Come out and join MTSU in one of our most exciting celebrations of the year—HOMECOMING! The following events will take place to prepare us for our Homecoming Football Game against Louisiana Monroe in the Johnny “Red” Floyd Football Stadium on October 6 at 2:30pm.

**Chili Cook-Off**—October 3, 5pm, Stones River Mall

**NPHC Step Show**—October 5, 7pm, Murphy Center

**Parade**—October 6, 10am, Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

Check out [http://www.mtsu.edu/sga/images/2012HomecomingFlyer.jpg](http://www.mtsu.edu/sga/images/2012HomecomingFlyer.jpg) for a full list of Homecoming events!

**Mark Your Calendar...**

**Oct. 13-16**—Fall Break—No Classes

**Oct. 30**—Last day to drop a class or withdraw with grade of “W.”

**Nov. 12-21**—Priority Registration for Spring 2013. Students should schedule an appointment with their assigned advisor, prior to Priority Registration, to discuss academic process for the semester as well as courses to take during Spring 2013.

**Nov. 22-25**—Thanksgiving Break—No classes

**Nov. 30**—Last day to withdraw from all classes and receive a “W” or “F” as determined by the instructor.

**Dec. 5**—Last day of classes

**Dec. 6**—Study Day—No Classes

**Dec. 7-13**—Finals Exams
MTSU Family Weekend 2012

Family Weekend 2012 will take place on Oct. 5 & 6. There is a wide variety of events that will be taking place. Encourage your parents and families to come and participate in the weekend’s activities! A schedule of events can be found at:

http://www.mtsu.edu/parents/family_weekend.php

Family Weekend will be in collaboration with the MTSU vs. Louisiana Monroe football game on Sat., Oct. 6 (Homecoming Game). You can purchase discounted tickets for your parents and family members through the Athletic Ticket Office located on the Southwest corner of Floyd Stadium.

Beat WKU Blood Drive Competition

In preparation of our football game with Sun Belt rival Western Kentucky, MTSU and WKU are continuing the tradition which consists of a blood drive competition to be held on both campuses the week leading up to our annual football game (this year’s game is held on Nov. 1 at WKU). This is the third year for the competition and MTSU has won the first two years! MTSU’s drives will be held at the Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center in the gym. The dates and times are as follows:

Monday, October 29
12pm-6pm
Tuesday, October 30
10am-4pm
Wednesday, October 31
9am-7pm

Schedule your appointment online at http://www.redcrossblood.org/
MTSUWKU and enter sponsor code MTSU19.

This event is open to the community!

Apply to be a Student Orientation Assistant (SOA)!

For the past 20 years, Student Orientation Assistant’s have been leading the True Blue journey! If you’d like to be a part of the SOA tradition, you can apply online at www.mtsu.edu/customs. Applications are due by November 2.

Forget to get your Flu Vaccination while at home? NO WORRIES! Flu Shots are available at Health Services. FluMist is also available.
News from Campus Rec

Campus Recreation has events and programs throughout the semester for you to enjoy. From intramurals, MTOP trips, and aquatic swim lessons and clinics, Campus Rec offers students a variety of activities for little to no cost. Your membership at Campus Recreation is included in your tuition. Being a member comes with many benefits including: unlimited use of the fitness and aerobics rooms, the indoor pool, racquetball courts, gyms, and much more. Fitness classes (a full schedule is available on our web site) are $1 each or you can buy a 30-class punch pass for $20. Campus Recreation, in conjunction with Student Programming and Student Health Services, is now holding After Dark weekend and night events. These events are a great way to get out there and meet new friends and get involved on campus. Intramurals has a variety of fun and exciting sports competitions for any level athlete. This semester there will be flag football, racquetball, baseball, volleyball, and many more. Intramurals is a chance to make great friends, have a blast, and to show your competitive side. MTOP, Middle Tennessee Outdoor Pursuits, is dedicated to leadership, education, teamwork, relationships, and adventure. Outdoor programs are offered to appeal to multiple interests and multiple levels of expertise. From white water rafting and kayaking to canoeing, rock climbing or caving, hiking or backpacking, there is something for you. The climbing wall is open almost every evening and other clinics are offered periodically to help you develop skills. No matter if you are a beginner or experienced leader our whole goal is to Get You Outside! For more information about any of our activities and events, call our office at 615-898-2104 or check our web site at www.mtsu.edu/camprec. The office is open Monday-Thursday 6am-11pm, Fridays 6am-8pm, Saturdays 9am-7pm, and Sundays 2pm-10pm.

Thanksgiving Dinner for Students

For students not able to go home for the beginning of the holiday season, don’t worry, you are not alone! Many students simply cannot make it back until the fall semester ends, and we have you taken care of! Any student living on-campus is invited to the Scarlett Commons Clubhouse for a scrumptious Thanksgiving Dinner. Sponsored by the Parent & Family Association, this dinner is provided free on November 22 from 2-5pm to promote our students coming together and celebrating the holiday with the other members of the campus community! Happy Turkey Day!

Career Corner

It’s never too early to start networking—plan to attend the Fall Career Fair on October 10 to meet recruiters from a wide variety of industries, including healthcare, communications, aviation, education, government, transportation, and many more! The Fair will be open to students from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the Murphy Center Track, and professional dress and student ID are required. For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/career.

Log in to Lightning JobSource to upload a resume, see a calendar of upcoming events, complete your career profile, and network with real recruiters in the Raider Professional Network.

Need a letter or resume critique? Use Career Services “Document Drop!” For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/career/services.shtml
University College Advising Center
The University College Advising Center (UCAC) is dedicated to creating academically engaging communities and fostering a campus-wide commitment to learning. The primary focus of the UCAC is to provide academic advising services for MTSU students with undeclared majors and students with courses in the University Studies program and freshmen with declared majors. In addition, the UCAC coordinates learning communities, the community reading program, the Academic Success Series and other academic initiatives. We are here to help you be successful, so stop by and see us!

Location: McFarland Building (just across the street from Cummings Hall)
Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm – Monday-Friday
Call to schedule an appointment: (615) 898-2339
Or stop by during walk-in hours - During the Fall 2012 semester we will have an advisor available to serve students on a walk-in basis (no appointment needed). The walk-in advisor will be available each weekday from 10:00am-Noon and 2:00pm-4:00pm. The walk-in advisor can assist students with questions about changing your major, adding or dropping a class, etc. Stop by, we will be glad to help you.

Visit us on the web at http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/
Meet Your Advisor: http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/advisors.php
Follow us on Twitter: @MTSUAdvising

Academic Success Series - http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/AcademicSuccessSeries.php
Free one hour workshops on How to Be Successful MTSU Student. Topics include time management, study skills, choosing a major and preparing for final exams. Workshops are weekly on Tuesdays at 4:30pm on the library. Click the link above for more information and to find a workshop or two that will help you be successful! The workshops or sponsored by the University College Advising Center and Walker Library.

Need Tutoring? - Visit http://www.mtsu.edu/tutoring/ to check out all the free tutoring offered across campus.

UCAC Food Pantry - http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/FoodPantry.php
We have seen an increase in the number of MTSU students who are hungry and are unsure where their next meal may come from. If you are in that situation, please stop by the University College Advising Center and ask for Becca Seul. We are happy to help students who are truly in need find items from our food pantry. If you are interested in donating items to the food pantry, please stop by anytime and drop off your donations. We are happy to have student groups or classes do a service project and collection donations for the pantry. Please visit the link above for more information.

Priority Registration – November 12-21
We know you have barely begun your first semester of classes so it is strange to have to think about next semester already right? Well, mark your calendars now to remind yourself that you should call your advisor after Fall Break and schedule an appointment to meet with them before Priority Registration begins on November 12th! All freshmen will have an advising hold on their accounts that will require them to meet with an advisor prior to registering for classes for Spring 2013. Make sure you schedule your appointment in late October or early November to beat the rush! Not sure who your assigned advisor is? You can check RaiderNet to see the name and contact information of your advisor. When in doubt, call the University College Advising Center at (615) 898-2339 and we will be glad to help you connect with your advisor.

Visit us on the web at http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/
Meet Your Advisor: http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/advisors.php
Follow us on Twitter: @MTSUAdvising
10. Have a question? Go straight to the source!
If you have questions about your bill, the confirmation process, or your refund, you will generally need to speak with the Bursar’s Office. For questions about academic matters, you should speak with your academic advisor. If you have a question about a specific area of financial aid (such as a lottery scholarship) talk to someone who works in that area; you can find our areas of expertise in the Office Staff section of our website. We are experts in our own areas, but can’t know everything about everything!

9. Lost your financial aid or scholarships? You might be able to get them back!
If you were unable to meet federal, state, or institutional requirements because of extenuating personal or medical circumstances, you may be able to file an appeal to regain eligibility. Visit our websites (www.mtsu.edu/financialaid or www.mtsu.edu/scholarships) for FAQs about the financial aid, lottery, and scholarship appeal processes and deadlines to appeal.

8. File your FAFSA as early as possible, if you expect to receive need-based aid!
If your EFC (Expected Family Contribution) on the FAFSA is 2100 or less and you are a Tennessee resident, you may qualify for a $2000 grant from the state. If you want to have a chance at that $2000, you need to file your FAFSA as early as possible—January 2, if you can! You can use estimated income information to get your FAFSA filed quickly, then just go back and correct the numbers once your parents file their actual tax returns.

7. Stay enrolled in your classes, and keep attending class throughout the whole semester!
If you stop attending even one class during the semester, your aid may be affected and you may have to repay thousands of dollars in financial aid. If you drop a class after the second week of the semester and drop below 12 hours, you will lose your lottery scholarship forever. If you are on financial aid warning and don’t pass at least 75% of your attempted hours for the semester, you will lose all of your financial aid and scholarships for one or more semesters. Be careful about dropping classes or stopping attendance, since both actions can have very serious financial consequences!

6. Read what you sign, and keep a copy!
When you fill out and sign a financial aid form, be sure to read it carefully. If you don’t understand any information on the form, please ask us so that we can help you understand. Keep a copy of each form by printing it or saving it on your computer, and review forms such as the Lottery Statement of Understanding again periodically to make sure you remember the rules. It is important for you to know and understand the rules, so that you don’t lose eligibility for your financial aid and scholarships!

5. Don’t wait until the last minute and expect immediate results!
Most financial aid processes take at least 2 weeks to complete, and some take 2-3 months. We are here to help you, but we generally can’t provide an immediate response. Be sure to allow plenty of time for the various financial aid processes to be completed. Complete your Enrichment and Diversity Scholarship applications early (in November). File your FAFSA early (in January). If we ask for paperwork, submit it quickly (by the stated deadline if we provide one, or no later than July 1). If you have a concern about an upcoming event or situation, contact us as soon as possible (at least two weeks ahead of time, and up to three months for some types of processes) so that we have time to help. Your financial aid process will run much more smoothly if you allow sufficient time for everything to be completed.

4. Keep copies of your tax paperwork!
We must verify the accuracy of the FAFSA for 30-40% of students, according to federal laws. It is therefore very likely that we will ask for copies of tax returns and W-2s for you and your parents. Be sure to keep copies of these forms, so that you can submit them as quickly as possible if you are selected for verification. You won’t be able to receive financial aid or certain types of scholarships until we complete the verification process, so it’s best to get through the process as quickly as you can!

3. Short on funds? Look for private scholarships!
Private scholarships can be a great resource, but it can sometimes be a challenge to find awards that match your profile. We have a helpful website on private scholarships, including links to scholarship search websites, links to specific scholarships, tips on how to win scholarships, and information on what to do once you have received a scholarship. Visit www.mtsu.edu/scholarships, and click on Current Student then on Private Scholarships for more information.

2. Check our website, your MTSU email account, and your RaiderNet regularly!
Our websites (www.mtsu.edu/financialaid and www.mtsu.edu/scholarships) provide an extensive amount of information about financial aid and scholarships. If you have a question about financial aid or scholarships, please visit the website first to see if the information is available there. You should also check the website periodically to read about any changes to financial aid and scholarship rules, since federal and state policies change on a regular basis. We will send important information to your MTSU email account; be sure to check it at least once a week throughout the year. The Financial Aid tab in your RaiderNet can provide helpful information about your outstanding requirements, eligibility for financial aid and scholarships, and messages about your status.

1. Be kind to your friendly local financial aid staff!
We love to help students! One of the best parts of working in the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office is seeing a student’s joy when we are able to help them solve their financial problems. However, please keep in mind that there are thousands of you and only a few of us. Please be kind and patient, and allow sufficient time for us to work on your issue.
Information from Housing

HOW TO GET PRIORITY ASSIGNMENT

The Housing and Residential Life Office is now accepting housing reapplication forms from currently assigned students wishing to return to on-campus housing for the Fall 2013/Spring 2014 academic year. Students are encouraged to reapply for housing as early as possible so they may enjoy priority assignment. The deadline for priority assignment is Friday, February 8th, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. Currently assigned students requesting to remain on campus for the Fall 2013/ Spring 2014 academic year will be given first priority to do so as long as their reapplication and $300 prepayment are received by the FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2013 at 4:00 P.M. deadline. Students wishing to receive priority assignment need to complete a reapplication form and pay the $300 prepaid rent at the Housing and Residential Life Office located in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM- to 4:00 PM. Students also have the option of reapplying for housing with priority online at www.mtsu.edu/housing. The $300 prepaid rent is paid by using a credit card or by completing an online check. Remember there is an additional $18 nonrefundable service fee charged by the third party provider for processing the online payment.

I'M NOT RETURNING TO MTSU FOR THE SPRING!

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing cancellations for the Spring 2013 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will be taking no additional classes and from students who are not returning to school at MTSU after the Fall 2012 semester. The deadline for submitting cancellations for prepayment refund is Monday, October 15, 2012. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU, faxed to the Housing Office (615-898-5459) or emailed to housing@mtsu.edu by the deadline. Students living on-campus for the Fall 2012 semester who will be taking classes for the Spring 2013 semester have signed the agreement to live on-campus for the full academic year to include both Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters and are not eligible for cancellation. For more information contact the Housing Office from this location: www.mtsu.edu/~housing.

If you have questions concerning on-campus housing, you may contact us at www.mtsu.edu/~housing or call (615)898-2971, Monday-Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We look forward to hearing from you.

MT Dining Updates

The mtVIP program has officially started - pick up your card at the KUC 204!

September Special Events:

September 20th Happy Birthday September born students! All day at Raider Zone & McCallie
September 26th Southern Fare Lunch and Watermelon Eating contest at McCallie
September 27th South American Cruise Lunch at McCallie
October 2nd Oktoberfest Lunch at McCallie & Raider Zone
October 4th Italian Lunch at McCallie & Raider Zone

Check out updates at mtdining.com and facebook/mtsudining.com!

Forgot to sign up for a meal plan? You can always purchase a meal plan at the KUC 204 or on-line at mtdining.com!