



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

MEMORANDUM

To: PVAMU Campus Community

From: Valerie L. Holmes, Assistant Vice President for Student Experience

Re: New Student Orientation Update

Date: April 6, 2020

After much deliberation, the Department for Student Experience has decided to suspend face-to-face group orientation sessions and offer **virtual New Student Orientation sessions** for incoming freshmen and transfer students. We believe that this shift will assist in keeping our campus community, new students, and their families safe as the nation battles the spread of COVID-19. At this time, we are still planning to have an in-person Extended Orientation (Panther Camp) in August – any changes to this plan will be shared with the community. We will provide additional information about the virtual New Student Orientation in the coming weeks.

As we prepare to welcome our new incoming class, we are diligently working to design an exciting and informative orientation experience. This year's New Student Orientation will welcome new students through a blend of videos, text, synchronous Zoom sessions, chat sessions, social media, and continual learning and engagement opportunities. Although we will no longer be recruiting for Student Orientation Leaders as previously planned, we are looking at ways to utilize students in a unique capacity to assist with building community amongst the students during the summer and when we welcome the new class on campus in the fall.

This is a difficult time for us all; know that my team and I are committed to ensuring that our incoming students have an onboarding experience that allows them to begin their journey on "The Hill" in the best way possible. Feel free to utilize the New Student Orientation hotline (936-261-5912) and email address (NSO@pvamu.edu) should you have questions.

cc: Timothy Sams, Vice President for Student Affairs

Division for Student Affairs - Department for Student Experience
P.O. Box 519 | Mail Stop 1026 Prairie View, TX 77446
Phone (936) 261-2610 Fax (936) 261-2139