



ARKANSAS
TECH
UNIVERSITY

Parent Relations

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Remember...

There are no classes on Monday, September 5th, in recognition of Labor Day. Classes will resume at 8:00 am on Tuesday, September 6th.

INSIDE TRACK

August 2011

FAMILY DAY

On September **24th**, from **3:00pm** to **6:00pm**, Arkansas Tech University will once again host "Family Day." Join us at the Plaza (next to the football stadium) for a fun afternoon of activities followed by the football game.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Free pork tenderloin, sides, soft drinks, cotton candy, and sno-cones.
- Face painting for kids of all ages.
- Large Inflatables.
- Visiting with Tech faculty and staff.
- Discount coupons at the Tech Bookstore (Campus hours 1:00pm—5:00pm).
- FREE concert featuring the award-winning **Rolling Stones tribute band** — **SATISFACTION** beginning at 3:00pm.
- Discount football tickets (\$5.00 general admission, \$3.00 for students, five years and younger—free). Regular price is \$10.00 and \$5.00.

MUST BE PURCHASED BETWEEN 3:00-5:00 PM AT TICKET WINDOW.

For more information, go to... <http://www.atu.edu/parents/familyday.shtml>

Bring your lawn chairs & blankets for a concert you will not soon forget!

HOW DID WE DO?

I truly hope that your student is enjoying their first few days at Arkansas Tech University. The University would like to hear from you about your move-in experience on Saturday, August 20th.

Was the staff friendly and helpful? Was move-in smooth? Did you enjoy the lunch? Did you find the Parent Welcome Session beneficial? Did you visit other campus offices?

These are some of the questions located at the following ATU Parent Survey link: <http://questionpro.com/t/ABhz6ZLHk2>

If that link doesn't work, please cut and paste it into the address line. Please take a couple of minutes to give us your valuable feedback.

Thank you so much. Your suggestions will help make it even smoother next year.

Keeping your family connected!



ON CAMPUS SAFETY TIPS

Encourage your student to:

- **Lock their room door.** Even though they “know everyone on their floor,” and the buildings are locked 24/7, it only takes a few seconds for someone to grab a laptop. The same goes for off-campus residents, you never know who might make their way into the neighborhood.
- **Get to know the campus public safety officers.**
- **Don't prop open doors to residence halls or other buildings on campus.** This makes Public Safety's job more difficult and compromises the overall security measures in place.
- **Deny strangers access to their residence hall** (by not letting in people behind them)—even if they *think* the person is a student.
- **Treat the campus grounds with respect.** Vandalizing and damaging directional signs, fire extinguishers, and other safety equipment costs the college valuable funds and effort that could be directed to other areas. In addition, those items won't be available when a real emergency strikes.

A MESSAGE FROM CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Hello parents, my name is Jeff Hudnall, and I am the Interim Director of Career Services at Arkansas Tech University. Is your student undecided about what major to pursue in college? Tell them to search no further! Whether they are a traditional or non-traditional student, I'm here to help them find a major that best suits their personality, skills, and interests. We have a helpful online assessment tool called Focus-2 that is available at no charge to students attending Arkansas Tech. Focus-2 is an online, interactive career & education planning system that combines self assessment, career exploration, and decision making into one major area of study. The Arkansas Tech Career Services' goal is to arm the student with appropriate tools to make good, well-informed decisions about their major at Arkansas Tech which will ultimately result in graduation and employment in the career that is right for them.

Research shows that the best time to do career/major exploration is in the sophomore year of the student's college life. That gives your student a full year to get familiar with college life and learn more about themselves. We as a staff at the Arkansas Tech Career Services office want to reduce the number of times students change majors through career exploration. Just like any other journey, the sooner you prepare to take the journey, the easier it will be for you (and the people who care about you). So please, encourage your student to make an appointment with us today, so we can help set them on their journey to a successful life. You or your student can call Jayne Sewell at Arkansas Tech Career Services (479-968-0278) to make an appointment. Thanks for your time and please feel free to contact the Career Services department with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hudnall, Interim Director, Doc Bryan, Suite 229, 479-968-0278

BROKEN, WHAT TO DO?

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING A WORK ORDER

Below are the instructions for your student if there is something in need of maintenance in their room or residence hall.

- Students need to go to www.atu.edu/reslife.
- On the right hand side of the page there is a link for “**Maintenance Request**.”
- The student should read the instructions carefully and THEN click on the “**Maintenance Request Form**”.
- Once the student has completely filled out the form, being as specific as possible, they should click submit.
- The student should then get an automated e-mail confirming that the work order has been submitted to the Physical Plant.
- If the student does not receive an e-mail confirming receipt of the work order after 48 hours, they should contact the Housing Operations Office at 479-356-2060.
- Once the student has received a confirmation e-mail, the work order is now in the hands of the ATU Physical Plant department. Should the necessary repair not be made or the student not contacted within 72 hours of receiving the e-mail, they should contact Assistant Director of Housing, Aaron Hogan at (479) 356-2060.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the student to submit the work order. While we understand that as the student’s parent you want to be of assistance, we do require that the work order be submitted through the student to assure proper records and correct and exact information.

HEALTH MAGAZINE - 101

Arkansas Tech Counseling Center has partnered with **Health 101**. This is a 20+ page online magazine on health and wellness issues, as well as many other topics which will be sent to your student each month.

A four-plus page version of the magazine will go to you if we have your e-mail address. The first day of each month a new issue will be sent, starting with a special Orientation Issue. This issue features articles like “*What do Professors Really Expect?*,” “*The Roommate Survival Guide*,” and “*The 5 Habits of Healthy People*.” These provide excellent advice to help your student get off to a great start in her/his college career.

Go to the weblink below to access the Orientation issue. Then, the first of each month you will receive a reminder for the next issue and a link. It’s as easy as that! By the way, the parent version contains a link that will provide access to the full 20+ page student issue. You can opt out of receiving the link at any time.

Health 101 Parent Website: <http://readsh101.com/go2atu-pp.html>



EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE SYSTEM

Arkansas Tech University has an early warning text messaging system as an additional means of communicating with the campus community during emergency situations on the Russellville campus. Students who register for the service receive a text message warning in the case of a serious campus emergency. Signing up for the system is optional, but it is strongly encouraged. Parents are also encouraged to sign up for the service.

To join the system, text the word **“tech”** to the number **50618**. Leave the subject line blank. After the message is sent, you will receive a confirmation message.

PARENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

Just because your student is in college doesn't mean they don't need you. Your student still needs all the wisdom, love, and support from home you can give. Here at Tech, we urge our parents to do three things:

1. Let go a little bit. It's hard for a student to start building his collegiate life in Russellville if his “old life” keeps pulling him back. Let your conversations contain a mixed balance of what is happening at home and what is happening at Tech. Try not to do everything for your student. Letting your child figure out things on their own can be a strength and character building process.

2. Students need to be able to make a few mistakes. Part of becoming independent involves making some mistakes. Students need support and understanding at all times.

3. Your student needs to know that you believe in them. Urge your student to try new things, subjects, and views. Successful students are able to experiment with their views because you, as parents, believe in their intelligence, initiative, and ability to make good decisions.

A Student Who Feels Trusted by Their Parents:

- Has more self confidence.
- Can stand up for what he believes.
- Knows he has support back home.
- Is better able to say “no” when the situation warrants.

A Student Who Feels Mistrusted by Their Parents:

- May defy authority because it's expected.
- Might not communicate about what's happening at college.
- Might look to others, some who will be good influences and others who won't be, for support.
- Might keep secrets that could be harmful.

Important Dates...

September 5th

-Labor Day

November 23rd - 27th

-Thanksgiving Holiday

December 7th - 13th

-End of Course Examinations

January 12th

- Spring Semester Classes Begin

INSIDE TRACK
August 2011

WONDER BOYS FOOTBALL HOME GAMES

- September 17th
TECH vs. Delta State
6:00 pm
- September 24th
TECH vs. West Alabama
6:00 pm (Family Day)
- October 8th
TECH vs. North Alabama
6:00 pm
- October 22nd
TECH vs. SE Oklahoma
6:00 pm (Homecoming)
- October 29th
TECH vs. East Central OK
2:00 pm (Senior Day)



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