



# **PHI LAMBDA CHI**

## **NATIONAL FRATERNITY**

### **EXPANSION GUIDE**

# A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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In 1925, twelve men on the campus of what was then known as Arkansas State Teachers College were given permission to organize a student organization known as the Aztecs. Five years later, the name Aztec was dropped in favor of the name Phi Lambda Chi, and in January 1939 the organization voted to nationalize.

Since then, we have expanded slowly, remaining one of the smaller members of the North-American Interfraternity Conference. We currently have chapters on the campuses of Northeastern State (Oklahoma) University (Beta Chapter), the University of Arkansas at Monticello (Gamma Chapter), Henderson State University (Epsilon Chapter), Arkansas Tech University (Mu Chapter), Southern Arkansas University (Nu Chapter), Keene State (New Hampshire) College (Rho Chapter), the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (Sigma Chapter), and Texas A&M University-Texarkana (Tau Chapter). We have previously hosted chapters at various institutions in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, and Missouri.

In recent years, we have worked to solidify our core chapters and position ourselves for a gradual expansion. In doing so, we have worked diligently to advance the principles of fellowship, loyalty, and character by adhering to a set of principles that have served our organization well.

As members of Phi Lambda Chi, we believe that the union of men under a common cause with common interests betters the individuals and increases their knowledge and usefulness. We also believe that our members must be active and engaged citizens of their host campuses, so in recent years we have worked to increase the campus engagement and community service of our chapters.

We have effectively served our chapters and undergraduate membership in large part through the chapters' close proximity to one another, and our national executive board's role as a strictly volunteer organization. Our low organizational overhead allows us to pass on some of the lowest costs of any national fraternity, and allows the members of each chapter to have the opportunity to communicate directly with and develop relationships with their fraternal executives.

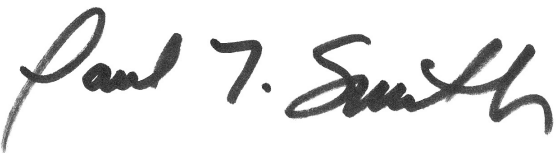
We offer our members a truly personalized experience - more so, I believe, than any other national fraternity. We have two national "touch point" events - an annual leadership conference, held in the spring, and our annual convention, held in July. Our board attempts to send a representative to each chapter annually, and those interactions have helped us develop good relationships with our campus partners as well.

As an administrator within the field of higher education myself, I know that it is vital for our organization to complement and support the mission of each of our campus partners. As such, we have worked over the last decade to change the vision of our organization from a purely social organization to one that embraces community service, philanthropy, and citizenship. With that change fully ingrained in our culture, it is vital for us to partner with institutions whose values closely mirror ours, and it is also a strategic priority for our organization to re-establish a presence on campuses where we previously had a chapter - many of which closed over 50 years ago - and to establish a presence on new campuses as well.

Phi Lambda Chi seeks to partner with institutions that will give our membership an opportunity to thrive, learn and grow, and in return, we seek to develop men who will retain a sense of loyalty to their university and will remain friends of the institution for life.

We hope you will consider our organization for a potential expansion to your campus. I believe fully that our organization and your institution can partner together to provide a truly unique experience for the men on your campus, and provide a component to your Greek system that so many schools are lacking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul T. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'P' and a stylized 'S'.

Paul T. Smith  
Executive Director

# CHAPTER/COLONY SUPPORT SERVICES

## National Officers

Phi Lambda Chi's national executive board is an entirely volunteer operation. Paul Smith (Gamma) serves as Executive Director, Keith Beason (Nu) serves as National President, James Dick (Beta) serves as Vice President for Chapter Operations, Jessie Merritt (Sigma) serves as Vice President for External Affairs, while Kris London (Tau) serves as Vice President for Internal Affairs.

## Chapter Operations

Phi Lambda Chi takes the well-being of its chapters very seriously. As such, we have a committed and experienced Chapter Operations team to assist our members in day-to-day operations and enhance their efforts to serve their host campuses.

## Alumni Associations / Housing Corporations

Phi Lambda Chi and its member chapters do not own houses. Housing corporations, often referred to as alumni control boards, are in control of all properties maintained by local chapters. They work closely with the local chapter to ensure that the property is maintained and all bills are paid.

## Phi Lambda Chi Education Foundation

An effort led by Bobby Thompson, Executive Director Emeritus, will see the formation of the Phi Lambda Chi Education Foundation in the coming year. This will provide assistance for chapters attending national events and provide us with assistance in our student development efforts.

## Phi Lambda Chi Quick Facts

**Founded**..... March 15, 1925  
.....Arkansas State Teachers' College  
..... (now University of Central Arkansas)

### Current Chapters

**Beta**..... Northeastern State University  
..... (founded 1939)  
**Gamma**..... Univ. of Arkansas-Monticello  
..... (founded 1940)  
**Epsilon**..... Henderson State University  
..... (founded 1946)  
**Mu**..... Arkansas Tech University  
..... (founded 1976)  
**Nu**..... Southern Arkansas University  
..... (founded 1977)  
**Rho**..... Keene State College  
..... (founded 2014)  
**Sigma**..... Univ. of Science and Arts of Oklahoma  
..... (founded 1994)  
**Tau**..... Texas A&M-Texarkana  
..... (founded 2013)  
**Phi Colony**..... Lindenwood University  
..... (Recognized 2017)

### Defunct Chapters

**Alpha**..... University of Central Arkansas  
..... (founded 1925, suspended 2016)  
**Delta**..... Southeastern Louisiana University  
..... (founded 1941, closed approx. 1950)  
**Zeta**..... Pittsburg State University  
..... (founded 1950, seceded 1961)  
**Eta**..... University of Central Oklahoma  
..... (founded 1954, seceded 1959)  
**Theta**..... University of Arkansas-Little Rock  
..... (founded 1956, seceded 1961)  
**Iota**..... Northwest Missouri State University  
..... (founded 1960, seceded 1966)  
**Kappa**..... Northwestern Oklahoma State Univ.  
..... (founded 1960, folded 1972)  
**Lambda**..... Truman State University  
..... (founded 1969, seceded 2001)  
**Xi**..... Lincoln University  
..... (Founded 1991, folded 2000)  
**Pi**..... LSU-Shreveport  
..... (Founded 2007, folded 2015)  
**Chi**..... Cameron University  
..... (Founded 2005, folded 2009)

# PHILANTHROPY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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## National Philanthropy

Phi Lambda Chi members raise funds annually for Arkansas Children's Hospital. All chapters and colonies are expected to raise a targeted amount of funds per member for our national philanthropy. All chapters are encouraged to raise additional funds for local charities.

## Community Service

Phi Lambda Chi chapters view community service as an essential priority. In our 2014 report, while our small membership comprised roughly .01% of the North-American Interfraternity Conference's members, our organization's community service hours comprised nearly 1% of all hours served by fraternity men.

# RISK MANAGEMENT AND HAZING

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Phi Lambda Chi National Fraternity has made a concerted effort to educate all members in the area of risk management. Each chapter receives a session on risk management at every national event.

Phi Lambda Chi adheres to the FIPG, Inc. Risk Management Policy, which includes provisions that apply to all fraternity entities and all levels of fraternity membership.

## ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

1. The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises, or during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the BYOB or third party vendor guidelines.
2. Alcoholic beverages may not be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverages, for example, kegs or cases, is prohibited.
3. OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, are prohibited.
4. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal "drinking age").
5. The possession, sale or use of any ILLEGAL DRUGS or CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event or at any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity is strictly prohibited.
6. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present. This includes any event held in, at or on the property of a tavern as defined above for the purposes of fundraising. A chapter may rent or use a room or area in a tavern as defined above for an event held within the provisions of this policy, including the use of a third party vendor and guest list.
7. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance or attend or participate in a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
8. All recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter will be nonalcoholic. No recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with an alcohol distributor or tavern as defined in this policy.

9. No member or pledge/associate/new member/novice, shall permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in "drinking games."

10. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/associate/new member/novice program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes, but is not limited to activities associated with "bid night," "big brother/big sister night" and initiation.

## **HAZING**

No chapter, colony, or student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities.

Hazing activities are defined as:

"Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution, or applicable state law."

## **SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT**

The fraternity will not tolerate or condone any form of sexist or sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions which are demeaning to women or men, such as verbal harassment. The fraternity will not tolerate sexual assault in any form.

## **FIRE, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

1. All chapter houses should meet all local fire and health codes and standards.

2. All chapters should have posted by common phones and in other locations emergency numbers for fire, police and ambulance and should have posted evacuation routes on the back of the door of each sleeping room.

3. All chapters should comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company or municipal authorities.

4. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house are expressly forbidden.

## **EDUCATION**

Each fraternity shall annually instruct its students and alumni/alumnae in the Risk Management Policy of FIPG, Inc. Additionally, all student and alumni members shall annually be sent a copy of said Risk Management Policy. A copy of said Risk Management Policy shall be available on the fraternity's website.

# RESOLUTION ON ALCOHOL

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Phi Lambda Chi has adopted the following resolution regarding alcohol:

WHEREAS, The Phi Lambda Chi Fraternity and its chapters are concerned about the increasing consumption and abuse of alcoholic beverages on college campuses, and

WHEREAS, The dangers of misuse of alcohol to individuals, to groups, to the fraternity system, and to the campus community are becoming increasingly evident, and

WHEREAS, An affirmative program to deal with the problem will only be effective by common consent and unified action.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the Phi Lambda Chi Fraternity that the following policies be adopted:

1. That the possession, use, sale, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premise of any chapter or at any entertainment or function of any chapter shall be in compliance with all applicable laws.
2. That moderation be encouraged during lawful consumption, and that chapters develop and support programs and those groups and organizations seeking to educate chapter members on alcohol awareness.
3. That open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access, where structured around the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited.
4. That non-alcoholic rush shall be actively promoted on all campuses.
5. That there shall be no open solicitation or encouragement of alcoholic beverage consumption or promotions by any chapter.

# STATEMENT ON HAZING

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Hazing is hereby defined to mean any or all of the following:

1. Any willful act or practice by a member that is directed against any person associated with Phi Lambda Chi, with or without intent:
  - a. Is likely, with reasonable possibility, to cause bodily harm or danger, offensive physical punishment or disturbing pain.
  - b. Is likely to:
    1. compromise the dignity of the person.
    2. cause public embarrassment or humiliation.
    3. cause a person to be the object of malicious amusement or shame.
    4. cause psychological harm or emotional strain.
  - c. Will impair a member's academic efforts.
2. Any requirement by a member which compels a member to participate in any activity which is illegal, which is known by the compelling person to be contrary to a member's moral or religious beliefs, or which is contrary to the rules or regulations of the member's institution of learning.

NOTE: Consistent with the above "law," the following specific examples of hazing are prohibited:

1. Transporting a person against his will.
2. The marking or branding of any person associated with Phi Lambda Chi Fraternity.
3. Preventing a member from attending class.
4. Forcing anyone to eat or drink against his will.
5. Any and all forms of activities which could result in mental or physical harm.
6. Paddling or striking any person associated with Phi Lambda Chi in any manner.
7. Preventing a person from practicing personal hygiene.

8. Causing a person to be indecently exposed.
9. Requiring a person to dress in a manner causing ridicule or humiliation.

## **STATEMENT ON TRANSGENDERED INDIVIDUALS SEEKING MEMBERSHIP**

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Phi Lambda Chi is a national Fraternity built upon concepts of character, fellowship, and loyalty. Any individual who identifies as a male and is recognized as such by its host campus is welcome to seek membership in our Fraternity. This policy is intended to uphold the mission of Phi Lambda Chi as a fellowship of men and should not be interpreted as changing the all-male character of the Fraternity or as a waiver of the Fraternity's exempt status under Title IX.

## **PROGRAM POLICIES (GUIDING PRINCIPLES)**

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1. Phi Lambda Chi chapters are required to follow all requirements of host institutions concerning risk management.
2. Phi Lambda Chi chapters have, since 1990, practiced a non-hazing new member development program. Phi Lambda Chi chapters are additionally held to any and all standards, regulations, and laws of both host institution and state.
3. New member programs vary in length from chapter to chapter but are traditionally between five and eight weeks long.
4. New members should meet the academic standards of the host institution for membership, and to retain active membership should be full-time, degree track students at the host institution.
5. Phi Lambda Chi academic standards require our chapters to have a cumulative grade point average that exceeds the all-male grade point average of the host institution.
6. Each chapter is required to have an academic success program where study hall and academic assistance is arranged for members who are struggling to meet academic requirements.
7. Phi Lambda Chi's national community service standard is for each chapter to register 10 hours of community service for each man per academic year. Our chapters traditionally double that minimum standard.

## **COLONIZATION**

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Phi Lambda Chi has recently conducted two expansions, adding chapters at both Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire, and at Texas A&M University-Texarkana. Keene State's chapter was colonized in 2012 and chartered in 2014, while TAMUT's chapter colonized in 2011 and was chartered in 2013. Both chapters received Chapter Excellence Awards at our most recent national convention. In April 2017, we added a new colony at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri.

### **Interest Group**

The interest group will receive multiple calls and visits by field staff and expansion coordinators. Emphasis for members in this phase is recruitment of other new members who fit the minimum standards of the Fraternity, and to build a bond between members.

### **Colony**

During this phase, the colony will petition the university for registered student organization status. They will receive regular contact from the national office, and the national office will oversee the implementation of a new member education program. The colony will receive formal training on chapter operations, meeting procedures, university relations, and recruitment.

### **Chapter**

A colony will reach this level after reaching all requirements set by the host institution and national organization.



## Ongoing Support

Field staff will visit as deemed necessary by the expansion coordinator.

## Recruitment Training

Recruitment training is a vital part of our colonization process. The colony/chapters receive biannual recruitment training at the annual leadership conference and national convention, and will have monetary and physical support from our field office.

## Housing Expectations

Phi Lambda Chi encourages its chapters and membership to participate in university residence life. We believe that members who live on campus enhance their own college experience and add to the overall student body experience. Our national fraternity expectation for fraternal housing believes any Greek housing system must be to the mutual benefit of the students and host institution.

## Financial Support

Colonies are not charged chapter dues until year two of the colonization process. New members are required to pay the national initiation fee of \$200 assessed to every new member.

## FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

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New Membership Fee:	\$200
Colonization Fee:	\$0
Chapter Dues:	\$500 per semester (\$300 dues, \$200 convention/leadership fee)
Insurance Assessment:	Pro-rated portion of national premium (typically under \$100 annually)

## UPCOMING CAMPAIGNS

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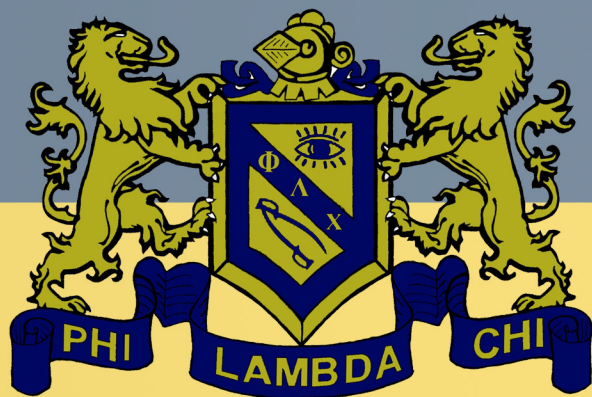
### Phi Lambda Chi Education Foundation

The Phi Lambda Chi Education Foundation is in the process of incorporating as a 501(c)(3) organization to solicit funds for the educational development of our members. This process is being spearheaded by our Executive Director Emeritus, Bobby Thompson.

### "Be A Brother" Active Bystander Program

Phi Lambda Chi is in the preliminary development stages of what is currently titled the "Be A Brother" active bystander program geared at combating sexual assault and harassment on our host campuses.





**Phi Lambda Chi National Fraternity**  
**14524 Cantrell Rd., Suite 140**  
**Little Rock, AR 72223**

For further information, contact Executive Director Paul Smith at [smithpt@hotmail.com](mailto:smithpt@hotmail.com).