At some point this past year, you have probably asked yourself, “How on earth is it possible that my child is headed to college?” Surely, you’ve heard it at least a million times from those who punched the parent time clock before you: “It goes by so fast!” And yet, here you are now, wishing you could turn back the hands of time and asking yourself, “Where did the time go?”

Once your son or daughter is immersed in Samford life, they will become accustomed to organizing their day by the clock tower and the carillon bells that chime every 15 minutes. Before you know it, they will be asking the same question: “Where did the time go?” We only have them here at Samford a short time, but even the layout of our campus encourages our students to a greater plan God has for them.

Samford’s bell tower symbol has been used in the school’s primary logo in several forms over the last three decades. It is a symbol of time-honored tradition and scholarly excellence. The symbol is a simplified representation of the bell tower atop the library. The hands on the clock inside the logo are set at 6 and 5 to reflect the verse engraved on the front gates of our beautiful campus taken from Deuteronomy 6:5: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind: and thy neighbor as thyself.”

Time may be a thief, but it can never steal the love you have for your children. Now you are entrusting your sons and daughters to Samford University to teach and guide them over the next four years. Everyone in the Samford community commits to do all within our ability to help them reach their full potential and eternal calling. It is our privilege to partner with you in raising the next generation of Samford women and men.

Alongside...

**JULIE BOYD, DIRECTOR**  
PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS  
JBOYD10@SAMFORD.EDU | 205-726-2375

**TANYA HINDMAN, COORDINATOR**  
PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS  
THINDMA@SAMFORD.EDU | 205-726-4559

PARENTS@SAMFORD.EDU  |  SAMFORD.EDU/PARENTS  |  SAMFORD.CAMPUSES.COM  
Facebook: SAMFORD PARENTS  |  Twitter: @SAMFORDPARENTS
PARENT COMMUNICATION PORTAL

You are invited to join The Samford Parent Communication Portal and activate your account at samford.campusesp.com.

We hope this format of communication between you and Samford University Parent and Family Programs will provide the information you want, strengthen your connection with the university and other Samford families, and equip you with the resources you most need to support your student. After all, you are the most important mentor your student can have through these years!

A personalized news feed — campus news and events information, geared specifically to your interests.

Articles to save or share — articles to save for later or share with friends on your social media accounts.

Regular newsletters — regular emails personalized to your interests delivered on the schedule you choose.

We are excited to connect with you in this way!

SAMFORD.CAMPUSESP.COM

PARENT TIPS FROM ROBERT AND GELAINA ALLEN
Mississippi Parent Chapter Co-chairs

Parent Communication Portal

The Parent Communication Portal allows parents to stay informed about resources on campus, helps them coach and encourage their students, and provides useful advice and conversation starters. Knowing about upcoming events and important dates helps parents check in at critical moments and ensure financial and application deadlines are met. The Parent Portal also keeps parents informed of local events so they can connect with other Samford families in their city or state.

Another way to stay connected to Samford and other parents is through social media. The Samford Parents Facebook and Instagram accounts keep parents in the know of happenings on campus and allow them to communicate with one another.

SEPTEMBER 23-25

General registration opens in late August at samford.edu/parents. Other information will be emailed through the Parent Portal.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Pre-Family Weekend event with Magician and Samford Alumnus, David Garrard

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

1-3 p.m. Open campus
  • Self-guided tours
  • Four open-class options for families to attend together
  • Opportunity to meet deans and faculty
  • Special event for Collegiate Partners

3:30-5 p.m. Pops and Pics with the President and First Lady

5:30 p.m. Vespers

8 p.m. Family worship service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:30-10:30 a.m. Parents Association Annual Meeting
  Continental breakfast, sponsored by the Parents Association

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tailgate on the Quad
  (includes state parent chapter tailgates)

2 p.m. Samford Football

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Worship with your student at a local church.

2 p.m. Hymn Sing in Reid Chapel

VISIT SAMFORD.EDU/PARENTS/FAMILY-WEEKEND FOR UPDATES.
The Samford Parents Association exists to support and encourage the university, our students, and Samford families in very intentional ways. Made up of parents and family members dedicated to seeing our sons and daughters thrive at Samford University, the association is one of the strongest, most vital partnerships at Samford.

Below are a few of the ways your involvement helps fund efforts to connect and support students and their families:

• Parent Communication Portal
• Events during Family Weekend such as Pops with the President and other special programs
• Care packages for Care Team student needs
• Exam week snacks for all students
• Campus-wide student experiences beyond tuition-based programming
• Administration fees for Parent Scholarship Fund
• Family Hospitality Ministry
• Parent Commons amenities

We hope you will register and find your place within the Samford Parents Association—identifying the type of partnership and involvement best suited for your household. Our sons and daughters, and the many students who will come long after them, benefit from our combined efforts. You can count on it.

LARRY AND MERRYANNE WELCH
SAMFORD PARENTS ASSOCIATION CO-CHAIRS

### Parents Association

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your partnership provides the following:</th>
<th>Complimentary Partner</th>
<th>Scholastic Partner—$200 INDIVIDUAL PARTNERSHIP</th>
<th>100% tax-deductible gift</th>
<th>Collegiate Partner—$500 FAMILY PARTNERSHIP</th>
<th>$400 tax-deductible gift</th>
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<td>Parent and Family Calendar, given at Bulldog Days</td>
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<td>Parents Association Annual Breakfast Invitation</td>
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<td>Samford Shop Discount Coupon - 20% off one regular-priced, non-textbook item</td>
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<td>Limited Edition Signature Gift at Joining (Samford University L.L. Bean Boat and Tote Bag)</td>
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<td>Annual Invitation to Collegiate Partner Reception in the President’s Home, hosted by the President and First Lady, during Step Sing Weekend</td>
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<td>Recognition in Framed Listing of Collegiate Partner Supporters in Parent Commons</td>
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<td>Family Weekend Special Event</td>
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* Partnership active while student is an enrolled undergraduate

### STATE AND REGIONAL PARENT CHAPTERS

Within the Parents Association, you will find state and regional parent chapters that provide ways to support students and connect parents locally. Chapters are led by current parents who oversee projects to encourage students throughout the semester; enlist other parents to participate in activities such as coffees, care package packing parties, prayer teams, and note-writing campaigns; and help plan Send Off parties and Family Weekend tailgates.

When you join the Parents Association, you will begin receiving information about chapters closest to you. If you are interested in helping lead local events in your city or state, please contact parents@samford.edu.
As a Samford parent, there are many ways to be involved, including supporting this special place through service and generosity. Here are a few opportunities to serve and support the areas of campus that are meaningful to you and your family.

**SAMFORD PARENTS ASSOCIATION**
All parents are members of the Parents Association, and when you give as a Scholastic or Collegiate Partner, you help provide extra care to our students. Some examples of these are snack bars during exams, special events during Family Weekend, and access to the Parent Portal. This year, your gifts will help fund a major project within Student Affairs. Partners will vote on one of five special project proposals presented during Family Weekend. Be sure to attend the annual Parents Association Meeting to cast your vote and celebrate the winning project.

Volunteer Opportunities: Yes! Contact Tanya Hindman at thindma@samford.edu or 205-726-4559 to learn how you can help. Learn more samford.edu/parents/association

**SAMFORD PARENTS SCHOLARSHIP**
This special fund provides a safety net to students who encounter unforeseen circumstances in their last year that may cause a significant financial burden, such as the loss of a parent. Together, Samford parents have supported nine students in times of crisis.

Volunteer Opportunities: Yes! Contact Rhonda White at rwhite7@samford.edu or 205-726-4371 to learn how you can help. Learn more: samford.edu/parents/giving

**STUDENT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND**
This fund assists students who have unmet financial needs due to a crisis situation. These needs may be related to basic living expenses such as rent, food, and utilities or educational support items such as books, fees or other class supplies. Find out more here: https://www.samford.edu/parents/giving

If you would like to know more about philanthropic opportunities at Samford, please contact Julie Boyd at jboyd10@samford.edu.
THINGS TO DO

- Make sure you have activated your Samford Parent Communication Portal account.
- Make sure your student has added you as an authorized user at samford.edu/go/financialportal.
- Student information is restricted by FERPA. Ask your student to consider adding you to his or her release, so university officials may speak with you about their record.
- Watch for emails to register for Family Weekend (September 23-25) at samford.edu/parents and secure hotel reservations.
- Help your student prepare, health wise:
  - Make a first-aid kit to keep in their car and/or dorm.
  - Make copies of health insurance cards.
  - Make sure your student has set up and completed their Med+Proctor account.
- If your student requires medication, plan to send a month's supply and begin the transfer process to a local Birmingham pharmacy.

MOVE-IN AND CONNECTIONS:

This year, two days have been set aside for new student move-in—Thursday, August 25, and Friday, August 26. For students attending Bulldog Days VI in August, move-in will be Wednesday, August 24. Students will select a day and time to move in. Upperclassmen will choose from move-in appointments on August 21, 22, 23, 27, or 28.

When you arrive on the day of your student's chosen move-in, signage will direct you and volunteers will greet you to help you know where you may offload your student's belongings and then park. There will be plenty of time to do all you need to do. If there are finishing touches not completed by the time you leave, it will be OK! Your student and your student's roommate will want to make the space their own. Remember, the room is theirs and doesn't have to meet your standards by the time you leave!

Speaking of leaving, as soon as your student's room is set up, you will want to say goodbye so your student can jump into an amazing college experience. New students will enjoy Connections, a weekend of activities planned and led by students to help them get acquainted with their classmates, the campus and their new city.

THINGS TO DO

- Enroll in a payment plan, if applicable.
- Remind your student of Greek recruitment deadlines. (samford.edu/ greeklife)
- Encourage your student to get involved in campus ministry groups.
- October brings the new pressures of midterms. Encourage your student to get ahead and make appointments with professors to talk about expectations and assignments.
- Recommend your student has a conversation with their roommate to work out any problem areas before issues arise. Encourage your student to generate his/her own solutions to problems. If help is needed, your student should reach out to his or her Resident Assistant.

PARENT TIPS FROM KEVIN AND JACKI GROSS
Parent Advisory Board

Family Weekend

The first weeks of college are crucial for students to make connections and establish good habits. A premature visit can disrupt the process, but a well-timed visit can help parents and students reconnect. Family Weekend is timed for just such a visit. This weekend is for things that lighten the mood and lift the spirit. A bit of preparation and forethought can help it be so. Manage expectations by talking beforehand with your student to determine what time you'll spend together. Don't expect to spend every waking hour with your student. Your son or daughter now has a life full of activities that affirm how well he or she has adjusted. Plan to express confidence in your student.

PRAYER

Victorious Father, please give my student a spirit of THANKFULNESS and COMPASSION. Thank you for instructing us whatever we do, whether in word or deed, to do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father, and as God's chosen people, holy, and dearly loved, to clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. (Colossians 3:17, 12)

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know studies show first-year students who use the library often have higher GPAs than those who don't.

PRAYER

Faithful Lord, I pray that my student will have clear discernment to choose right over wrong. I pray that he/she will shape opinions and hold fast to what is right in Your sight. Lead my student to trust in You with all his/her heart and not lean on human understanding. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
THINGS TO DO

- Encourage your student to meet with an academic advisor prior to registration for spring semester.
- Make sure student accounts are up to date to be ready for spring semester registration.
- Plan ahead! Make hotel reservations for Step Sing Weekend.
- Are you interested in hosting a Samford international student for Thanksgiving? If so, contact the Office of Global Engagement at geo@samford.edu.

THINGS TO DO

- 2023/2024 FAFSA Available at fafsa.gov
- Samford Football at Furman University
- Study Abroad May Term, Summer and Fall 2023 Applications Open
- Midterm Grades Entry for Undergraduates
- Payment Plan Due Date (Both Fall Plans)
- Account Statement Payment Due Date (Both Fall Plans)
- Account Statement Payment Due Date
- Payment Plan Due Date
- Last Day to Withdraw from a Fall Course or Completely Withdraw from All Fall Courses Without Academic Penalty
- Account Statements Distributed
- Deadline to Submit Pass/Fail Form
- Last Day to Withdraw from a Fall Plan
- Military Institute at Home
- Samford Football vs. Virginia at Home
- Homecoming
- Committee Applications Open
- Student Activity Council

PARENT TIPS FROM STEPHEN AND BELINDA STROUD

Parent Advisory Board

The Midterm Panic

Don’t be surprised when you get a phone call from this month fraught with panic about midterm grades, stress, relationships, emotional well-being and more. Your student is likely to feel everyone else has adjusted well and figured it all out. Not true. Anxiety runs high this month for many first-year students and, consequently, you. Remind your student of these academic resources:

- The Academic Success Center (101 Dwight Beeson Hall) helps students who are struggling with the transition to the college academic load and offers free tutoring in select courses and provides a list of private tutors for others. They also help students set and meet academic goals through individual academic consultations.
- The Communication Resource Center (222 Brooks Hall) offers free help with writing, speaking, critical reading, Cultural Perspectives (CP) and Communication Arts (CA).

Remember I Peter 5:7, “Casting all your anxieties on Him, and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard our hearts and our minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:13,6)

THINGS TO DO

- Put together an exam care package to encourage your student after the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Calendar conversations to have with your student during the Thanksgiving holiday:
  - Study Abroad options during his/her collegiate career
  - Spring Break plans
  - Summer 2023 internships, mission trips, employment, and service opportunities
- Encourage your student to stay active. Campus Rec provides recreational programs and outdoor adventure activities. (samford.edu/campus-recreation)

PARENT TIPS FROM BRANDON AND MEGHAN LEE

Parent Advisory Board

Ways to Plug In

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Remember I Peter 5:7, “Casting all your anxieties on Him, and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard our hearts and our minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:13,6)
DECEMBER 2022

IMPORTANT DATES

1. Lighting of the Way
2. Study Abroad May Term, Summer, and Fall 2023 Applications Close
3. Final Payment Plan Due Date (Both Fall Plans)
4. Account Statement Payment Due Date
5. Last Day of Classes
9. Study Day
10. Account Statements Distributed
12-15. Final Exams
17. Fall Commencement
18. Residence Halls Close for Graduating Seniors at 9 a.m.
19. Final Grades Due
24. Christmas Break

THINGS TO DO

- Talk with your now-independent student about expectations you will have for each other during the holidays.
- During the holiday break, help your student reflect on his/her first semester and assess it honestly.
- Make a year-end tax-deductible gift to the Samford Parents Scholarship Fund.

PARENT TIPS FROM FRITZ AND RHEGA GORDON
Parent Advisory Board

Academic Advising
Academic advising gives your student an opportunity to develop and evaluate the academic plan that will enable him or her to reach academic goals. Advisers guide your student and ensure timely progression toward graduation. However, students have responsibilities related to advising each year. Remind your student to:
- Use resources such as the undergraduate catalog, academic major guides and DegreeWorks to prepare for the advising appointment.
- Communicate with his/her adviser on issues related to academic progress, a change in program, registration for study abroad, internships, courses to be taken at another institution or withdrawal from courses.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know the Samford Parents Scholarship Fund is a way Samford parents help each other? This fund provides for students who are nearing graduation, whose families face sudden financial difficulties, and who might not finish without financial help. Make a gift at samford.edu/parents.

JANUARY 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

3. Initial Spring 2023 Account Statements Distributed
4. Financial Aid Disbursement
7-8. Move In for Spring Semester
9. Spring Term Classes Begin for all Undergraduate Programs
10. University Convocation
13. Step Sing Tickets Go on Sale to the Public at 9 a.m.
13. Last Day to Add or Drop a Spring Course(s)
16. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (University Closed)
17. Spring Four-installment Payment Plan Enrollment Closes
17. Payment Due Date for Spring 2023
19. Enrollment Cancellation for Nonpayment of Spring Charges
26-28. Step Sing

THINGS TO DO

- Purchase tickets to Step Sing this month or livestream a performance and host a watch party.
- Encourage your student to visit the Career Development Center. The CDC will prepare students by offering opportunities and workshops leading up to the job and internship fair next month.
- Ask your student to check his/her email inbox for fall housing information and have a conversation about their plans.
- Remind your student to keep up with Convio credits.

PARENT TIPS FROM ALLAN AND JENNIFER COLYAR
Parent Advisory Board

January is a month packed with LOTS of demands! From a new semester starting to the many Step Sing rehearsals and other activities Samford has to offer, most students will burn the candle at both ends. This is a month when time and health management is crucial! Many students sacrifice sleep and healthy eating practices during this time. Check in with your student often to see how they are doing. Make sure they are eating healthy, getting plenty of sleep, and staying on top of their studies. Should your student get sick, University Health Services, staffed by caring medical professionals, is glad to see them and help them get back on the road to recovery. Should your student need academic assistance, encourage them to contact the Academic Success Center.

PRAYER
Mighty Counselor, please give my student a spirit of DIRECTION and AVAILABILITY. Thank you that whether we turn to the right or the left, You show us the way we should walk. When we hear your voice saying, “Whom shall I send?” help us to respond with, “Me!” (Isaiah 30:21, 6:8)

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know Step Sing is one of Samford’s oldest traditions, dating back to 1951? More than 1,300 Samford students were involved in the last show.
Studying Abroad

Studying abroad is an opportunity of a lifetime and allows students to learn more about academic discipline, a different culture and themselves. It is also an opportunity requiring planning very early in one's college career. Applications for study abroad programs many times must be completed at least a full year ahead of the anticipated study. Students should begin talking with the Global Engagement office and their academic advisers early in order to schedule study abroad. Samford offers study throughout each academic year in London at its property, Daniel House, and in many locations around the world.

DID YOU KNOW
Many Samford leadership positions require extensive interviews? Encourage your student to seek these out, viewing them as professional training opportunities. The more they do, the better they will get!

THINGS TO DO
- Encourage your students to talk with his or her advisor and department chairs about eligibility for department and program scholarships.
- Remind your student of the Fall housing sign-up deadline.
- Advise your student to attend the Job and Internship Fair hosted by Career Development Center.

MARCH 2023

THINGS TO DO
- Talk with your now-independent student about expectations you will have for each other during the holidays.
- During the holiday break, help your student reflect on his/her first semester and assess it honestly.
- Make a year-end tax-deductible gift to the Samford Parents Scholarship Fund.

PARENT TIPS FROM SCOTT AND PAMELA BRADY
AND STEVE AND ANDI HILL
Parent Advisory Board

Making Career and Major Decisions

The Career Development Center (CDC) provides students with a variety of free services, including interest inventories; personality assessments; individual career counseling; a career research library; resume assistance; mock interview opportunities; part-time, internship and full-time job postings and assistance; employer information sessions; career and major expos; and career workshops. The freshman year is the best time for your student to begin connecting with the CDC. The CDC staff welcomes the opportunity to equip freshmen with tools for making major and vocational decisions, setting goals and pursuing personal development. Each class year, your student will enjoy guidance uniquely tailored to their major and year. When graduation comes, your student will be ready for employment!
**THINGS TO DO**

- Volunteer to help the families from your state tailgate together during Fall 2023 Family Weekend. Email your interest to parents@samford.edu.
- Encourage your student to add culture to their college experience by attending a year-end Samford Arts event in Harrison Theatre, the Art Gallery and/or Brock Recital Hall. (samford.edu/arts/events)
- Be an anchor. Actively listen to your student and ask probing questions.

**PARENT TIPS FROM MARC AND PAM HOPPERS**

Parent Advisory Board

Managing Stress

How much stress is too much for your student? All parents face this question. When should we be concerned and what should we watch for in our student?

- Sleep disturbances—getting too little sleep or sleeping too much
- Avoiding social activities—withdrawal from activities or losing motivation to get connected
- Excessive procrastination—missing classes, unnecessarily needing extensions for classwork
- Looming sadness or worry—the inability to shake sadness, complaints like, “I don’t feel like myself”

Listen to your student. Ask open-ended questions. Try to understand their viewpoint and identify the source of stress. Pray with them and for them. Encourage your student to seek advice or help from a faculty or staff member, confide in a pastor or leader in their church community, or reach out to a trusted friend. If you don’t see improvement and your concern grows, encourage your student to contact Samford’s Counseling Center at 205-726-4083 or the campus pastor at 205-726-4538.

**PARENT TIPS FROM RONEL AND LEDONDRIA SAINTVIL**

Parent Advisory Board

Managing Newfound Independence

When returning home for the summer after freshman year, many students and their parents discover new challenges. Your student has been responsible for setting his or her own schedule, deciding how late to stay out, who to hang out with, when to eat and for regularly making similar decisions. You both may find it stressful to determine how he or she will best fit back into home life and relate to you on a daily basis. Keep in mind your student’s newfound freedoms are a good thing! The goal all along has been to raise a responsible adult. You’ve done it! Instead of asking your student to return to his or her high school life, consider shifting new family responsibilities, along with freedoms, to him or her for the summer. Talk about these ahead of time and avoid possible conflicts. Enjoy your maturing student and make it your best summer yet!

**PRAYER**

Mighty Rock, please give my student a spirit of EMPOWERMENT and PEACE. Thank you that the prayers of the righteous are powerful and effective and he has peace whose mind is stayed on you. Help us to have peace in all things as we pray without ceasing. (James 5:16, Isaiah 26:3)

**DID YOU KNOW**

Did you know you can help celebrate the next class of freshmen and their parents by joining the Office of Parent and Family Programs to host Send Off Parties this summer? If you are interested in helping, email parents@samford.edu.

**DID YOU KNOW**

Did you know 97% of undergraduate Samford alumni are working or in further study within six months of graduation?