

# Panhellenic Parent & Family Webinar Q&As

Monday, July 27, 2026

Below are the questions asked and answered in the Panhellenic Parent & Family Webinar. We've grouped the questions and answers by category for convenience. For additional questions, don't hesitate to reach out at [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu).

**Webinar link:** <https://youtu.be/WuXaL7ufNyA>

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## STATS

***Q: How many people are going through rush?***

A: As of today (June 27), there are 1,762 signed up! OU's largest recruitment class in history!

***Q: Are you able to discuss total numbers of those Released by percentage or any guidance at all?***

A: Last year, 0.9% of all PNMs were completely released from the process. It's a small number but that is still 15 students. It's always a possibility but statistically, it is a small number.

***Q: If there are 1,762 girls rushing then will each house have about 160 girls in pledge class?***

A: Not necessarily! We will take the number of students left in the process on Preference Round and divide by 11 to determine quota (pledge class size). We will start the process with 1,762 but will end with less than that. There's no way at this time to guess what quota will be!

***Q: I thought if you maximize your options, the girl would get a house? So how does the release work? Is that just very rare?***

A: Complete releases only happen in Rounds 2 – 4. After Preference (going into Bid Day), that is when a student can maximize and be guaranteed a bid. Before preference, complete release is always a possibility. The only time you are guaranteed a bid is by maximizing your options after Preference Round on your MRABA.

***Q: What percentage if girls are usually unmatched? With such a large crush class, is there more concern for larger number of girls not getting a house?***

A: We typically see about 15% or so of PNMs unmatched. The vast majority of that 15% are self-selecting out of the process. A larger number of girls doesn't necessarily make a difference! Last year, our unmatched rate went down several percentage points, and it was the largest class we ever had (until this year!)

***Q: Around how many girls get bids per house?***

A: Hard to say! Last year, quota was set at 113 but chapters had up to 123 new members with quota additions added in.

***Q: What are the grade requirements for each house? Do you have a quick chart?***

A: This information is not public. The average grade point for a freshman to join is around a 3.2. and the average grade requirement for an upper-class student is around a 3.0. Chapters set their own membership requirements when it comes to grades!

***Q: If a PNM is at risk for being released how early will we know?***

A: This is not something we would do any outreach about. We have no way to know who might be released. As a chapter decision, Panhellenic does not get involved in membership decisions.

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## **FINANCES**

***Q: Is the national fee due in full at the beginning of the semester or can there be payments?***

A: All our chapters allow for monthly payments. Most are split between 10 and 12 months!

***Q: How much can we expect to pay in membership dues?***

A: You can find our 2026 – 2027 Panhellenic Financial Transparency Report here:  
<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/studentlife/fsps/panhellenic-assets/financial-transparency/Financial%20Transparency%20Report%202026-2027.pdf>

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## **RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

***Q: How many girls are in a tour group during Round 1?***

A: There will be between 70 and 75 PNMs in each group.

***Q: Do students wait indoors for recruitment events? Or will they be outside?***

A: We will have some cool waiting areas for longer breaks. When students are waiting outdoors, they will likely be in the shade under tents near the chapter front porches.

***Q: People chat about rush bags and changing shoes, fixing hair between walking and going into houses. How does that functionally work during round 1 and 2? In the tent during the 15-to-20-minute time to get from house to house?***

A: That does happen in that 20-minute break! The chapters are pretty close together – students walk to each house and then line up outside in order and will have some time in line to reset, touch up, etc.

***Q: Is it best to choose 8 chapters so the student has a better chance to get in a chapter they like?***

A: The system does require that students maximize their options in the earlier rounds. Meaning, the system will make students choose 8 chapters from Round 1 to Round 2 in order to move on!

***Q: Would the student know if they are above the quota to select preference 1?***

A: No – students will never know where a chapter ranks them on their preference round list. Even if a member tells them they are “above the quota line,” that is not something any member would know. Only the core recruitment team and advisor would know and it’s not something ever shared.

***Q: What if they don’t know where to go when they start getting their personal schedules?***

A: Their party schedule will have a map on it! Google Maps are great too. But, they will have already been to each house on Round 1. Additionally, we have Rho Gammas stationed on every street corner to assist with wayfinding!

***Q: How does distance to and from parties work from Traditions being it’s so far?***

A: We’ll have busses running during recruitment for students living in Traditions. They will get a separate email with route and timing information soon! We’re finalizing that this week with CART.

***Q: Will the girls get their schedules the morning of the 11th or the evening of the 10th?***

A: Students will get their schedules the morning of the 11th. We do all the matching and printing overnight.

***Q: How much walking/running from house to house is there and are they all over campus, my daughter twisted her knee hiking in California last month and is undergoing PT, but I’m afraid all the walking will further injure her situation.***

A: Please shoot us an email at [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu) and we can discuss accommodations. We’re happy to accommodate for students with mobility needs, injuries, etc.

***Q: To get between parties and to break locations is it all walking? If you are going from end of South to End of North Greek houses, are they walking the whole way?***

A: Yes! Our campus is pretty compact – it’s a very walkable area. From the furthest south house to the furthest north house, it’s a 15-minute walk.

***Q: I’m confused about rank. She said the rank is top 3, but then also said you put 3 least favorite at bottom (where you put rank). Which is correct?***

A: In the example shared in the webinar, the rank order is for the bottom three. 1 is the one your student would MOST want to go back to!

***Q: Do students know where they rank with sororities at pref?***

A: Nope! Students will never know where they rank on a chapter’s list!

**Q: Also, is there any reason why they couldn't walk between parties in comfy shoes and change quickly for parties (have in their rush bag)?**

A: Definitely not! We recommend it! No use in ruining your feet that week!

**Q: If she doesn't get asked back to her top 2 can she still get matched with one of her top 2 during the forced placement you are charged with?**

A: Unfortunately, no. As a mutual selection process, both parties have to agree. If she was not invited back to her top 2, that would not be a match and she would not be invited back for the next round.

**Q: Do or should they bring a purse/bag, with extras, extra makeup, water, etc.?**

A: We suggest it! Make sure it's not a super nice bag – it will be on the ground a lot. But, it's nice to have some supplies during the day. Long days and there's not always a ton of time to get back to the residence halls.

**Q: So if they don't get their schedules on day 1 til morning, what time should they expect that or should they be ready?**

A: All students will line up on Round 1 in the South Oval at 7:45 AM. We'll cover their schedule at our orientation meeting!

**Q: So if they only have 1 house for pref round...that's the house they'll get a bid from?**

A: Correct! As long as your student completes her MRABA, she would be maximizing all options available to her and would match with that chapter.

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## PRE-RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES

**Q: What is dress code for Aug 8?**

A: No dress code! Think casual and cool – it's hot in Oklahoma! Most students will wear athletic wear – it's a casual day.

**Q: Can you run through what August 8th looks like?**

A: That day is casual! 10:00 – 11:30 AM is a mandatory orientation for all PNMs at Lloyd Noble Center. There are training rotations in the afternoon from 2:00 – 3:00 PM or 3:30 – 4:30 PM at Dale Hall. Students will have hall meetings that night at 6:00 PM. They will be assigned a training time soon! Checking their OU email often is great!

**Q: Do they use OU email for ICS account?**

A: Yes! Likely their [first.middle.last-1@ou.edu](mailto:first.middle.last-1@ou.edu) email – for example, mine is [kylie.k.frisby-1@ou.edu](mailto:kylie.k.frisby-1@ou.edu). They will set their own password. If they have issues logging in, email [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu) and we can troubleshoot!

***Q: What's the purpose of ISP? Why do girls do that?***

A: ISP is a good option for students who had two chapters on preference and would rather not be in a sorority than match with their second choice. Some students feel so strongly about not matching with that second choice, that they intentionally choose the risk of not matching. If a student matches with a chapter, they are bound to that chapter for a year. They can drop but cannot join another Panhellenic organization for 1 calendar year.

***Q: What is the typical reason why a student is released?***

A: It's hard to say! Largely, it's grade point average, but as private membership based organizations, chapters determine who they do and don't want to invite back. Our best advice to avoid this is practice conversation skills, show interest, and be kind to others!

***Q: For preference can they pick 2 houses but not rank the bottom 3?***

A: On preference, students are only at a maximum of 2 chapters, so there is not a third to rank.

***Q: Is there a small group meeting on the 6th AND 7th or just the 7th for all girls?***

A: Just on the 7th! Really, it's to make sure everyone knows where they are going and what the plan is for the 8th!

***Q: On Aug 8th when we have to go back to dorm to finish up, how do we get access?***

A: Your student has credentials to get into her own dorm or room. You'd need to communicate with her to get access. She should be with you in the residence halls at all times as you are not the resident.

***Q: Do they drive to Lloyd Noble Center the morning of the 8th?***

A: They can! There will be plenty of parking!

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## **MEALS**

***Q: Lunch is in the dining halls? I've heard the dining halls aren't open until school starts, is that inaccurate?***

A: Your student's early move in fee covers their meals during recruitment. Dining halls will be open and operational!

***Q: Where do they grab lunch?***

A: Dining halls will be open and operational during recruitment!

***Q: Back to the dining hall question, are they open for breakfast and dinner to students who live on campus?***

A: Yes! We will compile a full list of hours to share with students. But the dining halls are open and operational during recruitment.

***Q: What are the options for food when they move in?***

A: Meal plans for students participating in recruitment will begin on August 8 and will be open throughout recruitment.

***Q: Food allergies and lunch is there enough time between parties etc to get her allergy specific food from cafeterias?***

A: There should be! We have shared the food allergy list with the dining halls so they are prepared!

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## **BID DAY**

***Q: The girls won't find out their Sorority until 4pm on the 16th?***

A: Correct! Bids are distributed at 4:00 PM on August 16th.

***Q: I think you said this, but I want to clarify - parents are NOT in the dorm when bids come. We will know which dorm to meet them at after they text us?***

A: Correct! Parents should wait outdoors or in the lobby of the residence halls. We suggest waiting near the chapter house areas. Students can call or text to tell you where to meet them!

***Q: Parents are allowed to go to the sorority house with their daughter once they get their bid?***

A: Definitely! The Greek housing area looks a lot like football game days – super fun!

***Q: How prevalent is the family at dorm for bid day. We live 2000km from Norman, coming back for that moment will not be possible***

A: Not required at all! For every family there, there will be another who is not able to make it. Your student will have plenty of people to celebrate with!

***Q: I'm confused again! I thought students get bids in dorms, so we would be in dorms with our girls when they get their bids. They run to their house and we follow? Or do I have that all wrong?***

A: We suggest meeting them at the chapter house or in the lobby of the dorms. Parents should not be in the dorm rooms – we suggest just meeting them at the chapter house.

***Q: So if we are planning on attending on Sunday we should be around the houses and wait for our daughter to call or text us?***

A: That's correct! That will be the easiest to navigate – the streets will be very busy!

***Q: What about girls who are not living in the dorms for their freshman year? Where do their bids get delivered?***

A: They will open their bids in their small group meeting rooms – it will be the same room all during recruitment. Their Rho Gammas will make sure they know where to meet!

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## **GIFTING**

***Q: I'm seeing all the emails about sending gifts during recruitment week - how important / common is this?***

A: We do see lots of families support their students in this way! Not required by any means, but a fun way to give your student a little boost!

***Q: The vendors are asking for the PNM #. When will they get that?***

A: It was sent in the first PNM newsletter on June 30! That would have been sent to their OU email. We can also pull it if you shoot us an email at [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu).

***Q: So there are numerous vendors for gifts? I seem to be getting peppered by a couple are there any ratings of these providers?***

A: Any vendors that you would have been contacted by are our preferred Panhellenic vendors. They are all great!

***Q: If we wanted to send notes - where would we send them?***

A: We suggest bringing them by on our office on a move in day. We won't get a lot of mail at our temporary HQ location.

***Q: Do vendors deliver gifts direct to student rooms or to your office? Then you all deliver to students?***

A: Yes! Only our preferred Panhellenic vendors have this service! Our list of vendors can be found here: <https://www.ou.edu/studentlife/fsps/councils/pan/how-to-join#formal>. Just click on "gifts and vendors."

***Q: I haven't received any emails about gifts. How do I make sure I am on the mailing list?***

A: Shoot us an email at [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu) and we can check! Just let us know your student's name too!

***Q: Is the office address on your website or is there a specific office address for gifts?***

A: Our office during recruitment is in the Jim Thorpe Multicultural Center (1620 Asp Avenue, Norman, OK 73019).

***Q: When will they know their mandatory training time on the 8th?***

A: Very soon! Likely by the end of this week!

***Q: Can you also please list the dates and hours we could drop off labeled rush gifts at the office?***

A: We do gift delivery August 9 – 15. Any gifts would need to be dropped off by 2:00 PM. Any Bid Day gifts go directly to the chapters. We do not deliver gifts on Bid Day (August 16).

***Q: How many Rush gifts to girls usually get?***

A: It depends! We see some get a gift every day and some, not at all. There's no right or wrong answer here – up to you!

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## MISCELLANEOUS

***Q: Do you guys go over the ranking system with the girls and how it works?***

A: We do! We'll cover information about this at their mandatory orientation and in the Preference Trainings the morning of August 15. We will make sure they know exactly what to expect and how all of this works!

***Q: Is it too late to submit letters of recommendation/endorsement?***

A: No! We suggest getting them in as soon as possible, but chapters will accept them all the way until the start of recruitment.

***Q: Will the houses under construction be complete in time?***

A: That is a great question to ask during recruitment! They will likely be covering that information in Round 3 as well during the house tours.

***Q: Could the student go through formal rush as a sophomore if they drop out?***

A: Definitely! We see students participate in the process a second time every year. Our process is largely first-year students (about 6% of our participants are sophomores).

***Q: When will Alpha Phi house construction be complete?***

A: We have been told it will be complete in June 2027 – ready for recruitment season and students to live in the house in the 2027 – 2028 academic year.

***Q: Clear bags only for the girls?***

A: The only clear bag policy is for the mandatory orientation meeting at 10:00 AM at Lloyd Noble Center on August 8. This is because we are using an OU Athletics facility. Clear bags are not required for any other events or programs.

***Q: Will the PNMs have a zoom or is all of this explained at orientation?***

A: This will be covered at orientation, in the PNM Canvas course, and in Panhellenic newsletters. We do not do a Zoom for students before recruitment begins. We host this webinar for parents because parents do not attend the orientation at Lloyd Noble Center.

***Q: Are there specific names of Rho Gammas to contact? Do we give their Rho Gamma's their cell number for communication?***

A: Rho Gammas will reach out to your student directly to add them to a group chat. That will happen after August 3.

***Q: Do the girls need to send their updated gpas?***

A: They can send updated GPAs to [panhellenic@ou.edu](mailto:panhellenic@ou.edu). Not required, but we do not get them from the admissions team – any updated GPAs would need to be sent to us directly!

***Q: How important are letters of recommendation? My daughter got all houses but 1.***

A: They are not required to participate! I suggest checking out this page of our website for more information: <https://www.ou.edu/studentlife/fsps/councils/pan/how-to-join/recommendation-letters.html>

***Q: What is the Facebook page? Insta too?***

A: Our parent and family Facebook page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oupanrecruitment26>. Our Panhellenic Instagram is @oupanhellenic.

***Q: Where does the Alpha Phi house new location be during recruitment while they are under construction? How does the houses work? Sleeping quarters wise?;***

A: Alpha Phi will be recruiting out of the OU BCM building right in the South Greek area. Most chapters have 2 – 6 girl rooms. There are no sleeping porches!

***Q: Are there plans for the 2 days between Bid Day and Camp Crimson?***

A: Chapters often host events for new members! Those are the general freshmen move in days, so there will be a lot going on around the residence halls! Many students use this time to wind down, meet new girls in their member classes, and relax!

***Q: My daughter's roommate decided not to attend OU. She just found out last week. She will be roommate-less so during rush is it possible to find someone else in this situation?***

A: I'd suggest asking it in the Facebook group to help connect folks. She won't be alone – she'll meet other girls on her hall in her first small group meeting!

***Q: My daughter will be in PLC. Will she be able to attend her weekly meetings without interfering with possible required sorority meeting/events?***

A: Definitely! Attending her PLC meetings take priority! The chapter will work with her on an excuse process if needed.

***Q: If girls don't get in a house that she was interested in but changes her priority list at the last minute, does the house know and is there retribution?***

A: Chapters will never know how a PNM ranked them – the other way around too! PNMs will never know where they fell on a chapter list.