
Student Services

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Division of Student Affairs aims to foster a healthy academic climate and professional atmosphere that promotes and encourages student leadership, learning and growth. Services and programs are designed to meet the needs of students with varied backgrounds and interests. Music, arts, special events and multicultural programs contribute to a positive experience on campus and promote an understanding of a diverse and changing global community.

The Division of Student Affairs is made up of various departments, including Career Services, Housing, Recreational Sports, University Center and Student Activities, Disability Services, University Counseling Center, University Health Center, and the Women's Center. The Division collaborates with all departments on campus to assist students in the attainment of their personal and academic goals.

Student services are designed to help students attain their desired degrees, learn healthy lifestyles, and attain employment or admission into graduate school. For additional information, see the Student Affairs website at <http://www.tamucc.edu/~students/>. The Office of Student Affairs is located in the University Center, Suite 318, (361) 825-2612.

CAREER SERVICES

The Career Services staff helps students explore, select, prepare for, and actively pursue satisfying employment and careers. The following career services are available:

- Career counseling, computer-assisted assessment, and vocational guidance. Students may meet with a career counselor to explore interests and values, with a view toward choosing a career.
- Job search and graduate school advisement.
- Student employment services: assistance in finding on- or off-campus employment.
- On-line job listings via Career Services website (<http://career-services.tamucc.edu>).
- Volunteer opportunities listing.
- On-campus recruiting and Job Fairs throughout the year targeted at different majors.
- Electronic resume referral service.
- Career Resource Library and Computer Lab.
- Career seminars, workshops and Business Etiquette Dinner.
- Videotaped "mock" interviews with trained counselors and professionals.

Career Services is located on the third floor of the University Center in Suite 304. For information, call (361) 825-2612 or visit the web site at <http://career-services.tamucc.edu>.

CHANCELLOR'S STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD (CSAB)

The purpose of the Chancellor's Student Advisory Board of the Texas A&M University System is to provide representation for the students to the Texas A&M University System leadership, and to educate and stimulate student involvement in student affairs. It is made up of two students from each system institution. Thus, the Chancellor's Student Advisory Board is the official student voice to the system leadership.

HOUSING

The University offers assistance to students seeking housing while pursuing their studies. The University can assist students in locating housing in numerous off-campus apartment complexes, and on-campus accommodations may be available on a limited basis.

Students desiring information about housing may contact the University Housing Director at (361) 825-2612. Students may also obtain information from the web site at <http://www.housing.tamucc.edu>.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Any student may ride the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) buses free of charge by showing his/her Sandollar ID card. For bus route information, go to the Office of Student Affairs in the University Center 318, or call RTA (361) 289-2600.

JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

Judicial Affairs Officers strive to protect the University's educational community and to maintain social discipline through the administration of the Student Code of Conduct. Inappropriate behavior will be investigated and adjudicated in a manner consistent with the institution's educational and community development goals. Students may view a copy of the Student Code of Conduct at <http://judicialaffairs.tamucc.edu>.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)

The Student Government Association (SGA) is composed of the Executive Branch, Class Senators, College Senators, and the Judicial Branch. The SGA President, Vice President, Class Senators and College Senators are elected in the spring semester for a term of one year. The Judicial Branch is appointed by the SGA President and approved by the Student Senate. For more information, call (361) 825-5745.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS

The Recreational Sports program provides opportunities for participation in a wide variety of sports and recreational activities for the University community. The activities range from highly competitive and structured to informal, social activities. A variety of programs are offered including intramural sports, fitness and wellness classes, informal recreation, sport clubs, aquatics, outdoor adventure and special events.

Facilities available for use at the Field House include four racquetball courts and a gymnasium. The adjacent outdoor complex includes multi-purpose playing fields, and a 25-yard outdoor pool. Facilities available at the Glasscock Fitness and Wellness Center include free weights, weight machines, cardiovascular equipment (treadmills, elliptical trainers, steppers and bikes), group exercise rooms, a wellness resource area, and a game room. During the 2008-2009 academic year, the new Jack and Susie Dugan Wellness Center will open. This facility will include a gymnasium, weight and cardio equipment, multipurpose/group exercise rooms and locker rooms.

Each semester Recreational Sports employs students to work as intramural supervisors and officials; lifeguards; facility assistants, and supervisors; group exercise instructors and personal trainers. Work study and non-work study positions are available. No experience is necessary. Training for all positions is conducted or facilitated by the Recreational Sports Department. The Recreational Sports Department Office is located in the Field House, Room 104 until the new Wellness Center opens. For more information, call (361) 825-2454 or visit <http://recsports.tamucc.edu>.

UNIVERSITY CENTER and STUDENT ACTIVITIES (UCSA)

The University Center is the "living room" of the university and provides the opportunity for students to meet and socialize either formally or informally. Recognized student organizations are able to reserve meeting spaces in the University Center. For more information, call (361) 825-5281.

The University Center and Student Activities offers a variety of services that benefit students and develop leadership potential. The office assists students who want to start new organizations and provides support services to over 100 student organizations. Involvement in one or more of the many campus organizations can add an important dimension to the college experience. For more information about a specific organization or how to start a new club, contact the Office of the University Center and Student Activities located in UC 226. For more information call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://ucsa.tamucc.edu>.

Campus Activities Board (CAB)

CAB is responsible for bringing a variety of cultural, educational, and entertainment programs to the campus community. Students develop leadership skills while budgeting, planning, presenting, and evaluating each activity. For a listing of upcoming events, call (361) 825-2363 or visit <http://cab.tamucc.edu>.

Islander Cultural Alliance (ICA) & Multicultural Programs

A&M-Corpus Christi is a multicultural campus with students, faculty, and staff of various ethnic backgrounds and interests. It is also a place where individuality is encouraged and differences are respected. Islander Cultural Alliance (ICA) is a student organization that organizes and promotes multicultural programs on campus. The group also concentrates on creating an accepting and inclusive campus environment.

Programming events include Asian celebrations, Black History Month, Cinco de Mayo, Dia de los Muertos, Disability Awareness Month, gay, lesbian and bisexual rights events, Hispanic Heritage Month, Culture Fest, Martin Luther King March, Native American celebrations, religious celebrations, Women's History Month, and other programs. For more information, call (361) 825-2707.

Student Publications

Island Waves, the student newspaper, is produced weekly. All students who enjoy writing or would like to learn more about producing a student newspaper are encouraged to become involved with Island Waves. Many volunteers are needed to produce the paper. Several paid positions are also available each semester. For more information, call (361) 825-5862.

University Council of Student Organizations

The University Council of Student Organizations (UCSO) includes representatives from each student organization. UCSO meets regularly to determine policy and funding for student groups. Over 100 student organizations exist on campus. These groups include departmental organizations, which focus on particular majors or careers; honor societies; special interest organizations; religious organizations; sororities and fraternities; and other groups. A current list of recognized student organizations is available in the Student Organization Center, UC204. For more information, call (361) 825-3239.

Waves of Welcome (WOW)

Waves of Welcome (WOW) is designed to help students become familiar with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and its traditions. WOW provides an opportunity for students to meet their fellow Islanders, network with faculty and staff and connect with student leaders. By attending open houses, special programs, meetings and other activities, students can learn more about the many resources available to help them succeed academically and get the most out of their college experience. The Waves of Welcome schedule is distributed at the beginning of the fall semester. For more information, call 825-2707 or visit <http://wow.tamucc.edu>.

DISABILITY SERVICES (DS)

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is committed to promoting equal opportunities for persons with disabilities to access campus facilities, resources, and programs. Support services and reasonable academic adjustments are arranged for persons with permanent or temporary disabilities through the Disability Services (DS) Office. The DS Office is located in Driftwood 101.

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who qualify for support under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 must self-identify and register with the Director of the DS Office. To qualify for services, students must 1) be admitted to the University, 2) present appropriate and current documentation of their disability from a qualified professional and 3) register with the DS Office each semester. Advance planning by the student with the Director or Assistant Director of the DS Office is necessary to ensure adequate time to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

It is recommended that requests for services and/or academic adjustments be made as soon as possible. Requests for services requiring extensive preparation (e.g., interpreter services, adaptive and assistive equipment, textbooks in alternate format, etc.), may need up to 30 days to process. For additional information, please call (361) 825-5816 or visit the DS website at <http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu>

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (UCC)

The University Counseling Center offers a variety of services to enhance students' overall health and wellness and improve their potential for personal, academic, and career success. UCC services are funded through the Student Services fee and are available to all enrolled A&M-Corpus Christi students at no additional charge. Students may call (361) 825-2703, or visit the University Counseling Center, located in Driftwood Hall, to schedule an appointment. Additional information can be found at <http://counseling.tamucc.edu>.

Short-term Individual Counseling. Students can meet individually with a counselor to learn more effective coping and problem-solving skills, and to identify how their feelings and thoughts influence their choices, decisions and actions. Individual counseling may focus on any area of concern to a student including adjustment to college, maintaining healthy relationships, dealing with loss, improving study skills, test anxiety, academic pressures, drug and alcohol concerns, anxiety, depression, traumatic experiences, eating concerns, family conflicts, or multicultural issues. Referral services are provided when a student's need is beyond the role and scope of UCC services.

Group Counseling. Groups provide students with an opportunity to meet in a safe, supportive setting with other students who share similar concerns. Groups are developed around the expressed needs of students and have focused on managing stress, developing communications skills, improving relationships, and substance abuse issues.

Personal Skills Center. Personal skills training is focused on helping students to develop leadership abilities, improve academic and athletic performance, increase self-confidence, and enhance personal relationships. After students complete an assessment of their current problem-solving, relationship, communication and coping skills, they begin an individual or group training program to improve these skills.

Programs. The UCC offers many programs throughout the year to promote both physical and emotional health and wellness. Upon request, professional staff will provide workshops, seminars, and skills training programs for student organizations, classes, or administrative units on campus.

All UCC staff respect the confidential nature of counseling sessions. Counseling center records are kept strictly confidential and no record of a student's visits is made on an academic transcript or any other University record. Records are not released without the student's written permission except under certain legal conditions.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER

The University Health Center, located in Sandpiper Hall, assists students in maintaining optimal health while attending A&M-Corpus Christi. Primary emphasis is on preventive health practices, health education, and the promotion of wellness. Primary health care is provided by registered nurses, family nurse practitioners, and a physician for the care of acute illnesses and minor injuries. Chronic health care needs are referred to local community providers and/or the student's primary care provider. The University Health Center provides a variety of health services such as:

- Telephone medical information service "Ask-A-Nurse-Line" at 825-5735
- Women's Health Clinic - Gynecological services
- Men's Health Clinic
- Administration of allergy shots - Student provides serum from allergist.
- Laboratory testing
- Pharmacy services

- Preventive health care and medical resource information - Referrals for community resources
- Blood pressure screening and monitoring
- Contraception, sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and HIV testing and counseling
- Physicals, vision and hearing screening
- Substance abuse prevention, assessment and referral
- Immunizations and tuberculin skin testing
- Educational consultations: nutrition, lifestyle, weight management, smoking cessation and substance abuse
- Insurance and claim assistance.

Immunizations

It is recommended that students be current with their immunizations for Tetanus diphtheria (Td), two Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR). International students are required to have the previously listed immunizations, and an annual Tuberculosis (TB) skin test (Mantoux tuberculin test) or in case of history of positive TB test, chest x-ray every two years. The Tetanus diphtheria (Td), Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), TB testing, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Varicella and Meningitis vaccines are available in the University Health Center for a minimal cost. Specific colleges may have immunization requirements.

Health Insurance

In collaboration with the Texas A&M University System, a private insurance plan is available at special rates to students attending A&M-Corpus Christi. All non-insured students are strongly encouraged to consider the benefits of enrolling in a health insurance program. Informational brochures regarding this health plan are available at the Health Center or at www.tamuinsurance.com.

The University accepts no responsibility for the payment of any student's medical, surgical or ambulance expenses.

For appointments or more information on health services, call the University Health Center at (361) 825-2601 or check the web page at <http://healthcenter.tamucc.edu>. The University Health Center is open during regular business hours on Monday through Friday. For information on after-hours care, please refer to the *Student Handbook*.

WOMEN'S CENTER

The Women's Center for Education and Service has been helping the women of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi since 1995. The Center works to improve the well-being of the women faculty, staff, and students where they live, work, and learn. The Women's Center continues the tradition of support, education and advocacy by creating and sponsoring programs for the University community.

The Women's Center proactively works to enhance knowledge and awareness of gender issues at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi by assisting in university efforts to create a diverse, inclusive, and sensitive campus environment. The Center extends education, provides services, and promotes the development of every woman's potential. It also serves as a safe haven for women to voice their concerns and a support system as they seek equity. The Women's Center collaborates with the Women's Shelter of South Texas, the YWCA Corpus Christi, and Planned Parenthood of South Texas.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA)

Founded in 2005, the Graduate Student Association's mission is to promote academic diversity and interdisciplinary excellence by providing effective and active representation for the graduate students of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The GSA goals include encouraging academic and professional development, and promoting the graduate culture at the University. For more information, please visit the website at <http://gsa.tamucc.edu>.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

After a 25-year absence from athletic competition, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has reinstated Intercollegiate Athletics. Implementation of the sports programs began in the fall of 1998 and was completed in the fall of 2001. Additionally, the university became an official NCAA Division I participant in 2002. Athletic teams at A&M-Corpus Christi are known as the “Islanders,” and the official school colors are blue, green, and silver.

Islander Athletics sponsors 14 sports programs: eight women’s sports and six for men. Women’s sports include tennis, golf, basketball, softball, volleyball, cross country, and indoor and outdoor track and field. Men’s sports include tennis, basketball, baseball, cross country, and indoor and outdoor track and field.

In 2006, A&M-Corpus Christi became a full-fledged member of the Southland Conference, an event marking a milestone in the annals of Islander Athletics. Consequently, for the first time in its athletic history, the Islanders can play for regular and post-season conference championships and automatic NCAA Tournament appearances. For more information on Islander Athletics, please call (361) 825-5541.