

Parent & Family Pulse Poll – May 2015 – End of Semester/Summer Concerns

Results (65 responses)

My student is a:		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
High school student	7.7%	5
Freshman	33.8%	22
Sophomore	24.6%	16
Junior	18.5%	12
Senior	13.8%	9
Grad student	1.5%	1

At the end of the spring semester and beginning of summer, what are your concerns as a college parent or family member? (Check all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Student not being occupied (by school, work, etc.) during the summer	13.8%	9
Student not coming home for summer	12.3%	8
Getting ready for Red Raider Orientation	6.2%	4
Finances - paying upcoming tuition	30.8%	20
Student is graduating without a job lined up	6.2%	4
Trying to arrange family vacation around student's schedule	24.6%	16
Academic issues - student's performance during spring semester	9.2%	6
Academic issues - student not sharing academic progress with you	7.7%	5
Housing issues - student wanting to live off campus in the fall	13.8%	9
None - I have no concerns at this time	24.6%	16
Other (please specify)		9

Most respondents (31%) they were most concerned about finances and paying for tuition for upcoming semesters. Fall 2015 tuition is due on August 17th. There are several [payment plans](#) students can use to divide payments into installments. Many respondents did not have any specific concerns (25%), and 25% were concerned about arranging family vacations around their students' schedules. Students are often busier in the summers than parents and family members realize, with internships, online courses, and summer jobs. Make the most of the time you do have with your busy students!

Some respondents (14%) were concerned their students were not occupied during the summer months. Encourage your student to consider summer school through Texas Tech or a community college at home, provided the credits will transfer to TTU and work with your student's major. Students should contact their advisors if considering taking courses at other institutions. Many courses at TTU are offered online in the summer. Students can also benefit from summer employment. Encourage your student to check out job offerings. Finally, volunteering in the community is a great way for students to get involved and gain valuable volunteer experience. Scholarship selection committees and employers often look for extensive volunteer experience from applicants.

Parents concerned about students living off campus in the fall should encourage their students to have [Student Legal Services](#) conduct a free lease review. Talk to your student about responsible community living and being a good neighbor, particularly if your student is going to be living in a rental house. Professionals and people with young children often do not keep the same schedules as students and friction may occur if students are hosting parties and being noisy.

