The parade held during the homecoming celebration of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University is designed to highlight the uniqueness of the institution. Entries must be for the express purpose of enhancing and promoting the university, and must, therefore, comply with the established guidelines.

ALL parade participants must read all information carefully, complete the parade application, sign the Release from Liability Statement and forward application as requested. Ensure all required information is provided, this will ensure that your application is processed as quickly as possible.

**2011 HOMECOMING THEME: BULLDOG SPIRIT, CATCH IT!**

To register for the Parade, go to www.aamu.edu and click on Homecoming Parade entry form. Email your entry form to homecoming.parade@aamu.edu Deadline for entry is 3 Oct 2011

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

1) The AAMU Parade Sub-Committee must receive entry applications by close of business on Monday, 3 October 2011. All applications received by email will be acknowledged with an e-mail or telephonic response on the day/week of receipt. All applications received by fax will be processed immediately but acknowledged responses may take longer. Make sure all FAX applications have a point of contact
with a valid phone number. This will ensure your application is processed in a timely manner.

2) All parade participants are responsible for the safety, operations and conduct of their entry. The parade committee is not responsible for providing vehicles, performing maintenance on vehicles or providing decorations for your entry.

3) Logo or colors into their entries. Exceptions may be made for unique entries with strong visual appeal, at the discretion of the Parade Sub-Committee.

4) All organizations with more than one vehicle in the parade are responsible for linking-up prior to arrival to the parade line-up site, if not, vehicles will not be lined-up together in the parade. If organizations want their vehicles together in the parade, they must arrive together. This also includes Rental Vehicles. Parade organizers are not responsible for trying to link Rental vehicles with organizations.

5) Identification Banners. All parade entries must have a sign or banner that identifies their organization, that incorporates the Homecoming Theme or a sign or Banner that support Alabama A&M University. Off Campus Organizations and Businesses must display signs & banners that reflect their support for Alabama A&M University.

6) Auto users must use magnetic signs for cars/SUVs. Cardboard Signs with Magic Marker Writings will not be allowed. Magnetic signs can be ordered through sign manufacturers. Normally it takes about one week to order and pick-up a Magnetic Sign.

7) All vehicles must be CLEAN and in good running condition. Vehicles must have at a minimum, a magnetic sign to identify the organization and should have additional decorations to show school spirit and incorporate the Homecoming Theme. Vehicles
that are not properly decorated are subject to removal from the parade line-up. This includes vehicles pulling floats.

**PARADE LINE-UP** will be at LOT K, located on the corner of Clinton Ave and Woodson Street, Downtown Huntsville, Alabama.

The Parade Route will start on the corner of Woodson Street & Holmes Ave and proceed East to Monroe St, turn right on Washington St, proceed to Clinton Ave, Turn Right on Clinton Ave and return to LOT K.

![Homecoming Parade Route Map]

**FLOAT GUIDELINES:**

1) **ALL** floats must incorporate an Alabama A&M University theme into their design.

2) To qualify as a float, an entry must be skirted, and all objects on it must be completely decorated in sheeting or its equivalent.

3) No float may exceed 12 1/2 feet in height. All floats should be at least 16 feet in length.

4) Floats must be equipped with a Class "A" fire extinguisher (water).
5) Focus of the float must be on Alabama A&M University, such as "SGA Salutes Council’s Legacy or something similar.

6) Riders will not be allowed to leave their float once their float is put in motion by the parade marshal. Due to safety and liability issues, this rule will be strictly enforced by the Huntsville Police Department.

7) All Organizations are responsible for ensuring proper hitch and pull of the floats.

8) Drivers of tow vehicles must remain with their floats at all times, including while in the line-up area. Each float must have its own driver and own tow vehicle.

9) The AAMU Homecoming Committee sponsors a float competition each year. Trophies will be awarded.

**Bands, Dance Teams and Marching Groups**

1. Band Bus Parking will be allowed at the parade Line-up Site. Band Chaperons are recommended to ride the Band Bus, Parking for Band Chaperons in their personal vehicles is limited. Please help parking situation by minimizing the number of Band Chaperon vehicles.

2. Dance Teams and Marching Groups should link up before arrival to Line-up site. If a dance team has a vehicle along with marchers, they need to ensure that all
personnel and vehicles arrive at the line-up site at the same time. All marching units are responsible for coordination and unity of their personnel, equipment, and vehicles.

3. In accordance with Huntsville City Parade Ordinance, Section 18-101, Title: Special Events, all units including marching bands, dance troupes, and so forth must maintain a forward movement. There are no performance areas along the parade route. Any Marching unit that stops the parade will be asked by Parade Marshalls to move along.

Parade Restrictions and Safety Guidelines

1. **No Motorcycles. Due to local and state safety restrictions, no motorcycles** or Motor Cycle group applications will be accepted for this parade.

2. **No CANDY or any other items** may be thrown or handed out anywhere along the parade route or in the assembly/dispersal areas during the parade. To ensure that children are not running into the parade route, in front of moving vehicles and horses, this rule will be strictly enforced by the Huntsville City Police Department.

3. **No person or persons** will be permitted to ride on top of their car or on the hood. No drivers will be allowed to drive with feet extended out of the window or with their feet on the dashboard. **Drivers will not be allowed to exit their vehicle once parade starts, especially while the vehicle is moving.** Any unsafe act(s) observed by Huntsville City Police may be cause for removal from the parade site.
4. **No Political Campaigning.** AAMU Homecoming Parade is not a platform for addressing public, political or private issues. No political campaigning will be allowed, no distribution of political material, no entries for political reasons will be allowed. All politicians must obtain university officials approval before entrance is granted for the parade. Political leaders/Political organizations that are approved for entry into the parade must address Alabama A&M University themes, and/or acknowledge the celebration of the university’s achievements or unique heritage.

5. **No alcoholic beverages** may be consumed or displayed before or during the parade.

6. **No Stopping the Parade** for personal performances. In accordance with Huntsville City Parade Ordinance, Section 18-101, Title: Special Events, all units including marching bands, dance troupes, and so forth must maintain a forward movement. Units **may not stop** to perform anywhere along the route, there is no performance area or stage for this parade. This ordinance is repeated throughout the guidelines to ensure compliance.

7. Any violations of the stated guidelines could result in the removal from parade, arrest by Huntsville Police Department and the exclusion from future participation in AAMU Homecoming Parades.

**EQUESTRIAN GUIDELINES:**

1) Equestrian units are allowed in the parade; including Horseback Riders and Horse Drawn Carriages.

2) Each Equestrian units must provide their own clean-up crew.

3) Equestrian units must have prior parade experience and verification that the horses are safe and healthy enough to complete the Parade route without medical assistance.

4) Equestrian units will be positioned at the end of the parade that are not equipped with bags.
2011 Homecoming Parade info and Registration form can be found on the A&M University Website at www.aamu.edu

Submit Entry form by email to: homecoming.parade@aamu.edu
Or Fax to 256-372-5637. Contact information: ROTC Department at 256-372-8749

Parade Organization Entry Data

**HOMECOMING THEME: ** BULLDOG SPIRIT, CATCH IT!

Name of Organization: _________________________________

Type of Entry: (car, float, band, etc) _____________________

Number of Participants: ______________________________

**Point of Contact Information: (Name & PHONE)____________

Date – Saturday, 8 October 2011
Time – Line-up is 7:00 am
Parade Starts @ 9:00 am
Staging location - Downtown Huntsville on Clinton Ave and Woodson Street
Deadline for this entry form is Monday, 3 October 2011.

Alabama A&M University Release of Liability Agreement

In consideration of permission to participate in the activity specified above, I hereby covenant not to sue and do release Alabama A&M University, its Board of Trustees, employees, agents and volunteers (hereinafter referred to as Releasees) from any and all liability, claims, demands, and action whatsoever related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or to any property belonging to me, as a result of my participation in this activity, whether caused by the releasees or any other participant in the activity.

I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage, personal injury, including death. That may be sustained by me, as a result of participation in this activity.

IN SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPRESENT THAT I have read the foregoing Release of Liability Agreement, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statement, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made; I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent; and I execute this Release for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

Participant: (print)____________________________________ (Sign)_____________________________

Date:_________________________________________________