

Alabama A&M University



Homecoming Parade Guidelines Booklet

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GENERAL GUIDELINES

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 and **complete the electronic parade application**, including the Release from Liability Agreement. Please ensure all required information is provided as this will ensure that your application is processed appropriately. **Please note that submission of an application does not guarantee a spot in the parade as limited spots are available.**
- **A mandatory parade participant meeting will be hosted in September 2024.**
- Line-up area is in the parking lot of Drake State Community College. Parking for participants will be in the parking lot of Morrison Building and Patton Hall.
- **All parade applicants must register online. No paper forms will be accepted.**
- All off-campus organizations that would like to participate in the parade must register using the online form to participate in the parade. **Organizations may enter cars, trucks & SUVs, marching/walking unit, dance team or marching band. No motorcycles or animals will be allowed.**

- All parade entries must have a professional sign or banner that identifies their organization, that incorporates the Homecoming theme, or that supports Alabama A&M University. Off-campus organizations and businesses that would like to participate must display signs & banners that reflect their support for Alabama A&M University and must be decorated to celebrate Homecoming.
- 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, or for providing decorations.
- All vehicles must be decorated with a sign or Banner. 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 to incorporate the Homecoming theme.

PARADE RESTRICTIONS AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

- **No Motorcycles Entries.** Due to local and state safety restrictions, no motorcycles or motor cycle group applications will be accepted for this parade.
- Individually wrapped CANDY or any other items may be thrown from a moving vehicle, float, or thrown from a marching/walking unit at a reasonably safe distance. To ensure that children are not running into the parade route, in front of moving vehicles, this rule will be strictly enforced by the Huntsville City Police Department and AAMU Police Department.
- Participants may sit on the back of a convertible or on top of a vehicle with a sun-roof as long as their legs are on the inside of the vehicle. 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 or AAMU Police may be cause for removal from the parade site.
- **No Political Campaigning.** All political figures must obtain university 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. The 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.
- No alcoholic beverages may be consumed or displayed before, during, or after the parade.
- 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 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.
- **No animals!** Applications will NOT be accepted for entries with animals!
- No unapproved vending is allowed.
- No entry will be allowed without decorations and signs, and vehicles must be washed and clean.
- **No floats.** Due to the parade being on campus, floats are not allowed. Any violations of the stated guidelines could result in removal from parade, arrest by Huntsville Police Department and the exclusion from future participation in AAMU Homecoming Parades.
- Homecoming Football Game Kickoff is at Louis Crews Stadium.

VEHICLE GUIDELINES FLOATS

- Due to the parade being on campus, no floats are allowed this year.

CARS

- All cars must be decorated with a professional sign identifying their organization and or the Homecoming Theme.
- All signs must be professionally made. Handwritten cardboard signs will not be allowed.
- 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.
- Participants may sit on the back of a convertible or on top of a vehicle with a sun-roof, so long as their legs are on the inside of the vehicle.
- Any unsafe act(s) observed by Huntsville City Police or AAMU Police may be cause for removal from the parade site.

BANDS, DANCE TEAMS AND MARCHING GROUPS

- **All bands must submit their roster with your Release of Liability Agreement Form.**
- Everyone will be directed to the parking area at the **Patton Hall or Morrison Building parking lots.**
- Band members will be directed to the designated line-up area and directed into the flow of the parade.
- All dance teams will line up in the main line-up area as they arrive. Make sure all members & vehicles arrive together as a unit.
- Dance teams & marching units are allowed to have a decorated vehicle as part of their entry. **There is no performance area along the parade route.** Do not stop the parade for a performance and do not create a gap between entries. Dance teams that stop the parade and create a gap in the parade will be asked to move along and may not be invited again.

Parade Line-Up and Route

The 2024 Homecoming parade check in will take place from 6:00a.m.to 7:30a.m. in the parking lot of Drake State Community College. Parking for parade participants will be at the Morrison Building and Patton Hall.

The parade will begin promptly at 8:00a.m.

Route: Lineup will be in the Drake State parking lot. We will turn north on Meridian Street. More details to come.

Contact Information

For additional assistance, please contact us at homecoming.parade@aamu.edu