

**DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
COLLEGIATE TRANSITION TASKFORCE**



**COLLEGIATE TRANSITION
HANDBOOK**

History/Purpose

History of the Collegiate Transition Taskforce

The Collegiate Transition Taskforce (CTT) was established during the administration of the 24th National President, Cynthia Butler-McIntyre, to address the retention rate of collegiate members. It is a fact that most members of our illustrious sorority become disconnected immediately after college. Soror McIntyre's charge to CTT was to help increase the transitioning rate of collegiate members to alumnae chapters by guiding and serving as a tool for collegiate members to connect with an alumnae chapter before they graduate.

At the start of its establishment, CTT created a five-year plan to increase by 50% each year the number of graduating collegiate members to register with an alumnae chapter prior to graduation. Although collegiate transition statistics have soared as a result of the many tools created and put into place by CTT, there is still much work to be done.

Purpose of CTT

- To help increase the transitioning rate of collegiate members to alumnae chapters
- To help guide and foster a sisterly relationship between collegiate and alumnae sorors and chapters
- To assist collegiate sorors to locate an alumnae chapter at their post-graduation location
- To smooth the transition from collegiate to alumnae chapter
- To build lasting relationships among collegiate and alumnae sorors
- To build an understanding and appreciation of collegiate and alumnae chapter functions

Transitioning

Importance of Transitioning Collegiates

- Balance membership of alumnae chapters
- Maintain balance between seasoned sorors and younger sorors
- Enhance Delta learning process
- Continue to serve Delta and the community
- Provide knowledge to alumnae sorors and the chapter
 - Skills
 - Technology
 - Resources

Why Transition

Benefits of Being Financial

- Lifetime Commitment = Lifetime Benefits!
- Network = Net worth!!
 - Graduate School
 - Career Goals
- Joining an alumnae chapter is the beginning of developing a network of prominent sorors.
- This network will benefit you throughout your personal and professional life.

The Transitioning Process

- Research area alumnae chapters
- Join a chapter where you will thrive the most
- Pay your dues to your collegiate chapter and then you can transfer the dues to any alumnae chapter

Or

- You can pay your dues to the alumnae chapter where you will join.
- Be the BEST Delta that you can be!!!

Who Can Help Sorors Transition?

- Advisors are the primary source for transition information and can assist with the payment process or help to locate a chapter that is most desirable.
- CTT will help place collegiate sorors in an alumnae chapter that is located in the soror's post-graduation location.



Advisor's Role in Transitioning

- Ensure collegiate sorors' graduation information has been updated on the *Sisters Only Member Portal*
- Encourage collegiate sorors to incorporate the attendance of a chapter meeting into their plans for the academic year
- Assist the collegiate sorors with fostering relationships with alumnae chapter in the area
- Encourage collegiate sorors to pay their dues in the spring of their senior year
- Be familiar with Chapter Locator and Collegiate Registry
- Encourage your alumnae chapter to reach out to collegiate sorors
- Encourage your alumnae chapter to partner with collegiate chapters in your area to become familiar with your chapter

CTT Programs and Initiatives

There are many activities sponsored by CTT to ensure that all collegiate sorors have the tools necessary to transition successfully. These programs include:

CTT Registry – where collegiate sorors enter their anticipated post-graduation information in the *Sisters Only Member Portal* so that we may match them with the appropriate alumnae chapters.

CTT Month – held every February where collegiate members are encouraged to interact with an alumnae chapter and connect with unfamiliar alumnae sorors.

Sister Series– newsletter for all collegiate sorors outlining issues associated with collegiate transition and providing tips for a successful matriculation through college and transition. The newsletter is issued twice a year and is disseminated to each collegiate soror via her chapter president.

CTT Hotline– where collegiate sorors can email CTT members and receive assistance with placement in an alumnae chapter after graduation. Collegiate sorors seeking guidance or assistance with transitioning should email ctt@deltasigmatheta.org.

Transition Resources

Chapter Locator

- Collegiate members can now search for chapters in the location where they anticipate living after graduation
- Allows collegiate members the opportunity to make contact with the alumnae chapter prior to moving to the area
- Will provide a very important opportunity for collegiate members to begin building their support system in anticipated new city

Collegiate Registry

- Collegiate members are to input their anticipated graduation date and post-graduation location in the *Sisters Only Member Portal*
- After registration, registrant will be given the contact information for an alumnae chapter(s) in the specified area
- This process will also assist CTT in keeping track of how many collegiate members are graduating each year

**The Chapter Locator can be found on the National website
http://www.deltasigmatheta.org/chaplocation/home_locator.asp**

CTT Month

During National Collegiate Transition Month, collegiate members gain invaluable information about alumnae chapters and life in Delta beyond the collegiate years. All collegiate chapters are encouraged to collaborate with an alumnae chapter for three events during the month of February. Chapters are asked to partner throughout the month for a minimum of THREE activities; a Business Meeting, a Collaborative Program and a Community Service/Social Activity.

Chapters participating in Collegiate Transition Month activities are asked to use the hashtags **#DST** **#CTTMONTH** when using social media to highlight their activities.

Listed below are suggestions that can be used in creating successful collegiate/alumnae collaborative events:

BUSINESS MEETINGS	COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS	COMMUNITY SERVICE/SOCIAL
Chapter Meeting	Partner together for Delta Academy/GEMS/EMBODI	Lunch/Dinner with the Deltas
DID	Host a Local College Visit	Movie Night
	Host a Project 13 Program, Fundraiser or Membership Drive	Game Night
	Host a Debt Reduction Seminar	Zumba or Workout
	Create Collegiate/Alumnae Mentorship Program	Bowling Night
	Host a Black History Month Program	Black History Month Trivia Contest
	Host a fundraiser for Mary Sick for the Help Mission Hospital	Volunteer at local food pantry
	Host a Delta-size Program	Volunteer at local school
	Host an Issues Forum or Candidates Forum	Host a Black History Month Event. (Campus or Community)
	Plan a visit to a School Board or City Hall Meeting	Penny Drive for Scholarship

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. National Collegiate Transition Taskforce

Suggested Activities Calendar

The following is a list of activities that chapters can use to work with collegiate sorors as they transition into alumnae chapters. The idea is to start the transition process while sorors are still in their collegiate chapter, so that when they graduate and join an alumnae chapter those relationships are already established.

September

Back to School Drive

Sorors will ask friends, classmates, and family members to donate a backpack, school supplies or uniforms. Each soror will be responsible for bringing at least three items. Alumnae and collegiate sorors will assemble the backpacks together. Backpacks will be donated to a disadvantaged elementary school.

Round-Up Activities

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can participate in a collaborative round-up activity (an event where sorors are given information about the different chapter committees and then encouraged to become a member of the committee that most interests them) at the start of the sorority year.

Secret Soror

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can establish a secret soror for the sorority year with little, inexpensive/free tokens given each month culminating with a gift, and sorors revealed in May.

October

Walk for a Purpose

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can both participate in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk. Other walks can also be taken into consideration throughout the year.

Voter Registration

Alumnae sorors can host a voter education event to help collegiate sorors stay up-to-date on political issues on the ballot.

Delta Week

Alumnae sorors can host a fellowship activity for the local collegiate chapters.

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November

Delta Boot Camp

Sorors will learn new ways to get physically fit and encourage sorors to workout weekly. Alumnae and collegiate sorors will make a more conscious effort to get/stay in shape. Sorors will exercise in the morning with a professional trainer. This group session will allow sorors to start working out before Thanksgiving. Hopefully, sorors will be inspired to keep up the workout routine to work off pounds gained after the holiday.

Adopt-a-Family Holiday Drive

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can collect food and donate to disadvantaged families.

Holiday Dinner

Alumnae sorors can invite collegiate sorors that are unable to go home for the holiday, to join them for Thanksgiving dinner.

Feed the Homeless

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can feed the homeless at a local shelter.

December

Adopt-a-Family Holiday Drive

Alumnae and collegiate sorors will collect and donate gifts to disadvantaged families.

Financial Fortitude

Alumnae sorors can assist collegiate sorors to host a Financial Fortitude workshop on their campus.

Kwanzaa

Alumnae sorors and collegiate sorors can jointly host a community Kwanzaa event.

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January

Founders Day

Alumnae and collegiate chapters can do a Founders Day activity together on January 13th.

Career Development

Alumnae chapters may host a career development workshop for collegiate chapters. Workshop topics may include employable skills, education requirements for various careers, interview techniques, and what to do once they are employed. Alumnae chapter sorors may be paired with collegiate sorors, who are interested in pursuing similar careers. Sorors will maintain communication, especially as the collegiate soror prepares for graduate school or applies for employment.

Alumnae Meeting Visit

Collegiate sorors can attend an alumnae chapter meeting.

February – National CTT Month

Black History Month

Alumnae sorors can attend a Black History Month event with collegiate sorors.

Adopt-a-Black Business

Sorors can attend church together. After the service, sorors can eat together at a black-owned restaurant.

Sorors Night Out

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can select a local event to attend together (play, dance performance, movie, etc.).

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Suggested Activities Calendar

March – Sisterhood Month

Program Support

Collegiate sorors can assist alumnae sorors with the Delta Gems and the Delta Academy. To work with the Delta Gems or Delta Academy, collegiate and alumnae sorors must go through the Risk Management Program.

A Day of Worship

Sorors can attend church and brunch together.

Sorors Recognize Sorors

Alumnae and collegiate sorors recognize outstanding sorors that have made an impact in each other's lives during the sorority year.

Celebrating Women

In recognition of Women's History Month, collegiate and alumnae sorors can read a book together about a special woman in history and culminate the reading with a fellowship where sorors can discuss the book and history.

April

Delta Social

Alumnae chapters can host a social before the alumnae chapter meeting. After the social, the collegiate sorors can attend the chapter meeting.

Red Carpet Event

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can attend an opening weekend movie that is supported by the National Arts and Letters Commission. This event can happen anytime throughout the year.

Scrapbooking 4 DST

Alumnae and collegiate sorors spend an afternoon scrapbooking the events of the sorority year.

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May

May Week

Alumnae and collegiate sorors collaborate on a program for May week.

Toiletry Drive

Chapters can collect toiletries and donate them to a country of their choice.

Graduation Celebrations

Alumnae sorors can attend collegiate sorors' graduation ceremonies. Dinner, brunch or a fellowship at a soror's home can also take place to celebrate the collegiate sorors' accomplishments.

June

Family BBQ

Alumnae and collegiate sorors can have a good time while having family members in attendance. This can also be a time where sorors can recognize graduating seniors by having a celebration cake at the picnic. Every soror can be responsible for bringing a dish.

Delta Bridge Ceremony

Similar to convocation, collegiate sorors are paired with alumnae sorors to transition to an alumnae chapter. Ideally, this event will happen at the last sorority meeting of the year for the alumnae chapter. Graduating seniors will be recognized, and the seniors will join the chapter.

Transition Activities

Collegiate Transition Celebrations

As each sorority year comes to a close, it is important to celebrate the accomplishments of the sorors who are graduating. A celebration allows the collegiate sorors to see they are closing one chapter of their Delta lives and transitioning to the alumnae world. As advisors, it is important to guide these younger sorors and place them on the path toward continuing great work in Delta. The celebration can be as elaborate as the chapter decides. Chapters can have a guest speaker from the local alumnae chapter to speak to the group about transitioning and continuing the work of Delta. Sorors can decide on a small luncheon or a cake and punch reception. If the chapter decides, a small token can be given to the graduating sorors. Lastly, the chapter advisor should meet with all graduating sorors to assist with the transition to an alumnae chapter in the collegiate soror's anticipated post-graduation location.

Delta Bridging

Delta bridging is a symbolic activity that has been designed to emphasize the continuity of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. as the collegiate Sorors are transitioned to an alumnae chapter. This ceremony is held with the local alumnae chapter and will recognize graduating collegiate sorors and welcome them to the next level of progression into the sorority.



Collegiate Transition Litany

Leader: As we celebrate more than 100 years of sisterhood, we thank you God for allowing us to grow and glow as dynamic women.

Transitioning Sorors: God, help us to prepare our minds and our hearts to accept change.

Leader: From the woman's suffrage march in Washington, DC, in March 1913 to becoming an international sorority of women that embodies leadership, character and beauty, continue to give us courage to stand up for social action and serve our communities.

Transitioning Sorors: God, help us to prepare our minds and our hearts to accept change.

Leader: God, you are our provider and our protector. With you we have the ability to do great things. With your constant protection we have no choice but to become great.

Transitioning Sorors: God, help us to prepare our minds and our hearts to accept change.

As we transition from collegiate to alumnae sorors, let us pursue our journeys in life. Lord, help us to utilize the great things that we have learned as members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Allow us to have the ability to go above and beyond, not only what we can do for ourselves but what we can do for human kind.

ALL: We are Great! Driven! Blessed! and Powerful! beyond measure.
Now as we go on this journey God, give us the **POWER TO MAKE A CHANGE.**

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

National Collegiate Transition Taskforce Members

2013- 2015

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