

STUDENT LIFE

The Division of Student Life is comprised of a variety of departments and centers that provide the daily support our students need to learn, lead, and serve on our campus and in our community. We provide students with transformational experiences that are critical to the realization of their academic and personal aspirations.

The Division of Student Life is led by the Vice Chancellor for Student Life, who is responsible for the oversight of fiscal resources, student care and support, health and wellness initiatives, leadership and engagement programs, and over 3.7M square feet of facility space to support on-campus housing, campus recreation, the Student Health Center, and the Student Union. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Life provides oversight of the Student Services and Programming Fee and serves as the primary liaison between the administration and Student Government Association, as well as more than 400 student organizations.

CARE, SUPPORT, HEALTH, & WELLNESS

The Division of Student Life provides critical services that focus on the care and support of students. We provide resources and programs to encourage proactive health and wellness skills. Key initiatives and departments include:

The Office of the Dean of Students (DOS) partners with students throughout their Volunteer journey. Initiatives and services connect students and families to the campus community.

Striving to make our big campus feel small, the DOS advocates for students, cultivates a campus where all students matter and belong, and connects students to opportunities in student organizations, leadership education, cultural humility, and service to local, state, national and international communities. Through compassionate care, we connect students, families, faculty, and staff as they navigate the UT campus community.

Notable areas within the DOS include Family Engagement, 974-HELP, the Bias Education & Referral team, the Pride Center, Big Orange Meal Share, and the Big Orange Pantry.

The Be Well employee wellness program is a partnership between Human Resources and the Center for Health Education and Wellness to help UTK employees identify resources to enhance their individual relationship with the eight dimensions of wellness, as well as develop an awareness and understanding of health-promoting skills.

Student Conduct & Community Standards (SCCS) investigates and adjudicates alleged violations of the Student Code of Conduct (Code) which include behavioral misconduct, academic misconduct, student organization misconduct, and Title IX policy violations. All students (undergraduate and graduate) are responsible for conducting themselves in a lawful manner, as well as in compliance with university rules and policies. Students may have concurrent SCCS and criminal cases. The conduct process is designed to be educational in nature and centered on student development; however, SCCS has the ability to suspend/expel students when behavior warrants such action. SCCS works closely with local law enforcement, and campus and community partners to evaluate and respond to critical situations. SCCS staff serve on high-liability committees such Threat Assessment, TIX Prevention & Response, Hazing Prevention & Response, and Academic Research Misconduct. Additionally, SCCS ensures disciplinary compliance with state, federal, and local laws/policies for the university. This includes but is not limited to disciplinary background checks with federal & local agencies, Clery reporting and compliance, NCAA athletic compliance, TIX federal compliance, FERPA, and record retention policies and disclosure.

As a result of the Student Conduct process, students will be able to: (1) Articulate their fundamental rights provided to them by the conduct process. (2) Increase awareness of the Student Conduct process. (3) Identify campus resources available to them. (4) Identify behavior that does not align with university expectations. (5) Recognize they are responsible for the choices they make. (6) Recognize the impact of one's actions on others. (7) Utilize analytical decision-making skills in future situations. (8) Demonstrate and promote positive behaviors reflective of university expectations.

Student Disability Services (SDS) facilitates equitable access to institutional programs and activities for students with disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Fair Housing Act. SDS serves all students (undergraduate and graduate) and determines eligibility of services by reviewing medical documentation and engaging in an interactive process to develop and implement accommodations for students to participate in all aspects of the university's experience. Furthermore, SDS advises the campus community in matters of accessibility and regulatory compliance, promotes educational opportunities, and conducts training on disability-related topics, diversity, and inclusive practices. SDS collaborates with campus partners to identify and remove programmatic, physical, and attitudinal barriers to foster an inclusive campus. These objectives and services ensure students' participation in the university experience in a manner that is welcoming and academically impactful.

LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

The Division of Student Life offers programs and opportunities for students to engage on campus, develop their leadership skills, and serve their communities. Key departments and initiatives include:

The Jones Center for Leadership and Service (JCLS) seeks to educate and engage all students to lead and serve the global community. The JCLS also provides opportunities for faculty and staff to engage in community outreach and leadership development programming. The JCLS serves as the primary liaison between the university and nonprofit community organizations, coordinating planned service activities, such as the MLK Day of Service and Chancellor's Day of Service, and immersive service experiences through the VOLbreaks Alternative Breaks program. The JCLS also maintains the university's service tracking platform and service medallion recognition program. Additionally, the JCLS facilitates a number of curricular and co-curricular leadership education programs to develop leadership knowledge and skills. These programs and services include several conferences and workshops, including the Ignite summer leadership and service experience that helps incoming students transition to the university and the Knoxville community. The JCLS partners with the Undergraduate Leadership Studies (ELPS) program to offer numerous leadership education courses, including those connected to three co-curricular cohort programs, Emerging Leaders, Leadership Knoxville Scholars, and the Volunteer Impact Academy. Finally, the JCLS co-leads the CliftonStrengths Facilitation Team in collaboration with the Center for Career Development and Academic Exploration and is a member of UTK's Emergency Operations Center, charged with coordinating volunteer management efforts in the event of an emergency.

FACILITIES

The Division of Student Life provides oversight of facilities containing student spaces, including on-campus housing, campus recreation, the Student Health Center, the Frieson Black Cultural Center, and the Student Union. While construction of the Student Union facility was funded through student fees and auxiliary revenue, the daily operation is funded by E&G.

The Student Union ensures that an estimated 11,000 guests per day can access meeting, lounge, and leisure spaces as well as the eleven student service offices, eight dining retail operations, the VolShop, U.S. Postal contract service and the UT Federal Credit Union. The Student Union provides a "laboratory for learning" in which students apply leadership and service skills outside the classroom, planning events that engage with different cultures and co-creating community. The staff of the Student Union allocates meeting and events space within the 398,088 square foot community center to support over 5,500 meetings and events per year. The Student Union provides AV support to most of these events. Because the Student Union operation is funded by E&G funds, space rental and AV fees are waived for university departments. The Student Union employs over 100 student staff to operate the Information Desk, UCOPY, Union Station recreation facility, SU Art Gallery, Central Ticket Office, and the 6,000 square foot loading dock.