

WCU

Panhellenic

"WILD ABOUT RECRUITMENT"

Fall 2021

Recruitment Guide



A LETTER FROM THE VP OF RECRUITMENT

Dear Potential New Member,

First, I want to welcome you to the Catamount Family! There is no place quite like our sweet mountain home here at Western. Although you might struggle with being away from your home, family, and friends. But at the same time, you will make unforgettable memories and discover who you truly are. You have the opportunity to shape your college experience. I encourage you to make sorority life apart of that college experience!

We know that this year has been full of new experiences, hardships, and learning to be flexible. We recognize that we do not have all the answers and that things will not always go as planned or expected. However, we are confident that you will be able to find homes within our chapters. We are so proud of you, and we cannot wait to add you to our community.

My wish for each of you is to find a chapter that makes you feel like the best version of yourself. That you find a group of people who will lift you and encourage you to dream bigger and work harder. That you will find your future bridesmaids and make lifelong memories. That you will get to take part in beautiful ritual ceremonies handed down by generations of powerful sorority members. I wish all this for your journey in Panhellenic, but I know recruitment is just the start.

I hope you decide to find your home away from home in sorority life here at WCU! Being in a sorority has completely changed my life, and it can change yours too! If there's any advice I can give to you it would be to step out of your comfort zone and enjoy the little things. The sorority life has so much to offer you: a supportive community/ family, personal growth, a lifetime of laughs, and so much more. I can honestly say I have met my best friends in my sorority, and they will be with me for life. I am so thrilled for you to start your journey!

The Panhellenic Community is so excited to help you find your home and we cannot wait to see your faces, hear your stories, and help you find the place where you belong. All we ask is that you keep an open mind, are honest with yourself, and, as always, ~trust the process~. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask anything!

With all my love,
Leah Henry

What is a sorority?

A Panhellenic sorority is a group of individuals who come together because they share timeless values. Founded on the precepts of wisdom, truth, moral and spiritual values, self-esteem, life-long friendship, achievement, and academic excellence, these principles are still central in Panhellenic sorority life today.

Scholarship– As a Catamount, academic excellence is as much of a top priority for you as it is for each sorority on campus. Scholarship is promoted in sororities through a variety of avenues, including honor societies, study hours, and awards for outstanding academic achievement. In fact, the all-sorority grade point average is consistently higher than the non-sorority average! Membership in a fraternity or sorority can give you a wider range of resources to make the grades. To remain a member in good standing in every sorority, each new and initiated member must maintain a chapter-specified grade point average.

Leadership – Involvement in a sorority provides many different leadership opportunities for members. Fraternity and sorority leaders are found in every segment of the campus from student government, to athletics, to the Resident Assistant & Orientation staffs. As a member, you will develop skills in organizational management, delegation, goal-setting, and time management.

Philanthropy– Each sorority works on charitable projects, both on campus and in the greater Western North Carolina community, and supports national philanthropies. Community service activities play a major part of Panhellenic sorority life throughout the academic year.

Service – Serving others will undoubtedly be one of the most rewarding experiences a student can have as a member of a Panhellenic sorority. Each chapter dedicates itself to worthy local and national causes, as well as international philanthropies. At WCU, the College Panhellenic Council has adopted Circle of Sisterhood as its philanthropic association. This past year, the Catamount fraternity/sorority community donated thousands of volunteer hours, providing services and funding to numerous charitable and philanthropic causes.

Friendship – The most exciting thing that a sorority can offer is friendship. Throughout your college days you will find strong friendships, not only within your own chapter, but with members of other chapters as well. The memories that you will share with your chapter and as a member of the fraternity/sorority community will remain with you forever. And the benefits do not end with graduation. Along with the memories and leadership skills obtained in college, sororities provide members with a vast network of resources which are useful in locating a job or researching a place to live. As alumnae, many sorority members choose to remain connected to their sorority and participate in alumnae chapters of their organization. A sorority is a lifelong membership.



College Panhellenic Council Executive Board

The College Panhellenic Council (CPC) at Western Carolina University is comprised of nine (9) sorority leaders that come together as an executive board to serve the Panhellenic sorority community. Panhellenic exists to promote the values of being a Panhellenic sorority member and to serve as an advocate for its member groups in collaboration with those members, the campus staff, and community. At Western Carolina University, the College Panhellenic Council acts as a regulating and unifying body among the four (4) NPC organizations on this campus. It is the responsibility of the Panhellenic Council to plan and implement Panhellenic sorority recruitment! CPC also hosts programs and workshops in order to educate chapters on best study habits, promote Panhellenic standards, why it is important to empower other people, and so much more! CPC creates policies and standards that each Panhellenic sorority and all of its members follow.

Overall, the College Panhellenic Council leads and serves as a resource to chapters with the Panhellenic Creed as its central focus:

“We, as Undergraduate members of women’s fraternities, stand for good scholarship, for guarding of good health, for maintenance of fine standards, and for serving, to the best of our ability, our college community.

Cooperation for furthering fraternity life, in harmony with its best possibilities, is the ideal that shall guide our fraternity activities.

We, as Fraternity Women, stand for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenet by which we strive to live.”

Meet Exec



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"It's all Greek to me!"

Bid: A formal invitation to join a Panhellenic sorority.

Potential New Member (PNM): an enrolled WCU student who is not a member of a Greek-lettered organization. Regardless of their intention to participate in any recruitment process, they may, at any time, wish to explore the possibilities of membership.

Recruitment Counselor (RC): A sorority member who has disaffiliated during Formal Recruitment to assist Potential New Members. They will be assigned a group of PNMs to help guide them through the process of Primary Recruitment. Any RC can be used by a PNM for assistance throughout the recruitment process.

New Member: One who has accepted a bid to join a Panhellenic sorority and has not been initiated.

New Member Process: A time period where new members are educated about the sorority they have affiliated with at WCU.

Initiation: The formal ritual ceremony which brings new members into full membership of a sorority. They are no longer called a "new member" after this very important ceremony.

"It's all Greek to me!"

Primary Recruitment: The term often used by Panhellenic sorority members to describe the formal recruitment process that takes place in the fall semester at WCU.

"Rush": Slang for "Recruitment" that is generally no longer used by Panhellenic sororities.

Philanthropy: Fundraising efforts sponsored by Panhellenic sororities that support local and national charitable organizations. Examples: Meals on Wheels, Children's Miracle Network Hospital, Domestic Violence Awareness, Starkey Hearing Foundation.

Dues: Money used by the sorority to support chapter operations, national expenses (including insurance), and to remain in good active standing with the organization. Dues are used towards activities a sorority hosts such as a movie or pizza night, chapter retreats, chapter housing expenses, and leadership conferences!

Badge or Pin: A traditional and very special piece of jewelry worn only by sorority members to publicly demonstrate that they are a full member of a sorority. Typically worn during ritual meetings, ceremonies, important public events, or even at weddings!

Legacy: A PNM whose mother, sister, and/or grandmother, is an alumna or active member of a National Panhellenic Conference sorority. Legacy status differs by organization. At WCU, legacy status does not guarantee a PNM a bid to that organization of which they are a legacy.

PNM Bill of Rights

AS A POTENTIAL NEW MEMBER AT WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY, I SHOULD EXPECT...

- **The right to be treated as an individual.**
- **The right to be fully informed about the Panhellenic recruitment process.**
- **The right to ask questions and receive true and objective answers from Recruitment Counselors.**
- **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 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 binding agreements implicit in the preference card signing (MRABA).**
- **The right to make my 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.**

PNM Expectations

- **Potential New Members who are first-year students must have AT LEAST a 3.0 cumulative, unweighted high school GPA in order to participate in Primary Recruitment.**
- **Potential New Members who are not first-year students must have AT LEAST a 2.5 cumulative GPA in order to participate in Primary Recruitment. They must also have completed and earned AT LEAST 12 credit hours from Western Carolina University.**
- **Potential New Members must attend all academic classes during the Primary Recruitment period for the duration of the scheduled class time.**
- **Potential New Members must attend all events to which they are invited.**
- **Any Potential New Member who does not attend an event without an approved excuse will be asked to leave the Formal Recruitment process. The College Panhellenic Council Officers must approve any emergencies or illness that may prevent attendance.**
- **Potential New Members must attend the Formal Recruitment events at the time officially scheduled to them.**
- **Potential New Members may not contact any active sorority members during Formal Recruitment week. Sorority members may not contact PNMs.**
- **Sorority members may not make promissory comments or give oral or written invitations to join to any PNMs. Bids are only issued on Bid Day. PNMS are to contact a Panhellenic Officer or Recruitment Counselor if a situation like this occurs at any time.**

PNM Expectations

- **Potential New Members will not visit any sorority house until after Primary Recruitment.**
- **Potential New Members must be respectful to all sorority members and may not spread rumors or make disparaging remarks about chapters, chapter members, or other PNMs.**
- **Potential New Members may not be on their phones while they are in a round of recruitment.**
- **Active and Potential New Members may not use or be in the presence of drugs or alcohol during the Formal Recruitment week, including Bid Day.**
- **PNMs who wish to withdraw from Formal Recruitment must complete a withdrawal form and survey, which will be given to them by the Panhellenic Advisor.**
- **Nothing from any chapter facility may be removed from the facility as a "souvenir," EXCEPT for name tags on preference night.**
- **It is recommended that PNMs be fully aware of the academic and financial obligations of membership before accepting a bid.**
- **If Potential New Members wish to be eligible to join a Panhellenic sorority, they must complete and sign a Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement (MRABA). It is not guaranteed that every student who goes through Formal Recruitment will receive a bid to join a Panhellenic sorority.**
- **Potential New Members are encouraged to keep an open mind during Formal Recruitment to ensure any decisions they make are their own.**

Recruitment Counselors

Recruitment Counselors (or RCs) are the backbone of Panhellenic Recruitment. They are the sorority members who have temporarily put their letters aside to guide you through the recruitment process. They applied, interviewed with the Panhellenic Council, and have participated in an extensive training program to support you through the recruitment process. They are prepared to help!



**Director of Recruitment Counselors
Shea Sutton**

The duties of Recruitment Counselors

- Listen to you!
- Keep everything you say confidential
- Provide unbiased advice
- Encourage and empower you to make the best decisions for YOU!
- Provide a positive environment
- Assist you as you navigate the recruitment schedule.
- Serve as a mentor
- Celebrate you and your decisions!

Recruitment Counselors



Abigail Garris

Year: Junior

Major: Elementary Education

Advice: "My advice to pnm's is to trust the process and be yourself. All of our organizations are amazing so just be yourself!"

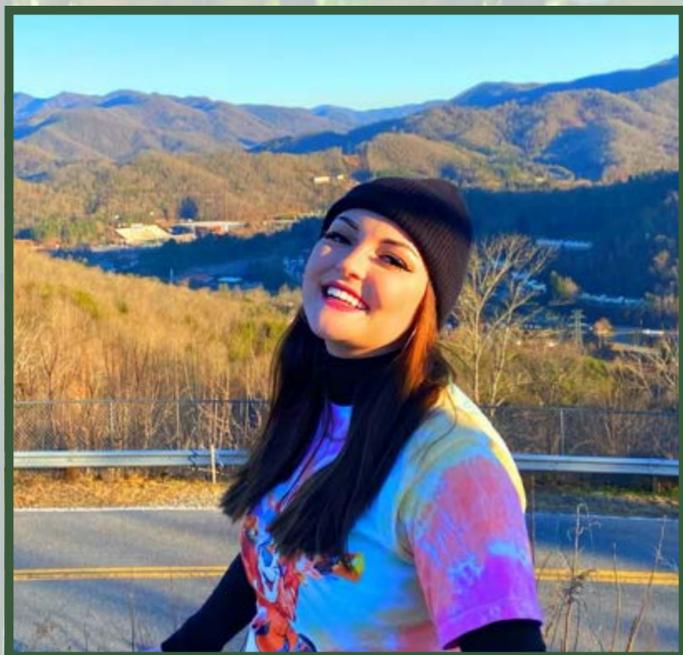


Veronica Thompson

Year: Senior

Major: Business Administration

Advice: "Don't dwell on the past, and don't daydream about the future, but concentrate on showing up fully in the present moment."

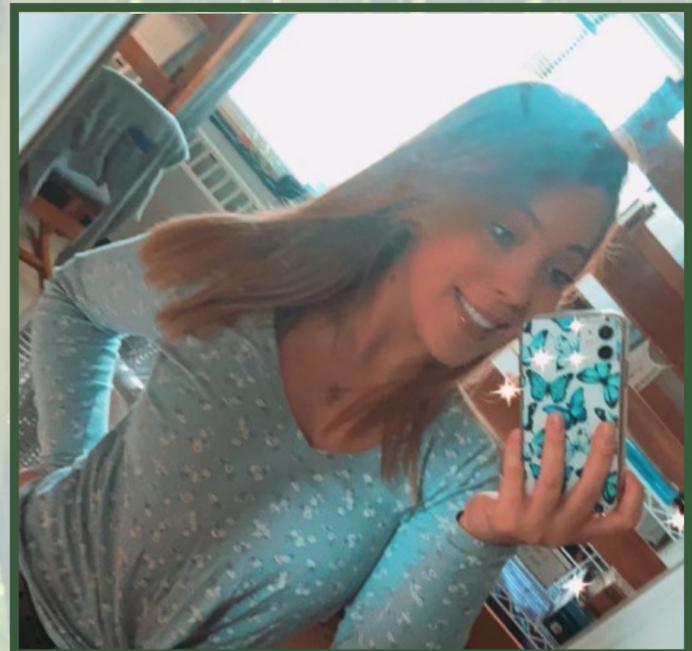


Courtney McClard

Year: Junior

Major: Criminal Justice

Advice: "Be yourself, be honest, and be open-minded!"



Shannah White

Year: Sophomore

Major: Integrated Health Sciences

Advice: "Trust the process." as much as you hear it over and over, it is very true. i ended up with a sorority i least expected, but I am very happy with the result!

Recruitment Counselors



Sydney Spivey

Year: Junior

Major: Marketing and Management

Advice: "Be sure to come in with an open mind & think about which organization you truly feel the most comfortable and at home at!"



Jenna Cary

Year: Sophomore

Major: Art Education

Advice: "We're so excited to meet all of you! Just remember to keep an open mind when selecting your future home. Pick a place you feel most comfortable in and remember this is YOUR process!"



Makayla Deel

Year: Junior

Major: Education

Advice: "go into recruitment with a positive attitude and to appreciate every chapter for how amazing they are. Follow your heart and go where you feel genuine connections!! and get hype because your life is about to change in the best way"



Jordan Millington

Year: Junior

Major: Integrated Health Sciences

Advice: "My advice to all PNM's is to come in with an open heart and open mind and remember to be completely true to yourselves don't act or fake anything because we want you to find your forever home based on your core values and your best fit!"

Recruitment Counselors



Emma Auch

Year: Senior

Major: Forensic Chemistry/Criminal Justice

Advice: "have fun and be yourself.

This process is all about you and what organization you vibe the best with.

Every organization is special, so don't try to be someone you aren't just to get into a specific one. You are unique and you deserve to find a home that loves you for who you truly are"



Camilla Lane

Year: Junior

Major: Elementary Education

Advice: "go into recruitment with a positive attitude and to appreciate every chapter for how amazing they are. Follow your heart and go where you feel genuine connections!! and get hype because your life is about to change in the best way"



Kayla Brooks

Year: Junior

Major: Criminal Justice

Advice: "be your true authentic self and really get to know all the chapters!"



Caty Chianese

Year: Sophomore

Major: Pre-Nursing

Advice: "My best advice it to trust the process. Even though everyone says it, not everyday is goes as expected but you will end up where you belong."

Recruitment Counselors



Cheyenne Brinegar

Year: Senior

Major: Parks and Recreation Management

Advice: "Always keep an open mind! Don't come in dead set on a specific organization, these sisters will surprise you and change your mind in a heartbeat! Each organization is amazing and unique in their own way."



Lauren Coe

Year: Junior

Major: English Education

Advice: "Stuck with it! It's going to be long and confusing but it's worth it to find your people!"



Veronica Farkas

Year: Sophomore

Major: Psychology

Advice: "Follow your gut, don't overthink, BE YOURSELF, and most importantly trust the process. This is supposed to be a fun experience not a stressful one! Take it one day at a time and savor every moment!"



Sara Howard

Year: Junior

Major: Finance

Advice: "Stuck with it! It's going to be long and confusing but it's worth it to find your people!"

Recruitment Counselors



Maggie Janney

Year: Sophomore

Major: Forensic Anthropology

Advice: "Trust the process and don't get disheartened if your top choice drops you, because you will end up where you're meant to be."



Angie Brown

Year: Sophomore

Major: Recreational Therapy

Advice: "Remember that everything happens for a reason. be yourself during recruitment, because you'll end up where you're meant to be in the end."

PRIMARY RECRUITMENT SCHEDULE

Day 1

Sisterhood and Values

Event length: 30 minutes for each round

What to expect: This is the first round of recruitment! You will end up meeting all 4 Panhellenic sororities by the end of the night. You will travel with your recruitment counselor group to each chapter's room! This night is centered around the values of the organization and the specific sisterhood they have.

What to ask: Why did you choose WCU? What do you love most about your organization? What made you decide to go through recruitment? What is your favorite memory so far in your chapter? Do you have any advice for me as a PNM? What kind of sisterhood events do you do? How do you apply your organization's creed to you everyday life?

What to wear: Your Recruitment T-Shirt and bottoms that highlight your style!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
Sisterhood & Values
ROUND 1: 5:00PM - 5:30PM
ROUND 2: 5:45PM - 6:15PM
ROUND 3: 6:30PM - 7:00PM
ROUND 4: 7:15PM - 7:45PM



PRIMARY RECRUITMENT SCHEDULE

Day 2

PHILANTHROPY AND LEADERSHIP

Event length: 45 minutes for each round

What to expect: During this round of recruitment, sororities will share the passion they have for their philanthropy! They will also share leadership opportunities they have received by being a sorority member. Members may share how being a leader has shaped who they are and made them a better person. Members may also share how doing philanthropic work and service has made an impact on them. Helping others is a big part of Panhellenic sorority life and you will learn about that on this night!

What to ask: Why are you passionate about your philanthropy? What else are you involved with on campus? How has your sorority made you a better leader and student? What have you gained from being in a sorority?

What to wear: Check out Pinterest! [pinterest.com/cpcpanhellenic](https://www.pinterest.com/cpcpanhellenic) or ask your Recruitment Counselor!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

Philanthropy and Leadership

ROUND 1: 2:00PM - 2:45PM

ROUND 2: 3:00PM - 3:45PM

ROUND 3: 4:00PM - 4:45PM



PRIMARY RECRUITMENT SCHEDULE

Day 3

PREFERENCE

Event length: 1 hour for each round

What to expect: This is the last day of recruitment! Being invited to a sorority's preference ceremony is very special. It means the sorority members see potential in you to be a great addition to the Fraternity/Sorority community. During this round, you will participate in a ceremony where chapters will share a deeper meaning of their values and ideals. You can attend up to two different preference events.

What to ask: How did you know this chapter was right for you? What sets your chapter apart from others? What will I gain from this chapter? What will I experience as a new member?

What to wear: Check out Pinterest! pinterest.com/cpcpanhellenic or ask your Recruitment Counselor!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
Preference
ROUND 1: 9:00AM - 10:00AM
ROUND 2: 10:30AM - 11:30AM



BID NIGHT

Where to arrive: The Catafount

Bid Night concludes primary recruitment. You are about to meet your new chapter! You will receive a shirt after you receive and accept a bid. You will have to change into this t-shirt, so it is best to wear a tank top under the shirt you arrive in! It is recommended you wear leggings/jeans/shorts and shoes you can walk/run comfortably because you'll be running out to your new chapter! (tennis shoes, converse, sandals with a buckle, etc.).



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
*REPORT TO THE
CATAFOUNT (OUTSIDE OF
THE UC) BY 4PM!*



Meet The Panhellenic Sororities

ALPHA CHI OMEGA ZETA OMEGA



CHAPTER FOUNDING AT WCU

April 20th, 1985

OPEN MOTTO

"Together Let Us Seek the Heights"

COLORS

Scarlet Red and Olive Green

PHILANTHROPY

Domestic Violence Awareness

DUES

\$675 first semester; \$480 after

HOUSING OBLIGATION

1 year consecutively or 2 semesters
when consecutive is not possible

GPA REQUIREMENT

2.7

ALPHA GAMMA DELTA THETA OMICRON

CHAPTER FOUNDING AT WCU

February 24, 1996

OPEN MOTTO

"Loving, Leading, Lasting"

COLORS

Red, Buff and Green

PHILANTHROPY

Fighting Hunger

DUES

\$760 first semester; \$425 after

HOUSING OBLIGATION

1 year

GPA REQUIREMENT

2.6



Meet The Panhellenic Sororities

DELTA ZETA THETA IOTA



CHAPTER FOUNDING AT WCU

May 8, 1962

OPEN MOTTO

"Walk Truly in the light of the Flame"

COLORS

Rose and Green

PHILANTHROPY

The Starkey Hearing Foundation and
The Painted Turtle Camp

DUES

\$695 first semester; \$370 after

HOUSING OBLIGATION

1 year

GPA REQUIREMENT

2.7

PHI MU GAMMA MU

CHAPTER FOUNDING AT WCU

March 4, 1968

OPEN MOTTO

"Les Soeurs Fideles" meaning
"The Faithful Sisters"

COLORS

Rose and White

PHILANTHROPY

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

DUES

\$720 first semester; \$320 after

HOUSING OBLIGATION

2 semesters

GPA REQUIREMENT

2.75



The Department of Greek Student Engagement and Development

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All Panhellenic sororities on campus are under the
advisement and direction of the Department of
Greek Student Engagement and Development!

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The office is located on the 3rd floor of the UC.