



**POTENTIAL NEW MEMBER
NEWSLETTER EDITION 1**

DEAR FAMILY MEMBERS,

On behalf of the UF Panhellenic Recruitment Executive Board, we are so excited to welcome your Gator to the Panhellenic community. My name is Andrea S. and I serve as the Potential New Member (PNM) Relations Pi Chi. During Formal Recruitment in August, I am the point of contact for the health and wellness of Potential New Members. For now, it is my job to communicate with parents and provide insight about Panhellenic Recruitment and Greek life at the University of Florida.

The University of Florida Panhellenic Council consists of 18 chapters. This August, all 18 chapters will be participating in primary recruitment to give your Gator a peek into their unique sisterhood. We look forward to meeting your Gators and assisting them in the recruitment experience.

BENEFITS OF JOINING A PANHELLENIC CHAPTER AT UF:

We consist of over 4,000 women in 18 different chapters. Our chapters have raised a combined total of \$380,563.99 that benefits their individual philanthropic partners and over \$42,818 was raised for Panhellenic's Charity, Circle of Sisterhood. The average Panhellenic GPA is a 3.602 and the all university female GPA is a 3.53.

Panhellenic women are involved in hundreds of organizations across campus, including the Florida Cicerones, Preview Staff, Florida Blue Key and Student Government. With the help of our sisters and friends in the Panhellenic community, we are able to balance active sorority membership, leadership roles in other organizations, athletic involvement on University and club sports teams, part-time jobs, and more. Chances are, if your Gator has an interest in a particular hobby or career path, she will find an older member in her chapter with similar interests who can show her the ropes.

The ultimate goal of Recruitment is for women to enter an organization where they will find individuals with mutual aspirations and interests. We strive to live by the Panhellenic mission statement and promote women in leadership, diversity, scholastic achievement, and service through relationships within and beyond the Panhellenic community. This stays true throughout the Recruitment process. Chapter women draw upon their knowledge of UF Panhellenic to help your Gator find the place where she will grow.

INFORMATION ON THE FLORIDA GREEK PILLARS:

Scholarship

Maintaining a high level of academic success is a tradition within the Florida Greek community. The Florida Greek community offers many resources and programs to maintain high scholastic success such as Smokin'Notes and Study Edge.

“At the University of Florida, scholarship and achievement are a foundational part of student culture, and as a Florida Greek pillar, scholarship is even more prioritized. Smokin'Notes is proud to help the Panhellenic community reach its scholastic goals through programs such as Panhellenic scholarships, official sponsorship of Panhellenic Month of the Scholar, philanthropic support of Circle of Sisterhood, and access to Smokin'Notes study materials at a discounted rate.”

- Ryan Dix, Founder of Smokin' Notes

Leadership

The Florida Greek community is an excellent place to gain the experience and knowledge necessary to develop strong leadership skills. The community is self-governing, giving student leaders the opportunity to shape policies and standards for their own organizations, as well as the larger sorority community. Your Gator could have an opportunity to serve as an officer or committee chair in a chapter or governing council which will help her develop a multitude of leadership skills not limited to conflict management, delegation, decision making, and effective communication skills. Being a member of the Florida Greek community often serves as a “gateway to involvement” in other areas of campus such as Student Government, clubs, organizations, and campus honoraries. Members of the Florida Greek community have historically held some of the highest leadership positions and honors on campus.

“Panhellenic members have continued to excel in their leadership on and off campus. The council continues to make great strides to elevate and showcase women's leadership through programming, scholarship, and social engagement. This effort continues to inspire new leaders each year that join the community.”

- Reggie Lane, Director of Sorority and Fraternity Life

Community

Sisterhood is a bond of unity and enduring friendship. By becoming a member of the Florida Greek community, your Gator will experience an easier transition from high school to college and gain a “home away from home.” She will meet other students with diverse backgrounds, similar interests, and new perspectives during some of the sisterhood activities.

“Women in the Panhellenic Community have become my best friends, mentors, and support systems. These women have pushed me to become involved on campus and gave me a space to learn, grow, and develop my voice as a young woman.”

-Olivia T, Panhellenic Membership Vice President

Service

Each semester members of the Florida Greek community strive to advance the University of Florida and Gainesville area communities through service and philanthropy. Throughout the year, each individual chapter in the community sponsors a philanthropy or service week project that affords members the opportunity to give back to the community. In partnership with Panhellenic communities across the nation, we support the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation which helps provide education to girls and womens across the globe by breaking down barriers to education.

“Children around the world are often crammed into unlit, unsanitary, and unsuitable learning environments. For too many, school can be a dark and crumbling structure, a large tree when weather permits, or a structure in a neighboring village many miles away. The University of Florida Panhellenic has worked to combat this barrier to education by funding three school builds since first partnering with Circle of Sisterhood in 2015. 108 children (50% of them girls!) are enrolled at UF Panhellenic-funded schools in Nicaragua and Senegal. The third build will break ground this winter in Senegal and will serve as yet another legacy gift advancing the cause of global equity in education. We’re grateful for the UF Panhellenic’s commitment to Circle of Sisterhood’s mission of removing barriers to education for girls and women. Your support is changing lives and improving communities for generations to come.”

- Ginny Carroll, Executive Director/Founder of Circle of Sisterhood

RECRUITMENT VOCABULARY:

Your Gator may use terms you are unfamiliar with throughout the recruitment experience, below are some of the most common terms used throughout recruitment.

PNM: Those going through Recruitment and seeking membership in a chapter are referred to as Potential New Members, or PNMs for short.

Pi Chi: Pi Chis are Panhellenic Counselors dedicated to helping your PNM find the chapter that is best for them. These women are disassociated from their personal chapter to lead in an unbiased fashion. Your Gator will be in a group of 60-70 women led by 4 or 5 Pi Chis.

Chapter Woman: These are the women in chapters attempting to recruit PNMs for membership in their chapter.

Round: There are four rounds of Recruitment total. Because there are so many chapters at UF, some of these rounds are split up over two days. The rounds become more formal as Recruitment progresses.

Party: There are several parties that occur during the day. Parties are timed slots when your PNM is scheduled to speak with a chapter woman. It is normal to see time slots labeled “No Party Scheduled.” This is when your Gator can wind down, drink some water and take a break!

WHEN CAN YOUR GATOR EXPECT FOR FALL RECRUITMENT 2021?

LaunchPoint Orientation Session:

Following the close of registration, all registered PNMs will be provided a link to Potential new Member Orientation modules via LaunchPoint. Potential New Members will be required to watch all videos on this platform and complete all personal reflection questions inside the window of August 9th through August 15th.

Recruitment In-Person Orientation Session (August 17):

On August 17th PNMs will attend an in person Orientation at the O’Connell Center from 5-7pm, doors will open at 4pm. This is a casual event with only PNMs and Panhellenic Counselors (Pi Chi) so there is no dress code. PNMs will meet with their Pi Ch group, hear from a guest speaker, meet other PNMs, and ask any final questions before Recruitment begins. As a side note, remind your Gator not to bring a bag to expedite the security process, anything they need will be provided.

Round 1 “Values”- Virtual Open House (August 16-18):

On August 16th, Potential New Members will be provided a link to the Round 1 Open House video platform. PNMs will watch a 5-minute video from each of our 18 chapters to get an introduction to their sisterhood and learn about their values. PNMs must view all chapter videos between August 16th and August 18th to continue through the Recruitment process. PNMs will submit their preference in-person with their Pi Chi groups on August 18th.

*PNMs are also required to submit a 90-second introduction video of their own to the Panhellenic Council. All videos must be submitted by August 6th at 11:59 P.M. Please click [here](#) or visit the **PNM Registration Information** tab on the Panhellenic website for instructions on how to film and submit this video.*

Round 2 “Philanthropy”- in-person (August 19/20):

On the morning of August 19th, your Gator will receive their personalized schedule when they meet with their Pi Chi’s at home base. There will be a maximum of 13 parties that a PNM can attend during Round 2. At each party, she will have the opportunity to interact with chapter women in 1-on-1 conversations about philanthropy and finances. PNM’s may be shown a short video or hear an announcement from a chapter woman about their philanthropic partner. This round is also when financial transparency sheets are shown to each PNM. They should feel comfortable looking at the sheet and talking about any questions they may have regarding finances with the chapter women they meet. Chapter women know how their chapters are run and should be able to answer any questions PNM’s have about how to pay for dues. At the end of Round 2 on August 20th, PNM’s will submit their preferences in-person with their Pi Chi groups.

Round 3 “Sisterhood”- in-person (August 21):

On the morning of August 21st, your Gator will receive their personalized schedule when they meet their Pi Chi’s at home base. There will be a maximum of 8 parties that a PNM can attend during round 3. During this round, your Gator will watch a sisterhood video at each chapter house on her schedule. These videos are of the women in each chapter and are designed to give the PNM’s insight into what life would be like at each chapter. You PNM will also have the opportunity to interact with chapter women in one-on-one conversations and get a better feel of their sisterhood. Encourage your Gator to be honest with the chapter women and ask questions like “what made you choose your chapter?” Chapter women have gone through Recruitment and want to help your PNM as much as they can. Their advice and insight is very valuable to your Gator. PNM’s will submit their preferences in-person with their Pi Chi groups in the evening on August 21st.

Preferential Round “Chapter Tradition- in-person (August 22):

On the morning of August 22nd, your Gator will receive their personalized schedule when they meet with their Pi Chi’s at home base. There will be a maximum of 2 parties that a PNM can attend during preferentials. This is the most formal and intimate round of Recruitment where each chapter shares a part of their ritual with PNM’s. This round is designed to provide clarity for your PNM regarding where she can picture herself for the next few years and making lifelong friends. At this point, it is normal for your Gator to talk with a chapter woman she has a close connection with from early rounds. PNM’s will submit their preferences in-person in the evening on August 22nd.

Bid Day- in-person (August 24):

Bid Day is a large celebration for all members of the Panhellenic community. New members will meet at the O'Connell Center to open Bid Cards inviting them to their new chapter. Doors open at 2:30 P.M. and programming begins at 3:15 P.M. Then, they will "run home" to their new chapter- and they actually run! Each chapter has a themed celebration for their members to take part in. There is a returning member waiting holding a sign with your Gator's name ready to welcome her with open arms and teach her the ins and outs of their sisterhood.

WHAT SHOULD YOUR GATOR WEAR FOR RECRUITMENT?

If you are interested in seeing what kind of clothes your Gator should wear during each round of Recruitment, refer to our Pinterest: [UF Panhellenic Pinterest \(@panhellenicuf\)](#)

Remind your Gator to dress how she feels most comfortable and confident. No one will be declined membership solely based on their outfits, Chapter Women are looking for personality. If your Gator feels comfortable and confident, she will behave more confidently.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

An important aspect to consider when deciding to go through Recruitment is the cost of membership. These are wide ranges and are meant to be used for general planning purposes and are subject to change. Potential New Members should discuss specifics with each chapter they are considering. During Round 2 of Recruitment, chapters will be presenting their financial information to Potential New Members, and your Gator will be given the opportunity to ask Chapter Women about specific financial questions at this time. Encourage your Gator to ask questions and share the financial information with you to help her decision making, if necessary. Below is a general breakdown of finances.

Pre-Initiation Semester: \$900-\$3500

Includes: badge/pin, chapter due, initiation fee, corporation fees, meal plan
If your Gator joins a chapter during 2021 Recruitment, these are the dues to expect for Fall 2021.

Post-Initiation Semester: \$1300-\$2300

Includes: chapter dues and meal plan
If your Gator joins a chapter during 2021 Recruitment, these are the dues to expect for Spring 2022

Member (Semesterly/In-House): \$2700-\$6000

Includes: chapter dues, room rent, meal plan, parlor fee

If your Gator joins a chapter during 2021 Recruitment, and chooses to live in a chapter house, these are the dues to expect for Fall 2022 and beyond.

Members (Semesterly/Out-of-House): \$1400-\$3100

Includes: chapter dues, meal plan, parlor fee

If your Gator joins a chapter during 2021 Recruitment and does not choose to live in the chapter house, these are the dues to expect for Fall 2022 and beyond.

University Cost (Semesterly/Average Double-Occupancy Room): \$5135

These numbers may be used for comparison of sorority membership fees and standard university costs.

Standard Double on West Campus: \$2794

Standard Double on East Campus: \$2791

5-day meal plan: \$2065

If you have any questions regarding the cost of membership, please contact Peyton D., our Finance Vice President at fvp@ufpanhellenic.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding Recruitment in general, we encourage you to visit the Frequently Asked Questions tab on our website: <https://www.ufpanhellenic.org/faq>. If you cannot find an answer there, please feel free to contact Olivia T., the Membership Vice President of Panhellenic at mvp@ufpanhellenic.org.

That's all from me for now! Our Pi Chis cannot wait to meet your Gator at Orientation in a couple weeks. I am available via email at pnpichi@gmail.com and I am happy to help with anything. Look out for another newsletter closer to the beginning of Recruitment.



Andrea S.

PNM Relations Pi Chi

UF Recruitment Executive Board 2021

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