Updated December 2024



# TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE COLLEGE PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION RECRUITMENT RULES

# I. Adherence to NPC Unanimous Agreements and Policies Regarding Recruitment

All NPC member organizations at Texas A&M University-Kingsville adhere to NPC Unanimous Agreements and policies. All organizations will follow these valued and non-negotiable policies during the recruitment process.

### II. Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement (MRABA)

The College Panhellenic Association will uphold and use the membership recruitment acceptance binding agreement (MRABA) for each potential new member (PNM) interested in joining a sorority, whether during primary recruitment or continuous open bidding. We agree to all policies and steps of the MRABA.

### **III. Strict Silence**

Strict silence is observed only between the end of preference events and bid distribution.

# **IV. Promotion of the Sorority Experience**

College and Alumnae Panhellenic rules must not infringe on the rights of NPC member organization chapters in how they communicate, contact and promote the overall sorority experience and membership opportunities to potential new members. All sorority promotions should be positive and in the spirit of Panhellenic unity through all forms of communication (e.g., print, digital, in-person).

Promoting the sorority experience does not mean creating an unfair advantage for a particular chapter. It means being friendly and responding to questions PNMs might ask of Panhellenic members. It means promoting sorority membership in general, not a particular organization. It also means current and alumnae members do not have to hide their sorority affiliation or be forced to delete social media accounts or be penalized for talking about their membership.

# V. Values-Based Recruitment

All NPC member organizations represented at Texas A&M University-Kingsville will engage in the following practices that align with the Values-Based Recruitment Policy during membership recruitment:

- Focus on conversations between chapter members and PNMs about organizational values and member organizations.
- Establish guidelines for membership recruitment budgets and cap membership recruitment expenses, including the value of all donated goods and services.
- Keep decorations to a minimum and confined to the interior space used for recruitment rounds.
- Eliminate the required purchasing of recruitment event attire for chapter members.
- Eliminate gifts, favors, letters and notes for PNMs.

- Eliminate all forms of bid promising, oral or written, to join a certain sorority before bids are distributed by Panhellenic.
- Eliminate extraneous and costly performances. This includes but is not limited to, recruitment skits and door stacks.

### VI. Primary Recruitment Logistics

#### Round 1: Sisterhood / Open House

Guidelines:

- All full-time enrolled female students at Texas A&M University Kingsville are invited to attend.
- Chapters may host up to two events but may not host fewer than one event. Potential new members must attend one event per chapter to be considered for invitation to Preference round.
- All events must be held on campus.
- Events should not become a financial burden. All events hosted will be accounted for in the \$1,000 budget limit for recruitment.
- Parties should be focused on sisterhood, values, and chapter financials.
- A uniform or costume is not permitted. Attire for the day may be alike in shirt; however, it must allow for some variation (same shirt, but different bottoms; an option to wear a dress or skirt)

# Preference Round Invitation List deadline: 8:00 pm CST on September 17, 2025.

Round 2: Preference (50 minutes each)

Guidelines:

- All events must be held on campus.
- Each chapter may utilize chairs, tables, backdrop to stand in front of or two small backdrops split by a screen for the video, and photos from events throughout the year to decorate the facility. Your decorations should be minimal as we are showcasing our values. Draping of fabric will not be permitted.
- A uniform or costume is not permitted. Attire for the day may be alike; however, it must allow for some variation (same shirt, but different bottoms; an option to wear a dress or skirt)
- There shall be no skits or staged performances. Chapters may sing songs that are meaningful to their sisterhood during this round.
- Chapters may utilize decorations that are part of their preference ceremony as stated in their national procedures.

#### Bid List deadline: 8:00 am CST on September 19, 2025.

Bid Day

• Bid Day themes must be <u>submitted by May 15</u> to ensure each chapter has a different theme. Themes will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis. If your theme is prepared sooner than May 15, chapters can submit it at any time.

#### **VII. Recruitment Counselors**

1. All chapters must provide five (5) recruitment Counselors who are considered to be in

"Good Standing" within their chapter at the date the Panhellenic Council has determined. A Recruitment Counselor will here in after be known as Gamma Chi.

2. Gamma Chis shall be selected through an application, and interview process conducted by the Panhellenic Vice President of Recruitment with assistance from the Panhellenic Executive Board.

3. An equal number of each member sorority shall be represented in the Gamma Chi final selection.

4. The Governing Council will host an informational recruitment table during the new student orientations. Governing Council Officers and Gamma Chi's will determine the appropriate number of orientations to attend.

5. The Panhellenic Executive Board and Gamma Chi's must display a "Go Greek" attitude. Complete disaffiliation does not begin until 30 (Business) days prior to the first orientation day.

Recruitment counselors, or Gamma Chis, will remain associated with their chapters throughout the recruitment process. Gamma Chis should be a positive representation of their chapters. Recruitment counselors will serve the Panhellenic community beginning on May 15 and ending on fall Bid Day. This does not meet the Gamma Chi cannot participate in chapter functions.

Recruitment counselors should refrain from displaying or mentioning their affiliation to potential new members during informational sessions or adding their letters to social media platforms. Recruitment counselors must avoid stereotyping chapters on campus; instead, be able to provide accurate, unbiased information. Chapters may display recruitment counselors on social media, recruitment materials, boards, etc.; however, it is encouraged that you display active members that will be seen throughout the recruitment process.

Panhellenic Council Executive Board Guidelines: A. Per unanimous agreement, members are required to stay disaffiliated for the purpose of maintaining Governance over Council, Gamma Chi's, and Recruitment. B. Per unanimous agreement, members will not be allowed to wear your letters. C. Per unanimous agreement, members will not be allowed to have jewelry, car decals, or any item of chapter affiliation. D. All executive board members will not be allowed to attend chapter functions including meetings, sisterhoods, tabling, etc., until recruitment is over.

On May 15, recruitment counselors should begin serving the Panhellenic community by:

- Refraining from attending her chapter's recruitment-preparation activities and events.
- Avoiding talking more favorably about her own chapter than others to PNMs.
- Refraining from wearing chapter T-shirts or letters and sorority jewelry, etc.
- Refraining from attending chapter functions, including meetings *(may attend up until the week of recruitment if an officer or committee chair whose presence is necessary to conduct chapter business)*, sisterhood

events or socials, during the recruitment period.

• Respecting all decisions that PNMs make regarding their choices, even if she has a different opinion.

Recruitment counselors should not encourage PNMs to try to guess their affiliations. Being a counselor is about assisting the PNMs—not about the counselors themselves. As fun or flattering as an affiliation guessing game might seem, the number-one priority is to keep PNMs focused on finding a chapter that matches their values and needs.

### **VIII. Recruitment Finances**

The budget for all Fall recruitment expenses should not exceed \$1,000 including donations. A list of all items that are bought, borrowed, or donated are due to the Greek Life Coordinator by the fifth-class day.

# IX. Continuous Open Bidding (COB)

Continuous Open Bidding can be conducted during the academic year, specifically during the primary and non-primary recruitment terms when:

- A chapter has not matched quota during primary recruitment. The chapter can COB until quota is achieved.
- A chapter is below the established total at any point in the term.

Primary recruitment term: COB begins once total is set.

Non-primary term: COB begins once total is set within 24 hours of the first day of the non-primary term.

Panhellenic can support the COB of all chapters with marketing and promotion.

# X. Alumnae Involvement

1. Alumnae may not actively participate in membership recruitment. They may address collegiate members but must do so discreetly. Up to five (5) alumnae may attend events to watch. Alumnae must wear name tags that clearly indicate their alumnae status and are not allowed to dress similar to the members.

2. Per council voting chapters with less than 10 active members are allowed to have alumnae involved in their recruitment process

#### **XI. Fineable Violations & Fines Assessed**

Violation	When Applicable	Amount	Assessed
What action would have to occur?	The timeframe in which the action occurs would make it a violation (e.g., 30 days before primary recruitment begins)	The monetary amount of the fine.	How frequently is this fine assessed? (e.g., each occurrence, each day late, compounding)

Late Party List	As soon as lists are due	\$10 fine with \$10 added every minute.	Every minute the list is late, the fine will be reassessed.
Infraction deemed necessary by the College Panhellenic Council	May 15 through Bid Day	\$10 to \$50 per infraction	N/A

A PNM code of ethics for your campus is suggested to complement the rules template. NPC has a <u>PNM code of ethics template</u> to follow.