

Pledge Program Policy

ALPHA EPSILON ZETA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA

Last Updated: April 22, 2007

I) Initiation: The Pledge Initiation Ritual remains an effective statement of Fraternity policy regarding treatment of pledges during their preparation for active membership.

II) Activation: The Pledge Activation Ritual remains an effective statement of Fraternity policy regarding conduct of members of Alpha Phi Omega.

III) Purpose and Policy:

- A) The purpose of the pledge program is to make it possible for pledges to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to function as effective active members of this National Service Fraternity. Therefore, the ultimate aim of every pledging period is to teach the worth of human dignity, promote academic scholarship, instill a commitment to continuing service, provide opportunities to participate in leadership development experiences, **and cultivate friendship among the pledges and with the active members.**
- B) Pledge programs should also ensure that pledges become thoroughly familiar with the principles, ideals, and heritage of Alpha Phi Omega and the Alpha Epsilon Zeta chapter.
- C) All pledging activities must have an articulate and reasonable positive benefit, be consistent with the principles and spirit of Alpha Phi Omega, and involve no risk of humiliation or injury to any person. **NO HAZING OF ANY FORM WILL OCCUR.**
- D) Those preparing for active membership are representatives of Alpha Phi Omega and Alpha Epsilon Zeta. As such, they shall be treated with the same degree of respect as active members and shall participate in, or be asked to participate in, only those activities that are consistent with the membership policies of Alpha Phi Omega and Alpha Epsilon Zeta.
- E) Enumeration of the aforementioned activities, in the Alpha Epsilon Zeta membership policy, does not imply that all other practices are consistent with the membership policies of Alpha Phi Omega. All Membership activities and pledging requirements must be measured against the criteria set forth by the national office.
- F) Practices that may be inconsistent with the membership policies of Alpha Phi Omega, depending on the facts and circumstances of each, include restrictive formation, dress requirements, and the manner in which pledges are addressed.

Examples of practices, which are not allowed:

- i. Subjection to physical mistreatment such as road trips, kidnapping, paddling, branding, beating, forced activity, and confinement of any kind.
- ii. Participation in activities not directly related to their preparation for active membership such as physical

conditioning or personal services for active, advisory, alumni, associative, inactive or honorary members.

iii. Participation in activities that restrict such normal social functions as eating, social contacts, or personal hygiene.

iv. Blindfolding

G) Active membership shall be conferred upon an individual per meeting the requirements set forth in this pledging program policy.

IV) Requirements: These are the minimum events/activities a pledge must complete in order to activate into Alpha Epsilon Zeta of Alpha Phi Omega. In order to activate, a pledge must accumulate 1000 points throughout the pledging semester.

Risk Management Policy:

- 1) Review and sign the Risk Management Policy as stated in Section X of the Risk Management Policy.

Qualitative

- 2) Attend and participate in the Initiation Ceremony
- 3) Complete twenty (20) service hours
- 4) Attend at least one (1) service project of each type if available
- 5) Participate in at least two (2) chapter fund-raisers (not including pledge fund-raiser)
- 6) Attend a majority of major fellowships (Lock-In, Clan Olympics, etc.) and service projects (Math & Science Camp, Scouting U, etc.)
- 7) Interview:
 - a) all pledges
 - b) all active clan brothers
 - c) all executive board members
 - d) at least 5 members, excluding exec, from each of the other clans
 - e) two (2) advisors
 - f) two (2) alumni
- 8) Organize and attend one (1) pledge fellowship, one (1) service project, one (1) fund-raiser as a pledge class
- 9) Attend one (1) leadership event outside of normal chapter meetings
- 10) Attend two (2) exec meetings
- 11) Participate as an active member of at least one (1) committee
- 12) Attend the Pledge Retreat
- 13) Stay up to date on all monetary debt to chapter
- 14) Attend and participate in the Activation Ceremony

Quantitative:

This section is the default standard of the Pledging Program and is amendable by the Pledgemaster upon approval by the Chapter by a simple majority vote at a meeting where quorum prevails.

I) Interviews

- a) Twenty-five (25) pts. for each complete clan interview other than own
- b) One-hundred (100) pts. for interviewing entire chapter (includes 5 alumni)

II) Pledge Book

- a) Ten (10) pts. for each section that is completely full
- b) Twenty-five (25) pts. for turning in a completed book one (1) week before deadline

III) Leadership

- a) Ten (10) pts. for each fund-raiser attended (minimum of one (1) hour)
- b) Five (5) pts. for each fund-raiser attended for over 3 hours
- c) Ten (10) pts. for each leadership event outside of chapter meetings
- d) Twenty-five (25) pts. for holding an executively appointed position

IV) Friendship

- a) Ten (10) pts. for each fellowship attended during the semester
- b) Ten (10) pts. for organizing an additional fellowship during the semester (Pledgemaster approval is necessary)
- c) Five (5) pts. for participating in the Tag game
- d) Twenty-five (25) pts. for being one of the last 4 in the Tag game
- e) Twenty-five (25) pts. for winning the Tag game

V) Service

- a) Ten (10) pts. per service hour
- b) Five (5) pts. for each additional hour over twenty (20)
- c) Twenty-five (25) pts. for organizing a service project (Pledgemaster approval is necessary)
- d) Plus twenty-five (25) pts. for each month containing twenty (20) or more service hours

VI) Quizzes and Final:

- a) Pts. on quizzes = Pledge pts. = One Hundred (100) Total Points
- b) Plus an additional:
 - i. Five (5) pts. for every perfect quiz
 - ii. Twenty-five (25) pts. for 75% on final
 - iii. Thirty (30) pts. for 80% on final
 - iv. Thirty-five (35) pts. for 85% on final
 - v. Forty (40) pts. for 90% on final
 - vi. Forty-five (45) pts. for 95% on final
 - vii. Fifty (50) pts. for one 100% on final

VII) Misc.

- a) Twenty-five (25) pts. for winning a pledge challenge
- b) Fifty (50) pts. for attending Pledge Retreat
- c) Fifty (50) pts. for attending Sectional, Regional, or National Conference

d) Twenty-five (25) pts. for attending LEADS workshop