

RANGER COLLEGE

Student Handbook

2026-2027

The mission of Ranger College is to transform lives and give students the skills to be a positive influence in their communities.

Publication Notice and Institutional Review

FINAL REVIEW DRAFT - 2026-2027. This Ranger College Student Handbook is a student-facing institutional guide prepared for final cross-functional and legal/policy review. It uses the 2025-2026 Ranger College Student Handbook as its foundation and reorganizes content into a more accessible, student-centered format. Board policy, applicable law, the academic catalog, course syllabi, and program-specific requirements remain controlling authorities as described below.

REVIEW	Important approval note Before publication, all policy language, legal references, contact information, web links, office names, dates, and procedures should be reviewed by the appropriate Ranger College officials, legal counsel, human resources, Title IX/Section 504 designees, campus safety leadership, information technology, financial aid, athletics, residence life, and the Board of Regents as applicable.
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Authority and Relationship to Official Policy

The handbook is a living document intended to summarize resources, expectations, student rights and responsibilities, and institutional procedures. In the event of a conflict between this handbook and official Board policy, applicable law, the academic catalog, course syllabus, or a program-specific handbook, the more authoritative source will control unless otherwise stated by the College.

Accessibility Statement

Ranger College is committed to providing accessible information. Students who need this handbook in an alternative format should contact the Vice President of Student Services or Dean of Students.

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Use clickable bookmarks/headings for navigation. The overview below identifies the major handbook sections and their final publication page references.

Bookmarks and page references below reflect the institutionally approved 2026-2027 publication layout.

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Quick Links

Scan the QR codes below or click the links to access frequently used student resources.



Main Website

www.rangercollege.edu/



Student Services

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/



Policies

www.rangercollege.edu/about-us/policies-and-procedures/index.php



Policy Manual

pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/413



Financial Aid

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/financial-aid/



FAFSA

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa



Library

www.rangercollege.edu/library/



Title IX

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/title-ix/



Canvas

rangercollege.instructure.com/



Academic Catalog

www.rangercollege.edu/academic-catalogs/



Student Email

outlook.office.com/



SACSCOC

sacscoc.org/

1. Welcome to Ranger College

Welcome to Ranger College! This Student handbook is designed to help students understand how to access support, participate in campus life, meet academic and behavioral expectations, and make the most of the Ranger College experience.

President's Welcome

At Ranger College, students become part of a learning community committed to success, opportunity, and service. From the first day of enrollment through graduation, the College strives to provide the tools, guidance, and encouragement students need to thrive. Ranger College is a place where students can prepare to transfer, build workforce skills, complete credentials, grow as leaders, and contribute to their communities. Go Rangers!

Vice President of Student Services Welcome

Student Services exists to remove barriers, connect students with resources, build belonging, and support student success. Whether a student needs advising, financial aid guidance, mental health support, disability accommodations, student engagement opportunities, or help navigating a concern, Ranger College is committed to serving students with care, professionalism, and respect.

RANGER TIP	How to use this handbook Start with the Quick Reference sections when you need immediate help. Use the policy chapters when you need to understand expectations, procedures, or your rights and responsibilities. When in doubt, ask Student Services.
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2. Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Ranger Identity

Mission

The mission of Ranger College is to transform lives and give students the skills to be a positive influence in their communities.

Vision

The vision of Ranger College is to be the trusted leader in meeting current and emerging needs for training and education that transforms lives, inspires hope, and builds communities.

Core Values

Value	What It Looks Like in Action
Integrity	We commit to being fair, honest, ethical, transparent, and accountable.
Excellence	We pursue high-quality teaching, programs, services, and continuous improvement.
Community	We cultivate positive relationships, shared experiences, and partnerships that support students and communities.
Unity	We respect one another and work together with purposeful reflection to uphold the College mission.
Leadership	We encourage students, faculty, and staff to lead from where they are and create positive change.

What It Means to Be a Ranger

- Take responsibility for your learning and choices.
- Treat classmates, faculty, staff, visitors, and community members with respect.
- Ask for help early and use available resources.
- Represent Ranger College with integrity on campus, online, in the residence halls, in athletics, and in the community.
- Contribute to a campus culture where everyone can learn, belong, and succeed.

3. The Ranger Student Success Journey

The student experience at Ranger College is a journey. Each stage includes support, expectations, and opportunities to build momentum toward credentials, transfer, employment, or personal goal.

Stage	Student Action	Success Tip
Apply and Connect	Complete admissions steps, activate email, submit documents, and connect with Student Services.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
Orient and Prepare	Complete New Student Orientation, attend Ranger Round-Up when available, learn Canvas, and review campus expectations.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
Advise and Register	Meet with an advisor, select courses, complete placement requirements, and confirm payment or financial aid.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
Engage and Belong	Join activities, connect with faculty and peers, attend events, and use support resources.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
Persist and Recover	Respond to early alerts, use tutoring, meet with advisors, and address academic or personal challenges early.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
Complete and Launch	Apply for graduation, complete program requirements, plan transfer or employment, and stay connected as a Ranger alum.	Ask early. Check email daily. Stay connected.
BELONGING		Caring Campus Ranger College promotes a caring campus culture in which students are welcomed, guided, and supported by faculty and staff throughout their educational journey.

4. Campus Locations, Hours, and Communication

Locations

- Ranger Campus: 1240 College Circle, Ranger, Texas 76470
- Brown County Center: 300 Early Blvd., Early, Texas 76802
- Erath County Center: 1835 W. Lingleville Hwy., Stephenville, Texas 76401

Hours of Operation

Administrative office hours are generally Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Summer hours, holidays, center hours, program schedules, and service availability may vary. Students should verify hours before traveling to campus.

Official Communication

- Students are responsible for checking their Ranger College email and Canvas regularly.
- Faculty and staff may be unable to respond to academic, or student-record matters sent from non-Ranger College email accounts.
- Emergency messages may be sent by text, email, phone, app notification, website posting, or other official channels.

RANGER TIP	Check email daily Missing an official email can result in missed deadlines, financial aid delays, registration issues, academic consequences, or missed safety instructions.
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5. Getting Started Checklist

1. Submit all admissions documents.
2. Activate Ranger College email and Canvas.
3. Complete bacterial meningitis requirement if applicable.
4. Apply for financial aid through FAFSA or make payment arrangements.
5. Submit placement scores or complete TSIA2 assessment if required.
6. Complete New Student Orientation.
7. Meet with an academic advisor to select courses.
8. Register for classes and confirm your schedule.
9. Obtain your student ID and parking permit if applicable.
10. Review this handbook and the academic catalog.
11. Learn how to contact Campus Security, Student Services, IT, Financial Aid, and your instructors.



Student Services

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/



Canvas

rangercollege.instructure.com/



Financial Aid

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/financial-aid/



FAFSA

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa



Academic Catalog

www.rangercollege.edu/academic-catalogs/



Student Email

outlook.office.com/

6. Academic Advising, Registration, and Guided Pathways

Academic advising helps students make informed decisions about programs, courses, transfer plans, degree completion, and career goals. Students should meet with an advisor before registration and whenever they consider changing a major, dropping a course, or withdrawing from the College.

Guided Pathways Approach

- Clarify the path: students understand program requirements and career or transfer outcomes.
- Enter the path: students receive help selecting a pathway and registering for appropriate courses.
- Stay on the path: advisors, faculty, and staff help students monitor progress.
- Complete the path: students prepare for graduation, transfer, employment, or continued education.

Registration Expectations

- Registration includes selecting classes, securing approval of a schedule, and meeting tuition and fee payment obligations.
- Students should register by published deadlines and resolve holds as early as possible.
- Students are responsible for verifying their class schedule, course modality, instructor expectations, and start dates.

7. Assessment, Placement, and Academic Readiness

Testing Centers at Ranger College locations administer placement testing, including the Texas Success Initiative Assessment when required, to determine readiness for college-level coursework. Students should contact the appropriate Testing Center for scheduling, fees, and testing requirements.

QUICK TIP	Placement matters Placement results help determine the most appropriate first courses. Taking the right course at the right time protects time, financial aid, and academic momentum.
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Student Responsibilities

- Submit official transcripts and test scores as required.
- Complete placement testing before enrolling in courses that require placement.
- Discuss test results with an academic advisor.
- Follow developmental education or corequisite requirements when assigned.

8. Faculty Communication and Classroom Expectations

Faculty members provide syllabi, course expectations, office hours, grading policies, attendance expectations, assignment deadlines, and communication procedures. Students are expected to read each syllabus carefully and communicate with faculty professionally.

Communicating with Faculty

- Use Canvas or Ranger College email unless the instructor provides a different official method.
- Include your full name, course, section, and a clear question.
- Allow reasonable response time, especially on weekends, holidays, and breaks.
- Ask for help before a small concern becomes a major problem.

RANGER TIP	Professional communication A respectful email can solve many problems quickly. Start with the course and issue, explain what you have already tried, and ask a specific question.
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9. Library and Learning Resources

The Golemon Library and Learning Resource Center supports students, faculty, staff, and community patrons through print and electronic resources, research support, computer access, study spaces, and academic support services. Brown County and Erath County Centers may provide computer labs and support through Ranger College library staff.

- Research help and library instruction.
- Computers, Wi-Fi, printing/copying, and study spaces.
- Laptop and calculator checkout when available.
- TexShare and online databases accessible to current students.
- Quiet study, collaboration areas, and academic resources.



Library

www.rangercollege.edu/library/

10. Tutoring, Academic Support, and Early Alert

Ranger College encourages students to use tutoring, academic coaching, faculty office hours, and library resources early and often. Academic support is not only for students who are struggling; it is a success strategy for students who want to perform well.

Early Alert

The Early Alert process helps identify students who may benefit from timely support. Alerts may be based on attendance, grades, missing assignments, engagement concerns, or other indicators. When a student receives outreach from an advisor, instructor, coach, or support staff member, the student should respond as soon as possible.

SUCCESS	Respond to outreach An early alert is not a punishment. It is an invitation to connect, solve problems, and stay on track.
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11. Disability Services and Accessibility

Ranger College is committed to equal educational opportunity and reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations should contact the Dean of Students or Associate Vice President of ARC and provide documentation as required by College procedures.

Accommodation Process

QUICK GUIDE	What this means for students
	Students who may need accommodations should begin the process as early as possible. Accommodations are not retroactive unless required by law or institutional determination.

Students are expected to	Ranger College will
Self-identify and request accommodations.	Review requests through an interactive process.
Submit required documentation.	Maintain confidentiality consistent with law and policy.
Communicate accommodation letters to instructors as directed.	Provide reasonable accommodation for qualified students.
Report access concerns promptly.	Support accessible participation in programs and services.

Policy note: Students should not wait until after academic difficulty occurs to request accommodations.

12. Counseling, Mental Health, and Wellness

Ranger College recognizes that personal well-being supports academic success. Counseling and wellness resources may include educational, vocational, personal, social, and crisis support. Students may seek help voluntarily and do not need to wait for a referral.

Counseling Resources

Counseling Services are available to all Ranger College students and provide support for educational, vocational, personal, and social concerns that may affect a student's well-being or academic success. Counselors provide short-term support, crisis intervention, and assistance connecting students with appropriate College and community resources. Students requiring ongoing or specialized mental health treatment may be referred to an appropriate community provider.

Counseling services are voluntary, and students may schedule an appointment without a referral. Counseling sessions are confidential, and information is not released without the student's permission except as permitted or required by law, including circumstances involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of the student or others.

Ranger College is committed to supporting students experiencing emotional distress or a mental health crisis. Students, faculty, and staff who are concerned about a student's well-being are encouraged to contact the AVP of Advising, Recruitment, and Counseling, or the Dean of Students for assistance and referral to appropriate resources.

In an immediate or life-threatening emergency, including situations involving a threat of suicide, self-harm, or harm to others, individuals should call 911 and Campus Security immediately. Counseling Services and the Dean of Students will assist with appropriate follow-up and continued student support following a crisis.

The AVP of Advising, Recruitment, and Counseling is in the Warford Pathways Center and the RC Dean of Students is located in the Golemon Library and provides services and support to students at all Ranger College locations.

CRISIS	In immediate danger Call 911. For suicide or mental health crisis support, call or text 988 for the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.
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- Stress, anxiety, depression, grief, adjustment, homesickness, conflict, and financial stress are common reasons to seek support.
- Confidentiality applies within legal and professional limits.
- Faculty and staff may connect students to resources when they observe concerns.

13. Student Health, Immunizations, and Personal Safety

Good health supports learning. Students are encouraged to complete medical care, vaccinations, and personal health planning before enrollment. Ranger College does not assume responsibility for medical costs incurred by students unless required by law or a specific program arrangement.

Bacterial Meningitis Requirement

Texas law requires certain students at institutions of higher education to provide evidence of bacterial meningitis vaccination or an approved exemption. Students should submit documentation by the required deadline before enrollment or housing as applicable.

Student Health Insurance

Ranger College may make student sickness and accident insurance information available at the student's option and expense. Students should verify current coverage options and requirements, especially for athletics, health programs, internships, clinical placements, or travel.

14. Financial Aid and Financial Success

Financial aid may include grants, loans, work opportunities, scholarships, veterans benefits, institutional aid, and other resources. Students should apply early, monitor email, submit requested documents promptly, and understand satisfactory academic progress requirements.

- Ranger College school code: 003603.
- Students should complete the FAFSA through the official Federal Student Aid website.
- Financial aid is not final until all verification, eligibility, registration, and institutional requirements are satisfied.
- Students are responsible for understanding how drops, withdrawals, grades, repeat courses, and program changes may affect aid.



Financial Aid

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/financial-aid/



FAFSA

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

15. Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid

Federal regulations require students receiving Title IV aid to make satisfactory academic progress toward an eligible degree or certificate. Ranger College reviews academic progress at the end of each payment period according to institutional policy.

SAP Measure	General Expectation	Why It Matters
GPA	Maintain the required cumulative grade point average.	Low GPA can lead to warning, probation, suspension, or loss of aid.
Completion Rate	Successfully complete a required percentage of attempted hours.	Withdrawals, failures, incompletes, and repeated attempts may affect eligibility.
Maximum Time Frame	Complete the program within the allowable number of attempted hours.	Too many attempted hours can exhaust aid eligibility before graduation.
IMPORTANT		Before you drop a course Always talk with Financial Aid and Advising before dropping or withdrawing. One decision can affect aid, housing, athletics, graduation, or transfer timelines.

16. Scholarships, Veterans Benefits, and Special Populations

Scholarships may be awarded through athletics, academic programs, fine arts, service, institutional funds, foundations, or other sources. Students must meet scholarship requirements, maintain good standing, and understand renewal expectations.

Veterans and Military-Affiliated Students

Ranger College is approved for veterans training under applicable educational benefit programs. Students using veterans benefits, Hazlewood benefits, or other military-affiliated resources should work with the College's designated School Certifying Official and the Registrar's Office, in coordination with Financial Aid as needed, to ensure proper documentation, enrollment certification, and timely processing.

QUICK TIP	Military-connected students Submit documents early and report schedule changes immediately. Changes in enrollment can affect benefits, payments, and certification.
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17. Student Engagement and Belonging

Belonging matters. Ranger College students are encouraged to participate in activities, clubs, traditions, service projects, leadership opportunities, and campus events. Engagement helps students build relationships, develop leadership skills, and persist toward their goals.

- Clubs and organizations.
- Leadership development and volunteer opportunities.
- Ranger Round-Up and New Student Orientation.
- Welcome Week and campus traditions.
- Athletic events, arts, intramurals, and social activities as available.

BELONGING	Get connected Students who participate in meaningful campus experiences often build stronger support networks. Attend one event, introduce yourself to one person, and ask about one organization.
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18. Student Activities, Clubs, and Organizations

Student activities are part of the co-curricular learning experience. Activities must have appropriate faculty or staff supervision and must follow College procedures for scheduling, safety, travel, funds, facility use, and conduct.

Starting or Joining a Club

- 1. Identify a purpose aligned with the College mission and student interests.
- 2. Secure a faculty or staff advisor.
- 3. Submit required forms to the Vice President of Student Services or the Dean of Students.
- 4. Follow facility, fundraising, travel, purchasing, and event approval procedures.
- 5. Maintain inclusive membership practices and responsible leadership.

Student Organization Expectations

QUICK GUIDE	What this means for students
	Recognized student organizations represent Ranger College and must operate with integrity, safety, inclusion, and accountability.

Students are expected to	Ranger College will
Follow College policies and event procedures.	Provide procedures for recognition and event approval.
Maintain appropriate supervision.	Support student leadership and campus life.
Use funds responsibly.	Protect safety and institutional resources.
Treat members and guests respectfully.	Address concerns through appropriate conduct processes.

19. Athletics, Student-Athletes, and Name, Image, and Likeness

Athletics play an important role in the Ranger College experience. Student-athletes are students first and are expected to meet academic, behavioral, athletic, residential, team, conference, and College requirements.

Name, Image, and Likeness

Student-athletes may have opportunities related to name, image, and likeness consistent with NJCAA bylaws, state law, institutional policy, and existing institutional partnerships, sponsorships, and agreements. Student-athletes should consult Athletics before entering agreements that may affect eligibility or institutional obligations.

ATHLETICS	Eligibility reminder Academic standing, conduct, financial obligations, transfer requirements, and team expectations can affect participation. Communicate early with coaches, advisors, and Athletics staff.
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20. Campus Security and Personal Responsibility

The Campus Security Office supports the safety of students, employees, visitors, and institutional property. Ranger College also cooperates with local law enforcement and emergency responders. Safety is a shared responsibility.

- Campus Security mobile phone: (254) 631-9097.
- In an emergency, call 911 first.
- Report suspicious activity, safety hazards, broken locks, or threats immediately.
- Carry your student ID and follow directions from College officials and emergency personnel.
- Lock rooms, vehicles, and personal belongings.

SAFETY	See something, say something Timely reporting can prevent harm. Report concerns even if you are unsure whether they are serious.
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Electronic Surveillance and Audio Recording

Ranger College utilizes video surveillance and, in designated public areas, audio recording as part of its efforts to maintain a safe, secure, and welcoming campus environment. Surveillance and recording may be used in common areas, entrances and exits, parking areas, hallways, student activity areas, residence hall common areas, and other locations where such monitoring is permitted by law.

Students, employees, and visitors are advised that video surveillance and, where permitted by applicable law and College policy, audio recording may occur in designated public and monitored areas of College property. Individuals generally should not expect privacy in public areas or locations that are clearly designated for lawful monitoring.

Recordings may be reviewed and used by authorized College personnel for legitimate institutional purposes, including:

- Promoting the safety and security of students, employees, and visitors and protecting College property and facilities.
- Investigating accidents, incidents, complaints, unauthorized access, misconduct, vandalism, theft, or alleged violations of College policy or the Student Code of Conduct.
- Supporting student conduct, campus safety, or other administrative investigations and, when appropriate, helping resolve disputes or determine compliance with College policies and procedures.

Surveillance recordings may be used in investigations, student conduct proceedings, or other administrative actions. Ranger College will administer surveillance and recording practices in accordance with applicable federal and Texas law and will not conduct surveillance or audio recording in areas where individuals have a legally protected expectation of privacy, including restrooms, locker rooms, or other locations where monitoring is prohibited by law.

Access to surveillance and audio recordings is limited to authorized College personnel or other individuals as permitted or required by law. Recordings may be retained, reviewed, or disclosed when necessary for legitimate College purposes, investigations, safety concerns, legal obligations, or other purposes authorized by law.

21. Emergency Preparedness and Notification

Ranger College may use emergency notifications to communicate urgent information about weather, campus safety, fire, utility disruption, closures, active threats, law enforcement activity, health and wellness concerns, or other emergencies. Students and employees should keep contact information current.

Emergency Response Basics

Situation	Immediate Action	Wait For
Fire alarm	Evacuate using the nearest safe exit. Do not use elevators.	All-clear from officials.
Severe weather	Move to designated shelter areas away from windows and large open spaces.	Weather all-clear.
Active threat	Run, hide, fight as appropriate. Lockdown if escape is not safe.	Law enforcement or official all-clear.
Utility outage	Avoid affected areas and follow relocation or closure instructions.	Service restoration updates.
Medical emergency	Call 911 and notify Campus Security or staff.	Emergency responder guidance.

22. Emergency Alerts

The following templates have been adapted for emergency notification systems. Students, faculty, and staff may receive alerts via text message, email, and phone call.

ALERT	Utility Outage A disruption in [power/water/internet] service has been reported at [Campus/Building]. Avoid affected areas if instructed. Classes and services may be modified or relocated. Facilities and service providers are working to restore service. Updates will follow.
ALERT	Fire Evacuation A fire alarm has been activated in [Building]. Evacuate immediately using the nearest safe exit. Do not use elevators. Move away from the building. Do not re-enter until an official all-clear is issued.
ALERT	Cybersecurity Incident Ranger College is investigating a technology security incident. Do not click suspicious links or open unexpected attachments. Follow official IT instructions and report suspicious activity.
ALERT	Law Enforcement Activity Law enforcement activity has been reported near campus. Avoid the affected area, remain alert, and follow instructions from law enforcement and College officials.
ALERT	Delayed Opening Due to inclement weather and hazardous travel conditions, Ranger College will open at [Time]. Use caution and monitor official College channels.
ALERT	Mental Health Resource Notification Support resources are available for students, faculty, and staff. If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call 911. For crisis support, call or text 988.

23. Behavioral Intervention, CARE, and Threat Assessment

Ranger College may use a behavioral intervention, CARE, or threat assessment process to receive reports, assess concerns, coordinate support, and reduce risk. The purpose is to connect students with help, address disruptive or concerning behavior, and promote campus safety.

- Report behavior that suggests a student may be in distress, at risk, or posing a risk to others.
- Reports may involve academic disruption, threats, self-harm concerns, stalking, harassment, severe withdrawal, or alarming behavior.
- The College may coordinate outreach, welfare checks, conduct processes, counseling referrals, safety planning, or emergency response.

CARE	Not sure whether to report? Report the concern. Trained staff can determine the appropriate next step.
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24. Title IX, Sexual Misconduct, and Supportive Measures

Ranger College prohibits sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and retaliation as defined by applicable law and College policy. Students have the right to report concerns, request supportive measures, and receive information about available processes and resources.

Reporting Sexual Misconduct

QUICK GUIDE

What this means for students
Students who experience or witness sexual misconduct are encouraged to seek help and report the concern. Emergency safety needs should be addressed immediately by calling 911.

Students are expected to	Ranger College will
Seek immediate safety and medical care when needed.	Respond promptly and equitably.
Report to the Title IX Coordinator or designated official.	Provide supportive measures when appropriate.
Preserve evidence when possible.	Explain formal and informal resolution options.
Ask about supportive measures and reporting options.	Prohibit retaliation.

Policy note: This section is a summary. Reports and complaints are addressed under the current Ranger College Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Policy and applicable federal and state law. As of this Final Review Draft, the U.S. Department of Education states that the 2024 Title IX regulations were vacated nationwide and the 2020 Title IX regulations remain in effect. The College should verify its official procedures annually; the official policy controls in the event of a conflict.



Title IX

www.rangercollege.edu/student-services/title-ix/

25. Equal Opportunity, Nondiscrimination, and Free Expression

Ranger College is committed to equal opportunity in education and employment. The College does not discriminate on the basis of protected status in educational programs, activities, admissions, or employment as provided by law and policy.

Nondiscrimination

Students who need disability-related accommodations or who have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Vice President of Student Services or Dean of Students. Confidentiality will be maintained consistent with law, policy, and the need to respond.

Expression and Campus Climate

Ranger College supports expressive rights protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the Texas Constitution, and Texas Education Code Section 51.9315. The College may maintain content-neutral and other lawful restrictions and institutional rules consistent with applicable law and Board policy. Students and employees should consult the current Ranger College expressive-activities policy for designated public forums, applicable time/place/manner rules, and procedures.

Texas law governing expressive activities at public institutions of higher education was amended effective September 1, 2025. The current law includes requirements and restrictions addressing, among other matters, designated public forums; amplified sound during class hours; certain expressive activities during the final two weeks of a semester or term; camping or tents; certain identity-concealing conduct; specified flag conduct; expressive activities between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.; and requests for proof of identity and institutional status by an institution official performing an official duty. Students and employees remain entitled to constitutional protections, and the College will administer its rules consistent with applicable law and Board policy.

Because statutory requirements and institutional designations may change, the official Ranger College Board policy and current expressive-activities procedures control over this summary.

COMMUNITY	Respectful community Disagreement can occur without disrespect. Rangers are expected to engage with professionalism, integrity, and care for the learning environment.
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26. Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have rights and responsibilities as members of the Ranger College community. These include the right to fair procedures, access to resources, freedom from unlawful discrimination, and the responsibility to comply with College policies and the law.

Students have the right to	Students are responsible for
A safe and respectful learning environment.	Read and follow the handbook, catalog, syllabus, and policy manual.
Access to academic and student support services.	Attend class and complete academic work honestly.
Reasonable accommodation when qualified and approved.	Use official communication channels.
Fair notice and process in conduct matters.	Respect people, property, facilities, and technology.
Freedom from unlawful discrimination and retaliation.	Report safety concerns and cooperate with investigations.
Access to student records consistent with FERPA.	Meet financial, academic, and administrative deadlines.

27. Student Code of Conduct Overview

The Student Code of Conduct establishes expectations for behavior that supports learning, safety, respect, and institutional integrity. The Code applies on campus, in College facilities, at College-sponsored activities, in residence halls, and in other circumstances within the jurisdiction established by current Board policy and the Student Code of Conduct. Off-campus or online conduct is subject to College action only when the applicable policy authorizes jurisdiction and the College's response is consistent with law, including applicable free-expression protections.

Examples of Misconduct

- Academic dishonesty or cheating.
- Disruption of teaching, learning, activities, or operations.
- Threats, harassment, intimidation, bullying, or retaliation.
- Physical abuse, fighting, or endangering others.
- Alcohol, drug, tobacco, or vaping violations.
- Weapons violations.
- Theft, damage, unauthorized entry, or misuse of property.
- Technology misuse or cybersecurity violations.
- Failure to comply with College officials.
- Violation of residence hall policies, student organization rules, or other College policies.

28. Student Conduct Process

The student conduct process is educational and administrative. It is designed to determine whether a policy violation occurred, address behavior, protect the community, and support student development.

Step	Description
Report received	The College receives a report or observes a possible violation.
Initial review	Appropriate staff determine jurisdiction, safety concerns, and next steps.
Notice	The student receives information about alleged concerns and process expectations.
Meeting or hearing	The student has an opportunity to respond and provide information.
Determination	A decision is made using the applicable standard and policy.
Sanctions or outcomes	Educational, restorative, restrictive, or disciplinary outcomes may be assigned.
Appeal	Appeal options may be available under College policy.
IMPORTANT	Cooperate and communicate Ignoring conduct outreach may result in decisions being made without your participation.

29. Sanctions, Educational Outcomes, and Appeals

Sanctions and outcomes are based on the nature of the violation, impact on others, prior conduct history, student cooperation, safety concerns, and applicable policy. Outcomes may be educational, restorative, restrictive, or disciplinary.

- Warning or reprimand.
- Educational assignments or reflection.
- Restitution, fines, or community service when appropriate.
- No-contact directive or restriction from areas/events.
- Loss of privileges.
- Disciplinary probation.
- Residence hall reassignment, removal, or restriction.
- Suspension or expulsion.
- Referral to law enforcement when appropriate.

Appeals

Appeal rights, deadlines, grounds, and procedures are governed by College policy. Students should read decision letters carefully and submit appeals by the stated deadline.

30. Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence

Academic integrity is essential to learning and credential value. Students are expected to submit their own work, cite sources appropriately, follow course instructions, and ask instructors when expectations are unclear.

Artificial Intelligence Tools

Generative artificial intelligence tools may be allowed, limited, or prohibited depending on the course, assignment, program, or instructor. Students are responsible for following the syllabus and assignment instructions. Using AI to complete work in a way that misrepresents authorship, violates instructions, fabricates sources, or avoids required learning may be treated as academic misconduct.

- Ask before using AI on graded work.
- Document AI assistance when required.
- Verify facts, sources, calculations, and citations.
- Do not upload confidential, protected, or sensitive information into public AI tools.
- Understand that you are responsible for the final submission.

AI GUIDANCE	When in doubt, ask A quick question to your instructor can prevent an academic integrity violation.
-------------	---

31. Attendance, Absences, Drops, and Withdrawal

Attendance and participation are strongly connected to student success. Attendance requirements, make-up work, and participation expectations are described in course syllabi and program-specific policies.

- Students are responsible for attending class, participating in learning activities, and communicating with instructors about absences.
- Students should not assume that stopping attendance automatically drops a course.
- Dropping or withdrawing may affect financial aid, housing, athletics, veterans benefits, international student status, graduation, and transfer.
- Students should meet with academic advising and financial aid before dropping or withdrawing.

32. Grades, Academic Standing, and Graduation

Grades are assigned according to course syllabi and institutional grading policies. Students should monitor grades throughout the semester and seek support early.

Academic Standing

Academic warning, probation, suspension, or recovery procedures are governed by the academic catalog and institutional policy. Students in academic difficulty should meet with advisors and support staff to create a success plan.

Graduation

- Students are responsible for understanding degree requirements.
- Students should complete degree checks with an advisor.
- Students must file intent to graduate or graduation applications by published deadlines.
- Participation in commencement may require additional steps, deadlines, and good standing.

33. Student Records, FERPA, and Transcripts

Student education records are protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and related institutional policies. Students have rights related to access, privacy, amendment requests, and consent to disclosure, subject to legal exceptions.

- Use Ranger College email when communicating about student records.
- Keep address, phone, name, and emergency contact information current.
- Request official transcripts through the approved College process.
- Outstanding financial or administrative obligations may affect certain College services; however, Ranger College releases official transcript credits as required by applicable federal law and College policy. Federal Title IV rules restrict transcript withholding for qualifying payment periods in which applicable institutional charges have been paid or are covered by a current agreement to pay. Students with questions about a transcript hold should contact the Registrar’s or Business Office.

FERPA	Privacy reminder College employees may not be able to discuss student records with parents, spouses, coaches, or others without appropriate authorization or a legal exception.
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34. Technology, Email, Canvas, and Cybersecurity

Technology resources are provided to support instruction, communication, student services, research, and College operations. Users must respect the rights of others, protect accounts, follow license agreements, and comply with law and policy.

Acceptable Technology Use

QUICK GUIDE	What this means for students Students must use College technology responsibly and protect College systems, data, and accounts.
-------------	--

Students are expected to	Ranger College will
Use only assigned accounts.	Provide access to approved resources.
Protect passwords and never share them.	Protect systems and data.
Avoid spam, malware, phishing, harassment, and illegal activity.	Investigate misuse or security incidents.
Report compromised accounts or suspicious activity.	Restrict access when necessary to protect the College.
Use Canvas and email for academic communication.	

Policy note: Technology violations may result in loss of privileges, student conduct action, civil liability, or criminal referral.

35. Cybersecurity and Data Protection

Cybersecurity is a shared responsibility. Students should remain alert for phishing emails, suspicious links, fake login pages, unexpected attachments, impersonation scams, and requests for passwords or personal information.

- Do not click suspicious links or open unexpected attachments.
- Use strong passwords and multifactor authentication when available.
- Log out of public or shared computers.
- Do not share student ID numbers, Social Security numbers, passwords, or financial information.
- Report suspected cybersecurity incidents immediately to IT or the appropriate College office.

CYBER	Think before you click Most cyber incidents begin with a link, attachment, or login request that looks legitimate. Verify before responding.
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36. Social Media and Digital Citizenship

Ranger College recognizes that students communicate in digital spaces. Students are expected to use social media responsibly and understand that online behavior may affect campus safety, learning environments, student organizations, athletics, employment, and community trust.

- Do not harass, threaten, bully, stalk, impersonate, or unlawfully discriminate online.
- Do not post confidential College information or private information about others without authorization.
- Student organizations and athletic teams should follow brand, conduct, and advisor/coach expectations.
- Online conduct may be subject to College action when the applicable Student Code or Board policy authorizes jurisdiction and the conduct is not protected expression, such as true threats, unlawful harassment, or other conduct prohibited by law or policy. Ranger College will apply its rules consistent with First Amendment and Texas-law protections for lawful expression.

37. Campus Facilities, Events, and Solicitation

College facilities are scheduled to support instruction, student services, campus life, community engagement, and approved events. Facility use must be authorized and may require forms, supervision, safety planning, fees, or approvals.

Solicitation and Advertising

Solicitation, sales, advertising, distribution of materials, fundraising, and outside group activities must follow College procedures and receive appropriate approval. Activities should support or not interfere with the College mission, operations, safety, and learning environment.

EVENTS	Event planning Start early. Events may require space approval, staffing, security, food service approval, accessibility planning, travel forms, purchasing approvals, and communications support.
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38. Student ID, Parking, Traffic, and Personal Property

Student identification supports access, safety, and services. Students taking six semester hours or more are expected to have a student ID and carry it on campus. Replacement fees may apply.

Parking and Traffic

- Obtain and properly display required parking permits.
- Follow posted signs, speed limits, and directions from Campus Security or College personnel.
- Do not park in restricted, accessible, loading, grass, sidewalk, driveway, or unsafe areas.
- Pedestrians have the right of way.
- Ranger College is not responsible for loss or damage to vehicles or personal property except as required by law.

39. Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, and Vaping

Ranger College policies and state law prohibit the unlawful use, possession, sale, distribution, or manufacture of alcohol, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia on campus or in connection with College activities. Tobacco and vaping restrictions apply according to College policy.

Substance-Free Campus Expectations

QUICK GUIDE	What this means for students Students are expected to make choices that support health, safety, learning, and compliance with law and policy.
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Students are expected to	Ranger College will
Do not possess or use prohibited substances.	Enforce policy and law.
Do not provide alcohol to minors or use alcohol unlawfully.	Provide education or referrals when appropriate.
Do not smoke or vape where prohibited.	Use disciplinary action when violations occur.
Seek help for substance concerns.	Refer matters to law enforcement when warranted.

Policy note: Specific sanctions and legal penalties are governed by College policy and applicable law.

40. Weapons and Campus Carry

Ranger College is committed to providing a safe environment while respecting rights and responsibilities established by Texas law. Campus carry, weapons restrictions, exclusion zones, required notices, and related enforcement are governed by applicable law and current Ranger College Board policy. This handbook is a summary and does not replace the official campus-carry policy or legally required signage.

- License holders and other persons must comply with all applicable Texas law and Ranger College policy regarding handguns and other weapons on College property.
- Open carry of a handgun is not permitted on the premises of a public institution of higher education under the campus-carry framework; a handgun carried by an authorized license holder on campus must be concealed except as otherwise authorized by law.
- Ranger College may establish lawful rules and designated exclusion areas consistent with Texas Government Code Section 411.2031 and other applicable law. Posted notices and official College policy should be followed.
- Suspected weapons violations or immediate safety concerns should be reported to 911 and Campus Security as appropriate.
- Before carrying a handgun or other weapon on College property, individuals are responsible for reviewing current Texas law, posted notices, and the current Ranger College campus-carry/weapons policy.

LEGAL REVIEW	Final-review reminder Confirm current exclusion areas, Board policy references, and legally required notices with legal/policy counsel and Campus Safety before publication.
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41. Hazing, Bullying, Harassment, and Retaliation

Ranger College prohibits hazing, bullying, harassment, intimidation, and retaliation. These behaviors undermine safety, belonging, and learning and may result in disciplinary action, loss of organization recognition, suspension, expulsion, or referral to law enforcement.

- Hazing can occur in athletics, clubs, residence halls, informal groups, or online. Consent is not a defense when conduct violates policy or law.
- Bullying and harassment may include verbal, physical, written, electronic, or social conduct.
- Retaliation against a person for reporting, participating in a process, or supporting another person is prohibited.

Texas Hazing Law and Reporting

Texas Education Code Section 51.936 applies state hazing law to postsecondary institutions and requires institutions to provide students, no later than the 14th day before the first class day of each fall or spring semester, a summary of the applicable hazing-law provisions and a copy of or electronic link to the institution's hazing report. Ranger College must also maintain the required hazing report in a prominent location on its website.

Students and organizations should review the current Ranger College hazing policy and institutional hazing report. Suspected hazing should be reported promptly to the Dean of Students, Campus Security, or another appropriate College official; call 911 when there is immediate danger. The official policy and Texas law control over this summary.

42. Complaints, Grievances, and Appeals

Ranger College provides processes for students to raise concerns, seek resolution, and appeal certain decisions. Students should begin with the Vice President of Student Services or Dean of Student’s office when possible, unless safety, discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or other special circumstances require a different process.

- 1. Clarify the issue and gather relevant documents.
- 2. Attempt informal resolution with the appropriate person or office when safe and appropriate.
- 3. Submit a written complaint or grievance using the proper procedure by the stated deadline.
- 4. Participate in meetings, provide information, and respond to requests.
- 5. Review the outcome and any appeal rights.

PROCESS	Use the right process Grade appeals, conduct appeals, Title IX matters, disability accommodations, financial aid appeals, and general complaints may have different procedures and deadlines.
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43. Residence Life Overview

Residence halls are living-learning communities. Students who live on campus are expected to respect roommates, neighbors, staff, property, safety expectations, and community standards. Housing is a privilege that may be restricted or removed for violations.

- Read and follow the housing agreement, residence hall policies, and this handbook.
- Keep rooms clean, safe, and respectful of shared living.
- Report maintenance, safety, roommate, or community concerns promptly.
- Follow guest, visitation, quiet hour, curfew, appliance, fire safety, and conduct rules.
- Cooperate with room inspections, emergency procedures, and staff instructions.

44. Residence Hall Community Standards

Room Assignments and Changes

Room assignments are managed by College Dean of Students Office. Students may not change rooms without approval. Room changes may be considered based on availability, conduct, safety, roommate conflict, or institutional need.

Quiet Hours and Courtesy Hours

Students are expected to respect designated quiet hours and maintain reasonable noise levels at all times. Courtesy hours are always in effect because residence halls are shared academic living spaces.

Guests and Visitation

Guest and visitation procedures are established for safety, accountability, privacy, and community expectations. Residents are responsible for their guests and any guest behavior that violates policy.

45. Residence Hall Safety, Inspections, and Conduct

Safety in the residence halls depends on cooperation and personal responsibility. Students must not tamper with safety equipment, block exits, misuse appliances, possess prohibited items, or create fire, health, or security risks.

- Room inspections may occur according to College procedures.
- Damages may result in charges, restitution, conduct action, or loss of housing privileges.
- Keys and access devices must not be shared, duplicated, or misused.
- Outdoor cooking, appliances, and common areas must follow posted and written rules.
- Suspended students or students removed from housing may be restricted from residence hall areas.

SAFETY	Fire safety Never disable smoke detectors, cover sprinklers, overload outlets, or ignore alarms. Fire safety violations may result in immediate housing or conduct action.
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46. Residence Hall Move-In, Move-Out, and What to Bring

Students should follow official move-in and move-out instructions from the Dean of Students Office. Failure to check out properly may result in charges or holds.

Recommended	Generally Prohibited or Restricted
Bedding and towels.	Candles, incense, open flames.
Laundry supplies.	Weapons except as permitted by law and policy.
Personal hygiene items.	Alcohol, drugs, paraphernalia.
School supplies and laptop.	Unauthorized pets.
Approved small appliances if permitted.	Extension cords or overloaded outlets.
Medications and insurance information.	Large appliances unless approved.
Cleaning supplies.	Items that create fire, health, or safety hazards.

47. Dining, Bookstore, and Daily Campus Services

Dining

Great Western Dining hours and meal service schedules are subject to change based on academic calendar, holidays, staffing, events, and campus needs.

All meals served in the cafeteria will follow these hours: (hours subject to change)

Meal	Monday-Thursday	Friday	Weekend
Breakfast	7:00-8:30 AM	7:00-8:30 AM	
Brunch	-	-	12:00-1:00 PM
Lunch	11:30 AM-1:30 PM	12:00-1:00 PM	
Dinner	6:00-7:30 PM	5:30-6:30 PM	5:30-6:30 PM

Bookstore and Course Materials

The bookstore provides textbooks, supplies, and course materials. Ranger College may participate in programs such as IncludedED or similar arrangements that provide course materials through student billing. Students should verify textbook requirements, return rules, and program exclusions each term.

48. International Students, Dual Credit, and Special Programs

Ranger College serves students through a variety of programs, including dual credit, international students, continuing education, workforce education, student-athlete programs, TRIO Student Support Services, Upward Bound, and other specialized support.

- Special programs may have additional eligibility, attendance, conduct, testing, documentation, or progress requirements.
- Students should consult program staff before making schedule, withdrawal, employment, travel, or status changes.
- Dual credit students may be subject to both College expectations and independent school district requirements.
- International students must follow visa, enrollment, address, travel, and reporting requirements.

49. Career, Transfer, and Completion Planning

Students are encouraged to begin career and transfer planning early. The College Designated Transfer Liaison, Academic advisors, faculty, student services staff, and program personnel can help students understand degree plans, transfer pathways, workforce credentials, employment readiness, and graduation requirements.

- Build a semester-by-semester degree plan.
- Research transfer university requirements early.
- Use career assessments, resume support, and interview preparation when available.
- Keep copies of syllabi, transcripts, certificates, and program documents.
- Meet with advisors before changing programs or transferring.

COMPLETION	Finish strong Graduation is not automatic. Complete a degree check, apply by the deadline, and resolve holds before your final term ends.
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50. Student Success Quick Reference

Use this section when you are not sure where to begin.

Need	Start Here
I need help choosing classes	Contact academic advising or Student Services.
I am struggling in class	Contact your instructor, tutoring, advising, or early alert support.
I need counseling or mental health support	Contact any College employee; call/text 988 for crisis support; call 911 for immediate danger.
I forgot my password	Contact IT or use the approved password reset process.
I need financial aid help	Contact Financial Aid and monitor requested documents.
I want to report misconduct	Contact the Dean of Students, Campus Security, Title IX, or appropriate office.
I feel unsafe	Call 911 if urgent; notify Campus Security and College officials.
I need accommodations	Contact academic advising or the Dean of Students office.
I want to join a club	Contact the Vice President of Student Services or the Dean of Students Office.
I need a transcript	Use the official transcript request process. Contact the Registrar's Office for assistance.

Appendix A. Important Contacts and Emergency Numbers

Office/Resource	Contact
Emergency	911
Campus Security	(254) 631-9097
Ranger College Main Number	(254) 647-3234
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	Call or text 988
Student Services	Vice President of Student Services: (254) 433-1211 aarca@rangercollege.edu
Financial Aid	(254) 267-7110 financialaid@rangercollege.edu
IT Help Desk	(254) 267-7077 helpdesk@rangercollege.edu
Title IX Coordinator	Patti Woolam (254) 267-7135 pwoolam@rangercollege.edu
Disability Services	ADA/Disability Services: contact the Dean of Students/ADA Coordinator (254) 647-3234 ext. 7021 glewis@rangercollege.edu

Appendix B. Annual Policy Review Checklist

- Board policy manual links and policy codes.
- Academic catalog alignment.
- Expressive-activities policy alignment with Texas Education Code Section 51.9315, including current Board-designated public forums and statutory restrictions.
- Hazing-law summary, student distribution process, institutional hazing report, and current reporting link required by Texas Education Code Section 51.936.
- Title IX Coordinator, reporting channels, supportive measures, and procedures under the currently effective federal regulations and Texas law.
- Section 504/ADA contact and accommodation process.
- Financial aid dates, SAP details, FAFSA information, and school code.
- Campus carry statutory references, Board policy, exclusion areas, and required notices/signage.
- Residence hall rules, fees, and check-out procedures.
- Dining, bookstore, library, and office hours.
- Technology systems, AI guidance, cybersecurity procedures, and IT contacts.
- Emergency procedures and notification templates.
- Athletics/NJCAA/NIL language.
- Meningitis, public health, telehealth, and counseling providers.
- All phone numbers, names, titles, links, and QR codes.

Appendix C. Emergency Action Quick Cards

ACTION	Active Threat / Lockdown Run if safe. Hide if escape is not safe. Lock and barricade doors if possible. Silence phones. Stay away from windows. Fight only as a last resort. Wait for law enforcement or official all-clear.
ACTION	Tornado / Severe Weather Move to interior shelter areas on the lowest level. Avoid windows, exterior doors, gyms, auditoriums, and large open areas. Remain sheltered until all-clear.
ACTION	Fire Evacuate immediately. Do not use elevators. Pull alarm if needed. Call 911. Move away from the building. Do not re-enter until all-clear.
ACTION	Medical Emergency Call 911. Provide location and nature of emergency. Send someone to meet responders if safe. Do not move the person unless necessary for safety.
ACTION	Hazardous Material / Gas Leak Evacuate or shelter as directed. Avoid the area. Do not use flames or switches if gas is suspected. Follow emergency responder guidance.
ACTION	Cybersecurity Disconnect from suspicious activity if instructed. Report phishing or compromise. Do not forward suspicious emails except as directed by IT.

Appendix D. Student Forms and Processes Index

- Admissions application
- FAFSA
- Financial aid verification documents
- Scholarship applications
- TSIA2 testing request
- Advisor meeting request
- Degree plan or degree audit
- Intent to graduate
- Transcript request
- Student complaint or grievance form
- Title IX report
- Disability accommodation request
- Student organization recognition form
- Facility request
- Travel request
- Housing application or agreement
- Room change request
- Incident report
- Parking permit
- Student ID replacement request

Appendix E. Glossary of Common Terms

Term	Meaning
Academic Advisor	A professional who helps students select courses, understand degree plans, and stay on track.
Canvas	The College learning management system used for course materials and communication.
Credit Hour	A measure of academic credit attached to a course.
Degree Audit	A review of completed and remaining requirements for a credential.
Early Alert	A support process used to connect students with help when academic or engagement concerns arise.
FERPA	Federal law protecting student education records.
Guided Pathways	A student success approach that clarifies, supports, and tracks pathways to completion.
SAP	Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid eligibility.
Syllabus	A course document that explains requirements, policies, assignments, grading, and expectations.
TSIA2	Texas Success Initiative Assessment used for placement when required.

Appendix F. Topic Finder by Section Number

Academic advising, Sec. 6, Sec. 14,
Sec. 49

Academic integrity, Sec. 30

Academic standing, Sec. 32

Accessibility, Sec. 11, Sec. 25

Accommodations, Sec. 11

Active threat, Sec. 21, Appendix C

AI/artificial intelligence, Sec. 30

Alcohol, Sec. 39

Appeals, Sec. 29, Sec. 42

Athletics, Sec. 19

Behavioral intervention, Sec. 23

Belonging, Sec. 17

Bookstore, Sec. 47

Campus carry, Sec. 40

Campus Security, Sec. 20, Appendix A

Canvas, Sec. 8, Sec. 34

CARE Team, Sec. 23

Clubs and organizations, Sec. 18

Code of Conduct, Sec. 27

Complaints, Sec. 42

Counseling, Sec. 12

Cybersecurity, Sec. 22, Sec. 35

Disability services, Sec. 11

Early Alert, Sec. 10

Emergency alerts, Sec. 21, Sec. 22

Equal opportunity, Sec. 25

FAFSA, Sec. 14

FERPA, Sec. 33

Financial aid, Sec. 14, Sec. 15

Fire evacuation, Sec. 21, Appendix C

Graduation, Sec. 32, Sec. 49

Grievances, Sec. 42

Guided Pathways, Sec. 6

Hazing, Sec. 41

Housing, Sec. 43-46

Library, Sec. 9

Mental health, Sec. 12, Sec. 22

Meningitis, Sec. 13

Mission and vision, Sec. 2

NIL, Sec. 19

Nondiscrimination, Sec. 25

Parking, Sec. 38

Residence Life, Sec. 43-46

SAP, Sec. 15

Security cameras, Sec. 20

Sexual misconduct, Sec. 24

Social media, Sec. 36

Student activities, Sec. 17-18

Student ID, 38

Student records, 33

Technology, 34-35

Title IX, 24

Tobacco and vaping, 39

Transfer, 49

Tutoring, 10

Veterans benefits, 16

Weapons, 40

Withdrawal, 31

Appendix G. Source and Review Notes

Primary institutional foundation: Ranger College Student Handbook 2025-2026, including mission, vision, core values, accreditation statement, general information, student services, policies, residence hall policies, and emergency procedures.

Additional official review sources include the current Ranger College Academic Catalog, Ranger College Policy Hub and TASB Policy Manual, SACSCOC information, Federal Student Aid guidance, U.S. Department of Education Title IX resources, Texas statutes and legislative updates, and program-specific handbooks. Final approval should confirm that all links, contacts, policy references, and statutory summaries remain current as of publication.

FINAL REVIEW	Final review status This Final Review Draft should not be published until responsible offices have verified accuracy and institutional approval has been documented.
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Part IV: Department and Student Resource Guides

A practical companion to the official handbook

The following quick guides are intended to help students know where to begin and what questions to ask. The responsible office should confirm each guide during final institutional review and thereafter as part of the College's annual handbook review process.

51. Admissions and Enrollment Guide

Admissions helps students start strong by completing application, residency, transcript, and enrollment steps.

- Apply early and submit all required documents.
- Send official high school, college, or GED transcripts as applicable.
- Resolve holds before registration.
- Use the same legal name consistently across applications and financial aid documents.
- Ask about program-specific admissions requirements.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Enrollment is a process, not a single form. Start early and keep copies of everything.
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52. Registrar and Records Guide

The Registrar supports records, registration, enrollment verification, grades, academic history, and transcripts.

- Verify your schedule before the term begins.
- Know add/drop deadlines and census dates.
- Keep your contact information current.
- Request transcripts through the approved process.
- Review graduation requirements before your final semester.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Do not wait until the last week of the semester to check degree progress.
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53. Business Office and Student Account Guide

The Business Office supports student billing, payments, refunds, payment plans, and account questions.

- Review your account each term.
- Understand tuition, fees, refunds, and payment deadlines.
- Confirm that financial aid or payment arrangements are complete.
- Ask about refund timelines and direct deposit when available.
- Resolve balances promptly to avoid holds.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Registration is not complete until payment, financial aid, or payment arrangements are confirmed.
-------------------	--

54. Financial Aid Success Guide

Financial Aid assists students with grants, loans, work opportunities, scholarships, satisfactory academic progress, and verification.

- Complete the FAFSA early.
- Check email for missing documents.
- Submit verification items quickly.
- Ask before dropping or withdrawing.
- Understand SAP and lifetime aid limits.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Every schedule change can affect aid. Check before you act.
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55. Advising and Pathways Guide

Advisors help students choose courses, understand pathways, and make progress toward completion.

- Meet before registration.
- Bring questions and career or transfer goals.
- Keep a personal copy of your degree plan.
- Ask how each course applies to your program.
- Review progress every semester.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder The right course sequence saves time, money, and stress.
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56. Testing and Placement Guide

Testing supports course placement, program entry, certifications, and academic readiness.

- Schedule testing early.
- Bring required ID.
- Prepare before testing.
- Ask whether scores expire or need to be retaken.
- Discuss results with an advisor.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Placement is designed to put students in courses where they can succeed.
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57. Counseling and Wellness Guide

Counseling and wellness resources help students manage stress, personal challenges, crisis concerns, and well-being.

- Seek support early.
- Use crisis resources when immediate help is needed.
- Ask about community referrals.
- Know confidentiality limits.
- Support friends by connecting them to help.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder You do not have to be in crisis to ask for help.
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58. Disability and Accessibility Guide

Dean of Students coordinates reasonable accommodations and access support.

- Request accommodations early.
- Provide documentation as required.
- Communicate with instructors after accommodations are approved.
- Report barriers promptly.
- Renew or update accommodations when needed.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Accommodations support access; they do not reduce academic standards.
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59. Library and Learning Support Guide

Library and learning resources help students research, study, cite sources, use technology, and access materials.

- Ask for research help.
- Use databases and credible sources.
- Reserve study time.
- Request help with citations.
- Use quiet and collaboration spaces appropriately.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Librarians are academic success partners.
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60. Information Technology Guide

IT resources support student email, Canvas access, passwords, accounts, devices, and cybersecurity.

- Protect passwords.
- Report phishing.
- Use official systems.
- Update recovery information when available.
- Ask for help before deadlines.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Technology problems become academic problems when students wait too long to ask for help.
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61. Campus Safety Guide

Campus safety depends on alert students, clear reporting, and cooperation during emergencies.

- Call 911 for immediate danger.
- Save Campus Security contact information.
- Follow official alerts.
- Report hazards or suspicious activity.
- Keep emergency contacts updated.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Fast reporting saves time and can prevent harm.
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62. Residence Life Support Guide

The Dean of Students Office supports safe, respectful, and academically focused living environments.

- Know quiet hours and guest rules.
- Talk with roommates early about expectations.
- Report maintenance issues.
- Follow fire safety rules.
- Check out properly at move-out.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Good roommate communication prevents many housing concerns.
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63. Student Activities and Leadership Guide

Student activities help students build belonging, leadership, and community.

- Attend events.
- Join or start a club.
- Serve through campus projects.
- Follow event approval procedures.
- Represent the College with integrity.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Belonging is built through participation.
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64. Athletics and Student-Athlete Support Guide

Athletics supports student-athlete development, competition, academic success, and compliance.

- Meet academic expectations.
- Communicate with coaches and advisors.
- Understand eligibility requirements.
- Ask before NIL agreements.
- Represent Ranger College positively.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Student-athletes are students first.
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65. Career and Transfer Guide

Career and transfer planning helps students connect coursework to next steps.

- Research transfer programs early.
- Keep syllabi and course descriptions.
- Build a resume.
- Practice interviews.
- Ask about internships, job fairs, and transfer visits.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Transfer and career success begin in the first semester.
-------------------	---

66. Food, Basic Needs, and Community Resource Guide

Students may experience food insecurity, housing challenges, transportation barriers, or emergency needs.

- Tell a trusted staff member if basic needs are affecting school.
- Ask about food resources or community partners.
- Plan transportation before classes begin.
- Keep emergency contacts current.
- Seek help before missing class or work.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Asking for help is a success strategy.
-------------------	---

67. Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Guide

The conduct process addresses behavior, accountability, safety, and learning.

- Read notices carefully.
- Attend meetings.
- Be honest and respectful.
- Bring relevant information.
- Follow sanctions or outcomes by deadlines.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder The process works best when students participate.
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68. Family and Support Network Guide

Families and supporters can encourage student success while respecting student independence and privacy.

- Encourage students to check email.
- Ask students about deadlines and resources.
- Understand FERPA limits.
- Support help-seeking.
- Promote responsibility and self-advocacy.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder College success grows when students learn to communicate directly with offices and instructors.
-------------------	--

69. Academic Calendar and Semester Planning Guide

Students should plan each semester around academic, financial, personal, and work responsibilities.

- Record registration, payment, census, drop, withdrawal, exam, and graduation deadlines.
- Block time for studying.
- Plan for transportation and childcare.
- Check Canvas each week.
- Schedule advising before registration opens.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder A calendar is one of the simplest retention tools.
-------------------	---

70. Personal Student Success Plan

Students can use this page to identify goals, resources, and next steps.

- My academic goal: _____.
- My career or transfer goal: _____.
- My advisor or support contact: _____.
- One campus activity I will try: _____.
- One resource I will use this semester: _____.
- My plan if I fall behind: _____.

RANGER TIP	Success reminder Write the plan. Share it with someone who can support you. Revisit it monthly.
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