

Learn to Talk GrΣΣk

Active/Initiated Member - Any member who has gone through the initiation ceremony and is currently enrolled in college.

Alumna - A graduated member of a women's sorority/fraternity. Plural: Alumnae

Alumnae Panhellenic – An area organization of alumnae of National Panhellenic Conference sororities.

Bid - A formal invitation to become a member of a fraternity or sorority.

Big Sister - An older member assigned to assist a new member.

Chapter - Campus group of a national sorority.

College Panhellenic – The cooperative college organization of women's National Panhellenic Conference sororities.

Continuous Open Bidding (COB) - Informal recruitment whereby chapters who do not currently meet quota can continue to accept members throughout the academic year. Policy varies among universities.

Cross-Cut - Describes what happens to girls who remain unmatched with any of their Preference event choices of sororities at the end of Recruitment week. This list of girls is usually very small, but it does occur.

Deferred Recruitment - Formal Recruitment scheduled sometime after classes begin in the Fall or could be the second semester.

Dirty Rush - Conversation or activities started by an active toward a potential member that are clearly outside of Panhellenic rules.

Dropping Out – If it becomes necessary for a potential member to discontinue attendance at recruitment parties, she should check with her College Panhellenic as to procedures and registration for recruitment later.

Early Release - A National Panhellenic policy requiring sororities to reduce an assigned percentage of potential members from each successive Recruitment event.

Fraternity - A men's Greek organization, characterized by a ritual, pin and strong ties of friendship. Some sororities are identified as a fraternity in their official name; others describe themselves as being a "women's fraternity."

Greek Organization - A fraternity or sorority (social, honor, or professional).

Greeks - Members of a fraternity or sorority. The term Greek is used because most fraternities and sororities use Greek letters to distinguish themselves.

Hazing - Any conduct that subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent. All National Panhellenic members have "No Hazing" policies and take strict actions against any chapter that participates in hazing activities.

Informational Files – Card files used by all sorority groups compiled by Alumnae Panhellenic from information furnished by college bound women interested in recruitment.

Initiation – Inspirational ceremony by which pledges are made members.

Intentional Single Preference (Soloing) – Intended indication of only one choice at preferential signing. Conference strongly recommends every potential member list at least a second preferential choice.

Legacy – Generally defined as a daughter, sister, or granddaughter of an initiated member, although each sorority may have its own definition of a legacy.

Local – A campus organization, often with a Greek Letter name, which does not have chapters on other campuses and which is not a member of National Panhellenic Conference.

Open Recruitment – A period following Formal Recruitment with informal rushing without scheduled parties. This time is designated by the College Panhellenic.

Panhellenic – Meaning "All Greek", it is the organization nationally, locally and on college campuses to further the aims of all member groups.

Pledge – A young woman who has accepted a fraternity bid but has not yet been initiated.

Preferential Bidding – A system used after Formal Recruitment when potential members and sororities indicate their choices.

Potential New Member (PNM) – High school graduate or an unaffiliated college student or transfer who plans to attend (or who is already attending) a college which has sororities and who is interested in sorority membership.

Quota – System used to equalize, in general, the number of members in each campus group. This is the number of women who may be pledged by each group in Recruitment. The quota is set by the College Panhellenic and depends on the number of potential members and sororities on the campus.

Recommendation – Specific information form which sponsors a potential member.

Recruitment Week – Period formally designated by the College Panhellenic for entertaining potential members.

Silence – The period designated by College Panhellenic when there is no communication between potential members and members of the sorority.