

Alumnae Initiation Program 101 For Alumnae Chapters

Need a new way to grow your alumnae chapter and share the joy of sisterhood? The alumnae initiation (AI) program gives chapters a meaningful opportunity to welcome women in their communities into Gamma Phi Beta. With virtual Initiation services hosted by International Headquarters (IH), every alumnae chapter can now participate — no matter where they are!

This guide answers many common questions regarding the AI program and how alumnae chapters can participate. For follow-up questions, email alumnae@gammaphibeta.org.

What is the alumna initiation program?

This program invites qualified women who did not join Gamma Phi Beta through a collegiate chapter to become initiated members. Whether they never attended college, went to a school without a sorority community or never joined another National Panhellenic Conference sorority, these women can now share in our True and Constant sisterhood.

How do people learn about the alumna initiate program?

Personal Connection. Many candidates are family members, friends or community leaders who reflect our values. Gamma Phi Beta members play a role in encouraging qualified candidates to explore the AI program and offer to serve as a sponsor.

Alumna Initiation Program Website. Some women find Gamma Phi Beta through our website, where the **AI program** is highlighted as a pathway to membership. With more visibility online, your alumnae chapter might connect with women who don't already know a member—and that's okay!

Alumnae Chapter Note: *You may receive direct contact from prospective alumna initiates through information available on the **Chapter Locator** or be contacted by an alumna initiate volunteer on their behalf.*

What is the role of sponsor?

Any alumna who has paid alumnae dues for the current fiscal year or is a Life Loyal member may sponsor a potential alumna initiate.

- Guide the candidate through the application, education and Initiation service steps.
- Obtain the collegiate chapter president's signature when required.
- Coordinate with the collegiate chapter or IH on Initiation details.
- May lend their badge for the service if needed.

What's the process for sponsoring an alumna initiate?

If you're meeting someone new:

1. Alumnae chapter leadership connects with the prospective member (via referral from IH or direct inquiry using the **Chapter Locator webpage**).
2. Schedule an introduction, such as a coffee chat or invite them to a chapter event.
3. Identify a willing sponsor.
4. Follow the same process as with known candidates.



If you already know the candidate:

1. Confirm eligibility and help with the application submission.
2. Once approved by the Membership Review Committee (MRC):
 - a. Help her complete the four Fidelity lessons and a short exam.
 - b. Walk through payment of the \$175 fee, badge purchase and Life Loyal (\$375) or annual alumnae dues (\$40).
 - c. Make sure the Loyalty Pledge is submitted after Initiation.

Alumnae Chapter Note: *Participating in the program is optional, but it's an inspiring way to help your chapter grow and share the meaning of Gamma Phi Beta sisterhood.*

What is the difference between the different types of Initiation services available?

Candidates can choose the experience that works best for them:

- **Collegiate Chapter Initiation.** In person at a collegiate chapter with the sponsor in attendance.
- **Virtual Initiation.** Fully online and facilitated by IH with the sponsor in attendance. This is perfect for those not near a collegiate chapter or who prefer a virtual experience.
- **Initiation at Convention.** In person at Convention with the sponsor in attendance.

Alumnae Chapter Note: *While the alumna initiate volunteer team may serve as sponsors, candidates desiring an in-person Initiation must obtain a local sponsor.*

Who can I contact with additional questions?

- Alumna Initiate Team Leader - Mauren Anderson (California State-Bakersfield), maureen.anderson.gpb@gmail.com
- Alumnae Engagement Department, alumnae@gammaphibeta.org

