



SOAR '26

Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration



Tennessee
TECH

Supporting My Student Living at Home

Who is a Commuter Student?

Any freshman commuting from their parent/legal guardian's main residence.

At Tech...

9,429 total undergraduate enrollment (Fall 2025)

2,597 residential students

6,832 commuter students

Myth: Commuter students aren't as involved and engaged as their residential classmates.

What does it mean to be a Commuter?

Unique needs and interests

- What are some needs your student may have as a commuter at Tech?
- What responsibilities does your student have?

Expectations of Commuters

Same as residential students!

- Be on time and attend classes
- Take responsibility for assignments (group & individual)
- Utilize resources and seek assistance when necessary
- Communicate with faculty & advisors

Challenges

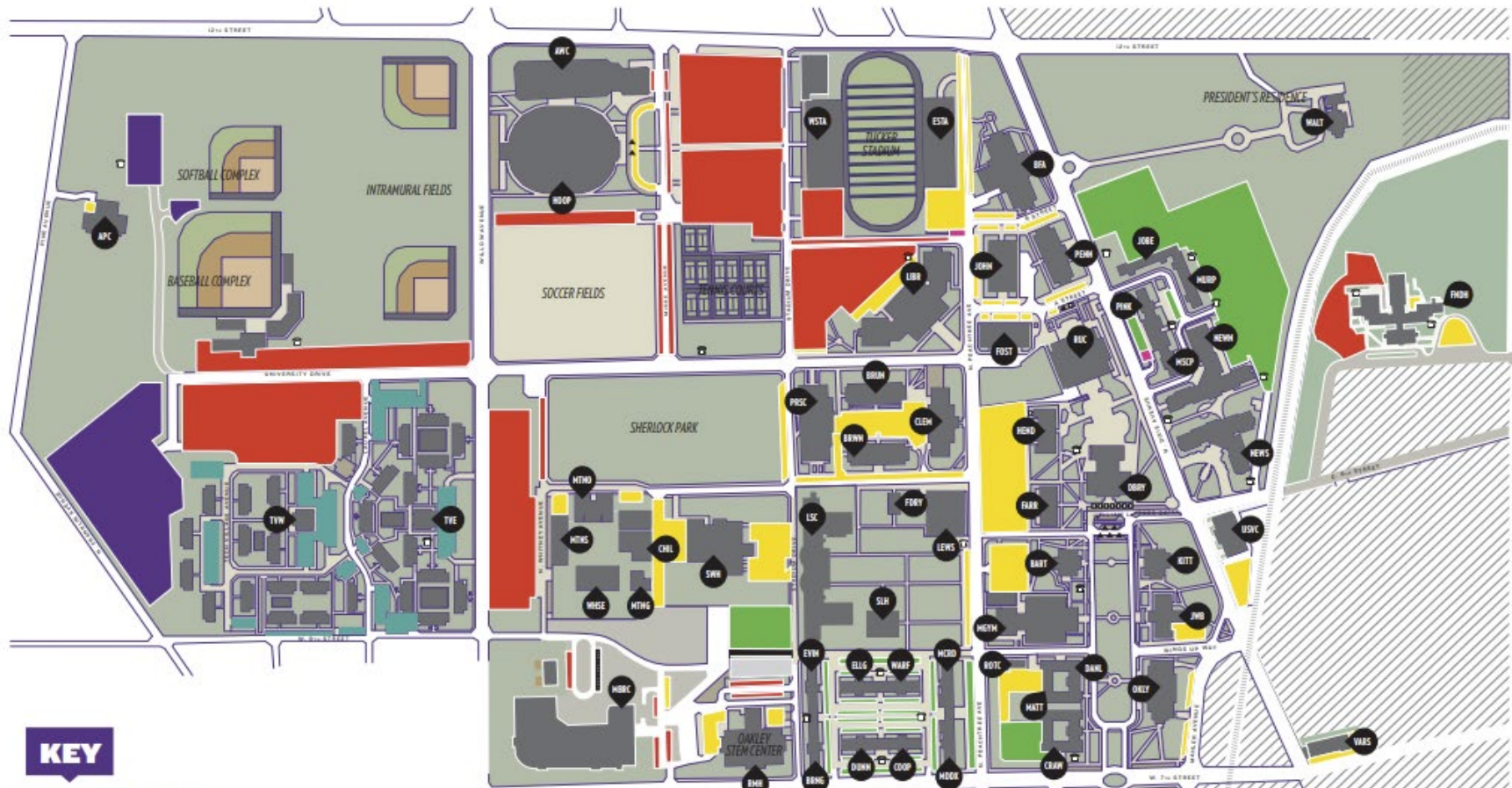
Some common challenges may include:

- Getting to campus & parking
- Weather & closings
- Time management (work & home responsibilities vs. college responsibilities)
- Navigating home/family expectations
- Feeling connected & sense of belonging

Parent Tips: Getting to Campus

Encourage your student to build in plenty of time.

- Commute, Parking, Settling In
- Pro Tip: Check map/traffic and weather apps while getting ready for the day.



KEY

ACADEMIC, ADMINISTRATIVE & ATHLETICS

Academic Wellness Center	AWC	Mathews Hall	MATT
Athletic Performance Center	APC	Oakley Hall	OKLY
Bartoo Hall	BART	Pennebaker Hall	PENN
Bell Hall	BELL	Prescott Hall	PRSC
Brown Hall	BRWN	Ray Morris Hall	RMH
Bruner Hall	BRUN	Roaden University Center	RUC
Bryan Fine Arts Bldg.	BFA	Awesome Mail & Print	
Clement Hall	CLEM	Campus Dining	
Daniel Hall	DANL	University Store	
Donyberry Hall	DBRY	Marc L. Burnett Student Recreation and Fitness Center	MBRC
East Stadium	ESTA	Military Sciences	ROTC
Farr, T.J. Bldg.	FARR	Southwest Hall	SWH
Foster Hall	FOST	Stonopedia Lecture Hall	SLH
Foundation Hall	FNDH	Varsity Building	VARB
Foundry	FDRY	Volpe Library	LIBR
Health & Physical Education Bldg.	MGYM	Walton House	WALT
Henderson Hall	HEND	West Stadium	WSTA
Hooper Eblon Center	HOOP		
Jere Whitson Bldg.	JWB		
Johnson Hall	JOHN		
Kitzell Hall	KITT		
Laboratory Science Commons	LCS		
Lewis Hall	LEWS		

RESIDENCE HALLS & APARTMENTS

Browning Hall	BRNG
Cooper Hall	COOP
Crawford Hall	CRAW

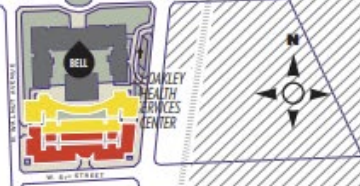
Dunn Hall	DUNN
Elington Hall	ELLG
Evins Hall	EVIN
Jobe Hall	JOBE
M.S. Cooper Hall	MSCP
Maddux Hall	MDDX
McCord Hall	MCRD
Murphy Hall	MURP
New Hall North	NEWN
New Hall South	NEWS
Pinkerton Hall	PINK
Tech Village East	TVE
Tech Village West	TVW
Warf Hall	WARF

OPERATIONS

Carr Bldg.	MTNS
Carroll Bldg.	CHIL
Facilities & Business Services Bldg.	MTNO
Maintenance Garage	MTNG
University Police	FNDH
University Services Bldg.	USVC
Warehouse	WHSE



CAMPUS MAP



- PERIMETER PARKING
- EMPLOYEE PREMIUM PARKING
- TECH VILLAGE PARKING
- RESIDENTIAL PARKING
- STUDENT PREMIUM PARKING
- MOTORCYCLE PARKING
- Fitness Center 2 Hour Parking
- Visitor Parking
- ⚡ Emergency Phones
- ▲ 30 Minute Parking
- + Fire Lanes Are Marked
- + Health Services Parking

Parent Tip: Time On Campus

High School Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
	Silence / Attendance					8:00
8:15	Advisory			Meeting for Worship	Team Time	8:00
8:45	English	Science	Arts	English	English	8:30
9:30	Social Studies	Break		Social Studies	Social Studies	9:20
10:15	Arts	Chinese	Social Studies	Arts	Arts	10:10
11:00	Lunch/Break				Break	11:00 - 12:00
11:40	Math	Math	English	Math	Lunch 11:30	12:10
12:25	Chinese			Chinese		1:00
1:10	Science	PE	Rehearsal	Science		1:50
1:55	PE	Early Out 2:00	PE	PE		2:40
	Shakeout/Dismissal 3:30		Shakeout/Dismissal 3:30			

College Schedule

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	3	4	5	6	7
		Pre-Cal Algebra 8 - 9:15am		Pre-Cal Algebra 8 - 9:15am	
		Cultural Geography 9:30 - 10:45am		Cultural Geography 9:30 - 10:45am	
	ECSP 4100 12 - 2:50pm				
		Inclusive Tech-Special Education 1:30 - 2:45pm		Inclusive Tech-Special Education 1:30 - 2:45pm	
		English As A Second Language 4 - 6:50pm			

Parent Tip: Time On Campus

High School Schedule

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8:15	Advisory			Meeting for Worship	Team Time	8:30
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9:30	Social Studies	Break		Social Studies	Social Studies	10:10
10:15	Arts	Chinese	Social Studies	Arts	Arts	11:00
11:00	Lunch/Break				Break	11:40
11:40	Math	Math	English	Math	Lunch 11:30	12:10
12:25	Chinese			Chinese		1:00
1:10	Science	PE	Rehearsal	Science	Chinese	1:50
1:55	PE	Early Out 2:00	PE	PE	Science	2:40
				Assembly		
	Shakeout/Dismissal 3:30		Shakeout/Dismissal 3:30			

College Schedule

	MON 3	TUE 4	WED 5	THU 6	FRI 7
		Pre-Cal- Algebra 8 – 9:15am		Pre-Cal- Algebra 8 – 9:15am	Substitute Teaching 8am – 3pm
	Tutoring at Cane Creek 9:15 – 10:15am	Cultural Geography 9:30 – 10:45am	Tutoring at Cane Creek 9:15 – 10:15am	Cultural Geography 9:30 – 10:45am	
		STEA Monthly Meeting 11am – 12pm		Rotaract Meeting 11am – 12pm	
	ECSP 4100 12 – 2:50pm				
		Inclusive Tech-Special Education 1:30 – 2:45pm	SOA Returner Meeting 1:30 – 2:30pm	Inclusive Tech-Special Education 1:30 – 2:45pm	
		English As A Second Language 4 – 6:50pm		SOA Training 4 – 7pm	
	Intramural Volleyball! 6 – 7pm				

Commuter Class Scheduling Strategy

Cramming classes into two days:

- Makes for really long days
- Mental fatigue (less focused)
- More tempting to skip classes
- Greater impact when you get sick
- Multiple assignments due/exams on the same day

Spacing classes out:

- Allows more time to complete assignments/prepare for exams
- More peer interactions & engagement on campus
- Eliminates falling out of a routine



*Remember to designate time and space for online classes.

*Don't be hesitant to take night classes; may impact progression towards degree!

Parent Tip: Discuss Expectations

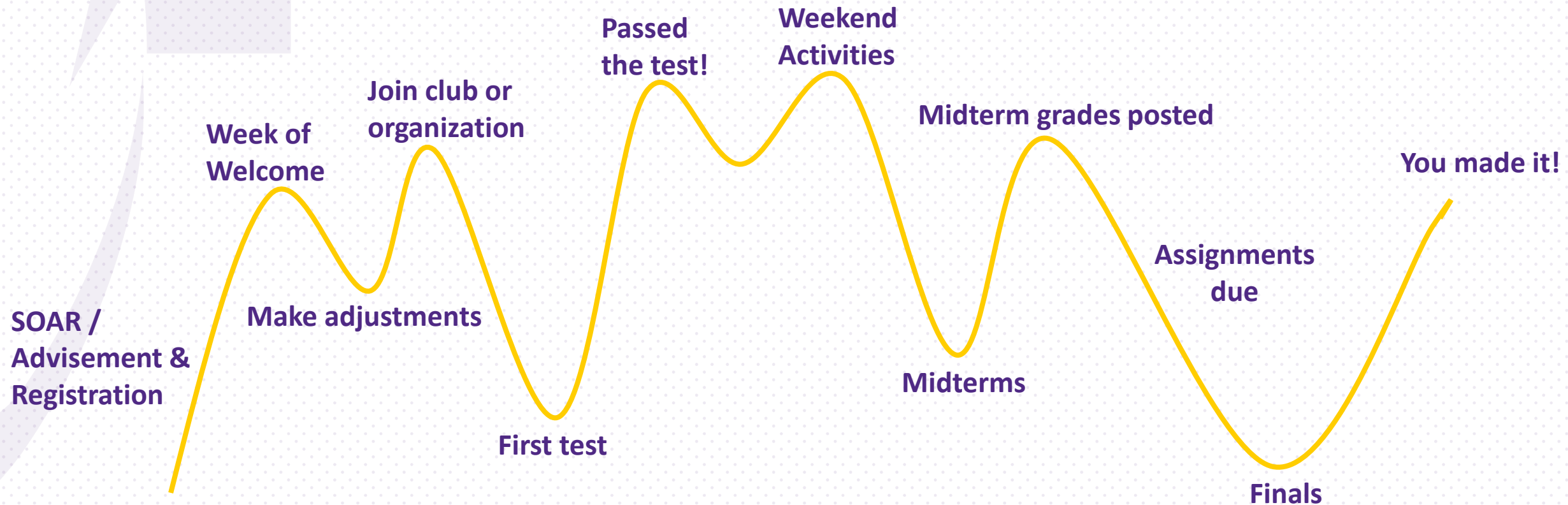
- Coming and going times and expectations
- Communication and updates
- Family responsibilities
- Balancing work and school
- Financial responsibilities
- Campus engagement

Parent Tip: Help Your Student Know & Prioritize Their Responsibilities

1. Make adjustments – Be proactive about possible challenges.
2. Be aware of outside obligations that may conflict with class times.
3. Practice open communication – with faculty, employers & outside commitments.

NOTE: On-campus students must do these things, too.

Ebbs & Flows of the Semester



Getting Involved

Commuter students who join student organizations and/or work on campus are much more likely to be satisfied with their campus engagement and feel connected to others.

	Satisfied with Engagement	Connected To Other Students
All Respondents	44%	79%
Those Involved in a Student Org	62%	87%
Those Who Work On Campus	63%	83%

(Fall 2023 Commuter Student Survey)

Off-Campus & Commuter Student Services

- www.tntech.edu/commuter provides a parents' guide, information about commuters' favorite spots on campus, FAQ's, off-campus housing and more!
- Contact commuter@tntech.edu with any questions or for support.

Off-Campus & Commuter Student Network

- Monthly newsletters, Commuter Connect events and more.
- Student should join while they are here at SOAR!



Student Lounges

- Education – TJ Farr 107 & Bartoo Hall (LRC)
- Engineering – Clement Hall 208
- Nursing – Bell Hall 250
- Emerging & Integrative Studies– SW Hall 180
- Business – Foundation Hall Lobbies and Hallways
- Roaden University Center – Extension Lounges; Intercultural Lounge (2nd Floor)
- Volpe Library Learning Commons
- Lab Science Commons



Student Resources

- Campus Dining
- Library
- Fitness Center
- On-campus jobs
- Launchpad
- Health Services
- Counseling Center
- Intercultural Affairs
- Off-Campus Housing Consultant



Week of Welcome 2026

Week of Welcome is the start of the semester. Commuters should plan ahead to attend these and other events:

- Saturday, August 16 - Commuter Picnic (families invited!)
- Tuesday, August 19 – Convocation & Club Golden Eagle
- Tuesday, August 19 – Prepare for Takeoff
- Wednesday, August 20 – Mix & Mingle



www.tntech.edu/weekofwelcome



Questions?