Insuring Belongings
Whether your student is planning to live on or off campus, renter’s insurance can be a lifesaver. Plans cover personal belongings against fire, theft, or accidental damages. Some plans also include personal liability coverage that would cover your student if he or she (or a pet) causes damage to another person’s property. Texas landlords are only liable for damages to the physical property and not the contents inside. Many students bring or acquire items that can be very expensive to replace when left uninsured. It is important to check your homeowner’s policy to see if these items are covered.

Using Computers
A college education includes computers. Students are not required to bring their own computer, but it can make college life easier. Whether they bring a computer or not, many computer resources are provided at Texas A&M as part of the computer access fee. Computing & Information Services (CIS) provides various support services that can help students with their computing needs.

Students must set up their NetID and official TAMU Email account, and activate their computer resources upon admission or during New Student Conferences. Accounts can be set up at gateway.tamu.edu or at any of the six Open Access Labs on campus. These computer labs also offer access to the Internet, printers, scanners, and popular software applications. Students may also create personal web pages on the web server.

If your Aggie is bringing a computer and living on campus, they can connect their computer to the campus network using an Ethernet connection in their dorm room or use the wireless network available in select public areas on campus. Off-campus Aggies can use computer modems to connect to the Internet and campus resources. Help Desk Central offers 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week assistance by phone at 979.845.8300, email at helpdesk@tamu.edu, or online at http://helpdesk.tamu.edu.

http://cis.tamu.edu/

Purchasing Books
Textbooks are a valuable resource for students. They supplement and enhance classroom instruction, provide a common intellectual platform, are excellent review tools, and often are the key to students obtaining information to pass tests.

The cost of college textbooks can come as a shock to many students whose textbooks were free during high school. If students have never purchased an academic text book, and their book buying experience has been limited to purchasing books for recreational reading, having to buy a $60-100 textbook can be a definite surprise. A student should expect to spend approximately $150 per course for textbooks. Too often, families are not prepared for these costs, so it is important to budget for these purchases, though financial aid and scholarships can help.

Families may wish to provide a credit card or Aggie Card in an amount sufficient to cover this expense so that they do not have to be on location with their student when it is time to purchase books. Textbooks may be reserved during the summer for fall classes. For more information about book reservations visit the MSC Bookstore located in the G. Rollie White Coliseum.

http://www.mscbookstore.com