

Homecoming 2026 Handbook

“Victory, Tradition, Wreck 'em: The Red Raider Tribe Has Spoken”

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****Form due date: September 21, 2026, at 5:00PM***

2026 Homecoming Handbook Overview

On behalf of the Student Activities Board Spirit & Traditions committee, we want to thank you for showing interest in participating in this year's Homecoming Week events!

The Homecoming Handbook was designed as a place to find all the information your organization will need for every Homecoming event you can participate in. Please make sure to read all the information for the events your organization is interested in participating in. The last page of the Handbook is a signature sheet that ***must be completed and submitted to the Student Activities Office before any event application will be accepted.***

Please make note of the following changes in the application process for this year:

- ALL applications will be completed and submitted online only. There will be no paper applications to turn in this year.
- Organizations will be responsible for all policies and procedures outlined in the 2026 Homecoming Handbook.
- ALL must be answered for an application to be considered complete.
- Your organization's online applications will not be accepted unless the Theme/Signature page at the end of this Handbook has been completed and submitted.
- If you experience problems submitting or attaching any application documents on TechConnect, you can submit them at sab@ttu.edu or in person in the ***Student Activities Office (Room 020 – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore)***. If a Student Organization and a Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) Organization are partnering together, the organizations must decide to compete under either the FSL or Student Organization category. This selection will be in place for the entire week.

QUESTIONS

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HOMECOMING 2026 EVENTS

IMPORTANT DATES

Homecoming Overview Meeting

Thursday, September 3, 2026, 6:00pm

SUB Escondido Theater, SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore

Purpose: Student Activities Board will go over the Homecoming Application process and any initial general Homecoming updates. Those interested in participating in Homecoming 2026 should attend this meeting.

Homecoming Theme Application Due

Monday, September 21, 2026, by 5:00PM

- Theme Applications
 - Turned in via Google Form found on the last page of the Homecoming 2026 Handbook
 - You will receive an e-mail confirming your theme no later than **Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 11:59 PM.**
 - Themes will be approved as applications are received and your organization will be notified within 3 business days of submitting your application for approval.
- Event applications will all be accessed and turned in online via TechConnect.
 - You MUST have a theme BEFORE you start working on other event applications.
 - For those participating in S.O. Sing, seating will be assigned by the Spirit & Traditions Committee.
 - **Event applications will not be accepted after 5:00 PM on Monday, September 28, 2026.**

Homecoming Mandatory Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2026, 6:00pm (Check-in: 5:30pm)

SUB Escondido Theater, SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore

Mandatory Attendance. One representative from each participating group MUST be present; if a representative is not present, the organization will be disqualified from participation.

2026 Homecoming Parade Information

The Parade will be on Friday, October 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM. In case of inclement weather, the Homecoming Parade will be canceled. In the event of any parade changes, all participants will be notified via email as soon as possible.

Purpose

Show your Red Raider spirit and be part of the 2026 Homecoming Parade! Student organizations, campus departments, and local businesses are welcome to participate in the parade as we prepare for the 2026 Homecoming football game against Arizona State!

Mandatory Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2026 | 6:00pm (Check-in: 5:30pm)

SUB Escondido Theater – SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore

Mandatory Attendance. One representative from each participating group **MUST** be present; if a representative is not present, the organization will be disqualified from participation.

Requirements

In order to participate, groups must be a current Texas Tech registered student organization, campus department, or a local business. All those participating must complete an application, which includes a brief description and sketch of their float.

Clean Up

All groups must assign at least one individual to stay behind and clean up their assigned space after the parade. This individual will need to be identified on the parade application. For any group that leaves behind a mess in the parade parking lot, their float will be disqualified from being judged.

Safety Requirements & Measurements

The safety requirements and measurements that are listed below **MUST** be met. If any float is deemed unsafe, it could be disqualified from the Parade competition.

- **Waivers:** All parade participants (riding on the float, walking next to the float, etc.) must sign a **Release and Hold Harmless Agreement waiver** and turn it in by the required Mandatory Meeting on September 28, 2026. The waiver can be found at www.homecoming.ttu.edu.
- **Alcohol is NEVER allowed during any portion of the parade,** including line-up at the First Baptist Church parking lot at Broadway and Ave V. It is also not allowed during the building process of the floats. If any participants are found in possession of alcohol or suspected of being intoxicated on the day of the parade or while working on their float, their entire entry will be immediately disqualified from competition and participation in the parade. **All students must abide by the Texas Tech University Student Code of Conduct.**

2026 Homecoming Parade Information (continued)

- If the driver of your float is a Texas Tech University employee, or if you are going to utilize a Texas Tech University vehicle to pull your float, you may be asked to fill out an additional form when submitting your application.
- Floats cannot exceed twelve (12) feet in height, ten (10) feet in width, and fifty-two (52) feet in length. The float will be measured during the week of Homecoming by the Student Activities Board and on the day of the Parade.
- Smokestacks cannot exceed fourteen (14) feet to clear all telephone and electrical wires.
- **Any float that does not meet the measurement requirements will need to be altered or will not be allowed to participate in the Parade.**
- Floats must be able to make ninety-degree (90°) turns.
- Each float is limited to one pulling vehicle.
- All floats must be mechanically propelled, so they can keep TWO (2) CAR LENGTHS from the preceding float or group throughout the parade.
- It is the responsibility of sponsoring organizations to ensure that all vehicle drivers possess the appropriate Driver's License (Class C) and have Personal Liability Insurance. License and proof of insurance must be available on the day of the parade. The person who submitted their Driver's License and Personal Liability Insurance is the ONLY person that can drive for the organization during the parade. The drivers will be checked before the parade begins.
- Parade participants may only be on or near the float while on the parade route!
- If participants are found to be abandoning or jumping off the float at any time before their float arrives at the United Supermarkets Arena, the entry will be disqualified from the competition. **Participants must ride the float to the end location!**
- All exhaust pipes must extend to the outside of the float.
- Wrapped candy may be thrown during the parade but no stick candy can be tossed at any time. (i.e. suckers). Promotional items in violation of the TTU Student Handbook or Code of Conduct are prohibited. **No tortillas may be tossed.**

Limitations

The following guidelines should be used when decorating your float for the Parade. In the case that your float does not follow these guidelines, the SAB Spirit & Traditions Committee will work with the Student Union & Activities department to determine parade participation.

- Floats decorated in a way that is not in good taste or keeping with good relations for the City of Lubbock and Texas Tech University WILL be disqualified and not permitted to participate in the parade. ***Your float represents the University and all Texas Tech students.***
- **Any float built by professional float builders will not be eligible for competition.**

2026 Homecoming Parade Information (continued)

- Student Organizations may allow commercial sponsors to place two (2) signs, no larger than 2' x 3' on the float. Each entry is limited to three (3) sponsors. Sponsorship is not allowed for any activity that promotes or suggests the use of alcoholic beverages, promotes sponsorship by Texas Tech University, or violates any local, state, federal laws or University standards, rules and/or policies.
- No political campaign materials or advertisements will be allowed on any entry or passed out to parade viewers.
- If at any time a float holds up the parade due to mechanical or obstruction difficulties, it may be automatically disqualified from the competition.
- Float number signs will be provided for each participant (11" x 17"). The signs will be placed on each float (driver's side) before the beginning of the parade. These signs must not be obstructed or covered in any way.
- All university policies and procedures as outlined in the TTU Student Handbook will be applied and enforced throughout the Homecoming Parade and float building process.
- Float checks will take place on **Wednesday, October 14, 2026, starting at 5:00 PM.** Floats must be started by the time of check. A representative will be required to be present at your float build location to meet with the Homecoming Representative starting at the assigned time provided. Float checks are conducted to ensure floats and organizations are following the requirements listed above. If a representative is not present at their organization's float build location and unreachable by phone or email, the organization may be disqualified.

Parade Line-Up Info

Friday, October 16, 2026, 6:00 PM- Parade Start Time (All times are subject to change due to inclement weather.)

- All floats that have semis or a trailer must be present at the First Baptist Church Parking lot between 2:30 PM and 4:00 PM. People who are riding and walking around these floats must be in the parking lot by 4:30 PM
- All other participants (floats without trailers, regular cars, etc.) must be at the parking lot by 4:30 PM. People who are riding and walking around these floats must be in the parking lot by 5:00 PM
- All groups will have an assigned parking spot for the line-up.
- If you are late, you will be able to be in the parade, but you cannot compete in the judging.

Getting to the First Baptist Church Parking Lot

When you are coming to the First Baptist Church Parking lot, we ask that you carpool, as parking is limited.

2026 Homecoming Parade Information (continued)

Judging Criteria

Four categories will be evaluated on a rating scale of 0-5, with five (5) points being the highest possible score in a category and twenty (20) points being the maximum number of points possible.

Judging will be based on the following categories:

- Adherence to the Homecoming theme, including originality and creativity.
- Red Raider and Texas Tech spirit, including but not limited to enthusiasm and spirit during the parade and community appeal.
- Craftsmanship, including design, safety, appearance of materials and sturdiness, etc., and attractiveness, including colors, neatness, shapes, and presentation.
- Overall presentation of the float (including but not limited to participation of individuals representing the group and sportsmanship).

A panel of 5 or more judges will be selected from the University and the surrounding community. They will judge all eligible floats during the parade. ***The decision of the judges is FINAL.***

Five categories will be judged:

- Student Organizations
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Residence Halls
- Lubbock Area/Business Entries
- Area Bands/Cheer/Dance

Awards

Floats will be judged according to the outlined criteria above. The organizations receiving the highest number of points in each category will be recognized. Recognition will be given to the first, second, and third place winners in each category.

2026 Homecoming Royalty Information

Purpose

To nominate a 2026 King and Queen based on resumes, interviews, and student voting to represent the TTU student body from Fall 2026 to Fall 2027. The nominated King and Queen will be visible at on and off campus events throughout their reign. The events include, but are not limited to, Tech or Treat (October 27, 2026), Arbor Day (April 30, 2027), and Pep Rallies at local elementary schools (various dates in the spring).

1. Organizations registered through Student Involvement may sponsor **ONE** (1) King Candidate and **ONE** (1) Queen Candidate in the 2026 Homecoming elections.
2. Candidates must sign the Homecoming Handbook Signature page found at the end of the Homecoming Handbook along with the Student Organization President and full-time TTU faculty/staff advisor to verify candidacy.

Mandatory Royalty Meeting – All Candidates must attend.

- **Monday, September 21, 2026, 5:30pm (Check-in begins at 4:45pm)**
- **SUB Escondido Theater – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore**
- **All candidates will take Homecoming headshot photos at this meeting.** Red and black business professional attire is recommended.

Homecoming King/Queen Additional Candidate Requirements

- S.O. Sing Org rehearsal: Monday, October 12, 2026, 4:00pm – United Supermarkets Arena
- S.O. Sing – Royalty Only rehearsal: Monday, October 12, 2026, 5:00pm – United Supermarkets Arena

Eligibility for Homecoming King/Queen Candidates

- Candidates must be full-time, undergraduate or graduate students. Students enrolled in a combined undergraduate/graduate degree program (i.e., BA 150) will be classified according to enrollment status in college/school.
- **Any candidates graduating prior to May 2027 will not be considered.**
 - *All requirements will be verified in accordance with Texas Tech University policies and procedures. By signing the Homecoming Handbook Signature page, you give permission to Texas Tech University personnel to access your academic records to verify candidacy requirements.*
- Undergraduate candidates must be enrolled in at least 12 hours at Texas Tech University for Fall 2026. Distance learning hours WILL NOT be included.
- Undergraduate candidates must have completed a minimum of sixty (60) semester hours before the Fall 2026 semester.
- Undergraduate candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50.
- Graduate candidates must be enrolled in at least 9 hours at Texas Tech University for Fall 2026. Distance learning hours WILL NOT be included.
- Graduate candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

2026 Homecoming Royalty Information (continued)

- Students from Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and School of Nursing may run for Homecoming King and Queen.

All candidates must attend the mandatory Royalty meeting, community service, and all scheduled activities throughout the week of Homecoming. (Also be aware that, if chosen as King/Queen, you must be present throughout the Homecoming festivities the following year [appearances through Fall 2027].) The chosen King/Queen must attend Tech or Treat (October 27, 2026), Arbor Day (April 30, 2027), and the local elementary school pep rallies in the spring. If a candidate is unable to fulfill these duties, the first runner-up will assume the title. In addition, any candidate under the influence of drugs or alcohol during any activity will be immediately disqualified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Homecoming King/Queen Election Timeline

- All candidates must submit a resume with the online application. Current GPA must be included! Resumes should be no more than two (2) pages.
- The Resume Screening Committee will narrow the applications to twenty (20) – ten (10) King and ten (10) Queen - candidates.
- All candidates must attend the Homecoming Kickoff on **Monday, October 12, 2026, at 12:00 PM** at Red Raider Plaza.
- The twenty (20)-ten (10) King and ten (10) Queen - candidates' names will be announced at the end of S.O. Sing on **Tuesday, October 13, 2026**.
- The twenty (20) finalists will have **professional interviews** (job like) on **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**, in the Masked Rider Room in the Student Union Building. King candidates will be assigned an interview time between **8:00 AM and 12:00 PM**. Queen candidates will be assigned an interview time between **1:00 PM and 5:00 PM**.
- The twenty (20) finalists must attend Techsan Memorial on **Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 5:00 PM**. Techsan Memorial is an occasion to honor the Red Raiders who have passed away in the last year.
- The interviews will narrow the twenty (20) finalists to the top ten (10) -five (5) King and five (5) Queen - candidates. The top ten (10) are referred to as the Homecoming Court.
- The Homecoming Court will be presented at the Rowdy Raider Rally on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 11:30 AM** in the North Plaza of the Student Union Building.
- The finalists will participate in a campus-wide election, beginning on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 12:00 PM** and ending at **12:00 AM**. No votes will be counted after midnight.
- The Techsan Memorial Dinner is on **Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 6:30PM** in the Red Raider Ballroom immediately following the Memorial. After the top ten (10) five (5) King and five (5) Queen candidates have been announced, those individuals will attend the Techsan Memorial Dinner.

- The Homecoming Court will ride in the Homecoming Parade on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM.**
- The Homecoming Court will be presented at the Homecoming Pep Rally on **Friday, October 16, 2026,** in Urbanovsky Park.
- The Homecoming Court will be presented on the field, and the 2026 Homecoming King and Queen will be announced during halftime at the football game on **Saturday, October 17, 2026.**

Community Service – All Candidates are required to attend.

- **Saturday, October 3, 2026, 9:00AM – 12:00PM**

For the 2026 year, the SAB Spirit & Traditions Committee has chosen The Family Promise of Lubbock as the philanthropy for Homecoming Royalty Candidates. Royalty candidates will be contacted with more information about the project.

Judging Criteria

The Homecoming King/Queen and the court will be selected by the following:

$$(P \times 50\%) + ((I \times C) \times 50\%) = S$$

P= Popular Vote

I=Interview Score

C=Conversion Factor

S=Total Score

50% of the interview score is combined with 50% of the popular vote from the campus-wide election. The candidates receiving the highest combined score will be selected as King and Queen. The remaining individuals with the four highest combined scores will serve on the Homecoming Court. **In case of a tie, the candidate with the highest popular vote will be selected as Homecoming King and Queen.**

Grievances

The SGA Election Commission will supervise and coordinate all matters regarding the King and Queen elections. Any grievances or comments should be directed to the **Student Government Association in the Student Union, Room 304, or at 806-742-3631.** They will notify the Election Commission Advisor. The appropriate steps will be taken.

All grievances must be in writing and filed within 24 hours of the occurrence.

2026 Homecoming Spirit Banner Information

Purpose

This competition is geared towards fostering a sense of pride and school spirit for Texas Tech University during Homecoming Week. Show off your organization's school spirit while incorporating the year's Homecoming theme! Spirit Banners will be displayed throughout Homecoming Week in the Student Union Building.

Mandatory Meeting

- **Monday, September 28, 2026, 6:00pm (Check-in: 5:30pm)**
- **SUB Escondido Theater – SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore**
One representative from each organization or business **MUST** be present and check in prior to the beginning of the presentation; if a representative is not present, the organization or department will be disqualified from participation.

Spirit Banner Requirements

To participate, you must be a current Texas Tech registered Student Organization. All organizations must complete an application, which includes a brief description and sketch of their Spirit Banner.

Spirit Banner Submission Deadline

Your banner needs to be dropped off on **Friday, October 9, 2026, by 12:00 PM** to the Student Activities Office (SUB West Basement 020 – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore) **Banners must be submitted dry!** - Wet paint will not be accepted, so please allow time for your banner to dry completely. **Any submissions turned in after 12:00 PM will be disqualified.**

Materials and Measurements

- White, flat bed sheet (the lower the thread count, the easier to paint)
- Must be cut to size 5' x 3'4" and designed to hang HORIZONTALLY.
- ***No paper banners will be accepted.***
- Accepted Materials: paint, hot glue (if necessary)
- No oil paint, Elmer's glue, or glitter will be accepted.
- Any objects attached to banner must be noted on the application and pre-approved by the Student Activities Board. No heavy, sharp, or otherwise dangerous objects will be permitted. Objects cannot protrude off banner more than a quarter of an inch (.25"). No added objects are required on the banner.
- Banner must follow ALL materials and measurement requirements, or participating organization(s) will be disqualified.

Judging and Awards

A panel of judges chosen from the Texas Tech University and Lubbock communities will be judging the Spirit Banners. Spirit Banner judging will be based on the incorporation of the Homecoming 2026 theme, Texas Tech spirit, artistic design, creativity/originality, and the incorporation of the participating FSL/Student Organization. All judges' decisions are final.

2026 Homecoming Spirit Banner Information (continued)

There will be two judging categories -Fraternity & Sorority Life and Student Organizations. The winning spirit banners, Top 2 FSL and Top 2 Student Organizations, will be displayed at Jones AT&T Stadium during the Homecoming football game on **Saturday, October 17, 2026**, to promote Texas Tech Homecoming spirit.

Limitations

- FSL/Student Organization name and theme should be incorporated in the spirit banner design. Keep in mind that spirit banners represent the organization as well as Texas Tech University.
- NO derogatory language or pictures will be accepted.
- NO banners should be decorated in a way that promotes alcohol or drug use, trademark logos, or any other offensive or illegal representation.
- Spirit Banners not following these standards of good taste will be disqualified.

2026 Homecoming Spirit Board Information

Purpose

The Homecoming Spirit Board competition is a great way to get involved in Texas Tech's Homecoming festivities. This contest allows your organization to be creative by incorporating the year's Homecoming theme into your Spirit Board design. The Student Organization Spirit Boards will be displayed throughout Homecoming Week at the Broadway entrance to campus. The Spirit Boards competing in the Residence Hall category will be displayed near each hall.

Mandatory Meeting

- **Monday, September 28, 2026, 6:00pm (Check-in: 5:30pm)**
- **SUB Escondido Theater – SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore**
One representative from each organization **MUST** be present and check in prior to the beginning of the presentation; if a representative is not present, the organization/department will be disqualified from participation.

Spirit Board Requirements

To participate, you must be a current Texas Tech registered Student Organization. All organizations must complete an application, which includes a brief description and sketch of their Spirit Board, and any further changes must be approved.

Spirit Board Submission Deadline

- **Drop-off date: Friday, October 9, 2026: 1:00pm – 3:00pm**
- Location: TTU Physical Plant - 3122 Main Street, Lubbock, TX 79409
 - Spirit Boards must already be assembled and must be submitted dry!
 - Wet paint will not be accepted, so please allow time for the board to dry completely. Any submissions turned in after 3:00 PM will be disqualified.

Materials and Measurements

Spirit Boards must be made with MDF board obtained by the applicant's organization. It is your responsibility to provide all materials necessary for your entry. You may purchase a Spirit Board Package of Supplies at Sutherland's HomeBase for a discounted rate. Sutherland's HomeBase is located at 3701 50th Street in Lubbock. A discount purchase sheet will be distributed at the mandatory meeting on Monday, September 28, 2026 or you can pick one up prior to the meeting in the Student Activities office, SUB Suite 020. ***You must take the Sutherland's HomeBase Homecoming Package sheet with you in order to purchase your supplies at the discounted rate!***

The Spirit Board must be covered with a clear topcoat varnish or painted with a glossy exterior paint for waterproofing before the Spirit Board is submitted.

Each Spirit Board will be 8' x 4'. Spirit Boards must be decorated so they can be placed **VERTICALLY**. Paint is the only thing that should be used to decorate the Spirit Board. NO glitter or 3-D objects may be used to decorate the Spirit Board.

2026 Homecoming Spirit Board Information (continued)

Judging and Awards

All Student Organization Spirit Board entries will be displayed at the Broadway Entrance to campus and all Residence Hall entries will be displayed near the halls the week of Homecoming 2026. A panel of judges chosen from the Tech and Lubbock communities will be judging the Spirit Boards.

Spirit Board judging will be based on the incorporation of the Homecoming 2026 theme, Texas Tech spirit, artistic design, creativity/originality, and the incorporation of the participating Residence Hall/FSL/Student Organization. All judges' decisions are final.

There will be three judging categories - FSL Organizations, Residence Life, and Student Organizations.

Spirit Board “Most Popular” Award

During Homecoming Week, the Spirit Boards will be posted on the Student Activities Board's Facebook Page (@TexasTechSAB) to let the Texas Tech community vote on which Spirit Board is its favorite. Voting for this award will conclude on **Thursday, October 15 at 12:00pm**.

Limitations

FSL/Student Organization name and theme should be incorporated in the Spirit Board design. Keep in mind that Spirit Boards represent the organization as well as Texas Tech University. NO derogatory language or pictures will be accepted. NO Spirit Boards should be decorated in a way that promotes alcohol or drug use, trademark logos, or any other offensive or illegal representation. No outside sponsors are allowed for this event. Spirit Boards not following these standards of good taste will be disqualified.

Spirit Board Pickup Deadline – Required for all groups.

- **Monday, October 19, 2026, Noon – 5:00pm**
- Texas Tech University Physical Plant - 3122 Main Street, Lubbock, TX 79409

2026 Homecoming Student Organization (S.O.) Sing Information

Purpose

Any registered Texas Tech Student Organization can sign up to compete on the dance floor with their dance moves and costumes. The Homecoming Week theme should be evident in every organization's performance.

Mandatory Meeting

- **Monday, September 28, 2026, 6:00pm (Check-in: 5:30pm)**
- **SUB Escondido Theater – SUB West Basement – Below the Raider Depot Bookstore**
One representative from each organization MUST be present and check in prior to the presentation beginning; if a representative is not present, the organization will be disqualified from participation.

Requirements

All registered Texas Tech Student Organizations are invited to participate in the Homecoming 2026 S.O. Sing Contest. Each organization or partnering organizations can only enter one (1) act into the competition.

- **S.O. Sing Rehearsal is MANDATORY for all groups.**
 - **S.O. Sing Rehearsal | Monday, October 12, 2026 at 4:00 PM**
 - United Supermarkets Arena
 - A representative from your organization must arrive at 3:30 PM to check in and receive your organization's wristbands. All groups and representatives will enter through the North Event Entrance.
 - All performers must arrive at 3:45 PM in costume or 5:45 PM in costume depending on the predetermined time given to you at the Mandatory Meeting on September 28th.
- **Day of Performance:** S.O. Sing is on **Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM** at the United Supermarkets Arena All performers must **arrive no later than 5:45pm** in costume
- No more than forty (40) people can be on the dance floor at one time. [More than forty (40) people may participate, but only forty (40) will be allowed on the Arena floor at a time; this includes Royalty Candidates.]

Judging

A panel of five (5) or more judges chosen from the Texas Tech and Lubbock communities will be judging the S.O. Sing competition.

S.O. Sing judging will be based on the incorporation of the Homecoming 2026 theme, Texas Tech spirit, creativity/originality of choreography, quality of singing and song choice, and overall presentation and enthusiasm. All judges' decisions are final.

There will be two judging categories - FSL Organizations and Student Organizations. The Top 3 in each category will be announced the night of S.O. Sing.

2026 Homecoming Student Organization (S.O.) Sing Information (continued)

Music and Props

The following Rules and Regulations are to provide you and your organization(s) guidelines to prevent disqualification. If any of the Rules and Regulations are broken, the organization(s) will be disqualified from S.O. Sing.

- Music and song titles must be submitted to SAB@ttu.edu and must be submitted with your event application no later than **September 28, 2026, at 5:00 pm**. No links to songs (YouTube, Pandora, Spotify etc.) will be accepted. Please be aware if you do use a downloaded song, we cannot guarantee the quality of the song.
- Song duplication for organization dances will not be permitted. Songs will be approved on a first come, first served basis determined by date of submission.
- Music should be instrumental only. No music with singing/ voices will be accepted.
- Song length is limited to three (3) minutes.
- Song lyrics must be submitted with your applications by **September 28, 2026 at 5:00 PM**. All lyrics must be sung. This is S.O. Sing, NOT a lip sync competition.
- Props cannot be larger than 3 feet by 3 feet and must be listed on the event application on TechConnect. A list of props is required with your event application.
- Every participant must be in FULL costume for the S.O. Sing Rehearsal. All props must be present at S.O. Sing Rehearsal.
- Any changes in or additions to costumes or props between Rehearsal and S.O. Sing will result in disqualification.
- No glitter will be permitted!
- No feather boas will be permitted!
- All choreography and stunts must be performed the same at S.O. Sing Rehearsal and S.O. Sing. Any changes in or additions to choreography or stunts between Rehearsal and S.O. Sing will result in disqualification.
- No inappropriate or profane lyrics or dancing will be allowed. Any lyrics or dances deemed inappropriate by the Student Activities Board Spirit & Traditions Committee will result in disqualification.
- Please avoid any type of shoe that could scratch or damage the wood basketball court. **This includes boots, spurs, tap shoes, clogs or other hard soled shoes as this is the United Supermarkets Arena's rule.**
- All choreography must take place on the mats.

Limitations

Any participant found to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs will result in disqualification of the entire student organization and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. The partnering group in the performance will also be disqualified.

2026 Homecoming Student Organization (S.O.) Sing Information (continued)

S.O. SING Stunt and Regulation Information

Stunts will no longer be allowed as part of S.O. Sing choreography and performances.

Group and partner lifts will be accepted moving forward. The executing dancer in the lift will always have supporting hands when off the ground.

Tumbling items that are allowed:

- Cartwheels
- Roundoffs
- Back Handsprings (limited to 3 connected)
- Walkovers
- Side Aerials

Tumbling items that are **NOT** allowed:

- Front Tucks
- Back Tucks
- Layouts
- Fulls
- Arabians
- Connected series longer than 3 back handsprings
- Front Aerials

Stunts allowed:

- Shoulder sits
- Partner lifts
- Group lifts



Stunts NOT allowed:

- Extended Stunts
- Baskets
- Pyramids



2026 Homecoming Theme Selection Rules and Regulations

Theme

The 2026 Homecoming theme is Victory, Tradition, Wreck 'em: The Red Raider Tribe Has Spoken. We are encouraging organizations to choose a TV series or show that showcases a reality or competition. Choose your favorite show and make it even more of a reality!

As you contemplate theme options, think about how you would incorporate the setting, characters, and aesthetics of the film into your board, banner, float, and SO-Sing performance. As a character in the film what would you wear? What songs would you sing? Which posters would you take inspiration from? What about this show makes it feel special enough to use as your Homecoming 2026 theme?

Each organization has the opportunity to get creative and use their approved theme to get involved with the activities and show their Texas Tech spirit throughout the week.

Guidelines & Notes

- This application is due by **Monday, September 21, 2026, at 5:00PM**, and can be found on the last page of the 2026 Homecoming Handbook
- Any Texas Tech Registered Student Organizations may apply
- The theme you choose will be your theme for the entire 2026 Homecoming Week as it relates to any of the activities:
 - Parade
 - S.O. Sing (Student Organization Sing competition)
 - Spirit Banner Contest
 - Spirit Board Contest
- Your organization will submit three (3) theme choices, one (1) of which will be assigned to you by the SAB Spirit & Traditions Committee, based solely on the order your application was received.
- The theme must follow these rules:
 - Must be appropriate for representing Texas Tech University and the Lubbock community and may not include derogatory language, images, or topics.
 - Once you turn in your application, you may not change your top three choices for theme.
 - If for some reason all your choices were taken or were not appropriate, your organization will be notified ASAP to determine an alternate theme option.
- You will receive an e-mail confirming your theme no later than **Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 11:59 PM**.

- Themes will be approved as applications are received, and your organization will be notified within 3 business days of submitting your application for approval.

Important Theme Application Information

1. Your organization **MUST** fill out this Theme Application & Signature Page form.
2. You **MUST** have a theme **BEFORE** you start working on other event applications.
3. If you are partnering with another organization, both organizations must fill out an application (two [2] corresponding applications must be submitted to be considered complete). If you do not turn in this application, you will **NOT** be able to turn in any other event application forms.
4. If a Student Organization and a FSL Organization are partnering together, the organizations must decide to compete with either the FSL or Student Organization title. This choice will be in place for the entire week.

2026 Homecoming Forms

All forms this year are going to be submitted electronically. All forms will close on September 24 at 5:00PM. Any applications that are submitted after the closing date will not be eligible for participation.

2026 Homecoming Theme Selection and Entry Form:

This form only needs to be filled out by one member of the organization or partnering organizations.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQs5Lil6LYxZ_N2qcoWrHxgInjOwgFbN4nmiQRO83ng-aXew/viewform?usp=publish-editor

2026 Parade Release and Hold Harmless Agreement:

This form needs to be completed by every member of the organization or partnering organizations that will be on the parade float or walking near the parade float. The only people that will be allowed to participate in the parade are the people that complete the form. This is not the only form that needs to be completed for parade eligibility, make sure that an organization representative fills out the parade application for your student organization as well on TechConnect.

<https://forms.gle/dYdUSGeaA2zCYxBt5>