendar: registrar.msstate.edu/calendars/academic-calendar
August 26: Last day to drop a course without a grade
October 13: Last day to drop a course with a grade
November 17: Last day to withdraw from the semester
- Tuition Costs: controller.msstate.edu/accountservices/tuition
- Student Financial Aid: sfa.msstate.edu
- State Financial Aid: msfinancialaid.org



☐ **Discuss the budget**

Make sure your student makes you an Authorized Payer (QuikPAY®)* so you can access account details.
family.msstate.edu/how-to-guides/quikpay-guide

	Items to Consider	Semester Cost
MSU Student Account All of these expenses will be credited or charged to the centralized Mississippi State Student Account.	Family Contribution	
	Student Income	
	Scholarships	
	Financial Aid (federal grants/loans, state grants, etc.)	
	Total Student Funding	
	Tuition/Fees (may include Printing & Lab fees)	
	Books - Bulldog Bundle (\$20 per credit hour)	
	Housing (on-campus/off-campus)	
	Dining Plan (dining.msstate.edu)	
	Parking Permit	
	Football Tickets	
	Longest Student Health Center	
	Total Mississippi State Student Account Expenses	
Miscellaneous None of these expenses will be charged to the centralized Mississippi State Student Account.	Groceries/Eating out	
	Renters Insurance	
	Cell Phone	
	Off-Campus Housing Utilities	
	Entertainment	
	Clothing & Laundry	
	Automobile (payment, insurance, maintenance, gas, etc.)	
	Student Involvement (organizational dues)	
	Other	
	Total Miscellaneous Expenses	

☐ **Have your student grant you access to the Parent Portal***

Visit family.msstate.edu and click the Parent Portal button under the How To Guides section to learn how your student can grant you access.

☐ **Submit Proof of Immunizations to:**

Longest Student Health Center | P.O. Box 6338 | Mississippi State, MS 39762 | healthcenter.msstate.edu

☐ **Submit FINAL transcript from previous institution/s to:**

Office of Admissions & Scholarships | P.O. Box 6334 | Mississippi State, MS 39762 | admissions.msstate.edu
Final transcripts should clearly identify the date of graduation and final grades.

☐ **Submit Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) test scores to:**

Office of the Registrar | P.O. Box 5268 | Mississippi State, MS 39762 | registrar.msstate.edu

*QuikPAY and Parent Portal are not the same system; you will need a separate login for each.



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 OFFICE OF PARENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

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