



SOAR '26

Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration



Tennessee
TECH

Leaving the Nest



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Join by Web



- 1 Go to **PollEv.com**
- 2 Enter **AMULLIS**
- 3 Respond to activity

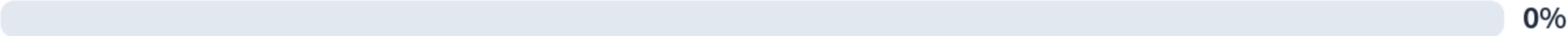
Join by Text



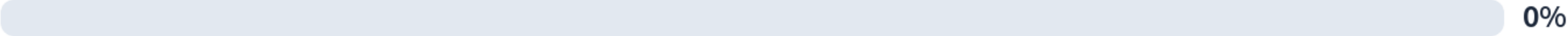
- 1 Text **AMULLIS** to **22333**
- 2 Text in your message

Which best describes how you're feeling this morning?

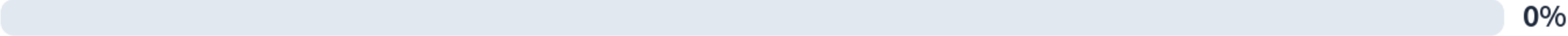
Excited



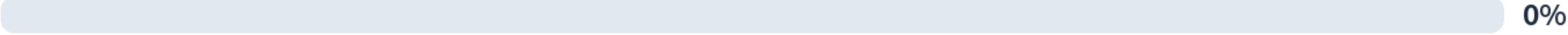
Proud



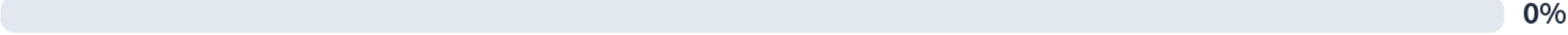
A litter nervous



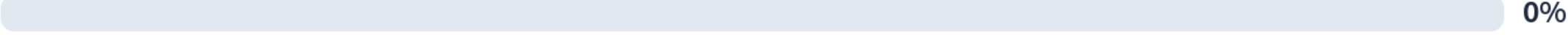
All of the above



Still waking up



"Where's the coffee?"



If you had to sum up your student in one category, they are...

The planner

0%

The social connector

0%

The overachiever

0%

The “figure it out as they go” type

0%

The independent one

0%

A mix of everything

0%

Using one word, what are you most concerned about regarding your student being academically successful?

Which of the following do you believe matters MOST for academic success?

(A) Study skills and habits

0%

(B) Time management

0%

(C) Motivation and mindset

0%

(D) Attending class regularly

0%

(E) Support systems (advising, student services, tutoring)

0%

(F) Mental health and well-being

0%

(G) Personal responsibility

0%

High School versus College

High School

College

Teacher/Student Interactions

Contact is closer & more frequent. Teachers may follow-up with students to see how they're doing academically.

Faculty members are available by office hours & appointment for students. Students must take initiative to seek assistance from faculty.

Competition/ Grades

Academic competition is not as strong and good grades are often achieved with minimum effort.

Academic competition is much stronger, and minimum effort may produce poor grades. Students must put in a greater effort to achieve.

Counseling/ Dependence

Students can rely on parents, teachers & counselors to help make decisions & give advice.

Students rely on themselves; they see the results of making their own decisions. It is their responsibility to seek guidance as needed & set their own boundaries.

High School versus College

High School

College

Status

Students establish a personal status in academic & social activities based on family & community factors.

Students can build their status as they wish; status from high school can either be repeated or changed as the student wishes.

Freedom

Students' freedom is limited. Parents will often help students out of a crisis should one arise. Students must abide by parental boundaries & restrictions.

Students have much more freedom and must begin to accept responsibility for their own actions.

Distractions

There are distractions from school, but these are partially controlled by school & home.

The opportunity for more distractions exists. Time management becomes more important.

What does “Student Success” mean at Tech?

- Progressing towards a degree
- Graduating with the least amount of debt possible (*earn* 15 hours per semester)
- Engaging in co-curricular activities and programs to strengthen creative thought, talents, and social and organizational skills
- Finding purpose and community on and off campus
- Foster individual growth, perseverance, and development of initial career skills



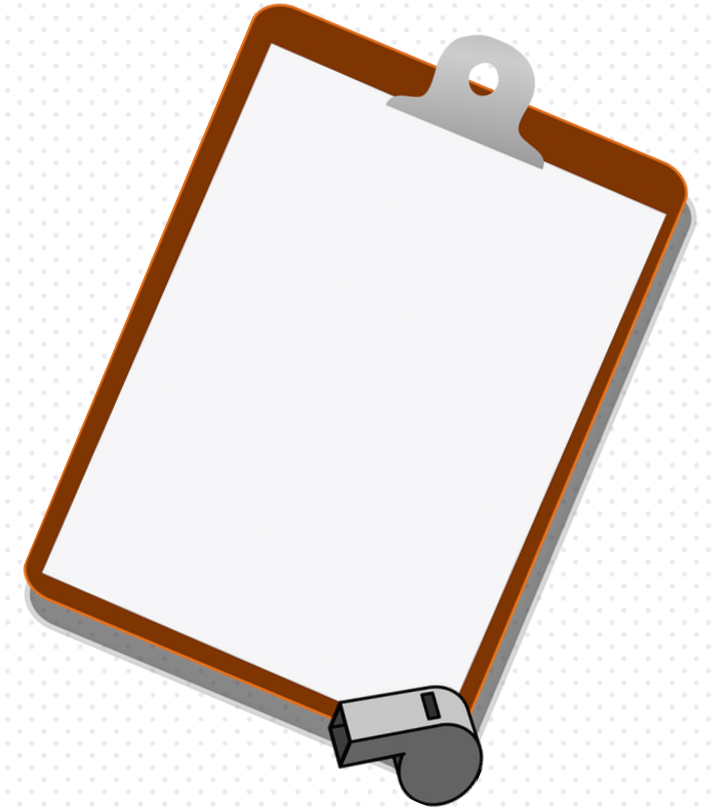
Support for First-Year Students' Academic Success

First-Year Advising Center - “Launchpad”

- Dedicated professional advisors for all first-year students
- Holistic Advising Approach
- Trained to support challenges experienced by new students
- Helps students identify goals and interests
- One Center for advisement and support regardless of major during the first year
- Eagle Check-In meetings each semester before advisement
- Success Series
- Student-Advisor Events

Launchpad's Success Coach

- Works alongside student's academic advisor for additional guidance
- Supports student's facing academic challenges
- Closely monitors:
 - Class Attendance
 - Academic Progress
- Connects students with campus resources and programs
- Fosters sense of accountability to achieve key milestones



“Research shows that class attendance was more predictive of academic performance than many other commonly referenced variables such as test scores and high school GPA.”

(Crede et al., 2010)

“Class attendance is required to be academically successful.”

What We Know about Tech's 1st Year Attendance

Tech Freshmen (regardless if a residential or commuter student)...

with **0-2 reported absences** have a **91%** course pass rate.

with **3-4 reported absences** have a **80%** course pass rate.

with **5-6 reported absences** have a **67%** course pass rate.

with **7-9 reported absences** have a **52%** course pass rate.

with **10+ reported absences** have a **31%** course pass rate.

On average, those identified with chronic absenteeism in Math and Natural Science courses have a **49% DF rate**.

Flight Path Freshman Attendance Initiative

Early intervention program to target freshman chronic absenteeism

Absences reported by freshman faculty

Utilizes one-on-one contact between freshmen with attendance problems and their Resident Assistants (RAs) or a peer commuter student

Fall 2025 - Term GPA	
No Absence Problem	3.10
Absence Problem	1.93



Common Excuses for Missed Classes

Not Enough Sleep

Missed to Catch Up in another Class

Optional to Attend Class

Car Problems

Personal Issues/Matters

Didn't feel like going

Didn't know there was class

Conflict with Class & Work

Student Progress Reports & Alerts

Helps identify academically underperforming students.

Provide early intervention and outreach to help address needs or correct student behaviors.

Responses may include guidance to resources or referrals to other campus departments.



Before classes started, freshmen shared that their top concerns were...

- Time Management (58%)
- Feeling confused and lost (33%)
- Text Anxiety (33%)
- Expected demand of the courses enrolled (32%)
- Connecting with other students (31%)
- Working an off-campus job (27%)
- Mental wellbeing (21%)
- Navigating distractions (19%)
- Motivation to go to class (12%)



How to Support Your Student

Motivation Drives Student Persistence

Three Primary Elements influencing Motivation

Student Goals – Specifically those of a college degree or career aspirations relating to the pursuit of their degree (program of study).

Self-Efficacy – Student’s belief in ability to succeed in a specific task or situation. **NOT FIXED AND CAN CHANGE = GROWTH MINDSET**

Sense-of-Belonging – Becoming engaged with others and come to seem themselves as a member of our academic and social community.

What can I do as a parent/family member?

Let them **PILOT** their journey.

COACH them through navigating turbulent times.

HELP your student identify campus resources and people while encouraging them to engage with services.

Ensure they are **CONNECTING** with peers here.

Remember, education means **DEVELOPMENT**.

BUILD their confidence to establish relationships with faculty.

Campus Resources to Remember

Launchpad Student Success Center

Tutoring Center

Accessible Education Center
(open house 2:30p – 4:00pm today)

Center for Counseling & Mental Health Wellness
(open house 2:30p – 4:00pm today)

Residential Life or the Commuter Student Group

Prepare for Takeoff: Launch Your First-Year Success



Who: All first-year freshmen

When: Tuesday, August 18

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am (central)

Location: Advisor will email details

Contact Information

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