Dear Incoming Band Student:

If you are receiving this you are an incoming freshman or transfer student majoring in music or participating in the band program. First of all, we want to congratulate you on your acceptance to the music department and to the band program. You are arriving on campus at a wonderful time in the history of the university and the music department. I want to highlight some of the specific information contained in the ATTACHED band information packet and give you some additional important information. Hopefully this will provide additional clarification and ensure you don’t miss some of this vital material. Please read all of the information in the attached packet. The items below are simply highlights to help you.

1) Ensemble Enrollment Requirements
All students on scholarship, regardless of major, are required to participate in ensembles as determined by the level of their scholarship. All Music Education Majors as well as Performance Majors on scholarship are required to be in Marching Band AND one of the concert ensembles each fall until the student teaching semester. Make sure that you enroll for both Marching Band and Symphonic Band (see registration below). Should you have questions please let me know.

2) Registration
If you are a music major please register at your freshman orientation with the assistance of an advisor from the Department of Music. (This will usually be Dr. David Scott, Music Department Head). It is advisable to attend the earliest orientation session that you are able in order to ensure maximum flexibility in your schedule.

**Marching Band:** Please make sure you register for the proper section depending upon your instrument:

- **Marching Band** (Brass and Woodwinds)  
  MUS 100M-004  
  M 7-9 PM, T-TH 12:30-2:45 PM

- **Drumline**  
  MUS 100D-013  
  M 6-9 PM, T-TH 12:30-2:45 PM

- **Color Guard**  
  MUS 100G-003  
  M 6-9 PM, T-TH 12:30-2:45 PM

**Concert Ensembles:**
All new undergraduate students auditioning for a concert ensemble should register for Symphonic Band **(Symphonic Band MUS 100B-011)** (The Symphonic Band and Concert Band are combined for enrollment purposes within the Symphonic Band Class). Once the ensemble placements have been determined at the audition on August 27th, the Department of Music will make any needed schedule changes for ensembles. If possible try to leave the Wind Ensemble time available to ensure ease of schedule change.
Jazz Ensembles: While not a required course, the jazz ensembles are highly encouraged for those who have jazz ensemble experience or play a traditional jazz ensemble instrument (trumpet, trombone, saxophone, rhythm section) and are interested in learning more about jazz. Those interested in auditioning for a jazz ensemble should register for Jazz Ensemble II (Jazz Ensemble II MUS 100J-003) as a holding section until after the auditions on August 28th but try to leave the Jazz Ensemble I time slot available if possible.

3) Performance Attire for Concert and Jazz Ensembles: All students will need the following attire for concert performances (Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Ensembles)

   **Gentlemen:** Black tuxedo, white tux shirt, black bow tie, black dress shoes and socks. In addition it is advisable to have a long sleeve black-buttoned shirt and black pants for use in less formal performance situations.

   **Ladies:** Black pants of appropriate length and style, a black blouse with sleeves and shoulders covered (no spaghetti straps). Black shoes are required-sandals are not considered appropriate. (Note: Yoga pants and leggings are not acceptable concert attire)

4) Instrument Check-out: If you require a wind instrument for marching season (sousaphone, baritone, mellophone, alto saxophone), or a concert ensemble instrument (oboe, bassoon, french horn, euphonium, tuba, etc.), you may check out an instrument on during one of the summer times below or on the first day of Pride Week (Saturday, August 20th). Note: (Sousaphones will only be issued on Aug 20th) The cost of the instrument rental is $40.00 per semester, per instrument. A limited number of additional instruments (i.e. plastic clarinets, trumpets, trombones etc.) may be available as needed. These additional instruments may be checked out on August 20th and are subject to the same $40.00 fee. Marching Band Percussionists will need to pay the $40.00 fee on Wednesday, August 17th.

**Summer Instrument Check Out times:**

- **Friday, June 10th (11:00 AM-2:00 PM)**
- **Saturday, June 11th (11:00 AM-2:00 PM)**
- **Saturday July 16th (11:00 AM-2:00 PM)**
- **Saturday August 20th (during camp registration)**

Instrument Check out will be in the PIE Lounge (east side of the music building). If you cannot attend one of these times, please contact Jarod Garcia, Graduate Teaching Assistant at (jgarcia10@leomail.tamuc.edu) to schedule a time to check out an instrument during the summer. (Note: Sousaphones will be checked out during the pre-season camp only)

5) Auditions: The concert ensemble placement auditions for the fall semester will be on Saturday, August 27th. The jazz ensemble placement auditions will be on Sunday, August 28th. Exact times will be available as we get closer (Audition excerpts and information will be posted on the music department website on **July 1st**. You will be sent an email to direct you to the link.
Auditions for the “Pride” Marching Band drumline will take place on August 6th, from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM in the Music Building. Information will be emailed to percussionists regarding downloading warm-up exercises, stand tunes, and show music. Please contact Dr. Brian Zator at brian.zator@tamuc.edu for additional information.

Woodwind and Brass students wishing to participate in the marching band who have not auditioned for the Department of Music or the Band Program should contact Mr. Allan Goodwin to schedule an audition. (Allan.Goodwin@tamuc.edu)

6) **Pre-Season Marching Band Camp Housing:** If you are living in the residence halls for the fall, YOU MUST make sure that you confirm early move-in for band camp prior to **Monday July 18th**. You must do this in order to be able to move in during band camp.

   **Go to the following link:**  [http://goo.gl/forms/vI13vs7sYX](http://goo.gl/forms/vI13vs7sYX)

   **Have the following information ready:**
   - CWID (Campus Wide ID Number)
   - Residence Hall Assignment
   - Room Number for FALL
   - Best Contact Phone and Email
   - Marching Band Instrument
   - Major

   *You must do this in order to be able to move in during band camp!*

7) **Calendar:** Make sure you have added the dates from the preliminary fall and spring calendar in the information packet into your planner and especially take note of the pre-season marching band camp dates. Please note that Colorguard and Percussion begin on August 17th. Brass and Woodwinds report on August 20th.

After reading the ATTACHED band information packet please let me know if you have any additional questions. The information packet is also available for download on the music department website [www.tamuc.edu/music](http://www.tamuc.edu/music) (click on current student resources and then look under documents and forms).

We look forward to working with you this year and welcome to the TAMU-Commerce Bands!

Sincerely,

 Phillip L. Clements  
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