Howdy and thanks for your interest in the Corps of Cadets. The list of tasks below is provided for high school seniors to help them gain admissions to Texas A&M and join the Corps of Cadets.

**General Information**

- The Corps of Cadets is a student organization at Texas A&M consisting of 2600 young men and women who are focused on becoming well-educated leaders of character. **There is no military obligation for joining the Corps**; however, all of our cadets take an ROTC class their first 3 semesters in the Corps. You can choose Army, Air Force or Navy/Marine ROTC. About 45% of our cadets choose to serve in the military as an officer and the other 55% choose to work in the private sector, government sector (non-military) or they go to graduate school immediately after graduating from A&M.

- Make sure you join our Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Class of 2021 Face Book Page. This is a great way to keep up with the Corps and to learn more about our cadets. Here is a link to join: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/AggieCorps2021/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AggieCorps2021/)

- The only requirement to join our Corps of Cadets is to be accepted to Texas A&M University. Once accepted, all you will need to do is apply for Corps of Cadets Housing and then you will register to join when you attend your New Student Conference the summer before your fall semester at A&M.

- Our cadets live in the Corps Dormitories on the Texas A&M campus. Housing is guaranteed for all incoming students choosing to join the Corps. However, we do grant some exceptions to live off campus for married students and military veterans. By the time you start at Texas A&M in the Fall of 2017 we will have completed a $200,000,000 total makeover of our dormitories and Corps area. We will have the best facilities of any peer program in the Nation!

- Over 80% of our Cadets are on a Corps of Cadets Scholarship. These scholarships carry no military obligation. More information is given in the checklist below on how to apply for scholarships in the checklist below.

- We strongly recommend you attend one of our visitation programs to learn more about Texas A&M and the Corps. We provide students with an admissions briefing at all of our programs so it is a great way to make sure you know how to fill out the admissions application and scholarship application for A&M. Additional scholarship consideration is given for those participating in our overnight programs. Here is a link for more information about our visitation programs: [http://corps.tamu.edu/programs/](http://corps.tamu.edu/programs/)

- The window to apply for admissions to Texas A&M opens on 1 August, 2016 and will close on 1 December, 2016. You must have a completed application and all required documents to Texas A&M by 1 December. A completed application includes your online application on Apply Texas, 2 essays (we recommend you also complete Essay C), official high school transcript with class rank, $75 processing fee, and your SAT or ACT scores. Some academic majors fill up very fast so we strongly recommend you complete your application to A&M prior to 1 October - particularly if you want Engineering or Business as your academic major. You can track your admissions status in the Applicant Information System (AIS). We recommend you check your status in AIS at least weekly. Here is a link to the A&M Freshman Admissions website: [http://admissions.tamu.edu/freshman/apply](http://admissions.tamu.edu/freshman/apply)

- Make sure you also complete the Texas A&M Scholarship Application on Apply Texas as well. All new cadets who are accepted to Texas A&M are considered for a **Corps of Cadets Scholarship** but you must complete the A&M scholarship application on Apply Texas by 1 December, 2016 to be considered. If you have questions about Corps Scholarships you can contact Commander Mike Dulke at 979-458-0469 or email him at mdulke@corps.tamu.edu or visit the website at [http://corps.tamu.edu/scholarships](http://corps.tamu.edu/scholarships)

- Those interested in ROTC Scholarships ([http://corps.tamu.edu/military-focus](http://corps.tamu.edu/military-focus)) can start the application process now.

- After you are accepted to A&M you will register for your **New Student Conference (NSC)**. There are numerous NSC’s scheduled throughout the summer to choose from. The conferences are 2-day events and
Housing. Students must be officially admitted to Texas A&M before they are eligible to apply for on-campus housing. Corps of Cadets housing is guaranteed for those joining the Corps but regular on-campus housing is made on a first-come, first-served basis. For regular on-campus housing, priority will be given to freshmen who apply for housing within 30 days of being admitted to Texas A&M. If you are unsure about joining the Corps or are still deciding, we recommend you go ahead and apply for regular on-campus housing. It is very easy to change over to Corps Housing once you make your final decision. If you know you want to join the Corps you can apply for Corps Housing up front on the Texas A&M Residence Life Website: http://reslife.tamu.edu. For questions regarding Corps Housing you can contact Brenda Hefner at (979) 845-3443 or bhefner@tamu.edu.

Attend one of our Spend the Night with the Corps Programs. This optional overnight program includes a campus tour, dinner/breakfast with cadets, an overnight stay with a cadet, attending a class, and briefings on the admissions process, scholarships, and our ROTC programs. Those interested in the Aggie Band will stay with a band cadet and attend a morning band rehearsal. We have 16 dates for this program this spring. The spring dates are listed below and here is the link to register: http://corps.tamu.edu/portfolio-items/spend-the-night/

- Jan: 21-22, 28-29
- Feb: 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26
- Mar: 3-4, 21-22, 28-29, 31/Apr 1
- Apr: 4-5, 14-15, 18-19, 21-22, 25-26, 28-29

We also have an optional overnight program for Eagle Scouts and Girl Scout Gold Award winners. The Aggie Eagle Program is 10-11 Feb. You can register for this event at http://corps.tamu.edu/portfolio-items/aggie-eagle-program/

Students involved in Junior ROTC, Young Marines, and Civil Air Patrol can participate in the Junior Cadet Accessions Program (JCAP) on 10-11 Feb. You can register for this event at http://corps.tamu.edu/portfolio-items/junior-cadet-accessions-program/

Aggieland Saturday is the Open House day for Texas A&M and the Corps of Cadets. Any student can register for this event. It is a great opportunity to visit the campus, academic colleges and the Corps. The entire Corps will be on display that day as well as the Aggie Band and all of our special units. You can register for this event at http://corps.tamu.edu/aggieland-saturday/

Tasks for Spring 17

After you are accepted to A&M you will register for your New Student Conference (NSC). There are numerous NSC’s scheduled throughout the summer to choose from. The conferences are 2-day events and attendance is mandatory. Conferences fill fast so register for your conference as soon as you are admitted/decide to attend A&M. You must sign up for your NSC by 1 May 2017.

Those interested in state and federal Financial Aid should complete their FAFSA and submit it prior to 1 March, 2017. Information on Financial Aid can be found at https://financialaid.tamu.edu/

Once you decide to join the Corps you will apply for Corps Housing on the Texas A&M Residence Life Website: http://reslife.tamu.edu. If you applied earlier for regular on-campus housing it is easy to switch over to Corps Housing. For questions regarding Corps Housing you can contact Brenda Hefner at (979) 845-3443 or bhefner@tamu.edu. Corps Housing is guaranteed but we would like you to apply for housing as soon as you make your final decision to join.
Register for Fish Camp. Fish Camp is open to all incoming A&M freshmen. Fish Camp is a 4-day orientation program that takes place at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center in Palestine, Texas. Registration for Fish Camp should open in late May, 2017. It is a great opportunity but participation in Fish Camp is not required. Fish Camp welcomes the freshman class to Texas A&M each year with the purpose of giving them an opportunity to have fun, make friends, and learn more about life at Texas A&M.

Those interested in the Aggie Band must audition and be selected for a position in the band. You can audition for the band once you are admitted to Texas A&M. Here is a link for more information on auditions: http://corps.tamu.edu/fightin-texas-aggie-band/

All of our cadets are required to attend all home football games unless they have a specific academic requirement or family emergency. To accomplish this, all cadets (except those cadets in the Aggie Band) are required to purchase a Football Pass. Cadets in the Aggie Band can attend sporting events for free by using their student ID card. We expect sales of sports passes to start in late May, 2017.

The window to apply for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program opens on 15 April, 2017. This scholarship is available for Texas Residents interested in military service and it is valued at up to $10,000 per year. You can learn more about this scholarship at http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/financialaid/tofa2.cfm?ID=581

Tasks for Summer 2017

- Attend your scheduled NSC. During your NSC you will register for your A&M classes and you will also register for the Corps of Cadets.

- According to state law, all incoming students must have proof of vaccination against Bacterial Meningitis prior to registering for classes. You will need to submit your proof to A&M prior to attending your NSC. You can find more information on this requirement on the Admissions website.

- Cadets are required to have a Corps Dining Plan each semester. A&M should announce meal plans and prices around May, 2017.

- All incoming cadets must complete a Corps of Cadets Report of Initial Medical/Psychological Form prior to the start of Freshman Orientation Week. We will provide you a copy of the form at your NSC.

- All incoming cadets will obtain a Student ID Card during their New Student Conference. This card is used to purchase your meals on campus and is also used as a key to enter into your dorms.

- Cadets can rent a Post Office Box while on campus for their New Student Conference. Post office boxes can be rented at the Northgate Post Office and at the Commons Mail Services.

- You will be measured and fitted for your Corps of Cadets uniforms during your New Student Conference and you will be issued a full set of uniforms after you arrive for Freshman Orientation Week. At your New Student Conference all incoming cadets will also receive a Packing List with all the items they should and should not bring to Freshman Orientation Week.

- Freshmen are allowed to have a car at A&M. If you bring a car to A&M you will need to purchase a parking permit from Transportation Services. Here is the link to information on vehicle parking permits http://transport.tamu.edu/parking.aspx. Bicycles are also allowed but they also need a permit from Transportation Services (permit is free). Here is the link to more information on bicycles http://transport.tamu.edu/bicycles.aspx. The decision to bring a car or bicycle is a personal choice. Many cadets do not come with a car or bicycle and they are able to get where they need to go without any major issues using the A&M transportation system or their buddies.
All freshmen and sophomores in the Corps are required to take an ROTC class and lab (Army, Air Force or Navy/Marine ROTC). **These classes carry no military obligation.** You will register for your ROTC class when you attend your NSC this summer.

Aggie Band freshmen must register for their **Aggie Band class.** This is a 1 hour credit class and make sure you register “for a grade” – not “sat/unsat”.

All new freshman cadets are required to register for SOMS 111(1 academic hour) – “Principles of Academic and Personal Development”. This class is optional for males, but highly recommended.

For those new cadets joining the Corps, you will participate in **Freshman Orientation Week, (FOW) just prior to starting classes at A&M. The dates for your FOW have not been identified yet but I’ll provide these in future updates.** FOW is designed specifically to help incoming Cadets get a solid start on their Academics and to learn Aggie Corps customs and traditions. This program provides an opportunity to get “settled in” before the Fall Semester begins. Instruction is provided on how to study and how to make the best use of available time. We will issue and assist you in preparing your uniforms, preparing your dorm room, and accomplishing numerous other tasks that will help complete your transition into the Corps life at Texas A&M. We will provide you more information on FOW during your New Student Conference.

We look forward to seeing you for a visit sometime in the next few months. Feel free to contact me or my recruiting staff at 979-845-9232 or my email **shawes@corps.tamu.edu.**