

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Uplift Education

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) reflects the agreement between Texas A&M University-Commerce (herein A&M-Commerce) and Uplift Education (herein Uplift) to offer outreach services to middle and high school students. This MOU specifies responsibilities of each party and other responsibilities common to both entities.

The purpose of this MOU is to establish the general framework for providing outreach and scholarship opportunities to the students in the Uplift Education program.

Responsibilities of Parties

- I. Texas A&M University-Commerce will:
 - a. provide College Readiness activities that will promote the pursuit of higher education. To accomplish this, A&M-Commerce will:
 - i. send an admission staff and/or alumni to Dallas for at least two (2) Uplift college admission or alumni support related events per year (examples include, but are not limited to: Uplift's Fall College Fair, Senior Leadership Academy, Symposium for Multicultural Recruitment, Bridge Program, JUMP program (college admissions program for juniors)
 - ii. provide Admission Days at Uplift schools to ensure understanding of the testing, admissions, financial aid and scholarship processes and timelines. Will provide assistance with testing registration, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) and completion of admission applications.
 - iii. conduct Admissions, Financial Aid & Scholarship sessions in Spanish and English at designated schools for parents (and students). Will provide assistance with testing registration, TAFSA and FAFSA and completion of admission applications.
 - iv. provide college preparation support services through the Hispanic Outreach Office (flyer attached).
 - b. provide opportunities to have an on-campus college experience through:
 - i. a special invitation to counselor identified high performing students for Top 10% Day held on the A&M-Commerce campus.
 - ii. attendance at Mane Event Preview Day for Juniors and Seniors in the fall (third Saturday in October) or spring (first Saturday in March) each year.
 - iii. invitations to seniors for other fall and spring campus events, programs and/or activities (examples include, but are not limited to: Senior Day with the Alphas, athletic events, Homecoming)
 - c. provide outreach services to middle schools students through:
 - i. Road to College visits.
 - d. provide Uplift Scholarship opportunity to admitted seniors. This scholarship will award students monies per event participated in up to \$1,200. Events to be determined by Uplift and A&M-Commerce personnel. Each event is worth \$300 toward their scholarship up to the value of \$1,200. Students must meet university admission standards for scholarship award.
 - e. provide access to the Pride Promise Guaranteed Tuition Program that provides full tuition and fees for four years, when student meets criteria (see attached flyer).
 - f. give priority consideration to Uplift students who meet criteria and apply for the Honors College (see attached brochure) with a complete application by December 1 of each year.
 - g. not charge an application fee to any undergraduate student who applies to our university.
 - h. accept SAT and/or ACT test scores certified by Uplift schools and documented on the high school transcript by the 7th semester.

- i. provide conditional admission to Uplift students who do not meet automatic admission requirements. These students will be evaluated at the end of their first semester and at the end of their first year to determine their success and the success of the conditional admission program. A&M-Commerce will annually evaluate program continuation.
- j. will offer undocumented Uplift students the opportunity to pay the in-state tuition rate upon receipt of their signed and notarized citizenship affidavit per state of Texas law – Senate Bill 1528, Texas Education Code (TEC) 54.052 – 54.056.
- k. provide a success coach for all enrolled Uplift Education students for the first year or until completion of the University College requirements.
- l. provide an admissions and academic profile report for each enrolled cohort. Uplift graduates attending A&M-Commerce will be required to complete a FERPA “release of information” form in order for Uplift to continue to track the progress of their students.
- m. provide scholarship offers to Uplift students who meet current freshman scholarship criteria for Blue and Gold, Academic, Presidential, Honors College, Regents’ Scholars, Freshman Leadership Class, Departmental and General scholarships. Students should meet priority deadlines to maximize scholarship opportunities and amounts. Scholarships awarded as funds are available.
- n. provide marketing materials, literature, student expectations at events, event guidelines, and admission/registration/liability forms.

II. Uplift Education will:

- a. agree to ensure full participation of personnel responsible for college counseling.
- b. be represented at A&M-Commerce counselor update programs held in the fall of each year.
- c. encourage Uplift HERO mentors to stay with student mentees throughout college to ensure higher levels of persistence.
- d. support students to have high persistence and encourage degree completion in 4 years through Uplift INSPIRE Counselor (alumni) support.
- e. promote A&M-Commerce sponsored events to Uplift students by providing announcements, literature and possible registration forms to interested students. Literature and registration forms can be provided by A&M-Commerce.
- f. identify interested prospective students and provide them with on-campus contacts that will assist them in the admissions process, if needed.
- g. have student representation at A&M-Commerce events and programs.
- h. provide annual schedule for middle school and high school programs and celebrations.
- i. assist in chaperoning group travel.

III. Both Texas A&M University-Commerce and Uplift Education will:

- a. make every effort to recruit 30 or more Uplift students to A&M-Commerce per year over a three year period.
- b. provide college readiness activities to the students of Uplift.
- c. develop an understanding that the student is top priority and seeing them advance to an institution of higher learning is the overall goal.
- d. communicate openly regarding collaborations, questions, and concerns.
- e. evaluate and improve this partnership agreement within one year of its implementation and every year thereafter and make revisions to enhance programs, services and support, as necessary.

IV. Additional Information:

- a. Terms: The term of this agreement shall be April 19, 2013 through August 31, 2016, with the option to renew upon mutual agreement between the parties hereto.
- b. Amendments: No amendment, change or modification to this MOU may be made except in a writing signed by all parties hereto.

- c. Dispute Resolution: The dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, *Texas Government Code*, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used A&M-Commerce and Uplift to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by either party that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. The parties shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the respective undersigned party, who shall examine the claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with the other respective party in an effort to resolve the claim.
- d. Governing Law and Venue: This agreement shall be governed and interpreted pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the state of Texas. Venue for any suit filed pursuant to this agreement shall be in Hunt County, Texas.

V. Contacts:

Dr. Dan R. Jones, President/CEO
Texas A&M University-Commerce
P.O. Box 3011
Commerce, Texas 75429-3011
Physical Address:
2600 South Neal Street
Commerce, TX 75248

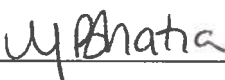
Yasmin Bhatia
Uplift Education
1825 Market Center
Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75207

Adopted as of the 18th day of April, 2013.

For Texas A&M University-Commerce:
Dan R. Jones, Ph.D.
President/CEO



For Uplift Education:
Yasmin Bhatia
CEO





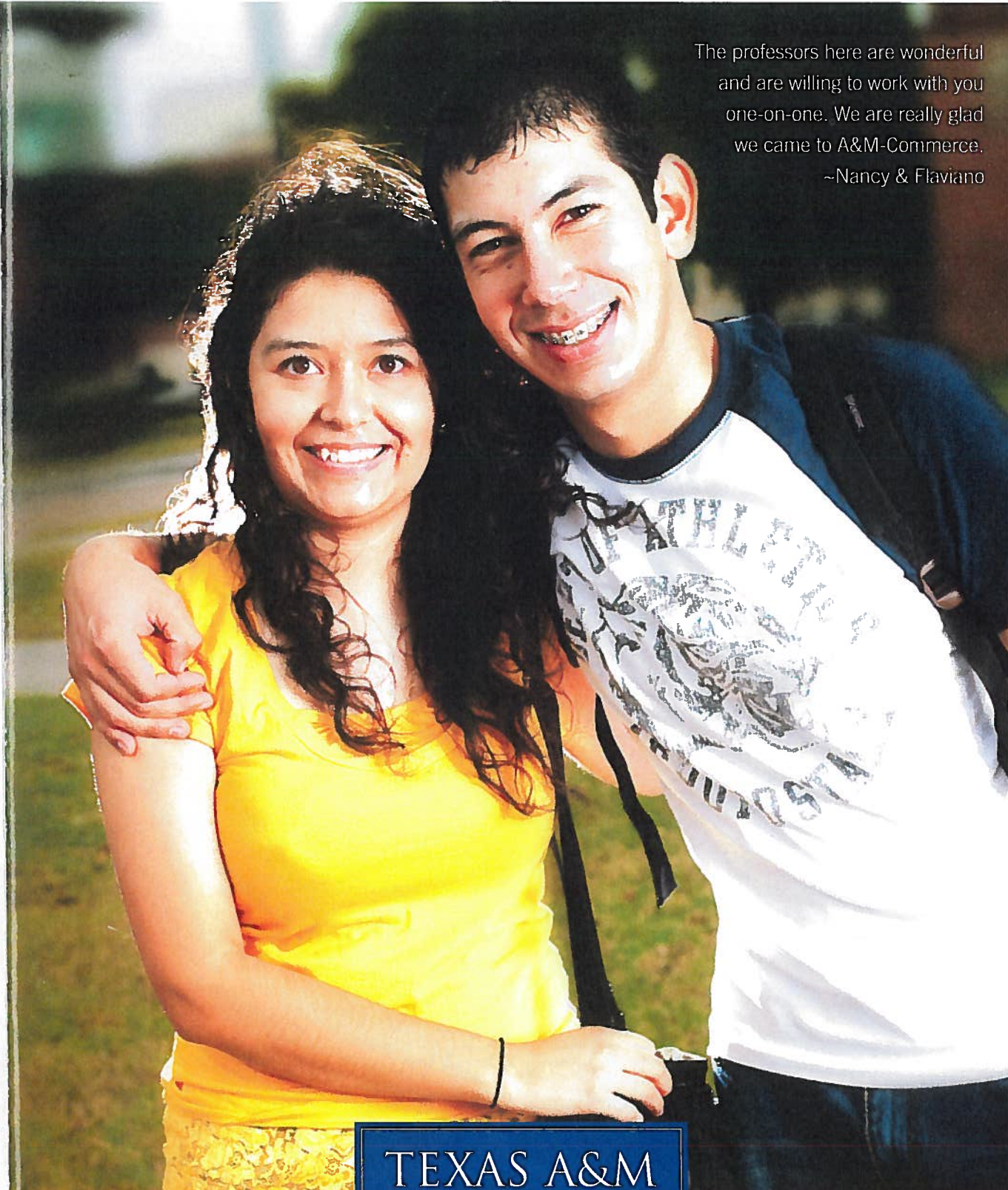
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

*Pride Promise Guaranteed Tuition Program**

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be officially admitted to Texas A&M-Commerce pursuing the 1st baccalaureate degree.
- Must have on file a complete FAFSA /TASFA by March 31st and meet deadlines in subsequent semesters for renewal purposes
- Must have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) between 0 and 5,081
- Family Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) must be \$30,000 or less
- Must be a Texas Resident for tuition purposes
- Requires minimum enrollment of 15 hours per semester
- 4 year limit (8 semesters, does not include summer sessions)
- Must have a GPA of 2.5 or greater and must maintain a 2.5 GPA for renewal purposes

****Only tuition and mandatory fees covered***



The professors here are wonderful
and are willing to work with you
one-on-one. We are really glad
we came to A&M-Commerce.

~Nancy & Flaviano

TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
COMMERCE

HISPANIC OUTREACH & STUDENT PROGRAMS

www.tamu-commerce.edu/HispanicOutreach

WELCOME TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE!

We are excited that you are interested in A&M-Commerce!

We are here to guide you through the college admissions process, provide assistance as needed and serve as your "direct link" with the university to ensure your college success. Ask us about admissions, campus activities, student life, financial aid, scholarships, housing, or any other needs you may have in reference to our university and your future!

AT YOUR SERVICE!

¡Qué gusto saber de tu interés por Texas A&M University-Commerce!

Estamos listos para ayudarte con el proceso de inscripción, y servir como tu "conexión directa" con la Universidad para asegurar tu éxito. Puedes preguntarnos sobre la matriculación, los eventos de la Universidad, la vida estudiantil, ayuda financiera, becas, dormitorios o formas de alojamiento, o cualquier otra cosa en que te podamos ayudar en referente a tu futuro dentro de nuestra Universidad.

¡PARA SERVIRTE!

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to raise awareness on the importance of higher education among individuals and groups at high schools, community colleges and in the general community with a special focus on Hispanic/Latino students.



We advise prospective Hispanic/Latino students and their families on the college application process, available financing and student support services that help ensure college success. We help coordinate and implement outreach activities, new student orientation and educational programs that enrich and retain a diverse student body.

La misión de nuestra oficina es de crear conciencia entre los estudiantes de preparatoria y colegio comunitario con un enfoque en la comunidad Hispana/Latina sobre la importancia de la educación universitaria.

Nuestros profesionales aconsejan a futuros estudiantes Hispanos/Latinos y a sus familias sobre el proceso de la inscripción para la Universidad, ayuda financiera disponible, y como encontrar el apoyo necesario para asegurar el éxito en una carrera universitaria. También coordinamos e implementamos varias actividades de alcance a la comunidad, la orientación de estudiantes nuevos, y programas educacionales que enriquecen y mantienen una población diversa de estudiantes.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

FRESHMAN

At Texas A&M University-Commerce you qualify for automatic admission if you meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Rank in the top 25 percent of your graduating class
- Composite ACT score of 20
- Combined SAT score of 950 (math and critical reading scores only)

Required High School Curriculum

- English (4 Units): English I, II, III, and IV
- Math (3 Units): Algebra I and II; and any math higher than Algebra II.
- Lab Sciences (2 Units): Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Social Sciences (3 Units): Economics, Geography, Government, History or Foreign Language

TRANSFER STUDENTS

You must have at least 21 or more transferable hours (not including developmental courses). You must have a 2.0 GPA or higher on all courses taken in order to meet admission requirements.



Note: Students transferring with less than 21 hours should apply as a first-time freshman. If you have not yet graduated high school, but have dual-credit courses or other college credit, you are still considered a first-time student and must apply as a freshman.

Requisitos Básicos de Inscripción Para Estudiantes de Primer Año

- Clasificar en el 25% más alto de tu clase con la que te gradúas.
- Tener una puntuación compuesta de 20 en el ACT.
- Tener una puntuación combinada de 950 en la parte verbal y de matemáticas del SAT.

También es requisito que cumplas con los siguientes cursos de preparatoria:

- 4 Unidades de Inglés
- 3 Unidades de Matemáticas: Esto incluye 2 unidades de álgebra y una de geometría o algún nivel más alto que Álgebra II
- 2 Unidades de Ciencias de Laboratorio: Biología, Química, Física
- 3 Unidades de ciencias sociales: Economía, Geografía, Gobierno, Historia o Lenguajes Extranjeros.

Requisitos Básicos de Para Inscripción Estudiantes de Transferencia

Tener 21 horas que sean transferibles (cursos de preparación no cuentan). Tener una puntuación acumulativa de 2.0 en todos los cursos presentados.



Nota: Estudiantes transferidos con menos de 21 horas transferibles quedan bajo los requisitos para estudiantes de primer año. Estudiantes que toman clases de crédito doble en la preparatoria, y que aun no se gradúan, son considerados como estudiantes de primer año.



GET PLUGGED IN ON CAMPUS!

ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

At Texas A&M-Commerce we believe learning is not just limited to the classroom.

The Office of Hispanic Outreach encourages you to get connected on campus for a great university experience. At A&M-Commerce, learning extends beyond the classroom thanks to more than 120 student organizations. Take advantage of our fun and friendly atmosphere by hanging out at the new student center with friends, grabbing a burger, or attending one of many exciting events:



Hispanic Student Association: Voice suggestions, share experiences and culture, celebrate success, and get connected at our biweekly meetings by this new organization.

Salsa Night: Join the campus community on the dance floor each year as we enjoy the popular rhythms and sounds of Salsa.

El Día de los Muertos Celebration: Have fun with friends at this annual Mexican celebration.

International Education Week: Celebrate our diverse student population with a week of cultural performances and activities.

LULAC: Connect with other Latino/Hispanic students through LULAC.

Cinco de Mayo: Enjoy a week of events including a mini film festival, guest speakers, piñata breaking, and cookout.

¡Existen varias oportunidades, y nuestra Oficina te “conecta” con el resto del campus para que tengas una gran experiencia universitaria!

En A&M-Commerce, el aprendizaje se extiende más allá del salón de clases, gracias a las 120 organizaciones estudiantiles. Toma esta oportunidad de un ambiente divertido y seguro que te hace sentir entre familia para que puedas convivir con tus amigos en el centro estudiantil, o simplemente ir a uno de nuestros eventos:

Asociación de Estudiantes Hispanos: Organizamos foros estudiantiles cada dos semanas con nuestros estudiantes Latinos/Hispanos de la Universidad. Esta es una oportunidad para que los estudiantes puedan ofrecer una sugerencia, compartir su experiencia y cultura con otros estudiantes, celebrar su éxito, y aprender sobre los recursos disponibles para apoyar su éxito académico.

Noche de Salsa: Vente a bailar con el ritmo y el sonido popular de la Salsa que reúne a toda la comunidad Universitaria en la pista de baile cada año.

El Día de los Muertos: Celebra una tradición indígena de la cultura mexicana. ¡Esta celebración vive en A&M-Commerce!

Semana de Educación Internacional: Nos da orgullo celebrar la diversidad de nuestros estudiantes con una semana de actuaciones y actividades culturales.

LULAC: Conéctate con otros estudiantes Latinos/Hispanos por medio de LULAC.

Cinco de Mayo: Una semana de eventos que incluye un mini festival de cine, presentaciones educacionales, piñatas y una parrillada para conmemorar esta celebración.



**Outreach Events and Programs
Our Office takes an important role in
the following community events.**

VIVA Dallas Exposition

Las Llaves del Éxito: The Keys to Success

Southeast Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Dieciséis de Septiembre Festival

The Tamale Festival: "Festival del Tamal"

MusicArte of Fort Worth

Hispanic Scholarship Fund: "Steps4Success"
and "Parent Town Hall"

Camp College Overnight Experience at
Texas A&M University-Commerce



**Programas al alcance de la Comunidad
Nuestra Oficina toma un rol importante en
los siguientes eventos comunitarios**

VIVA Dallas, Exposición

Las Llaves del Éxito, Feria de Colegio

Festival de Dieciséis de Septiembre,

Organizado por Southeast Dallas Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce

El Festival del Tamal

MusicArte de Fort Worth

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

"Steps4Success" and "Parent Town Hall"

"Una Experiencia de Universidad", campamento en
Texas A&M University-Commerce

CONTACT US TODAY!

www.tamu-commerce.edu/HispanicOutreach/

SIGNIFICANT PARTNERSHIPS

Relationships are important at A&M-Commerce, as evidenced by these examples of our partners:

Dallas County Community College District
Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Southeast Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Education is Freedom
University Crossroads
Collin College
Dallas ISD
Garland ISD
Mesquite ISD
Melissa ISD
Hallmark College
Baptist University of the Americas
Grayson County College
And many others throughout the state and region.

A&M-Commerce y la Oficina de Alcance Hispano extienden su habilidad de proveer una experiencia universitaria única a un gran número de estudiantes a través de relaciones sólidas como las nombradas aquí:

Colegios Comunitarios del Condado de Dallas
(Dallas County Community College District)
Colegio Collin (Collin College)
Cámara de Comercio Hispana de Dallas
(Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)
Cámara de Comercio Hispana de Fort Worth
(Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)
Cámara de Comercio Hispana del Sureste de Dallas
(Southeast Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)
Education is Freedom
University Crossroads
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Dallas
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Garland
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Mesquite
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Melissa
Hallmark College
Universidad Bautista de las Américas, San Antonio, TX.
Baptist University of the Americas
Colegio Comunitario del Condado de Grayson
(Grayson County College)
Y muchos más.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU, PLEASE CONTACT US!

Luis Franco, Director

Luis_Franco@tamu-commerce.edu
(903) 886-5067

Gilbert Hernandez, Coordinator

Gilbert_Hernandez@tamu-commerce.edu
(903) 468-8665

HispanicOutreach@tamu-commerce.edu

www.tamu-commerce.edu/HispanicOutreach
Office located inside Student Access & Success Center

¡ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA AYUDARTE, CONTÁCTANOS!

Luis Franco, Director

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Gilbert Hernandez, Coordinador

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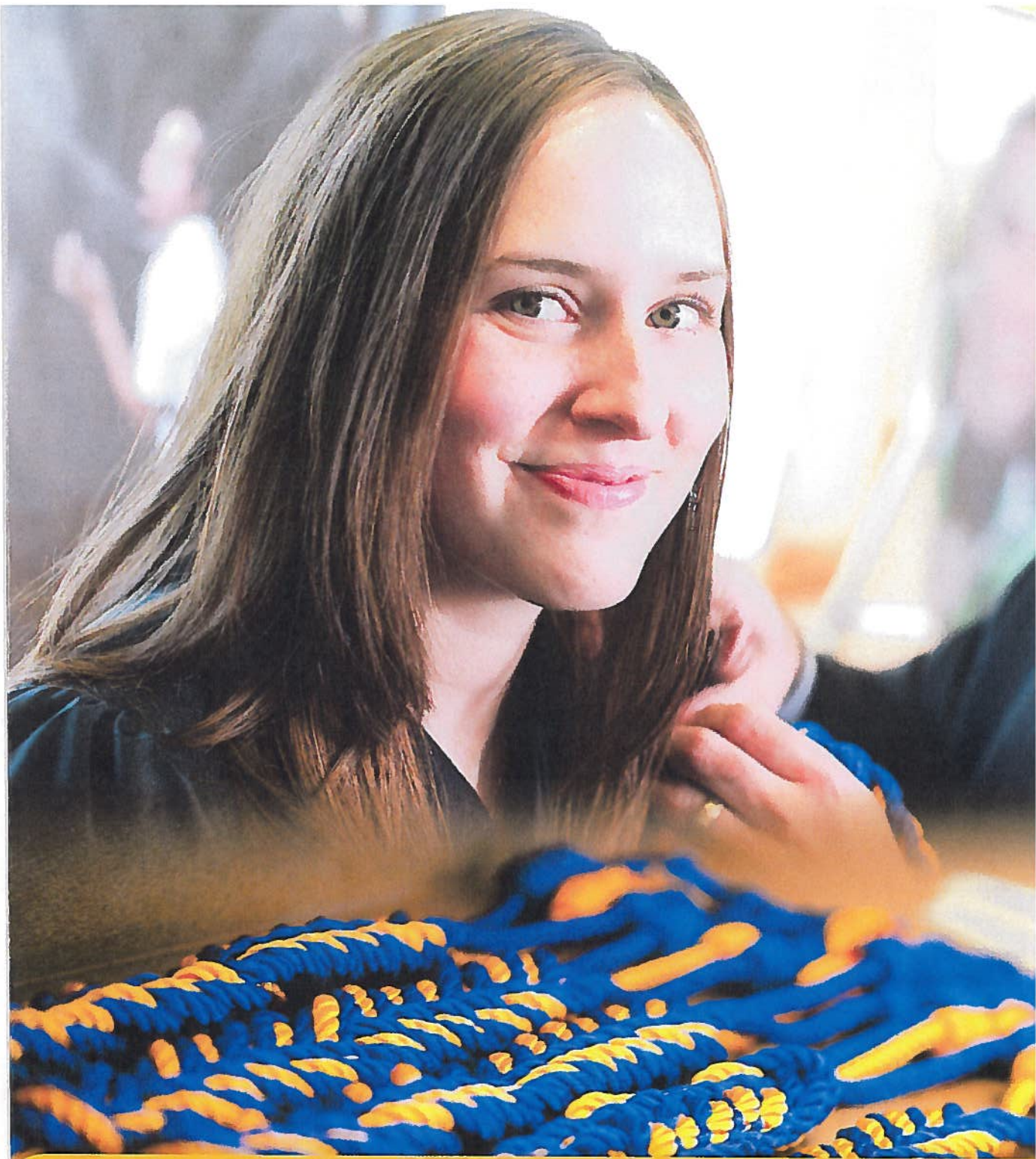
HispanicOutreach@tamu-commerce.edu

Línea bilingüe: (903) 468-8699

Bilingual Line: (903) 468-8699

www.tamu-commerce.edu/HispanicOutreach
Oficina está dentro del Student Access & Success Center





HONORS COLLEGE

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



www.tamuc.edu

THE HONORS COLLEGE

BE A PART OF A UNIQUE, TIGHTLY-KNIT GROUP.

As a part of the Honors College, you will be a part of a unique, tightly-knit group. Whether it's joining your fellow students for a study session, a game of pool, or a late night visit to the cafeteria, you will always feel like part of something bigger than yourself.

ANYONE CAN GET A COLLEGE DEGREE, BUT NOT EVERYONE IS PRIVILEGED TO BE AN A&M-COMMERCE HONORS STUDENT.

BENEFITS OF THE A&M-COMMERCE HONORS COLLEGE INCLUDE:

- ☀ Living with other Honors College students at Prairie Crossing, a new apartment-style residential learning community
- ☀ Intramural sports teams
- ☀ Highly competitive scholarship package
- ☀ Student worker positions in your area of interest
- ☀ Opportunities to make a difference on campus from day one
- ☀ Assistance with the graduate school application process



As an Honors student, you will be encouraged to achieve your full potential by professors uniquely selected to teach Honors courses, and custom-tailored classes that will challenge you.

THE HONORS COLLEGE EXPERIENCE INCLUDES:

- ☀ Small classes and personal faculty mentors
- ☀ Unique and challenging courses
- ☀ An interdisciplinary curriculum
- ☀ Opportunities for research and creative activities
- ☀ Special Honors College events (colloquia, educational excursions, film series)

ONCE ADMITTED TO THE PROGRAM, STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Enrollment and completion of at least 15 hours a semester
- During their freshman year, students must live in Honors Housing at Prairie Crossing
- A minimum 30 hours of Honors course credits must be completed before graduation
- Successful defense of a thesis project
- To be in good standing, a student must maintain a G.P.A. of 3.3 or higher
- Students must complete 50 hours of community service during their time at A&M-Commerce



APPLY NOW-Only 50 freshmen will be accepted in the Honors College this year

Each Honors College applicant is reviewed individually.

The "typical" student in the Honors College has the following characteristics:

- ☀️ Class rank within the top 10 percent of their class
- ☀️ 27 ACT score
- ☀️ 1200 SAT score (Reading and Math sections)

In order to be considered for the Honors College, students will complete the following:

- ✓ Application
- ✓ Essay
- ✓ Interview with selection committee

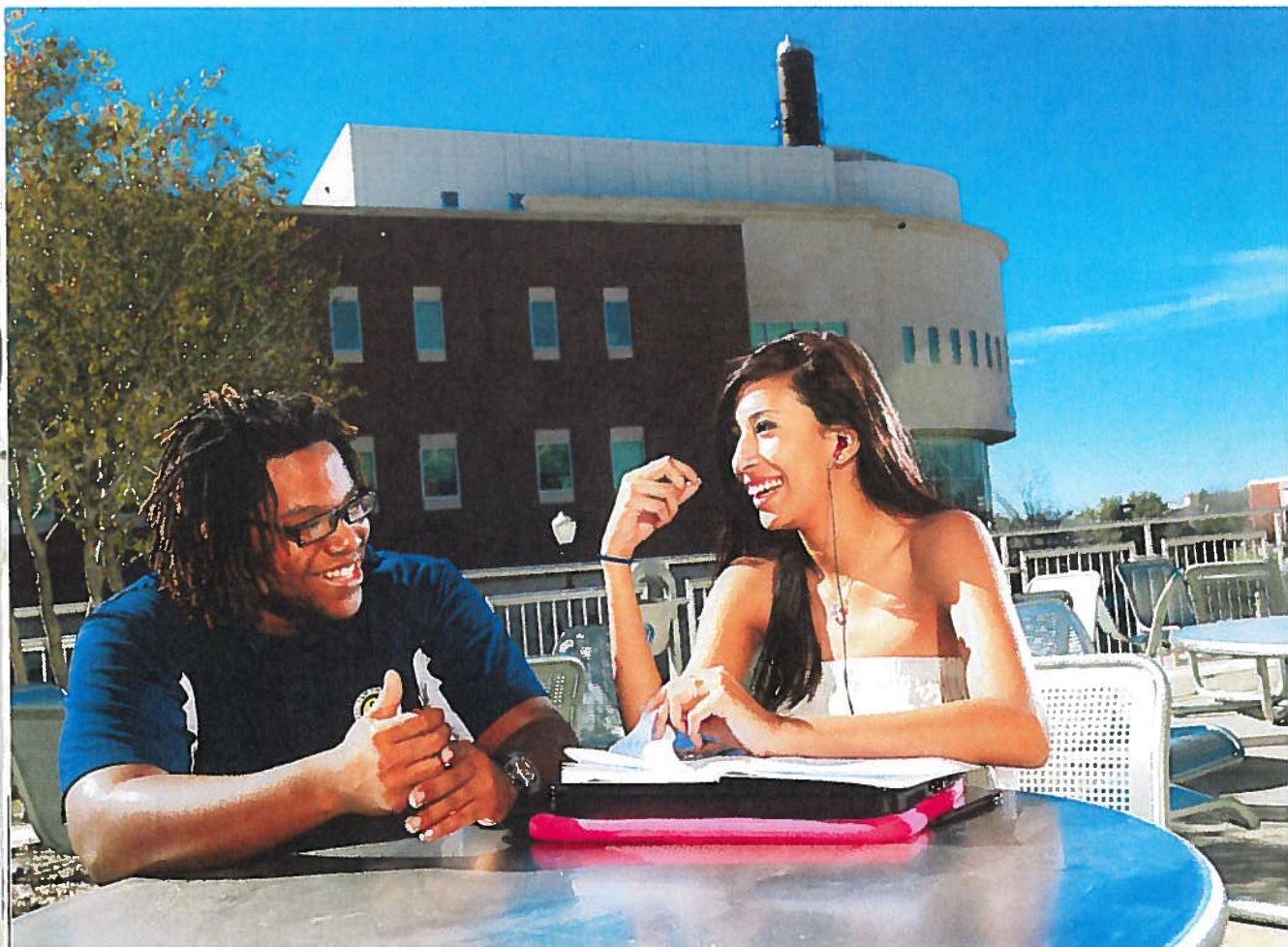
Applications can be found online and completed at our Web site at www.tamuc.edu/honors.

Supporting materials (e.g., transcripts, letters of recommendation) should be faxed to us at 903-468-3008. Once applications have been reviewed, students will receive a letter and/or e-mail alerting them to whether they will be interviewed for a slot in the program. Fifty students are admitted a year.

**For more information, contact
Dr. Ray Green, Dean of Honors College:**

E-mail: Raymond.Green@tamuc.edu

Phone: 903-468-3001





Texas A&M University-Commerce is the second-largest member of the Texas A&M University System. Here you'll find the perfect blend of a small town atmosphere; world-class facilities; professors who are personally involved in your academic success; and programs that are affordable, convenient and will help you land a rewarding career.

Yes, I'm interested in receiving more information on the Honors College.

Date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____

Alternative Phone Number: _____

Degree Program: _____

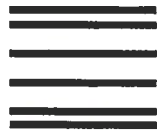
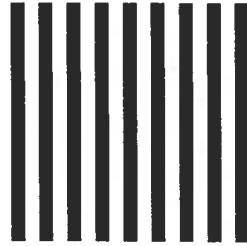
Semester planning to enter: _____

Have questions? Contact us by phone at 903-468-3001 or send us an email at:
Raymond.Green@tamuc.edu

WARNING:

THIS BROCHURE CONTAINS
CONTENT DESIGNED TO
ATTRACT HIGH ACHIEVING
STUDENTS TO A PLACE
WHERE THEY CAN REALIZE
THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.
MAY CAUSE EXCITEMENT
CONCERNING HIGHER
EDUCATION, INCREASE
INTEREST IN ACADEMICS
AND A DESIRE TO SUCCEED.

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 64, COMMERCE, TX

Postage Will Be Paid by Addressee

Office of Undergraduate Admissions
Attention: Dean Holley
Texas A&M University-Commerce
P.O. Box 3011
COMMERCE, TX 75429-9988





"I FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO BE PART OF THE HONORS COLLEGE. I belong to an enthusiastic community of like-minded individuals with ambitious goals. I cannot express the peace of mind the scholarship has given me. It has allowed me the opportunity to concentrate all of my energy on my studies."

— SARA, class of 2014

YOU HAVE WORKED HARD earning good grades, being a leader, and participating in multiple extracurricular activities because you strive to excel in everything you do. Now it's time you get the recognition and reward you deserve.

As a member of the **Honors College at Texas A&M University-Commerce**, high achieving students like you receive a premier scholarship package that covers tuition, fees, housing, a partial meal plan, and money for books. This scholarship allows you to take advanced courses, graduate free of debt and focus on your career goals and aspirations.

From orientation to graduation, you will be immersed in an Honors community that encourages personal interaction with like-minded students outside the classroom, and challenging dialogue with faculty who will push you to succeed in the classroom.

CONTACT US TODAY!

www.tamuc.edu/honors