



## Letters of Recommendation for the Sorority Recruitment Process

A sorority letter of recommendation provides an opportunity for a member of a sorority to introduce a potential new member (PNM) to her organization and a specific chapter on a campus. It highlights pieces of the PNM's accomplishments and experiences that show she will be an engaged member of the sorority and uphold the values and expectations of membership.

Too often, PNMs and their guardians go to great lengths to procure letters of recommendation under the false assumption recommendations are mandatory for participation in recruitment. This puts undue stress on the PNM leading up to recruitment.

Sorority letters of recommendation are not required for participation in the recruitment process. The 26 NPC member organizations have agreed on the following policy:

### Letters of Recommendation (2020) – POLICY

The responsibility for providing letters of recommendation for potential new members rests with the members of NPC sororities. Any recruitment information distributed by College and/or Alumnae Panhellenics may not state or infer that letters of recommendation are to be secured by potential new members. Any form of compensation from a potential new member or her family for a letter is not acceptable.

This policy reinforces PNMs do not need to seek out letters of recommendation to participate in recruitment and removes an unnecessary barrier to membership.

What this means in practice:

- **College and Alumnae Panhellenics cannot state that letters of recommendation are required for participation in the sorority recruitment process.**  
College and Alumnae Panhellenic should review any guidance given to PNMs inferring that letters of recommendation are required in order to participate in recruitment. Instead, Alumnae and College Panhellenics can educate PNMs about the opportunity they provide as an introduction of a PNM to a chapter and that potential benefit.
- **A PNM should not be experiencing undue stress or burden to secure letters of recommendation.** Letters of recommendations should not be a financial barrier to the sorority experience.
- **Member organizations and chapters requiring letters of recommendation will follow their policies and procedures.**  
Chapters wishing to extend a bid of membership to a PNM who does not have a letter of recommendation will work with their member organization to ensure all policies and procedures are followed.

For more information about letters of recommendation, please visit:  
<https://thesororitylife.com/sorority-recommendation-letters/>