



SIGMA TAU GAMMA
PATH OF PRINCIPLES
EDIFICATION BRIDGE
Weeks 5 – 8

At the conclusion of the fourth week, the new members are fully initiated into Sigma Tau Gamma. They have all of the rights and privileges of membership. They may wear the Coat of Arms, participate and vote in chapter meetings, and hold chapter offices.

Unfortunately, this is where many chapters end new member development. The best chapters, however, provide a bridge to continued and advanced involvement and leadership. The buttresses of this bridge are opportunities for additional fraternal education. Its support towers are opportunities for leadership experience. Its passageway is brotherhood. The second four-week portion of the 4 + 4 *Path of Principles* program is the Sigma Tau Gamma Bridge. On it, new members move from being great ASSOCIATES to being great INITIATES.

When the new member completes this second portion of the 4 + 4 *Path of Principles* program, he receives his membership badge, certificate and card in a formal ceremony.

During this second four weeks the newly initiated members will:

- Continue to meet as a class with the Fraternal Education Director.
- Job-shadow a chapter officer, learning about the many responsibilities and tasks in a specific division of the chapter management program.
- When the job shadowing is complete, the new member will be appointed to a leadership post within the division he studied.
- Conduct a membership recruitment drive during which their goal will be to replace themselves by recruiting a new class of Associate members.
- Continue meeting for Study Tables and pursue academic excellence.
- Continue to meet daily for lunch, as a class.
- Continue to build relationships between new members and big brothers.

Building our Brotherhood

Week Five

Fifth Class Meeting

Who: Newly Initiated Members
Big Brothers
Fraternal Education Chairman
Vice President of Membership
Chapter President
Chapter Advisor(s)

Associate Class President leads the meeting.

During the fifth associate class meeting, the newly initiated members will:

- Chapter President, in partnership with the New Member Class President and the Fraternal Education Chairman will assign each newly initiated member to a job-shadowing role with the officer holding the position that the member identified as one of his highest goals, during the Initiation Retreat.
(The new members selected a first, second and third priority. The highest priority possible should be assigned.)
It is preferable that one person be assigned to each officer for job shadowing. However, no more than two should be assigned to any office. The offices appropriate for job shadowing are: President, Executive Vice President, Membership Vice President, Programs Vice President, Finance Vice President, Judicial Board Chairman, Treasurer, Recruitment Chairman, Ritual Chairman, House Manager, Social Activities Committee Chairman.
- New Members and Big Brothers develop strategies to begin each new member on a path that will lead to his highest goals for greater campus involvement that was selected during the Initiation Retreat. The strategy shall be written and include a timeline, funding resource (if needed), and required fraternity / student / faculty-staff linkages.
- New Member Class will schedule and plan four recruitment activities. The recruitment activities will be held during weeks six and seven.
- New Member Class will organize a schedule for contacts and follow-ups for each person on the new member prospect list developed during week three. The contacts will begin during week five.

Independent Work

New Members independently pursue personal campus involvement goals, with the support of their Big Brothers.

Daily Study Tables

New Members meet for study table 2 Hours Each - Monday through Thursday

Daily Lunch

New Members and Big Brothers meet daily for lunch - Monday through Thursday

Fifth Weekend Activity

There will be no weekend event at the conclusion of week five. (Everyone needs a break after four weekend events in a row.)

Celebrating Brotherhood

Week Six

Sixth Class Meeting

Who: Newly Initiated Members
Big Brothers
Fraternal Education Chairman
Vice President of Programs

Associate Class President leads the meeting.

During the sixth Associate class meeting, the newly initiated members will:

- Each New Member reports on his contacts with member prospects.
- Associate Class Vice President of Membership leads class through preparations for the week's recruitment events.
- Associate Class Vice President of Programs leads instructional seminar on the Program Division functions and organizational structure. The seminar will include a review of chapter plans and goals. The Chapter Vice President of Programs will serve as a resource to the Associate Class Vice President of Programs.

Sixth Week Evening Recruitment Activities – Two Days

- **First Evening Activity**
New Member class meets with prospects on campus (at student union or residence hall recreation area) to play foosball, pool, cards or a board game. The chapter provides soft drinks and snacks. One chapter officer and the Chapter Membership Recruitment Chairman also attend. (No other chapter members attend.)
- **Second Evening Activity**
New Member class meets prospects on campus and brings them to the chapter house. The full chapter is in attendance. (If the chapter has no house, then the full chapter welcomes prospects at an on campus location.) A meal is served. The meal should be a sit down type, not finger food like pizza. (A good menu is spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, brownies, milk, and iced tea.) Everyone visits with the prospects. The Chapter President and Chapter Advisor and/or Alumni Associate President speak. Everyone – including the prospects – helps clean up. Then everyone engages in an activity – cards / board games / watch a TV sports event.

Independent Work

New Members independently pursue personal campus involvement goals, with the support of their Big Brothers.

Daily Study Tables

New Members meet for study table 2 Hours Each - Monday through Thursday

Daily Lunch

New Members and Big Brothers meet daily for lunch - Monday through Thursday

Sixth Weekend Activity

The New Member class hosts the prospective members at a campus intercollegiate athletic event. The rest of the chapter should attend as well. After the game, host a social event with a meal. The meal can be simple, such as pizza, hamburgers or hot dogs. (Finding an intercollegiate athletic event to attend is possible on almost any weekend of the school year. While there may not be a football or basketball game, there is generally a minor sport available such as volleyball, wrestling, soccer, baseball, softball, golf, track, or cross-country.)

The Meaning of Fraternity

Week Seven

Seventh Class Meeting

Who: Newly Initiated Members

Big Brothers

Fraternal Education Chairman

Associate Class President leads the meeting.

During the seventh Associate class meeting, the newly initiated members will:

- Draft for the consideration of the full chapter, a list of prospects to receive bids for membership in Sigma Tau Gamma
- Prepare formal bid cards to be delivered to prospective members (upon approval of the full chapter) and plan the delivery of bids.
- Associate Class Vice President of Finance leads instructional seminar on the Finance Division functions and organizational structure. The seminar will include a review of chapter finances and dues structure. The Chapter Vice President of Finance will serve as a resource to the Associate Class Vice President of Finance.
- Plan the logistics for a meeting to conduct a self-directed ritual seminar. The seminar will be held as the weekend activity.

Seventh Week Evening Recruitment Activities – Two Days

- First Evening Activity
New Member class delivers bids to prospects.
- Second Evening Activity
New Member class hosts the prospects who have accepted a bid at a special chapter celebration. The New Member class presents each member of the New Associate class with a Sigma Tau Gamma tee shirt. (The New Associates then begin their first meeting of their 4 + 4 *Path of Principles* program.) The New Members have first priority on becoming Big Brothers to the New Associates.

Independent Work

New Members independently pursue personal campus involvement goals, with the support of their Big Brothers.

Daily Study Tables

New Members meet for study table 2 hours each - Monday through Thursday

Daily Lunch

New Members and Big Brothers meet daily for lunch - Monday through Thursday

Seventh Weekend Activity

At a time and place of their choosing, the New Member class meets to read through and discuss all three degrees of the Initiation Ritual. An alumni leader should be present as a facilitator. (The alumni leader may be a Chapter Advisor, Alumni Association Officer, or Fraternity Regional Officer.) Each member of the New Member class takes one role in the Ritual. Each member reads his parts aloud. At the conclusion of each degree, the alumnus leads a discussion about the meanings of that part of the Ritual. The New Member class then goes out to eat together.

Bridge Building

Week Eight

Eighth Class Meeting

Who: Newly Initiated Members
Big Brothers
Fraternal Education Chairman
Vice President of Membership
Chapter President

Associate Class President leads the meeting.

During the eighth Associate class meeting, the newly initiated members will:

- Each New Member and his Mentor reports on what they learned from each other during the job-shadowing process.
- Each New Member and Big Brother reports on the progress by the New Member toward his personal campus involvement goals.
- The Vice President of Membership reports on the progress of the New Members toward their completion of the Edification Bridge (final four weeks).
- The Chapter President announces the chapter position appointments for each New Member.

Independent Work

New Members independently pursue personal campus involvement goals, with the support of their Big Brothers.

Daily Study Tables

New Members meet for study table 2 hours each - Monday through Thursday

Daily Lunch

New Members and Big Brothers meet daily for lunch - Monday through Thursday

Eighth Weekend Activity

The Chapter hosts a formal ceremony at which the New Members receive their membership badge, certificate and card.