Parents Handbook

Plan II Honors Program
The University of Texas at Austin
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2017-2018
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PLAN II PARENTS’ FUND
A Message for Parents of Plan II Students

May 26, 2017

Congratulations and greetings to you as parents of a future Plan II student!

I am looking forward to meeting your student this summer, and I hope also to meet as many parents as possible. The Plan II advising team and I will meet with parents on the first day of the June and July orientation sessions at 10:45 a.m. in the Students Activity Center (SAC), Room 2.302. We hope you have registered for Family Orientation through Texas Parents and will be joining us!

Each student will receive personal attention from both peer and professional advisors at orientation. We have an excellent advising staff in the Plan II Honors Program. Melissa Ossian and Katie O’Donnell, our Academic Advisors, have years of experience advising undergraduates. They have put many hours into training the peer advisors who will be assisting them at orientation.

Please trust your student to make good academic choices with our advice. You can help by making sure that your student’s financial situation is in order and that all health needs are being looked after. You may also be able to help your student find good jobs or internships during this summer or summers to come. At our orientation meeting, we will be providing you with important information about the wide variety of University resources available to assist your student throughout their time at UT.

Please encourage your student to get to know our advisors and their professors so they have resources to turn to should a problem arise. Understand that the first year of college can be a tumultuous time, but also a wonderful one. It is certainly a delight for us to watch high school students blossom into college students in a matter of weeks.

Lastly, please plan to attend Family Weekend in October. Plan II will have events on Sunday, October 29th, including a brunch and the opportunity to attend model classes with Plan II faculty. Please check the Plan II web site for updates and information on Family Weekend.

Michael B. Stoff
Director
Congratulations--having a son or daughter admitted to the Plan II Honors Program is a big accomplishment, both for the student and for the parents who have guided them to this point. College is a time of great challenges and personal discovery for children and parents. This handbook is meant to answer basic questions parents may have as well as to provide useful references that we hope will ease your transition from primary director to consultant and supporter of your child’s new life.

WHAT CAN MY CHILD DO WITH A PLAN II DEGREE?

By now you may have heard Plan II described as “Education for a life, not just a living.” The structure of the Plan II program is like a pyramid: students start off learning skills such as critical thinking and writing by studying works of great literature and philosophy during their first and second years, then tackling interdisciplinary and challenging topics at a high level in junior seminars, and finishing by examining a single topic in great detail for their senior thesis. This capstone project gives Plan II students highly specialized skills and knowledge that can be directly applied to a chosen career path, or graduate and professional schools. Just as important are the valuable skills Plan II aims to instill in its students: community building, service, citizenship, analysis, synthesis, oral and written communication, creativity, problem solving, and understanding of other cultures and viewpoints. These are the resources that Plan II provides all its graduates, giving them the tools they will need to not only succeed in the working world, but more critically, in the real world. So
to answer the question, "What can my child do with a Plan II degree?" the answer unequivocally remains, “What CAN’T they do?”

THE ROLE OF A PLAN II PARENT

Although we are providing this handbook to parents, it is first and foremost the responsibility of the student to stay informed of all important dates, deadlines, and university policies. Plan II provides this same information to students on our web site, in the Plan II newsletter, and through the Academic Advisors, who are available to students year-round. If you get a phone call from your child and they seem confused or upset over something school-related, you can’t go wrong by simply saying, “Go talk to your Plan II Advisor.” Even if we don’t know the answer, we will work to find someone in the University who does. Because of FERPA (explained on pages 9-10), it is always better if the student calls or comes in to the Plan II office themselves whenever they have an academic question or problem.

Learning to allow your children the freedom and independence they need to make their own decisions (and mistakes) is a challenging transition for parents. Students who must take the initiative to find their own answers to academic dilemmas are much better equipped for life after graduation, when they will be faced with even more challenging obstacles. We sincerely hope your child never experiences an emergency situation that necessitates your intervention, but sometimes those circumstances can come up, and we are here to help if they should. For more everyday issues, resist the urge to become one of the dreaded “helicopter parents” (see articles below). College is your child’s time to discover what kind of adult they want to become, and they need the right kind of support from parental figures to help get there.

Resources:

- Letting Go: A Parents’ Guide to Understanding the College Years by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treegar
- Don’t Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money: The Essential Parenting Guide to the College Years by Helen E. Johnson, et al
- You’re On Your Own (But I’m Here if You Need Me): Mentoring Your Child During the College Years by Marjorie Savage
- Parents’ Guide to College Life: 181 Straight Answers on Everything You Can Expect Over the Next Four Years by R. Kaskin
PLAN 2 NEWS

Plan II is as much about community as it is academics. Throughout the year, Plan II will hold events, student organizations will have meetings and social activities, outstanding speakers will come to the Joynes Room, and opportunities for internships, study abroad, and jobs will come up. The best way for students find out about these opportunities is to check the Plan II web site and calendar regularly, and to read the Plan II newsletter (Plan2News), which comes out every Tuesday and Friday during the Fall and Spring semesters. Currently enrolled students will have the newsletter sent to them directly via email.

2017-18 Important Dates

While it is always up to the student to stay on top of important dates and deadlines, we find it can be helpful for parents to be aware of the semester schedule as well. If your student is confused or concerned about anything on the semester calendar, encourage them to call or come by the Plan II office for help.

PLAN II FALL EVENTS

September 7  Freshman Convocation (required event for students)
September 15 Freshman Getaway (optional, but recommended, welcome BBQ)
October 28-29 Family Weekend; Plan II events held on Sunday and include brunch and model Plan II classes. Check the Plan II web site in the fall for details.

FALL DATES

August 18  Tuition payment deadline for students who registered by July 15th (payment due by 5 pm). Classes will be dropped for non-payment.
August 25  Registration for new students not yet registered (August Orientation)
August 25 University residence halls open at 9:00 a.m.
August 28 Add/drops for those who registered and paid by August 10
Aug. 29-Sept. 5 Registration and add/drop for all students
August 30 Fall classes begin
September 4 Labor Day; no classes, Plan II office closed
Sept. 6 - Sept. 15 Students may drop classes online but may only add courses with department permission
September 15 12th class day: last day to add a course (with department permission); last day to drop a course for possible refund (courses dropped after this day will appear as a “Q” on the student’s transcript)
October 30 Registration for the Spring semester begins
November 7 Last day a student may, with the dean’s approval, withdraw from the University or drop a course (except for urgent, documented nonacademic reasons)
November 14 Tuition bills for Spring sent electronically
November 22-25 Thanksgiving holidays
December 11 Last class day
Dec. 14-16, 18-20 Final exams
December 21 University residence halls close at 9:00 a.m.

SPRING DATES

January 4 Tuition payment deadline for Spring classes (payment due by 5 pm). Classes will be dropped for non-payment.
January 8 Add/drops for those who registered and paid by January 4
January 8, 10-12 Registration for continuing students who have not yet registered (tuition payment due by January 12 at 5 p.m.)
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<td>January 16</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
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FERPA

FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, is a federal law that pertains to the release of and access to student educational records. The law, also known as the Buckley Amendment, applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the US Department of Education. Go to www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco to learn more.

To which information does FERPA apply?
FERPA applies to personally identifiable information in educational records. Personally identifiable information includes items such as the student's name, names of family members, addresses, personal identifiers such as social security numbers, and personal characteristics or other information that make the student's identity easily traceable.

What are educational records?
Educational records are all records that contain information directly related to a student and are maintained by an educational agency or institution, or by a party acting on its behalf. A record means any information recorded in any way, including handwriting, print, tape, film, microfilm, microfiche, and digital images.

Educational records do not include the following:
- Sole possession records (those records kept in the sole possession of the maker which are used only as a personal memory aid and are not accessible or reviewed by any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record)
- Medical or psychological treatment records that include but are not limited to records maintained by physicians, psychiatrists, and psychologists
- Employment records, provided that employment is not contingent upon being a student
- Law enforcement records
- Records collected about an individual after the individual is no longer a student at UT Austin
To whom does FERPA apply?
At UT Austin, FERPA rights apply to a student; a student is a person who is, or has been, in attendance at the institution, regardless of the person’s age. FERPA rights begin when the student enrolls; that is, when they have registered and paid and classes have begun.

May I access my child’s student records?
At the post-secondary level, parents have no inherent right to access or inspect their son’s or daughter’s educational records. The right of access is limited solely to the student.

May I view my child's grades, exams, or academic progress?
Final grades, grades on exams, and other information about academic progress are examples of the confidential information that make up part of a student’s educational record. This information is protected under FERPA and parents do not have access to it unless the student has provided express, written authorization.

How does a student submit written authorization?
A Plan II student may come to the Plan II office and request an Authorization to Release Student Information form. This authorization form provides express, written authorization for one academic year. Plan II students may elect to submit a new form each year, if they so choose.

What about crisis or emergency situations?
If non-directory information is needed to resolve a crisis or emergency situation, an educational institution may release that information if the institution determines that the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

Whom should I contact with questions or concerns?
Direct general questions to the Office of the Registrar, the Vice President for Student Affairs, or University Compliance Services, as appropriate. Send comments or suggestions to the Registrar's office. More information can also be found at:
http://registrar.utexas.edu/students/records/ferpa
Dual Majors and Degrees

PLAN II AND...

Probably the biggest myth perpetuated among both Plan II students and parents is that students need to add a second major or degree in order to find a job after graduation. That seems to stem from the misconception that the Plan II degree is broadly-based, rather than specialized in just one subject area. However, remember that all Plan II students must write a senior thesis on a specific topic of interest to them, making them highly specialized in an area of their own choosing by the time they graduate. As we hope the Career Resources section of this handbook indicates, Plan II majors are highly desirable to employers. Thus, choosing a second major or degree should stem from a deep desire to study a particular discipline, rather than concerns over finding a job after graduation. Because Plan II students tend to have diverse interests, approximately 75% of last year’s graduating class completed a second major or degree, ranging from Music Performance to Aerospace Engineering. These students work with two (or sometimes more) Academic Advisors throughout their academic career to guide them through the requirements of each major.

For those that do choose to pursue more than one course of study, the most common question we get from parents is “How long will it take for my child to graduate?” While a legitimate concern, certainly, there is no quick answer to this question. Each student’s choice of majors and personal situation (such as number of test credit hours, summer plans, study abroad, jobs, etc.) play a role in how long their college career will take. Encouraging your student to meet with their Academic Advisors regularly to plan their semesters is the best role a parent can play in keeping them “on track.”

If there is one piece of advice we hope all parents will take to heart, it is to allow your child to follow their passion when it comes to their studies and career path. Time and time again, it is the students following a program they are not passionate about who make lower grades and take longer to graduate. In addition, many of these students enter an unfulfilling
career after graduation and eventually return to education later in life to pursue something different.

A WORD ABOUT FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION

As parents may know, students at UT are strongly encouraged to finish their degree(s) in four years. While Plan II students often do graduate in four years, they are not placed under special pressure to do so. UT recognizes that high achieving students should not be discouraged from their pursuit of dual majors, degrees, or other special programs when they are having success in those programs.

The Plan II curriculum easily fits within a four-year plan, which is what makes it possible for students to consider additional fields of study. If a student in Plan II chooses to take longer than four years to graduate, it is most often because they have elected to complete a second degree (especially if a degree in architecture, science or engineering). Occasionally, students choose to take longer than four years because of a relatively late change in major or career goals. Still, even with the myriad interests and pursuits of Plan II students, graduating class data shows that roughly 65% of Plan II students graduate in four years.

If it is your student’s priority to graduate in four years, Plan II advisors can help them plan and make decisions to reach this target. Majors/minors, test credit, summer plans, study abroad interests, and other individual factors have to be taken into consideration when determining how long it would take a student to graduate. Each student’s graduation plan is therefore unique, and Plan II students are encouraged to balance their (sometimes numerous) academic interests with practical matters such as tuition costs and post-graduate opportunities.
WILL MY CHILD GET A JOB?

Good news! Not only do Plan II students do very well on the job market, recruiters from a wide variety of employers contact the Liberal Arts Career Services office specifically asking for Plan II majors. Our students have reputations for being hard workers, quick learners, great problem solvers, and top-notch writers and researchers (in addition to being just plain smart). The saying “What CAN’T you do with a Plan II degree?” continues to hold true. Recent graduates have gone on to work for companies such as Morgan Stanley, Accenture, Bain & Company, and Citigroup. Many also find employment in the government and non-profit sectors, at places such as the Texas Legislative Council, Teach for America and the Brookings Institution. More than a few pursue advanced degrees in law, medicine, academics, or other professions. Some become entrepreneurs and launch their own businesses. A sampling of companies who hired recent Plan II graduates include Boston Consulting Group, Oracle, Deloitte, Amazon, the International Justice Mission, U.S. Senate, and Vox.com.

PLAN II SOPHOMORE ADVISING PROGRAM

During their second year, Plan II students are required to participate in the Sophomore Advising Program, a year-long series of events that helps students set academic goals and learn about important career-related opportunities. The components of the Sophomore Advising Program include the Sophomore Summit event, a self-reflection questionnaire and essay, Plan II Career Week, and a one-on-one advising session with a UT faculty member. Participants in the Sophomore Advising Program include Plan II staff and alumni, faculty from across the campus, and multiple University offices. The Career Week workshops help students explore topics such as personal branding, identifying and learning how to market the experiences and skills of a Liberal Arts education, finding internships, preparing for post-graduate education, and applying to programs like the Peace Corps or Teach for America. It is our sincere hope that the Sophomore Advising process will encourage students to proactively and efficiently use UT’s numerous resources to achieve their educational and
career goals. For more information on the Plan II Sophomore Advising Program visit: http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/plan2/advising/soph.php

UNIVERSITY CAREER RESOURCES

The Liberal Arts Career Services (LACS) office is a resource that students should begin using during their very first year at UT. They help students compose resumes, find internships, and practice interviewing skills, among other things. Their online recruiting database, Beyond the Tower Gateway, has a wide variety of employers seeking liberal arts majors. Some recent listings include Boston Consulting Group, Ernst & Young LLP, Merrill Lynch, the Office of the Governor, and the American Cancer Society. Encourage your son or daughter to register with their services: http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/lacs/

LACS also provides pre-law advising for students interested in attending law school: http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/lacs/students/prelaw-gradschool/pre-law/overview.php

Students pursuing degrees in other colleges (such as Business, Engineering, Natural Sciences, etc.) also have access to the Career Services offices for those colleges. The respective webpages for those colleges will provide full information about the career services they offer to students.

The Vick Center for Strategic Advising & Career Counseling offers counseling to all students regardless of major. They help students who are exploring the myriad of major and career opportunities, and also offer career assessment tools (the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Strong Interest Inventory are available for a nominal cost): https://ugs.utexas.edu/vick

The Health Professions Office assists students interested in a health professions career (other than nursing). Students do not have to have a major in the Natural Sciences to pursue a career in the Health Professions. In fact, Plan II pre-med students, who only majored in Plan II, have historically done very well when applying to medical schools. Students with questions about the classes required by medical schools, the MCAT, and how to apply to medical schools are directed here: https://cns.utexas.edu/health-professions
Grades/GPA

GRADE DISPUTES

Occasionally students may feel that a grade they received has been unjustly given, and often times parents are the first ones who hear about their frustration. In any grade dispute, the student must first meet with the professor of the course to discuss the grade and why a different grade should be assigned. If a student feels he or she has a legitimate complaint that can not be resolved with the professor of the course, the next steps are to take the issue to the head of the department offering the course, and then to the dean of the college. Consequently, Plan II staff are rarely, if ever, involved in a grade dispute, unless it is in a Plan II course. In this case, the student may elect to meet with the Plan II Director after first meeting with the professor.

PLAN II ACADEMIC REVIEW

All Plan II students are expected to maintain a minimum 3.25 grade point average to remain in the program. Any student whose GPA falls below 2.5 or who earns less than a C in a required Plan II core curriculum course (as defined in the Undergraduate Catalog) is subject to immediate dismissal from Plan II. Students whose GPAs fall below 3.25 but not below 2.5 will be placed on Academic Review. The first semester students are placed on Academic Review, they are notified of their status and required to meet with the Plan II Academic Advisors monthly. If their GPA does not improve after one semester, they will then be placed on a contract, which typically requires them to undertake a specific number of hours with a minimum GPA during the following semester. If students fail to meet the terms of their contract, they will be dismissed from Plan II and counseled into another degree path at the University. The Academic Review Committee looks at each student’s individual situation and certainly takes extenuating or non-academic situations into consideration. Whenever students are dealing with any type of non-academic problem, it is in their best interest to meet with a Plan II Academic Advisor immediately so that Plan II will be aware of their situation and can refer them to appropriate University resources.
ON-CAMPUS TUTORING RESOURCES

The Sanger Learning Center provides both drop-in tutoring and one-on-one appointment tutoring to currently enrolled UT students. Drop-in tutoring is a free service and is offered in introductory Math, Physics, and Chemistry. Many Plan II students, especially those taking Calculus, should take advantage of this resource. The Sanger Center provides every UT student with five free one-on-one tutoring credits each semester for help with classes in Business, Natural Sciences, Economics, French, and Spanish. One-to-one appointment tutoring is useful when students have specific questions about concepts covered in class or homework problems that require more time than drop-in tutoring can provide.

In addition to tutoring services, the Sanger Learning Center provides academic counseling and free seminars that address common high school-to-college adjustment issues such as time management, study strategies, and surviving finals. They also offer opportunities for students to sign up for a Peer Academic Coach, specially trained student coaches who meet with them weekly about how to study effectively for UT courses. More information can be found at: https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc

Each year, Plan II provides tutors for two of the program’s more challenging science courses, Plan II Logic and Plan II Physics. Information about tutoring for these courses is distributed to Plan II students enrolled in these respective courses.

If you feel your child needs some additional help with their classes, encourage them to visit the Sanger Learning Center, or to simply come talk to one of the Plan II Academic Advisors, who can discuss these services with them in more detail.
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

The Office of Financial Aid is the University office that coordinates applications for federal loans, university scholarships, work-study, and other means of financial support. For students to be eligible, they must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year (due March 15th). Plan II gives annual scholarships that are tied to the FAFSA information, in addition to the Plan II Continuing Scholarship Application, which must be submitted every Spring.

Even if your student did not receive a scholarship one year, it is best to submit the FAFSA and Plan II application every year so that it is already on file should a scholarship opportunity become available.

USEFUL FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES:

Plan II scholarship information:

http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/plan2/current_stdnts/scholarship/continuing.php

College of Liberal Arts scholarship information:


Office of Financial Aid:

http://finaid.utexas.edu/

FAFSA:

https://fafsa.gov/index.htm

Student employment opportunities:

https://hirealonghorn-csm.symplicity.com/students/
ON-CAMPUS HOUSING RESOURCES

The Division of Housing & Food Service (DHFS) is the office to contact if any issues regarding living in a residence hall on campus should come up. Plan II cannot assist in placement in residence halls or requests to continue living in a residence hall in subsequent semesters. Returning students may apply for a room in a residence hall again via the DHFS website: http://housing.utexas.edu/

DHFS CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please e-mail all questions and comments to housing@austin.utexas.edu

Mailing Address:
Division of Housing and Food Service
P.O. Box 7666
Austin, Texas, 78713-7666

Telephone: (512) 471-3136
FAX: (512) 475-6532

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Make Checks Payable To: The University of Texas at Austin
UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

At University Health Services (UHS), your son or daughter will receive the highest quality care in a supportive environment that focuses on the needs of college students. You can expect everything from UHS that you get from your family doctor... and more. Please explore their website at http://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/parents.html

UHS healthcare providers are physicians, advanced nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. They are supported by teams of nurses, pharmacists, laboratory and radiological technologists, licensed counselors, registered dietitians, and professional health educators. If your son or daughter needs medical specialty care not offered here, UHS can refer him or her to appropriate community resources. UHS safeguards medical information in accordance with all applicable privacy and confidentiality laws.

Students who wish to schedule an appointment at UHS can do so via the Healthy Horns website or call the UHS Appointments Line at (512) 471-4955. A limited number of same-day appointments are reserved for students with pressing medical conditions.

Students can call the UHS 24-hour Nurse Advice Line at (512) 475-6877 (NURS) anytime 24/7/365 to get guidance about whether and how to care for themselves at home, schedule an appointment, come to the Urgent Care Clinic, or go to an off-campus 24-hour clinic or emergency room.

UHS is not health insurance, and UT students are not automatically enrolled in an insurance plan. UHS can bill your insurance if your policy covers your student. More information about how insurance works with UHS can be found here: http://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/charges.html

Students without health insurance can use UHS. However, they may need medical care when UHS is closed, require specialty services not provided at UHS, or suffer an illness or injury that requires an emergency room visit or hospitalization. Keep your son or daughter
on your insurance plan if possible. Consider Student Health Insurance, a UT System-approved plan by Blue Cross Blue Shield: https://utsystem.myahpcare.com

COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Counseling & Mental Health Center (CMHC) is available to assist students with many of their personal concerns so that they can meet the daily challenges of student life. Counseling services are provided by psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and other mental health professionals. There is a nominal charge for UT students for each individual, psychiatric and couples counseling appointment. A CARE Counselor from CMHC has been placed in the College of Liberal Arts and serves as our primary point of contact for this resource.

The Counseling & Mental Health Center is open to registered U.T. students between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Their office is located on the 5th floor of the Student Services Building, and their telephone number is 512-471-3515.

Telephone counseling is a confidential service of CMHC that offers an opportunity for UT students to talk with trained counselors about their problems and concerns. A counselor is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays: 512-471-CALL (2255) (UT Students Only).

Complete information about CMHC services can be found at: https://cmhc.utexas.edu

STUDENT EMERGENCY SERVICES

This office is the place to call when a student has an extended absence from school because of a sudden emergency or illness. Student Emergency Services can provide professors and on-campus supervisors with electronic or written letters notifying them of your student’s absence. Supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s note or letter from primary care provider) to verify your student’s illness or injury will be required. Most faculty are understanding of absences due to illness and injury, but the degree to which they can be flexible is entirely at their discretion.

In cases where the illness or injury requires a significant number of absences from classes, medical withdrawal or cancellation of registration may be necessary. Medical or mental health withdrawals/cancellations are handled by University Health Services (UHS), the
Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) and the student’s academic college. Student Emergency Services can explore this option with your student and can facilitate the withdrawal/cancellation process.

Student Emergency Services can be reached at 512-471-5017 (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday). More information is available at: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/

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**Campus Safety**

**STAYING INFORMED**

The office of Campus Safety and Security ensures safety on campus by overseeing Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health and Safety, Fire Prevention Services, Parking and Transportation, and The University of Texas at Austin Police Department. The “Emergency Preparedness” section of their web site includes several informative links: http://preparedness.utexas.edu/

Parents may want to bookmark the office’s Emergency Information web site, which provides up-to-date information about campus alerts, closures, and openings during emergencies or unfavorable weather situations: http://emergency.utexas.edu/

Should a situation arise where you or your student feel the University Police Department (UTPD) needs to be contacted, call them directly at 512-471-4441, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

UTPD also puts out a regular “Campus Watch” bulletin that presents selected information about recent crimes reported to or observed by UTPD in the campus area. Anyone can subscribe to Campus Watch to receive daily reports by e-mail. Sign up at: http://police.utexas.edu/campuswatch
OTHER SAFETY SERVICES

BE SAFE is UT's safety campaign, details on a variety of Resources and Services can be found on their website: http://besafe.utexas.edu/resources-and-services

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) System is a program of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques. It is a comprehensive course for both women and men that begins with awareness, prevention and risk reduction, and incorporates hands-on defense training. UTPD offers this free class regularly, and students can simply sign-up online at: http://police.utexas.edu/rad

Students can also call 512-232-WALK (9255) to arrange for SURE Walk Escort (Monday - Sunday from 7 pm - 2 am) which provides evening escorts to campus locations. Encourage your student to take advantage of these free resources. More information at: http://utsg.org/projects/sure-walk

The Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) is a service that provides students, faculty and staff an opportunity to discuss their concerns about another individual’s behavior. An important way for the university community to feel connected is to create opportunities for caring and concern. BCAL provides a central resource to anyone who is concerned about an individual and may not be sure about how best to help them. By calling the advice line, or submitting information online, campus and community support networks may be accessed; optimizing the chance that individuals will receive needed assistance.

Students who are concerned about the behavior of a fellow student, faculty, or staff person on campus can contact BCAL at 512-232-5050 or submit an online form. Trained staff members will assist the individual in exploring available options and strategies. They will also provide appropriate guidance and resource referrals to address the particular situation. Depending on the situation, individuals may be referred to resources including but not limited to the Office of the Dean of Students/Student Emergency Services, Counseling and Mental Health Center, and the Employee Assistance Program.

Additional information can be found at: http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal/
Other University Resources

DEAN OF STUDENTS

The office of the Dean of Students (DOS) not only coordinates orientation events, but also provides services that parents should be aware of including:

- Legal Services for Students: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/lss/
- Student Conduct and Academic Integrity: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/
- Student Emergency Fund: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/studentemergencyfund.php

Other services include advising student organizations, fostering student leadership, and providing guidance to fraternities and sororities.

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Based on the philosophy that all students should be assured equal access and opportunity, Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) works to eliminate physical, instructional and attitudinal barriers by providing reasonable accommodations and fostering awareness within the University community. SSD determines eligibility and helps implement reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Some examples include Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, visual or hearing impairments, learning disabilities, medical or physical disabilities, psychological disabilities, or temporary disabilities (such as a broken leg). Students who used similar services provided at their high school are STRONGLY encouraged to continue doing so while in College. Students who need to register with SSD should call 512-471-6259 or go in person to the Student Services Building, Suite 4.206, and ask to make an initial intake appointment with a Student Affairs Administrator. More information can be found at: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ART STUDENT DIVISION

Liberal Arts is the administrative home of the Plan II Honors Program. The Student Division Office (part of the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office) provides numerous services for our students—particularly those services that require special consideration and are only within the jurisdiction of the dean, such as withdrawing for the semester or dropping a class. The student division is located in GEB 2.306, and can be reached at 512-471-4271. Complete information online at: http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/student-affairs/

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE

The experience of study abroad is becoming increasingly critical in our global community. It is desirable to employers, and can be a life-changing experience for students. We encourage all Plan II students to make time in their academic career for study abroad, whether for a month, summer, one semester, or whole year. Numerous programs exist to accommodate schedules and degree plans, and so the earlier a student begins looking into opportunities the better. In addition, Plan II has a travel grant fund that we use to partially support our students’ study abroad endeavors. We hope to continue growing our travel grant program and someday achieve our goal of having all Plan II students study abroad. Visiting the UT Study Abroad Office is the first step in the process; program information as well as a schedule of upcoming information sessions can be found at:
http://world.utexas.edu/abroad

TEXAS PARENTS

The mission of Texas Parents has been to support the needs of students and their parents. To keep parents informed, all families are extended a U-Touch complimentary membership that keeps parents “in touch” with UT through multiple communication platforms, including a monthly eNewsletter and important updates from university administration. With a tax-deductible gift to the Texas Parents Association, families can sign up for a supporting membership. Supporting members receive the same communication as U-Touch members as well as additional benefits. Texas Parents hosts Family Weekend (Oct. 27-29, 2017) an event where UT Austin families are invited to campus to learn more about their students' experiences and their life as a Longhorn. Plan II holds events on the Sunday of Family Weekend, including a brunch and model Plan II classes. Don’t miss it!
Plan II Parents’ Fund

SUPPORTING PLAN II

Plan II created the Parents’ Fund many years ago to help defray the rising costs of the programs and events we offer each year. Thankfully, much of what we do academically costs us little because of the enthusiasm of professors from other departments, the helpfulness of the student association, and the hard work and loyalty of the staff. But there remain essential costs that are not covered by our University budget. Each year those costs increase. The Parents’ Fund helps support unique programs for our students such as free printing, Peer Advising gatherings, Plan II Career Week, and of course, the Plan II cookie jar.

In the fall, Plan II will mail you details about Family Weekend that will include more information about the Parents’ Fund and how to contribute.

If you have any questions about the Parents’ Fund and giving to Plan II, please contact our office directly or visit:
http://liberalarts.utexas.edu/plan2/alumni/Support%20Plan%20II.php

Plan II knows that parents give to their children’s education in many ways and not just in dollars. We appreciate your support in all forms. The quality of students that make Plan II the jewel that it is could not happen without you, and we take seriously the trust you have placed in our program.

Thank you!