

GEORGETOWN AREA PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION

Guide to Sorority Recruitment

Joining a sorority means joining a long, rich history of organizations that provided support to women at male dominated campuses of higher education. Many women felt it was in their best interest to band together. They possessed the unshakable belief in the power of women's friendship.

While NPC sororities have varying creeds and mottos, they are united in striving to provide members with friendship, opportunities for personal development and fun. Sororities offer members the opportunity to be well-rounded individuals by supporting what is learned in the classroom with relevant life skills.

Georgetown Area Panhellenic: Our Role

Welcome to the Georgetown Area Panhellenic Association, located in Georgetown, Texas! We are an organized group of alumnae of the National Panhellenic Conference organization. Our mission is to promote the benefits of sororities while serving our community and bonding with area panhellenic members through social activities. We serve young college women interested in learning more about and joining sorority life.

Greek Vocabulary

Active Member – A collegiate, initiated member of a sorority chapter.

Bid - An invitation to join a sorority.

Legacy - A daughter, sister, granddaughter or family member of an initiated member of a sorority. Each NPC member organization has its own definition of and invitation policies.

Mutual Selection Process - Part of the recruitment process where a chapter is evaluating the potential new member and the potential new member is evaluating the chapter

Potential New Member (PNM) – That's YOU - A woman who is eligible to participate in recruitment

Preference - The final round of recruitment, usually more formal than the previous rounds.

Recruitment – A structured series of events that occur over a period of a few days to provide opportunities for PNMs and Active Members to get to know one another

Recommendation/Reference – A form completed by an alumna of a sorority recommending a PNM for membership.

Recruitment Counselor - A Panhellenic representative who is available to guide women through the recruitment process and answer questions.

Rho Chi – A recruitment counselor who serves as a guide/advisor/team leader to PNMs during formal recruitment.

Round - A day or days during recruitment when a potential new member visits a specific number of chapters. These typically have themed names or may be referred to by how many chapters are visited.

Sorority Recruitment 3-Step Process

Step 1: Register with the Collegiate Panhellenic Office on your campus. There is a deadline and a registration fee.

Step 2: Prepare your recruitment packets (See below).

Step 3: Contact sorority alumnae or Georgetown Panhellenic Key Women to obtain recommendations and/or letters of support for each sorority at your college. Please have recruitment packets to them by June 15th.

Recruitment Packet

Many sororities are now using online recommendation forms. You should have your recruitment packet available in both electronic format and hard copy. Your packet should include:

- Social Resume (Sample below)
- High School Transcript (include college transcript if college courses have been taken)
- Copy of SAT/ACT Scores
- 2 Photos (1 headshot and one full body)
 - Photos should be recent, recognizable, and good quality
 - They do not need to be taken by a professional
 - Avoid using a selfie or group photo
 - Photos are used by the active members to recognize a PNM during recruitment
- Stamped and addressed envelope (if using hard copy)

Recommendations (REQUIRED by most sororities)

A sorority recommendation (Rec) is a form completed by a sorority alumna recommending a potential new member to the sorority the potential new member wishes to join.

1. You are responsible for acquiring the necessary Recs.

2. Ask women who know you. These women will be able to write more personal details about you.
3. As a last resort, contact Georgetown Key Women.
4. Ask all Rec writers how they would like for you to send your recruitment packet (i.e. would they prefer to have electronic or hard copies of each of these items?)
5. Potential new members and parents should not contact the sorority directly. The only contact regarding the recommendation should be between the chapter and the alumna who is preparing the Rec.
6. Know your school deadline for Recs. We have set a June 15 deadline, but some schools are earlier. Know when your letters are due.
7. Get to know your Rec writers. The more personal the information, the better.

Letter of Support (Not Required)

Letters of support are additional letters from alumnae who know you. If you have access to and know alumnae, additional letters are a bonus.

1. Most sororities suggest including 1-2 letters of support if you have them.
2. These letters should be sent directly to the chapter by the person writing them.
3. Chapter addresses can be found on the college website.
4. DO NOT worry if you have no additional letters of support. These are OPTIONAL.

Recruitment Tips

1. START EARLY... Because girls are gone for the summer, consider getting on the radar early. Know your deadlines so you can have your materials sent on time.
2. STAY ORGANIZED...with your packets, Rec letters, and materials. Using a tracking sheet can help you make the process easier.
3. CONTACT REC WRITERS NOW...start the process by making sure you will have all the Recs you need. Remember our three-step process.
4. WRITE THANK YOU CARDS...to those helping you through the recruitment process.
5. KEEP AN OPEN MIND... throughout the summer. Avoid expressing your opinions about specific sororities. You never know who is listening! Also, don't wear sorority shirts from now until your bid day.
6. CLEAN UP YOUR SOCIAL...because you want to make the best first impression possible! Make sure you have not embarrassing or inappropriate pictures, posts or connections on your

social media accounts. Avoid posting picture with you and other active sorority members. This would break silence rules.

7. TELL YOUR FRIENDS...your intentions to participate in recruitment. Before silence rules begin, let active sorority members know you are excited about recruitment in the fall. If they know your intentions, they can begin to advocate for you.
8. BE PREPARED FOR THE FINANCIAL...responsibility of sorority life. Member dues pay for sororities. Be sure to understand your financial responsibility before you agree to pledge a sorority. If your parents contribute to college financially, discuss the financials with them as well.
9. KNOW WHY...you want to join a sorority. Keep your priorities and interests clear.
10. PRACTICE SMALL TALK...throughout the summer. Recruitment parties are full of opportunities to engage in small talk. Read fun stories, find interesting topics, and practice the art of conversation.

During Recruitment Week

1. WHAT TO WEAR...
 - Though not everyone's fashion sense is the same, your attire at recruitment is part of your first impression. As you think about what you'll wear for each round, remember to present yourself appropriately in each situation.
 - Each campus outlines recommended attire for each round of recruitment. Review materials provided to you by the College Panhellenic; it will be very helpful. In general, each round becomes progressively dressier.
 - Remember comfort is important – be comfortable in what you wear so your personality is what stands out. Also be mindful you may be walking A LOT. Make sure that your shoes are comfortable enough to go from one chapter/event facility to another.
2. KEEP AN OPEN MIND...

Try not to develop pre-conceived notions of chapters before meeting their members. Recruitment is about your experience meeting the chapters and finding your home. Keep in mind what you are looking for might be different than what your friends are looking for - there are different chapters for different people, so focus on the best fit for you! Don't let others decide for you what feels right to you.
3. BE POLITE...

You may get asked the same question by 10 different people, you may be tired and your feet may hurt, but be sure to be polite to whomever you speak with at all the chapters you visit.

4. TAKE NOTES...

It's good to take notes after each event. This way you won't get confused about chapters after long days. Jot down the top three things you liked or didn't like and maybe a hint about the people you spoke with.

5. STAY HYDRATED...

Recruitment week is long. Remember to drink water and stay hydrated.

6. GET SOME SLEEP...

Probably most important of all is to make sure you get plenty of rest each night. It's hard to put your best foot forward when you're tired or sick, and getting sleep is the best way to prevent this.

7. APPRECIATE RHO CHI...

These women will guide you and help you during recruitment week. Ask questions and seek their advice! They cannot mention sororities directly, but they are there to help you.

8. BE YOURSELF... Along with being confident, be comfortable with who you are and show the chapters your individual personality. Be authentic in your interactions with chapter members because trying to act like someone you aren't will not help you decide if you are a good fit for them, nor will it give them an accurate portrayal of who you are. Think about your purpose for joining a sorority and what you are looking to accomplish in college. The more clarity you have around what you are looking for, the more likely you are to make the best possible decision in the recruitment process.

Sally May Sorority

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University: Texas University Dorm: Frosh Hall

**GEORGETOWN RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL: 2016 DOB: 03-15-98 AGE: 18
GPA: 4.3 (5.0 scale) RANK: 95/405 TOP QUARTER SAT: 1180**

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES/LEADERSHIP/HONORS

Senior Spirit Days Coordinator, 2015-2016

Varsity Volleyball Captain, Fall 2015

Varsity Volleyball, 2 years, 2014-2015

Student Council Treasurer, 2 years, 2014-2016

Young Life, 2 years, 2014-2016

Class President, 2012-2013

Spanish Club Member, 4 years, 2012-2016

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 4 years, 2012-2016

Mu Alpha Theta, 3 years, 2013-2016

ACADEMIC AWARDS

UIL Academic All-District Athlete, 4 years, 2012-2015

GRHS Academic Recognition, 4 years, 2012-2016

Mayor's Citizen of the Month, November 2015

National Honor Society, 2 years, 2014-2016

Distinguished Math Scholar, 3 years, 2013-2016

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Study Abroad, Barcelona Spain, Summer 2015

First Christ Church Member

Club Volleyball, 4 years, 2012-2016

Summer Camp Counselor, 2 years, 2014-2016

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Goodwill Donation Center Stocker (96 hours)

First Christ Church Nursery (192 hours)

Adopt-A-Highway, 2 years, 2014-2016

Project Graduation (32 hours)

Blue Santa, 4 years, 2012-2015

FAMILY

Parents: Mary and Robert Sorority

Occupations: Veterinarian and Engineer

Sorority Affiliation: Mother, KAΘ;

Sister, XΩ

EMPLOYMENT

Nanny, (Smith Family), 2 years, 2014-2016

Math Tutor, 2 years, 2014-2015