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What is Panhellenic?

The College Panhellenic Council (CPC) at Texas A&M University-Commerce is comprised of four of the twenty-six National Panhellenic Conference sororities: Alpha Phi, Chi Omega, Gamma Phi Beta, and Kappa Delta. CPC serves as the governing body of the National Panhellenic Conference sororities on our campus.

During the semester the Panhellenic Council meets weekly, with each chapter sending two delegates and the Executive Board leading the meetings. A combination of members from each of the four sororities fills the five positions on the Panhellenic Executive Board. Opportunities for campus involvement, leadership and service are presented during each weeks meeting, and upcoming events in the chapters, on campus and in the fraternity and sorority community are discussed. The Panhellenic community as a whole excels in academics, campus involvement, community service and sisterhood.

Panhellenic Executive Board members are active sorority members who are elected to serve for one year in their roles. Each member of Panhellenic Exec disaffiliates from their chapter for the purpose of unbiased leadership. Additionally, they serve as the "staff" behind the scenes to help recruitment run smoothly.































Letter from the Panhellenic President



Welcome to Texas A&M University-Commerce! During your time here you will find that the sorority women are well-rounded individuals who excel in academics, campus involvement, and community service. We are very proud of our Fraternity and Sorority life community and we hope that you will take that first step to embracing the adventure.

Remember to keep an open mind during the formal recruitment process, as each of the four sororities have something unique to offer. You are going to meet many outstanding women and make countless new friends along the way. We hope by the end of the journey we can help you find a new home on our campus.

If you have any questions about Fraternity and Sorority Life or fall formal recruitment, please do not hesitate to ask. Any

member of our Panhellenic Executive Council or our Rho Gammas (Recruitment Guides) will be happy to speak with you and answer any questions you might have. We look forward to seeing you in August! Best wishes, and go Lions!

Courtney

Letter from the Panhellenic VP of Recruitment

Welcome to your first glimpse of the Panhellenic community at Texas A&M University-Commerce. We are extremely excited that you have decided to participate in the formal recruitment process this semester; we can't wait to guide you through the whole thing. Soak up the experience, it's a once in a lifetime feeling.

Our four diverse chapters have a lot to offer in the areas of leadership and sisterhood. No matter where you end up, the Panhellenic community is a great place to be. The Rho Gammas are ready to help guide you and answer any questions you may have during the process.

Joining a sorority is a commitment and can offer friendships that will last a lifetime. The most important things to

remember during recruitment are to be yourself, have fun and keep an open mind. Join us in the adventure; make sure you sign up for recruitment!





Letter From Fraternity & Sorority Life

Welcome to Texas A&M University-Commerce!

On behalf of the Fraternity & Sorority Life community, we are excited that you have not only chosen to spend the next four years at A&M-Commerce, but are also considering becoming a part of the fraternity and sorority community.

Fraternity & Sorority Life at A&M-Commerce is over 50 years old, with a rich history of involvement on campus; fraternities and sororities have been an integral part of the Lion student experience, and you will find that our members strive to uphold the values of what it means to be Greek. They also strive for excellence in academics, campus involvement and community service. Many of our chapters are recognized annually for their efforts in programming, academics, philanthropy and intramurals.



Fraternity and Sorority Life, which is comprised of two full-time professional staff members, is located in the Rayburn Student Center and provides oversight and guidance to the 18 fraternities and sororities at A&M-Commerce. More significantly, the office serves as a liaison between faculty, alumni advisors, national offices and families; develops value-based leadership development programming and provides training in areas of increased importance; monitors the academic performance of fraternity and sorority members; and recognizes the positive achievements and contributions of community members.

If you have questions about Greek Life or Recruitment, please do not hesitate to contact us at 903.886.5984. Again, congratulations on your decision to attend Texas A&M University-Commerce, and we look forward to seeing you at Orientation and on campus in August!

Sincerely,

M. Spencer Hudec & Dr. Z. Evan Shirley



Megan Touchstone Alpha Phi President

Kara Wood Chi Omega President Courtney
Panhellenic
President

Robyn Eichorn Gamma Phi Beta President Taelor Duckworth Kappa Delta President

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I need to go to all of the events listed in the recruitment schedule?

A: Yes! The object of recruitment is for you to learn as much as you can about the Texas A&M University-Commerce Panhellenic community, so that you can make the best possible decision. If you intentionally miss events, you could be released from recruitment.

Q: Will all potential new members pledge a sorority at the end of recruitment?

A: Recruitment is a process of mutual selection, and as such, there are many different outcomes to this process. You are not guaranteed to be asked to join a sorority, and you are not obligated to join one. It is possible to go through recruitment and not pledge a sorority at the conclusion of the process.

Q: If I go through recruitment, am I obligated to join?

A: No. Recruitment is an opportunity to explore Greek life and to see if it is right for you.

Q: I am a legacy to a sorority. Is there anything I should know?

A: Each potential new member is considered on an individual basis. Legacies are not obligated to join the sorority that their family member joined and likewise, chapters are not required to extend a bid to a legacy. Sororities are considering mutual compatibility, not necessarily a family connection.

Q: What if I'm an upperclassman/transfer?

A: Upperclass and Transfer students are welcomed and encouraged to go through the process of recruitment!

Q: What if I only want to be in a certain sorority?

A: Only wanting to be in one or a few sororities limits a potential new member's options for membership and can lead to disappointment. Don't make a decision based on stereotypes or others' opinions. We encourage you to keep an open mind and make a decision that is right for you.

Recruitment Schedule

Information Night | Wednesday, September 3 8:00 PM | RSC Conference Rooms A & B

House Night | Thursday, September 4 5:30 PM | Ferguson Auditorium

Philanthropy Night | Friday, September 5 5:30 PM | Ferguson Auditorium

Preference Night | Saturday, September 6 5:30 PM | Ferguson Auditorium

Bid Day | Sunday, September 7 11:00 AM | RSC Pride Room



























Rho Gammas



Formal recruitment is a once in a lifetime experience and extremely memorable, but it can be confusing or even emotional sometimes. To help guide you through the week of events are women called Rho Gammas.

Rho Gamma means "Recruitment Guide." These women are undergraduate active members of the four Panhellenic sororities on our campus. They have disaffiliated themselves from their respective chapters for formal recruitment to help you through the process in an unbiased way. These women were selected because we know they are helpful, supportive, and enthusiastic about Panhellenic Recruitment.

They have been through training to prepare them for this week and educate them on the other organizations and how to answer your questions. They will serve as an impartial listener, recruitment guide and as a confidant. Don't be afraid to talk to them or ask questions. Make sure to utilize them and get to know them because they are anxious to get to know your personalities and help you!





Life as a New Member!

As a sorority woman at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you are a student first. Each sorority has programs and requirements for scholastic achievement intended to provide women with academic support. Philanthropy and service are important to our organizations. Sorority women participate in a variety of programs on and off campus to support not only their philanthropy, but other worthy causes. The sororities meet as individual chapters on a weekly basis and provide a delegate for the weekly Panhellenic Council meetings. The fall semester has a variety of on campus programs in which fraternity and sorority members participate, with a highlight being the annual Homecoming Week. The spring semester features Greek Week, a variety of events intended to bring all four greek councils together.

Members are encouraged to participate in other student organizations and leadership opportunities on campus including: Intramurals, Freshman Leadership Class, Leadership Without Limits, Campus Activities Board and Student Government.

















Recruitment Attire



Information Night | Wednesday, September 3

The first night of recruitment will introduce Potential New Members (PNMs) to the Panhellenic Executive Board and Rho Gammas (Recruitment Guides). The purpose of this evening is to provide more information regarding the obligations for joining a Panhellenic sorority on our campus and the detailed breakdown of the formal recruitment schedule.

This night is for you to get the general overview of our Panhellenic community.

Attire: Casual. Wear an outfit you would wear to class, nothing too fancy is required. *No Active Chapter Members participating in Recruitment will be in attendance.

House Night | Thursday, September 4

The second night of recruitment will be the first formal interaction between potential new members and the chapter members. You will attend 30 minute sessions at each of the sorority houses with their assigned recruitment groups. You will be welcomed at each house with smiling faces and door songs. Be sure to ask questions of the members you meet and tell them a little about yourself also. The most important thing to remember is to have fun and be you!

Attire: "Embrace the Adventure" t-shirt (provided on info night) and your choice of bottoms.



Philanthropy Night | Friday, September 5

The third night of recruitment is the first round of invitation only events. You may have the opportunity to visit up to three sorority events for 45 minutes each. Philanthropy night is an opportunity for the sororities to share all about their respective philanthropies, whether those are local or national. Philanthropy is extremely important to the community service aspect of each sorority. During this fun night, potential new members get to learn about each chapter's philanthropy and what it means them.

Attire: Nice Casual/Business Casual. This night is dressier than House Night. As pictured by the Rho Gammas, a dress, cute skirt or dress pants with a top are all appropriate options.

Recruitment Attire Cont.

Preference Night | Saturday, September 6

Preference Night is the final round of recruitment. You may attend 60 minute parties for up to two sororities. An invitation to a preference party means that the sorority is interested in you as a potential member of their organization. On this night you will need to consider what you are looking for in a sorority and it will be the last opportunity to ask the chapter members questions.

There will be a lot of one-on-one time with a member and they may share their personal story about why they joined their sorority or what it means to them. Be sure to think about and discuss your values and how they might align with the sorority. At the end of the night, you will fill out your preference card.

Attire: Dressy. Appropriate length dresses, comfortable shoes. This night is the most formal of recruitment, so the attire should reflect the seriousness of the occasion.





Bid Day | Sunday, September 7

On this day you may receive a bid card from the Rho Gammas or executive council. Once everyone has their bid cards you will all open them and discover which sorority has invited you into their home as a member of their chapter! Then you will have the chance to announce your affiliation to the Texas A&M University-Commerce Fraternity and Sorority Life Community. After this extremely exciting announcement, the sororities will disperse to start with their Bid day activities with their new sisters.

Attire: Casual. This day is relaxed and celebratory. Shorts and a T-shirt are ideal, as chapters will provide new members with a shirt to wear.

























PNM Bill of Rights:

- The right to be treated as an individual
- The right to be fully informed about the recruitment process
- The right to ask questions and receive true and objective answers from recruitment counselors and members
- The right to be treated with respect
- The right to be treated as a capable and mature person without being patronized
- The right to ask how and why and receive straight answers
- The right to have and express opinions to recruitment counselors
- The right to have inviolable confidentiality when sharing information with recruitment counselors
- The right to make informed choices without undue pressure from others
- The right to be fully informed about the binding agreements implicit in the membership acceptance signing
- The right to make one's own choice and decision and accept full responsibility for the results of that decision
- The right to have a positive, safe and enriching recruitment and new member experience

Summer DOs and DON'Ts

- No contact between sorority members and potential new members after April 30. Examples: Phone Calls, Texting, Emails, Letters and all Social Media (i.e., Twitter, Facebook & Instagram), etc.
- Normal contact (work, hometown phone number) can occur, but conversations should be limited to benefits of participating in recruitment as a whole, not specific to any one organization.
- Sororities cannot have gatherings that include potential new members after April 30. Examples: Teas, parties, trips.
- Potential new members cannot stay with sorority members or talk to them outside of orientations.

Example: Spending the night at a member's house, eating dinner or attending social activities together.





Financial and Housing Expectations

	Alpha Phi	Chi Omega	Gamma Phi Beta	Kappa Delta		
New Member Cost	\$370 - \$720					
Active Member Cost	\$416 - \$540					
Payment Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		

Things to Know

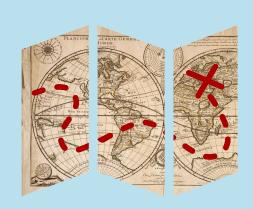
- Your first semester as a new member will be more expensive as there are one-time fees which may include: new member fees, initiation fees, badge fees
- Each organization's fees & dues cover different items, programs and events. Be sure to ask what is included in the fees if you are concerned.

	Alpha Phi	Chi Omega	Gamma Phi Beta	Kappa Delta
Housing Requirement	Active Membership unless exempt. All Exec Officers.	Active Membership 6 Semesters	Active Membership	Active Membership 4 Semesters
Out of House Fee	\$100 one-time fee	\$50 (Case by Case)/ each semester out of house	\$150/semester Approval (Case by Case)	\$250 one-time Fee, If Approved

Each sorority has exceptions to the housing requirement, these may include:

 Honors College, Regents Scholar, Freshmen Leadership Class, Collegiate Athletes, Resident Assistants, Sophomore Year Experience, Commuters living at home, etc

This list is not exhaustive. Be sure to ask about the housing requirement if you have concerns





Greek Speak

Active: A sorority member who has been formally initiated by a chapter.

Alumni: Initiated members who are no longer active members of a collegiate chapter.

New Member: A woman who has accepted her bid to a sorority, but is not yet initiated.

Bid: A formal invitation to join a sorority or fraternity.

Chapter: A membership group representing a national or international fraternity.

Formal Recruitment: A designated membership recruitment period during which a series of organized events are held by each NPC sorority.

Legacy: A potential new member whose mother or sister is an alumna of, or active member, in a particular sorority.

NPC: National Panhellenic Conference.

NPHC: National Pan-Hellenic Council, a council composed of the nine historically black Greek-letter organizations – we have 4 fraternities and 3 sororities.

Philanthropy: A national and/or local charity that a sorority sponsors, donating time and money through service in order to promote human welfare.

Continuous Open Recruitment "COR": The period in which any group not meeting quota or being at total may offer a bid. This is held after formal recruitment. Some chapters refer to this as Continuous Open Recruitment or COR.

Potential New Member (PNM): Any woman who is eligible to participate in formal or informal recruitment.

Quota: The number of women a sorority may pledge during formal or informal recruitment.

MGC: The Multicultural Greek Council at TAMUC is composed of the one fraternity and one sorority.

A – Alpha

B – Beta

Γ – Gamma

 Δ – Delta

E – Epsilon

Z – Zeta

H – Eta

 Θ – Theta

I – Iota

K – Kappa

Λ – Lambda

M - Mu

N - Nu

 $\Xi - Xi$

O – Omicron

 $\Pi - Pi$

P - Rho

 Σ – Sigma

T- Tau

Y – Upsilon

Φ – Phi

X – Chi

Ψ - Psi

 Ω - Omega







<u>AΦ</u> - Alpha Phi

Founded: 1872; Syracuse University in New York

Philanthropy: Alpha Phi Foundation benefiting Women's Heart

Health Research

Colors: Silver and Bordeaux

Symbols: Ivy Leaf and Phi Bear

Flower: Lily of the Valley and the

Forget Me Not flower

Nickname: A-Phi











<u>XΩ</u> - Chi Omega

Founded: 1895; University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, AR

Philanthropy: Make a Wish Foundation

Colors: Cardinal and Straw

Symbols: Owl and Skull & Crossbones

Flower: White Carnation

Nickname: Chi O







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<u>ГФВ – Gamma Phi Beta</u>

Founded: 1874; Syracuse University in New York

Philanthropy: Building Strong Girls, Girls on the Run, Campfire

Colors: Brown and Mode Symbols: Crescent Moon Flower: Pink Carnation

Nickname: G Phi B, Gamma Phi













<u>KΔ - Kappa Delta</u>

Founded: 1897; Longwood University in Farmville, VA

Philanthropy: Prevent Child Abuse America, Girls Scouts of U.S.A., Children's Hospital of Richmond, VA and Orthopedic

Research Awards

Colors: Olive Green and Pearl White

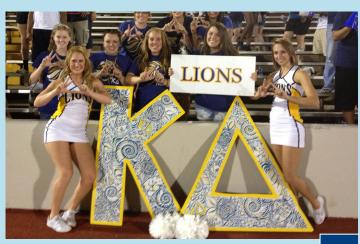
Symbols: Nautilus Shell, Dagger, Teddy Bear

and Katydid

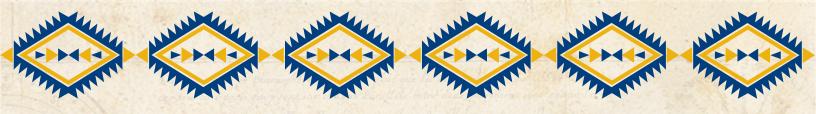
Flower: White Rose

Nickname: KD





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Panhellenic Recruitment

Make sure to sign up for formal recruitment

<u>Click Here to Register</u>

All four chapters wish you luck and encourage you to...













