Dear future Javelinas.

By now, you have likely heard about the challenges with the most recent updates to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, application.

The rollout of the new application, which launched on December 31, has caused delays in packaging financial aid offers for millions of students across the country. Last week, we were informed that due to errors in how the new FAFSA application calculates student eligibility, universities will not receive student financial aid application information until at least March. That's more than five months later than we've received the same information in the past.

As things stand now, students can expect to start receiving their financial aid offer from Texas A&M-Kingsville in early May, but please note that this is an evolving situation and could change again. Additionally, some students may still be unable to complete an application and others who have submitted their applications already but may wish to make corrections and will not be able to do so until next month, which may lead to additional processing delays.

I understand that this is confusing and frustrating. It may be causing you and your families additional stress, and for that, I'm sorry. Please know that our Javelina Financial Aid Team is working hard to help each of you navigate this situation.

We care about you, and we are here to help you. You aren't in this alone. I want you to know that applicants will be awarded all the aid they are eligible for. These delays will not affect that, but they mean you'll find out about your financial aid offer later than planned. To further assist you and your family, we're suspending our priority financial aid deadline for new Fall 2024 students to ensure you have more time to complete your application. Please note that you can also apply for additional departmental scholarships by March 1 through Scholarship Universe by clicking <a href="here">here</a>. You do not need to have submitted a FAFSA by March 1 to apply for these scholarships.

Our team is keeping you informed of the latest updates at <a href="tamuk.edu/fafsa24">tamuk.edu/fafsa24</a>. There you will soon be able to find a self-service financial aid estimator that may provide valuable insight into what type of aid you may be eligible for. I encourage you to check the site often. In the meantime, if you have questions or need help applying for FAFSA—our financial aid team is ready to help. You can connect with them by calling 361-593-5372 during normal business hours. We have also partnered with Trellis-Project Success to provide you with FAFSA completion help at 1-877-845-9883.

In Javelina Nation, we're family, and we're in this together.