



## LSU Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment 2021

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### When is recruitment?

**Recruitment Dates: August 19th - August 29th**

Recruitment will be held August 19th- August 29th. Recruitment will begin with a mandatory convocation on August 19th followed by four rounds of recruitment. The rounds consist of ice water, philanthropy, sisterhood and preference. The details about each round will be available in our Girl Talk publication potential members receive upon registration. There will be a break in recruitment from August 23rd- August 25th to allow members and potential members time to focus on classes. All recruitment events will be held after 5:00pm on days classes are held.

An optional virtual Parent convocation held on August 11th at 5:00pm.

**When do I move into my residence hall?**

Unless otherwise approved by Residential Life, all students will move in at a pre-assigned date and time. Visit the LSU Residential Life website for more details.

#### Will I receive any additional information about recruitment from LSU?

The *Greek Tiger*, LSU's recruitment publication, will be sent to all incoming students over the summer via email. It includes pictures of what to wear each day, the schedule for the week, individual sorority information and advice on how to prepare for the recruitment process.

**Will I receive a Greek Tiger if I'm a sophomore going through recruitment?**

No, but if you email your name and email address to [greeks@lsu.edu](mailto:greeks@lsu.edu), we will be happy to send you one.

#### How do I register for recruitment?

Register online at [www.lsu.edu/greeks](http://www.lsu.edu/greeks) after your high school graduation. Registration opens on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am and will close August 6th at 4:30pm. You must register with LSU Panhellenic to participate in recruitment.

**What is the fee for recruitment?**

The cost of recruitment is \$150.

**What does this fee cover?**

The \$150 registration fee covers the cost of putting on recruitment. It covers things like security, water, snacks, shuttles, supplies, your Round Philanthropy T-shirt and several meals.

**How do I make sure my registration has been processed?**

After PHC receives and processes your application, you will receive a confirmation email indicating that your application is complete. Shortly after, you will receive the *Girl Talk* magazine in the mail.

## What if I register for recruitment and change my mind?

Refund Policy:  
Refunds will be given if a PM withdraws before recruitment begins.

### Recruitment Week at a Glance:

| <b>Event:</b>                | <b>Date and Time:</b>                            | <b>More Details:</b>  |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Parent Convocation           | August 12th 5:00pm                               | Will be held virtual via zoom   |
| Potential Member Convocation | August 19th Afternoon/evening                    | Potential members will meet their small group for a welcome convocation.    |
| Pre-Recruitment Education    | August 20th Morning                              | Potential members will attend a pre-recruitment education event.            |
| Round 1: Ice Water           | August 20th 2pm-6pm                              | Potential members will attend a video viewing party with their small group. |
| Round 2: Philanthropy        | August 21st 9am-10pm and August 22nd 9am-9pm     | In person on Sorority Row   |
| Break                        | August 23rd-August 25th                          | Break for the first 3 days of class   |
| Round 3: Sisterhood          | August 26th 4pm-10:30pm, August 27th 5pm-10:30pm | In person on Sorority Row   |
| Round 4: Preference          | August 28th 1pm-10:30pm                          | In person on Sorority Row   |
| BID DAY                      | August 29th 3pm                                  | Celebrate with your new chapter   |

## What is a recommendation?

A recommendation (“rec”) is a letter written on your behalf by a woman who has graduated and is a member of that particular sorority. She does not have to be an alumna of LSU, only a member of that particular sorority. A rec generally speaks of your character and verifies accomplishments, grades, and activities. It is beneficial to have someone that you know write recs for you because they are speaking on your behalf. Some cities and towns have Panhellenic Alumnae organizations that coordinate recommendation letters for potential members.

### How many recommendations do I need?

Chapter requirements are as followed for one letter:

- Required: Chi Omega
- Encouraged:
  - Alpha Delta Pi
  - Alpha Phi
  - Delta Delta Delta
  - Delta Gamma
  - Delta Zeta
  - Kappa Alpha Theta
  - Kappa Delta
  - Kappa Kappa Gamma
  - Pi Beta Phi
  - Zeta Tau Alpha
- Not Required or Accepted: Phi Mu

## How do I obtain recommendations?

- Begin to ask around and contact people you know from your area who were members of sororities: teachers, family members, neighbors, family friends or other older women you may know. Let them know that you are participating in recruitment at LSU and that you would like them to write a letter of recommendation for you. You will need to provide each woman writing a recommendation for you with 2 different pictures of yourself and an activity sheet or resume. Ask them if they would like you to mail the information to them or if they prefer to receive it electronically via email. She will send the information to the respective sorority at the address provided below or submit the information online. If the alumna prefers to submit a hard copy of the letter, it is nice to provide a pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelope with the sorority address to the alumna. Sending a thank you note to this alumna after is also recommended. Begin this process as soon as possible!
- If you do not know of anyone in the area who is an alumna member of a particular sorority, you may contact the national headquarters to inquire about a local person from their organization who coordinates their recommendations. See national organization website & email addresses.
- Contact your local city Alumnae Panhellenic and they may be able to direct you to alumnae in the respective sororities to write you a recommendation. This is not applicable in every city.

### What if I still don't have a rec for all 12 sororities?

Send your resume and 2 different pictures, along with a list of sororities you need recs for to [lsuphinfo@gmail.com](mailto:lsuphinfo@gmail.com) and we will share your information with the sororities. It is ultimately the sororities' responsibility to get recs for you, but it makes it easier on them if you do as much as possible to obtain them. **Please use this only as a last resort.** We recommend to only use this option after July 1<sup>st</sup>. In the interest of time, it is helpful to be proactive in this process.

### How do I know a chapter got my rec?

You will not know if a chapter received your rec. You have to trust the alumna who you have contacted to write you a rec. If you send her a thank you note promptly, it may help remind her.

**How does an alumna find a recommendation form for her sorority?**

A recommendation form and procedure should be available to the alumna through her national organization's website and/or magazine.

**What's the difference between a reference letter/form and a letter of recommendation?**

A reference letter/form states that an alumna simply acknowledges you are going to LSU but cannot necessarily speak to your character. A letter of recommendation is a letter stating that the alumna recommends you for membership. Recommendations are what the chapters at LSU need.

**Do I need additional letters of reference?**

No. A letter of reference is accepted, but it is not necessary to obtain one for each sorority.

## Do grades matter?

Grades are very important- overall, Greek women have a higher average GPA than the undergraduate women's average GPA. Most of the sororities require a 3.0 or above from both high school and college. In some **rare** instances, exceptions are made.

**What about non-freshman potential new members?**

The college GPA minimum is usually a 3.0 or above. It may be more difficult to receive a bid as an upperclassman because sororities tend to desire women who will be active members for the four full years of college.

**What if my GPA is not on a 4.0 scale?**

We will use the GPA that is calculated by LSU Office of Admissions based on your core requirements. This makes the playing field fair for potential members coming from different high schools.

**Do I need to send my transcript?**

No. The Recruitment Registration form allows PMs to indicate their scholastic information. The Greek Life office will verify your scholastic information with the Office of Admissions.

**Do alumna writing recs need an official final transcript?** Not necessarily. It is fine for them to receive an unofficial copy but it might be difficult if your high school no longer provides hard copies. Discuss this with the women writing recommendations for you.

## What is a Legacy?

Typically, a PM who is the sister, daughter, or granddaughter of a sorority alumna is considered a legacy.

**I am a Legacy, am I guaranteed a bid?**

No, legacies are not guaranteed a bid. Each sorority has different policies on legacies. Ultimately, it is the individual potential member's personality, character, resume, grades, etc. that are the main determining factors.

## How does Membership Selection work?

At LSU, we use the National Panhellenic Conference process of priority recruitment. At the end of each round, PMs cluster and rank the chapters whose parties they have attended. At the same time, the chapters are submitting their selection of PMs to invite back. Each PM's preferences and each chapter's selections are processed through a computer system to generate invitations to the next round. The cluster & ranking by the PMs simply allows PHC to adjust invite numbers by sororities based on patterns; it does not mean the PMs will receive invitations from the sororities they ranked.

### Details:

- After Round 1: The PM will cluster rank her top 9 as "1's" and choose her 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices
- After Round 2: The PM will cluster rank her top 6 as "1's" and choose a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices
- After Round 3: the PM will cluster rank her top 2 as "1's" and choose a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> choices
- After Round 4 (Preference): the PM makes her choices in preferential order – a maximum of two

### What percent of PMs received a bid last year?

Last year, 94% of the PMs who participated in recruitment received a bid.

### What happens if I get no invitations back to any of the sororities on any given day? Or bid day?

If a PM has not received any invitations back to the next round of recruitment, a PM will be notified by her Gamma Chi. Not receiving any invitations may be due to grades, not presenting her best self, or the sorority felt that it was not a good fit.

### Can I go through spring recruitment or again next fall?

Sororities typically do not reconsider women for membership that have been previously released in the recruitment process. If it was due to grades, perhaps it is possible that they may reconsider, but there are no guarantees.

## What is sorority life like after recruitment?

### How much time does a sorority take?

There is a required meeting once a week where you will receive information on chapter events and sorority education. Weekly study sessions, sisterhood activities, community service projects and social events are also potential time commitments.

### How long will it take to be initiated?

The new member period is usually six to eight weeks. This time is an opportunity to meet other members, learn sorority history and begin to feel at home. Each sorority establishes its own new member program and initiation dates. All sororities have a zero tolerance for hazing.

### Do I have to join a sorority in the fall semester?

Some sororities are able to recruit and pledge women in the spring. Events are organized and scheduled at each sorority's convenience. If you want the opportunity to interact with all 12 of our sororities before making your sorority choice, then you should participate in Fall Formal Recruitment. If you have been released from Fall Recruitment, you should know that most sororities do not reconsider a potential member that they previously released from the recruitment process.

### Do I have to live in the sorority house?

Each sorority has its own policies regarding living in the house. Most require 1 year. However, there is usually a wait list to live in the house because it is a desired part of being in a sorority at LSU. Therefore, most members living in the sorority houses are sophomores or older.

**May I eat my meals in the sorority house once I am a member?**

Yes. If you are living on campus and have already purchased an LSU meal plan, LSU provides an opportunity to alter your meal plan, should you desire, to accommodate that change. Each new member is responsible for completing the proper paperwork provided by the Tiger Card Office through the Greek Life Office at a chapter meeting within 2 weeks of the beginning of school indicating their desire to alter their original LSU meal plan. Failure to submit the required paperwork in the allotted time will result in the student maintaining the original plan. The opportunity to eat meals together often fosters a closer bond between the sisters. It is important to note that a sorority may **not require** a new member to eat all meals at the house, unless this expectation is communicated during the recruitment process.

**I'm visiting LSU this summer, may I tour the houses?** Sorority houses are closed during the summer, so tours are not available.

**Does one sorority tend to be more expensive than the others?** No. The fees all tend to end up being about \$3300-3500 for the first year and then \$2600-2800 for future years, both including house usage, activity fees, but not including living in the house. The first year of membership is more expensive because of one time fees such as national fees, your new member pin and sorority badge. See the next page for exact costs for each sorority.