

Information Night Script

Welcome

What is MCPAA?

Montgomery County Alumnae Panhellenic is a member of the National Panhellenic Conference Volunteer organization made up of local sorority alumnae women who support and promote Greek Life. The volunteers help young women entering or attending college by informing them of the recruitment process, writing recommendations, and sharing Greek Life experiences. MCPAA's goal is to assist all Montgomery County girls in having the best recruitment possible, ending with the maximum number of girls becoming members of a sorority. We know that not all potential new members going through the recruitment process know sorority alumnae, so we connect potential new members with area alumnae. We also award a scholarship to a collegiate rising senior who registered with us.

Tonight, we plan on breaking down the recruitment process and giving you tips on how to interview. We will tell you about the different Recruitment Rounds and what you will experience through a "Mock Recruitment", which will be a fun way to learn about it.

After this, we will explain how to register and what you need to do next to get the ball rolling. Remember, the sorority girls are already looking at you!

Vocabulary:

Sorority: Group of women bound together. "Home away from home" It is academic support, opportunities for leadership, and community service. Friendships for a lifetime.

Active: Young women in the sorority who has been initiated.

PNM: Potential New Member - YOU

Rec: Recommendation/Reference ~ Alumnae write these and turn into their national sorority. Universities may tell you that you do not need one, but you do! A Rec describes your information from your social resume and transcript. Known by different names in different sororities, such as "Sponsor Forms," "Reference Letters," "Recommendations," "RIF" or "Recs."

Letter of Support (LOS): Letter written by alumnae vs. a Rec/Ref.

Legacy: Mother, sister, Grandmother

Philanthropy: community Service

Formal Recruitment is a period of time usually held once a year, when all NPC sororities on a campus are working together through a coordinated schedule to meet and recruit new members. This is the period of time when most sororities will select all of their new members.

Continuous Open Bidding also occurs on some campuses throughout the school year after recruitment. It is an offer of membership during informal recruitment and may occur at any time during the process of getting acquainted.

Regarding Recruitment, every school has a different schedule, Check with your university's Greek Life website.

Fall Recruitment – can be anytime from the week before classes to mid semester
Deferred Recruitment (sometimes called Spring Recruitment) usually early to mid-January. Some schools may have required events in the Fall semester.

Grades matter ✓ Prepare for TALKING – think of questions you can ask ✓ Stay away from rumors and gossip ✓ Keep an open mind ✓ Be yourself ✓ Be polite ✓ Be on time ✓ Your reputation precedes you. Watch your conduct in your community and online. Clean up your online profiles ✓ Attitude is very important ✓ Watch what you say now ✓ Be careful how you act when you visit your college ✓ Smile and Have Fun!

**Maximize your recruitment experience by
always keeping an open mind!**

Let's talk Recruitment Rounds and meeting the Sororities

When talking during recruitment, you need to be able to move from one topic to another. Provide answers with more than ONE word. Ask open-ended questions.

Look the person in the eyes. It is your body language along with their words when they respond. Light up your eyes. Show excitement about being there. Be excited. Your first impression is set the first seven seconds that you meet someone. It takes 8 more times to change an impression. So, make it a great one!

Also remember - Just because you have a Reference doesn't mean you are getting in.

A Reference is a Reference... Just as an interview isn't the JOB, you have to go out and get it!

It is up to YOU to sell yourself and find your heart a HOME

Try to Meet as many NEW actives as possible. Don't get Stuck with the same girl each round

** Importantly, they are already looking at your social media. Clean up Social media, snapchats, make your Instagram name, your name so that they can easily find you

Be careful and watch what you post on Spring Break and Prom. It isn't only your social pages they look at, it is your FRIENDS' pages as well, so be careful! YES, they go that back and research.

Let's get started with Recruitment

Description of Round 1 – Go Greek

This round is “Go Greek Day” and can last two days at the larger universities. You meet 4-5 girls and it goes by fast. A lot of schools provide a t-shirt for this round, so pair with a cute short skirt or shorts. Comfortable shoes. If no shirt provided, wear something cute and casual that shows your personality. Wear statement earrings and/or a statement necklace, comfortable shoes. You will be walking a lot this round. You can bring flip flops and change them out right before each house.

Most of the schools will have a tent set up for the PNM’s outside of each house. This is for the duration of recruitment. These tents are where you will sit and rest. They have water stations and fans. You can also leave your tote bag here while you are in the house. Your Rush Counselor, sometimes called Rho Gams or Rho Chi’s, will take you around to each house and watch your bags while you are inside the houses. Each school will have different requirements about the bag you can bring, but inside you can keep mints, snacks, brush, water bottle, band aids, flip flops, small makeup bag, etc. Do not wear a watch. (too tempting to look at) Turn phone OFF (Tell your mom this is what you are doing).

Remember to have fun!! The Actives are just as nervous and excited as you are!

Some questions you can ask:

- Where is home? Why did you choose your university?
- What dorm do you live in? Do you like it?
- You will be asked “what did you do this summer?” Have a good answer!

Description of Round Two - Philanthropy

Philanthropy Day Round two also lasts two days at the larger schools and highlights each sorority’s charity they support. They will show you a video, so be prepared to sit.

Wear comfortable shoes, shorts, casual skirt, rompers, sundresses. Nothing too short or too revealing.

Some questions you can ask actives this round:

- What does your chapter do locally to support this charity?
- How do you fundraise?
- What committee are you a part of in your chapter?
- As some schools, girls are not allowed to talk about fraternities, so do not ask which fraternities they hold events with.

Description of Round 3 - Sisterhood

You will spend more time at this house. Embrace the Awkward moments. Ask the girls questions. Ask the same question all parties, so you can compare. You will run out of things to say. Breathe and remember they are also exhausted. Take a minute and look around. Do you see yourself at this house? Look around at the girls they are inviting back. Expect longer and more serious conversations each round. Now this is the time to really get to know the chapter and its beliefs and values.

What to wear: As the week progresses you dress slightly dressier each day. Add jewelry to complete the outfit. One Piece is fine.

Some Questions:

- What do you do to promote sisterhood?
- How does your chapter bond?
- Describe what a Big/Lil Sister family means?
- Do they do a retreat?
- How did you find your roommate?
- Do you live in the house?

Reminders: This is a longer party, you meet more people, 1st impression is the most important, this is a stressful round, they will set you up with others for a reason... Be yourself.

If your favorite sorority cuts you ~ Don't just quit and drop out of entire rush. So many more sororities that are GOOD. Hang on. All sororities are GOOD. You won't make a bad decision. You might like the 2nd choice anyway and others maybe getting their 3rd or 4th choice... DONT QUIT.

Description of Round 4 Preference night

This is the last and most serious round. Dress is conservative and classic. Flattering, not tight fitting, nothing TOO short or with a Low Cleavage. Wear shoes that you can actually walk in. Not homecoming dress, Not Clubbing dress. It is a Banquet or NCL tea dress.

Questions~ Serious and deeper

1. Heart to Heart questions to help the person get to know you best
2. What is your heart telling you?
3. What sorority makes you feel at home
4. Look around do you see yourself here?

You need to tell them that you really LIKE them and would love to be a part of this chapter. Be enthusiastic ~ Tell them you want to be there ~ They are not allowed to promise you a bid. Stay off social media and don't discuss with others. Follow your heart.

WHEN A PNM IS CUT

It is a numbers game. It isn't personal. Could be grades, lack of activities, little leadership roles, bad interviews, didn't bond. You can't take it personal. Other organizations, clubs, Academic clubs, and Continuous Open Bidding are available and great options. Go through Recruitment the following year. There are many sophomores, even juniors who go through.

Bid Day

Conclusion of recruitment is BID Day. You will receive an invitation to join. You run to your house for the Bid day celebration. They teach chants, special hand sign, decorate you in fun gear, parade you through Greek Streets.

Your school will direct you on what to wear. Some wear shorts/ t-shirts or others where sundresses and garden party attire.

What to do next

1 – You are required to register with your University Panhellenic. Some require end of year official transcripts, so might not open until June. You cannot go through sorority recruitment without registering with your college. On our MCPAA website, we have links to a lot of the colleges' Panhellenic sites

2 – Register with us online and turn in your packets for the sororities you need recs for. Important to fill out our forms online, because we get call during recruitment to ask information on girls. It is easy to look up the information on our spreadsheets quickly and gives you a better chance. Registration is easy, and there are detailed instructions on our website mcpanhellenic.org

It is important to note that the best Recommendations are those from people who know you personally. So, first make a list of sororities at your college. Then ask around, call your parents' friends. A lot of girls post on Facebook and are surprised to find that so many sorority alumnae know them already.

For those sororities that you still need recommendations for, we are here.

We require a packet of paper copies of everything you have submitted on our site, one for each sorority you need. Then you will place these packets together in a big envelope at Carol Durkee's house. These are then distributed to each sorority alum group.

Again, detailed instructions are on our website. It is so important that when you do the online registration, to follow the instructions on what to name your photos, and resume. It cannot get lost if your name is tied to your documents.

You **MUST** use the naming convention:

University-LastName-FirstName-HighSchool-FullPhoto or
University-LastName-FirstName-HighSchool-PortraitPhoto
(Example: TAMU-Swift-Taylor-TWHS-PortraitPhoto)

Make sure you have the following, in order to complete both Paper and Electronic Submittals:

- Portrait Photo
- Full Figure Photo
- Resume
- Official or Unofficial Transcript (remove your Social Security Number)
- MCPAA Form--created when you upload your information electronically. Be sure to print it after you have filled in your information. This printed form will become part of your paper submittal.

Timeline:

- Tomorrow, 2/13, our website will be open for registration.
- March 25th Help Night 6:30-8:00 p.m. La Madeline
- April 1st Registration and packets are due
- Wednesday nights in April, join our Facebook Live Events for Q&A with Actives from various Universities 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 and 4/29
- May 1st deadline for later University acceptance
- June 1st Final date for any packets, we will be closed after this. Schools expect all alum recommendations processed by June 1