

## 2023 Potential New Member Code of Conduct: Texas Christian University Panhellenic

As a Potential New Member (PNM) participating in Texas Christian University Panhellenic's Formal Recruitment in the year 2023, I hereby agree to abide by the following rules and expectations:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I must adhere to University alcohol/drug policies, the TCU Student Code of Conduct, and all state and federal laws from the time of registration through bid distribution at the conclusion of Panhellenic Recruitment. Failure to do so will result in removal from the recruitment process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I shall not give any promise, verbal or written, to join or to enter into membership with any sorority before bids are issued through Panhellenic at the end of Formal Recruitment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Should I no longer wish to continue in the process, I will consult with my Rho Gamma and a member of the Panhellenic Recruitment Team before withdrawing from Formal Recruitment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I shall accept the maximum number of invitations that I am offered after each invitational round of Formal Recruitment. Not attending every event on my schedule will result in an automatic removal from the process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In accordance with the dignity and good standing of a PNM, I will:
  - Speak kindly and avoid disparaging remarks about any chapter, active member, PNM, or non-sorority woman.
  - Facilitate friendly relations between TCU Horned Frogs, sorority women, and non-sorority women alike.
  - Realize that Panhellenic Formal Recruitment is not a competition, but rather an opportunity to build women up through mutual respect.
  - Prevent and stand against any negative publicity regarding the fraternity and sorority community.
  - Not prejudge a chapter or influence another PNM to pre-judge a chapter.
  - Consider each organization carefully, fully, and with an open mind.
  - Make decisions pertaining to Panhellenic recruitment for me, without allowing the influence of others to impact my experience in a potentially negative way.
  - Not try to fit into an image I perceive to be cool or "right." By being myself, I will be in a better position to make the life-long decision that is right for me.
  - Be a positive representation of the TCU Panhellenic community at all times, including on social media.
  - Help hold others accountable to these standards
- \_\_\_\_\_ Throughout Formal Recruitment and for the 24 hours following Bid Day, I shall not consume or be in the presence of alcohol or other substances. This includes attending any gatherings or events, on or off campus, where alcohol is present.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will position myself with an attitude of respect for the membership recruitment process at all times. This includes respect towards chapter members, Rho Gammas, Panhellenic officers, faculty and staff, chapter members, and other Potential New Members. I will refrain from sexist, homophobic, racist, or otherwise abhorrent statements and conversations.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Outside of scheduled formal recruitment events, there shall be no contact (emails, text messages, phone calls, Facetime calls, social media, etc.) or gatherings (in-person, virtual, etc.) of any kind between active sorority members and Potential New Members from the start of recruitment until after bid distribution. The only individuals who are exempt from following this rule are familial sisters or those who have very close long-standing relationships. Acquaintances, for example, women who went to the same high school, are not exempt from this rule.
- \_\_\_\_\_ It is permissible for Potential New Members and active members to acknowledge each other in passing, so long as no extended conversation results from said acknowledgment. RAs, Rho Gammas, Frog Camp Facilitators, TAs, and other leaders may have contact with PNMs within the context of their role and the conversation should never be about promoting or disparaging any chapter(s).
- \_\_\_\_\_ A strict silence period, which is where Potential New Members and active sorority members cannot have any contact, will be observed immediately following Preference Round and will extend until the start of Bid Day activities. Strict silence applies in all scenarios, including between PNMs and their family members, those with whom they have a long-standing relationship, Rho Gammas, and Panhellenic Executive Board members.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I should be fully aware of the financial obligations of membership before accepting a bid to a Panhellenic chapter. It is advantageous for the PNM to ask questions during recruitment events if there are questions or concerns about the costs of membership or chapter finances.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that Financial Transparency information, which is shared with PNMs during Round 3 of formal recruitment based on their chapter invitations, should remain confidential in an effort to respect the chapters and their finances. I may not download, screenshot, or otherwise save or distribute chapter information from chapter Financial Transparency sheets, presentations, or videos.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am expected to wear my Panhellenic-provided t-shirt during the designated round and days of recruitment. I will abide by the clothing guidelines for each round of recruitment, which include not modifying the shirt in any way (i.e. cutting, tying, or altering the shirts in other ways) and wearing my pin while I am outside of my room.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am expected to attend all required Frogs First activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand my rights as listed in the PNM Bill of Rights found below. If I experience discrimination I know that I am encouraged to report it to the TCU Office of Institutional Equity (<https://www.tcu.edu/institutional-equity/make-a-report.php>), Fraternity and Sorority Life Staff ([b.scogin@tcu.edu](mailto:b.scogin@tcu.edu)), and/or the Panhellenic Executive Board ([tcupanhellpres@gmail.com](mailto:tcupanhellpres@gmail.com)).
  - **Potential New Member's Bill of Rights:**
    - The right to be treated as an individual
    - The right to be fully informed about the recruitment process
    - The right to ask questions and receive true and objective answers from recruitment counselors and members
    - The right to be treated with respect
    - The right to be treated as a capable and mature person without being patronized
    - The right to ask how and why and receive straight answers
    - The right to have and express opinions to recruitment counselors

- The right to have inviolable confidentiality when sharing information with recruitment counselors
  - The right to make informed choices without undue pressure from others
  - The right to be fully informed about the NPC Unanimous Agreements implicit in the membership recruitment acceptance binding agreement (MRABA) signing process
  - The right to make one’s own choice and decision and accept full responsibility for the results of that decision
  - The right to have a positive, safe, and enriching recruitment and new member experience
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I sign a Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement (MRABA) at the conclusion of the Preference Round, and I receive a bid, then I am bound to that document and the chapter that extends a bid to me. This means that I am ineligible for an invitation to membership from another National Panhellenic Conference organization until the next primary recruitment at TCU.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will utilize the Rho Gammas (Recruitment Guides), especially my assigned Rho Gamma, as my primary confidant and source of recruitment information during the recruitment process. Rho Gammas are trained to be the most unbiased, supportive, and experienced resource to discuss any and all recruitment concerns or questions. If they do not know the answer to a question or concern, then they know where to find it. They are disassociated from their own chapters and their sole purpose is to support PNMs throughout this process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I ask my Rho Gamma to share her affiliation with me that it could impact my perspective on my Recruitment process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that while my Rho Gamma may share her affiliation with me if I ask, she is still not in communication with her chapter during recruitment and has no control over my recruitment experience in her chapter including being able to advocate for me to receive invitations to further rounds
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if my Rho Gamma does share her affiliation with me when I ask, I should not share this information with any other PNMs to ensure every PNM is able to have the Recruitment experience they desire. If another PNM strongly wants to know this Rho Gamma’s affiliation I will advise her to go speak to the Rho Gamma.

**For any virtual recruitment activities, I will comply with each of the following expectations:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ I must keep my video camera on and actively engage in conversations at all virtual recruitment events. If I turn off my camera or decide not to participate in a recruitment event, then I will be considered absent and am subject to removal from the Panhellenic Recruitment process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ While attending a virtual event, I will not use a phone or computer for any reason other than to participate in the recruitment event on Zoom. This means silencing my devices, turning off notifications, and/or putting my device in “do not disturb” mode for the length of the event. By doing so, I will stay more engaged and respect the time and conversations that occur with active members in the chapters.

- \_\_\_\_\_ I agree to treat the chapter videos and virtual recruitment events as confidential. I will not take, share, or post a photo, video, audio clip, or any other form of digital recording of chapter event content. Furthermore, I will not take or share any streaming or video of virtual recruitment events, including a video in its entirety, or recordings, photos, clips, screenshots, audio files, and/or quotes from videos or virtual recruitment events. Many of the presentations that occur during Recruitment are private ritual traditions or personal stories from active members that are not for public viewing. This is also to protect the identity of active members and PNMs.
- \*\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that any breach of this rule could result in disciplinary action.
- \*\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ If I see or have knowledge of any other Potential New Member or active chapter member failing to adhere to this rule, then I agree to report it to the Recruitment Team immediately
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will create a private space for attending my virtual recruitment events either by being in a space by myself or with the use of headphones. To ensure that each Potential New Member has a smooth, clear conversation with active members during virtual events, we strongly recommend the use of headphones for communication purposes. By doing so, PNMs will be able to block out external noise as well as provide privacy in conversations.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Should I choose to violate any of the aforementioned agreements, I will be called into a meeting with Panhellenic Executive Board Members and/or Fraternity and Sorority Life Staff and will be subject to removal from the Panhellenic Formal Recruitment Process.