

# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



# T.O.R.C.H.

TEACHING OBLIGATIONS, RIGHTS, CHARACTERISTICS & HISTORY OF SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC.

## Application Packet

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# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



## Application Checklist

Each aspirant shall submit all of the following documents:

### Application Items - Submit to the Membership Chair

1. Membership Application with Terms and Conditions
2. Policy on Hazing
3. New Member Arbitration Agreement
4. Education Verification Documents
  - a. Undergraduate – Two (2) copies of your sealed college transcript
  - b. Graduate – Copy of bachelor’s degree or two (2) sealed copies of college transcript
5. Non-refundable \$25 application fee
6. Updated professional resume
7. Two (2) letters of recommendation – one from a community leader and one from a member in good standing

### Initials

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

### Education Verification Requirements

Transcripts are only considered official if they are in a sealed envelope prepared by the institution. Transcript must state that (1) the applicant is currently enrolled during the current semester and (2) that the applicant has obtained at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. If the transcript does not show proof of current enrollment, an enrollment verification or certified letter must be submitted from the university registrar in a sealed envelope that states this information. Alumnae applicants must also submit their educational verification in a sealed envelope from the university registrar unless it is a copy of their degree.

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



**Official Membership Application**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

**PERSONAL DATA**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip)

Residential Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

	High School	College	Graduate
Name and Location of School			
Dates Attended			
Grade Point Average (GPA)			
Major Field of Study			
Degree Awarded			
Date Received			

Current Classification: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Undergraduate Applications Only)**

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Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. International Headquarters 1000 Southhill Drive, Suite 200 Cary, North Carolina 27513  
Toll Free Phone: (888) SGR-1922 Phone: (919) 678-9720 Fax: (919) 678-9721 Web Address: <http://www.sgrho1922.org>

# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Company Name and Address	Position	Duties	Employment Dates: From To	Reason for Leaving

## **ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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## **HONORS RECEIVED**

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## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER

# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Part One:** Have you ever been convicted of either of the following under the name on this application or under any other name?

- Felony (any crime punishable by more than one year in prison)  Yes  No
- Misdemeanor (Less serious offenses that typically result in such punishments as a heavy fine and/or a jail sentence not exceeding a year)  Yes  No

If yes to either, please provide the following information: (Not including minor traffic violations)

OFFENSE & TYPE (felony or misdemeanor)	DATE OF OFFENSE	STATE OF OFFENSE	DISPOSITION	DATE OF FINAL RESTITUTION

NOTE: Copy of an official criminal background check outlining final disposition of the offense and sentence requirements must be included for all misdemeanor convictions.

**Part Two:** Is any member of your family currently a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated?  Yes  No If yes, Please provide the following information:

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	SORORITY STATUS

**Part Three:** Have you ever been a member of one or more of our affiliate groups?  
 Are you a former Rhoer?  Yes  No Are you a former Philo?  Yes  No

Please read and sign the Terms and Conditions of your membership process. Your application and membership will not be processed without your dated signature. This application must be accompanied with a \$25 non-refundable application fee payable by cashier's check, money order or credit card (MasterCard/Visa/Amex/Discover/Diners Club).

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt #: \_\_\_\_\_ MO Amt: \_\_\_\_\_ Balance Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Send original application to National Headquarters, with copies to Grand Grammateus, Syntaktes, Applicant and Chapter File

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# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



## Aspirant's Induction Fee Form

T.O.R.C.H. Induction fees include a one-time National Building Assessment, sorority pin (additional fees apply for engraving and chapter guards – see attached prices), risk management fee and liability insurance. Regional and local assessments are not included in the T.O.R.C.H. fees and information will be provided by your membership chair.

Once you have received approval from the membership chair, you will submit the T.O.R.C.H. Induction fees as prescribed below to the membership chair. Money orders or credit cards are acceptable forms of payment.

### **Alumnae Member - \$775.00**

- \$675.00 made payable to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. for the induction fee, liability insurance, risk management fee and sorority pin.
- \$100.00 made payable to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. for the building assessment.
- Regional and local assessments vary. The membership chair will provide you with the requisite information related to regional and local assessments.

### **Undergraduate Member - \$615.00**

- \$565.00 made payable to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. for the induction fee, liability insurance, risk management fee and sorority pin.
- \$50.00 made payable to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. for the building assessment
- Regional and local assessments vary. The membership chair will provide you with the requisite information related to regional and local assessments.

# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. I shall be familiar with the required information about Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
2. I shall hold sorority matters in strict secrecy, although this commitment does not ask or require you to do anything illegal or keep any illegal information or activities secret..
3. I shall meet the financial obligations as outlined by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
4. I shall maintain satisfactory academic standing with my educational institution.
5. I shall refrain from questionable activities that may jeopardize or demean the image of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. or violate the rules of my educational institution.
6. I shall develop and/or participate in a service project that will help needy youth, adults or elderly persons in the community.
7. I shall not participate in any hazing or:
  - (a) Perform personal tasks for any member;
  - (b) Purchase personal gifts for any member;
  - (c) Perform menial tasks such as housework and similar activities;
  - (d) Remain up all night; or
  - (e) Drink/eat food mixtures.
8. I understand that participation in any of the activities listed in item seven a through e is not a prerequisite for membership in Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
9. I have read the policy and regulations of my educational institution (if they exist) and I understand the policies pertaining to hazing.
10. I shall not violate any policies nor participate in any activities pertaining to hazing.
11. I shall promptly notify the Chapter Advisor/ Membership Chair, the officers of the chapter and educational institution's officials if I am confronted by hazing in any form by a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. within 24 hours.
12. If my application is approved, I shall conform to the membership practices of this organization.
13. I have never been a member of any sorority that holds membership in the National Pan Hellenic Council, Inc.
14. I have the right to withdraw my application within 72 hours of signing by providing written notice to the National Headquarters and chapter Basileus.
15. I understand that fees sent to National Headquarters are non-refundable.
16. I understand and agree that Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. does not require hazing in any form as a condition for my admission into the sorority.

I certify that I have read and agree to these terms and conditions. I understand that if I violate them, my application shall be rejected and I may be permanently banned from membership in Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Actual Signature Required)

**Membership Chair Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Advisor if Undergraduate Chapter) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Actual Signature Required)

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# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



## **POLICY ON HAZING: HAZING IS WRONG, PROHIBITED AND UNAUTHORIZED**

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. prohibits the hazing of persons who aspire to attain membership in the sorority, is a participant in the membership intake program, or who has been inducted as a sorority member.

a. **HAZING DEFINED:**

Hazing is defined as any activity or behavior towards another person that causes or threatens to cause emotional or physical injury or death, or which causes emotional and physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. By way of example, such prohibited activities and behaviors include, but are not limited to: blindfolding; yelling at, berating or bullying an individual for any reason or purpose; personal servitude; requiring the running of errands or performing personal or maid services; activities likely to cause fatigue; physical or psychological challenges; treasure or scavenger hunts; purchase and/or wearing of designated types of apparel or apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in stunts, pranks, degrading or humiliating games and activities; late work sessions; physical or emotional assaults; drinking games; sexual activities; diet restrictions; the encouraged, required, suggested or forced consumption of any liquid, alcohol or other disorienting substances; activities that require complete or partial submerging in water; and/or any activity that may or can cause bleeding, bruising or lack of consciousness.

Any such activity is wrongful and violates the Sorority's policy regardless of whether any person or persons involved in the conduct believes that the participants in the activities are doing so by consent. The Sorority also adopts and incorporates herein the hazing policies established by the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Any member, affiliate member or prospective member who has knowledge of hazing activities occurring or having occurred in the sorority shall immediately, but no more than 24 hours after acquiring such information, make a report to the Executive Director at [1-888-747-1922](tel:1-888-747-1922). Any member, affiliate member or prospective member who has knowledge of, but does not report that knowledge within 24 hours after acquiring the information shall be considered to have assisted in the incident and shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

Any person who engages or participates in, encourages, aids, or assists in hazing violates the sorority's policy against hazing and will be subject to:

- Disciplinary action by the sorority, including permanent expulsion and loss of member status and privileges;
- Disciplinary action by the college/university, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable campus and student rules of conduct;
- Criminal prosecution in accordance with local, state and federal criminal codes and statutes; and/or
- Civil prosecution, as appropriate in local, state and/or federal court, by the sorority and any party suffering injury as consequence of the hazing behavior and activity.

In all circumstances, any person who might ever be requested to violate the sorority's policy against hazing, or who might otherwise be asked to engage in demeaning or dangerous conduct, is required to refuse such a request and immediately make a report to the International Headquarters at [1-888-747-1922](tel:1-888-747-1922) or to their respective Regional Syntaktes within 24 hours after incident). Any person found guilty of violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. Any reports of violations of this policy can be reported to the International Headquarters at [1-888-747-1922](tel:1-888-747-1922).

b. **PENALTIES [AND WAIVERS]:**

Any person who engages [or participates] in, encourages, aids, or assists in hazing is in violation of the Sorority's policy against hazing and subject to:

1. DISCIPLINARY ACTION by the Sorority, including permanent expulsion and loss of privileges;
2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION by the College/University in accordance with applicable campus and student rules of conduct;
3. CRIMINAL PROSECUTION in accordance with local, state and federal criminal codes and statutes;

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# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

4. CIVIL CLAIMS filed by this Sorority against any person who violates the Sorority's policy and thereby causes the Sorority to be demeaned in the eyes of the public or made the subject of litigation involving an alleged violation of this policy (:and.)

5. **WAIVER OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE SORORITY:**

All persons executing this Form and any person who participates in an incident or incidents of hazing, including any person subjected to, or claiming injuries as a result of alleged hazing, releases and agrees not to hold the Sorority, its Directors, Officers or Staff liable or responsible for any and all claims, suits, losses, costs, expenses or damages (including attorneys' fees or punitive damages) that arise out of or otherwise relate in any way to such incident or incidents.

c. **OTHER PERSONAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND COMMITMENTS:**

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES: The individual conduct and the activities of our members and membership must be lawful, dignified and in complete accordance with the Sorority's policy on hazing.

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES: There are no "above" or "underground" activities required to gain or retain admission into this Sorority's policy against hazing or applicable local or federal law.

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES: Any PERSON who might ever be- requested to violate the Sorority's policy against hazing, or who might otherwise be asked to engage in demeaning or dangerous conduct, agrees to REFUSE such a request and immediately report such conduct to the Sorority, so that the Sorority can take appropriate action.

THE UNDERSIGNED has read the Sorority's Policy stated above, understands its meaning her own responsibility to prevent hazing or dangerous conduct, (the waiver of claims against the Sorority), and agrees to act in complete accordance with this policy.

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant  
(Requires Actual Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness (Advisor or Alumnae Membership Chair)  
(Requires Actual Signature)

# Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



## NEW MEMBER ARBITRATION POLICY AND AGREEMENT

All aspirants to membership in Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. (“Sorority”), and past and current members of the Sorority (collectively, “Members”), and their heirs, agents and assigns, agree that any and all disputes, conflicts, claims and/or causes of action of any kind whatsoever, including but not limited to: (i) contract claims, (ii) personal injury claims, (iii) bodily injury claims, (iv) injury to character claims, (v) and property damage claims arising out of or relating to the Sorority intake process shall be subject to and resolved by compulsory and binding arbitration under the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Section 1, et seq., and the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association and judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

YOUR DECISION TO ACCEPT MEMBERSHIP IN THE SORORITY MEANS YOU HAVE AGREED TO AND ARE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THE ARBITRATION POLICY AND AGREEMENT. THIS ARBITRATION REQUIREMENT IS PERPETUAL AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT EVEN IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SORORITY IS TERMINATED FOR ANY REASON. A MEMBER WHO IS UNABLE TO RESOLVE A CLAIM OR DISPUTE ARISING OUT OF HER MEMBERSHIP OR PARTICIPATION IN ANY SORORITY RELATED ACTIVITY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST HER BY THE SORORITY PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE SORORITY’S BYLAWS, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT HER CLAIM OR DISPUTE TO BINDING ARBITRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARBITRATION POLICY AND AGREEMENT. IF A MEMBER INITIATES LEGAL ACTION IN A COURT OF LAW, THE SORORITY WILL SEEK TO ENFORCE THIS ARBITRATION POLICY AND AGREEMENT.

This Arbitration Policy and Agreement must be signed and returned to the Sorority’s International Corporate Headquarters to receive membership in the Sorority.

Name (Print): _____	Parent’s Name: _____ (REQUIRED if under the age of 21)
Address: _____ _____	Address: _____ _____
Phone Number: _____	Phone Number: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____
Chapter: _____	
Signature: _____	Parent’s Signature: _____

(Any exceptions must be approved by the International Legal Advisor)

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Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



**Credit Card Authorization Form**

Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize use of my credit card for the following:

		Amount
<b>Non-refundable Application Fees:</b>	\$25.00	
<b>Handling Fee:</b>	\$5.00	
	<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	

**Credit Card Information:**

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

American Express: \_\_\_\_\_ Discover: \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa: \_\_\_\_\_ Diners Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ \*V-code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Verification Code (V-code) – A 3-4 digit non embossed number found on card signature panel or near embossed account number on front.**