Guide to Membership Intake

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the governing council for the nine largest historically-black/African-American fraternities and sororities also known as the “Divine Nine.” Nationally, the NPHC has the following member organizations:

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Membership selection in NPHC is an individualized process that is different for each organization. Chapters choose the time when they will take new members.

This process, known as membership intake, generally begins with an interest meeting followed by a period of membership education.

The membership process culminates with initiation and a new member presentation or "coming-out" show in which the organization’s new members are revealed to the community.

Interested in joining an NPHC fraternity or sorority? Here are a few tips to get you started.

Learn the Basics

- Research the various organizations within the NPHC that are currently on campus (also referred to as being “on the yard.”)
- Look for a fraternity or sorority that encompasses the values, goals and objectives that are most fitting with your own.
- Visit their national and local websites and look for any publications that discuss the origin and basic tenants of the organization.
- Look at organizations Rock Chalk Central pages (http://rockchalkcentral.ku.edu).

Helpful Resources:

- The Divine Nine: The History of African American Fraternities and Sororities by Lawrence C. Ross Jr.
- Black Greek 101: The Culture, Customs, and Challenges of Black Fraternities and Sororities by Walter M. Kimbrough
Attend Events

- Look for Facebook events, Twitter updates, Instagram posts, and other publicity about programs and functions that will be hosted by the chapters that you are interested in.
- Some events are also advertised by flyers on the bulletin boards around campus.
- Your attendance can not only show your interest in the organization, but also give you a better understanding of their programs and make connections with the members.

Say Hello!

- Once you have identified the organization that you are interested in joining, do not be afraid to introduce yourself.
- Choosing the organization that you would like to join is a serious decision, and one that can be greatly impacted by your interactions and conversations with the member.

Be Prepared

- Chapters seek new members that have an understanding, genuine appreciation and respect for the organization.
- Excellent candidates for membership are those that have researched its history, exemplify its standards and values, have leadership and community service experience, and can be a positive addition to the chapter.
- Take a moment to identify the personal experiences, accomplishments and beliefs that you can bring to the chapter as a new member.

Meet the Requirements

- Most chapters require that candidates are at least 2nd semester freshman or sophomores to join.
- All chapters have financial requirements that range between $500-1,200 to join.
- All Chapters have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA requirement.
- Some chapters have additional requirements.

Helpful Resources:

Finances

Student Money Management
money.ku.edu
money@ku.edu
Kansas Union Room 300

Academics

Academic Achievement & Access Center
achievement.ku.edu
achieve@ku.edu
Strong Hall Room 22