
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, Judicial Affairs, 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.

A major strength of A&M-Corpus Christi is that students participate in a variety of out-of-class activities. Activities begin with orientation and include a variety of campus organizations and sports clubs that provide a wide range of leadership experiences. 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://studentaffairs.tamucc.edu>. 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 services are available:

- Career counseling, computer-assisted assessment and vocational guidance, which help students explore career options beginning in their first semester. Students may meet with a Career Counselor to explore interests and values, with a view toward choosing a career. For students who are experiencing difficulty choosing a major, this can be a useful process of self-exploration.
- Job search and graduate school advisement.
- Student employment services: assistance in finding on- or off-campus employment.
- Internship and co-op placement assistance for students at all levels.
- 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 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) 825-2628 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 Chancellor and 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

On-campus housing provides students with a special opportunity to develop friendships, participate in group activities and enjoy the unique island setting of the University.

On-campus housing is managed by Camden Property Trust, a private developer. Camden Miramar apartments and residence halls have several floor plans available, accommodating one, two, or four residents. Apartments are equipped with a full kitchen, including dishwasher, disposal, refrigerator, range, and built-in microwave oven. All apartments are furnished with a sofa, chair, coffee table, and end table, and each bedroom with a desk, dresser, and twin bed.

Residence halls feature suite-style bedrooms with a shared bathroom and traditional shared rooms with a private bath. Each unit has a micro-fridge (refrigerator, freezer and microwave oven) plus bed and built-in desk. Each floor has a study room, full kitchen, and laundry room.

Rental payments may be made in either a lump-sum disbursement or in monthly installments. Utilities, basic cable service, high speed internet and local phone service with voice mail are included.

Recreational, cultural, and educational activities are provided as an integrated part of on-campus housing. Housing staff reside throughout Camden Miramar to assist residents. For more information, call Camden Miramar (361) 825-5000.

In addition, the University has a Director of Housing who serves as a liaison with Camden Miramar and assists students with on- or off-campus housing. Students desiring information about housing may obtain information and an application on the web site at <http://www.housing.tamucc.edu>.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Any student may ride the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) buses for free of charge by showing his/her Sandollar ID card. For bus route information, go to <http://www.ccrta.org> or call RTA (361) 289-2600. For more information or to address concerns regarding the service, please contact the Office of Student Affairs at (361) 825-2612.

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. Elections for freshman senators are held in September. The Judicial Branch is appointed by the SGA President and approved by the Student Senate. For more information, call (361) 825-5745 or visit us on the web site at: sga.tamucc.edu.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS

The Recreational Sports program provides facilities, equipment, and 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.

The Dr. Jack and Susie Dugan Wellness Center includes a gymnasium, free weights, weight machines, cardiovascular exercise equipment (treadmills, elliptical trainers, steppers and bikes), multi-purpose group exercise rooms, and offices for the Recreational Sports De-

partment and Intercollegiate Athletics Department. The adjacent outdoor complex includes multi-purpose playing fields and a 25-yard outdoor seasonal pool.

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 Room 107 of the Wellness Center. For more information, call (361) 825-2454 or go to <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 space, furniture, and equipment in the University Center. For more information, call (361) 825-5281.

The Student Activities office offers a variety of services that benefit students and develop leadership skills. The office provides support services to over 100 student organizations and a number of special events and activities. Involvement in one or more of the many campus organizations can add an important dimension to the college experience. To learn about a specific organization or how to start a new one, contact the Student Organization Center located in UC 204. For more information call (361) 825-3239 or visit <http://ucsa.tamucc.edu>.

Aloha Days: The Freshman Camp Experience

Aloha Days provides incoming first-year students with an optional summer camp experience designed to aid in their successful transition to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Student leaders serve as camp counselors, who facilitate activities, discussions, games, and presentations. During Aloha Days, first-year students develop friendships, an awareness of their personal values, and pride in the growing traditions, spirit, and rich heritage of A&M-Corpus Christi. For more information, call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://alohadays.tamucc.edu>.

Campus Activities Board (CAB)

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

Education through Development, Growth, & Experience Leadership Program (EDGE)

EDGE is a unique student leadership development program available for all students. Students involved in EDGE attend seminars, participate in service projects, and learn personal and group leadership skills. For more information, call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://edge.tamucc.edu>.

Greek Life

Fraternities and sororities are value-driven student organizations, based on brother/sisterhood, leadership, service and academic success. They strive to prepare their members for life after college through a variety of social activities, leadership programs, and community service projects. These organizations provide lifelong relationships, networking and volunteer opportunities. For more information, call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://greeklife.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. The Islander Cultural Alliance (ICA) is a student organization that organizes and promotes multicultural programs on campus. The group also concentrates on creating and accepting an inclusive campus environment.

Events are programmed during Black History Month, Disabilities Awareness Month, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning and Allies month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Women's History Month, and Asian Heritage Month. For more information, call (361) 825-2539 or visit <http://ica.tamucc.edu>.

South Texas Leadership Conference

The South Texas Leadership Conference (STLC) is held each spring semester at Camp Zephyr, located on Lake Corpus Christi. Students from several universities in South Texas attend this 2 ½ day event to enhance their leadership skills and meet other student leaders. Applications are available in late January or early February. There is a small fee to attend this leadership conference. For more information, call (361) 825-2707.

Student Publications

Island Waves, the official student newspaper, is produced weekly. All students who enjoy writing, photography, sports 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 or visit <http://islandwaves.tamucc.edu>.

Together Islanders Develop Excellence (TIDE)

TIDE is a peer mentor program at A&M-Corpus Christi. This program is designed to give new students personal assistance in transitioning to college life by pairing student advocates with each First Year Seminar class. Mentors provide assistance with study skills, time and money management and getting involved on campus and in the community. For information, call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://tide.tamucc.edu>.

University Council of Student Organizations (UCSO)

The University Council of Student Organizations (UCSO) is a governing body for student organizations and includes representatives from each student organization. UCSO meets monthly to determine policy and funding for student groups. Over 100 student organizations exist on campus. There are many types of organizations, including: academic, honor societies, special interest, political, faith-based, cultural, professional and other interest groups. A current list of recognized student organizations is available in the Student Organization Center UC 204. For more information, call (361) 825-3239 or visit <http://ucso.tamucc.edu>.

Waves of Welcome (WOW)

Waves of Welcome (WOW) is designed to help students become familiar with A&M-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 and spring semesters. For more information, call (361) 825-2707 or visit <http://wow.tamucc.edu>.

DISABILITY SERVICES (DS)

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is committed to promoting equal opportunities for students with disabilities to access campus facilities, resources, and programs. Support services and reasonable academic adjustments are arranged for students 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 helps students resolve problems that can interfere with meeting the demands of college life and offers a variety of services for students who want to develop skills and resources to be personally and academically successful. UCC services are funded through the Student Services fee and are available to all enrolled A&M-Corpus Christi students at no additional charge. Counseling center records are kept strictly confidential and all UCC staff respect the confidential nature of counseling sessions. Records are not released without the student's written permission except under certain legal conditions. UCC staff offer the following services:

Short-term Individual Counseling. Students can meet with a counselor to learn more effective coping and problem-solving skills to address issues which can interfere with being successful in college. Common concerns addressed in counseling include adjustment to college, maintaining healthy relationships, academic pressures, test anxiety, drug and alcohol concerns, family conflicts, anxiety, depression, and multicultural issues. Referral services are provided when a student's need is beyond the role and scope of UCC services.

Personal Skills Center. Personal skills training is focused on helping students to develop leadership abilities, enhance academic skills and performance, improve time management skills, increase self-confidence, and enhance personal relationships.

Group Counseling. Groups provide students with an opportunity to meet in a safe, supportive setting with other students who share similar concerns. UCC staff offer groups on managing stress, developing communications skills, improving relationships, and substance abuse issues.

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 departments on campus.

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>.

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.

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- 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 for all undergraduate students to 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 Center for Disease Control (CDC) and American College Health Association recommend all freshmen and students living in student housing be immunized for Meningitis. 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. Information brochures regarding this health plan are available in the University 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. For more information about our programs and services, please refer to our website at: womenscenter.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.

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

The Office of International Education (OIE) was established to support all international students on campus. The OIE serves English as a Second Language International (ESLI) students and those who are enrolled in the university as undergraduate or graduate students. The OIE plans and holds social and informative events for the international population at A&M-Corpus Christi. For more information contact the Office of International Education at (361) 825-3922.

Study Abroad is also part of the OIE. As A&M-Corpus Christi moves towards a more global campus, this office seeks to increase the number of students who travel abroad through reciprocal agreements for student and faculty exchanges with educational institutions around the world, and through faculty-led study abroad programs. For information regarding studying abroad contact the Office of International Education at (361) 825-2789.