

Alpha Gamma Delta

Accreditation Report

2023-2024

Leadership & Member Development

- Officers attended monthly “huddles” provided from IHQ, which are modules tailored for each position addressing current topics and trends nation-wide.
- Alpha Gamma Delta participated in Fraternity and Sorority Life’s Leadership Development opportunities in the fall semester through their participation in LAUNCH and The Summit for Greek Excellence.
- Five members of the chapter attended the Northeast Greek Leadership Association’s (NGLA) regional conference in Hartford, CT. Members attended specific sessions based on their current or upcoming officer roles bringing new ideas back to the chapter. Members of Alpha Gamma Delta won Order of Omega’s Case Study competition.
- 89% of chapter members are involved in at least one other campus organization outside of Alpha Gamma Delta.
- New members engaged in IHQ’s online “Embark” modules, completed six courses on Alpha Gamma Delta’s history, mission, and values. This education is complemented by in-person bonding activities, including a new member retreat and evening events with initiated members.
- Initiated members are required to participate in IHQ’s online “Elevate” modules where they are presented with resources and presentations related to personal and professional development. Each month follows a new theme that is supported through officers providing in-person education and Lehigh resources.
- In order to keep the values of Alpha Gamma Delta at the core of the chapter, members participated in sisterhood bonding events that foster connection. This fall, the chapter held their first in-person chapter retreat at Camp Green Lane where they focused on connecting to the values of Alpha Gamma Delta through participating in bonding activities as well as DEI, Wellness and Recruitment workshops.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- Do members feel overwhelmed by the amount of expectations they have? If so, how can the chapter build in proactive practices to combat possible burnout?

In the area of **Leadership & Member Development**, the committee rated Alpha Gamma Delta to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Organizational Operations

- Alpha Gamma Delta regularly educates members on IHQ and Lehigh Policies. Each semester is started with a required presentation of Lehigh’s Code of Conduct with an additional mid-semester check in followed by a reflection discussing possible areas of improvement.
- The chapter is organizationally sound with the holding of weekly executive board meetings prior to chapter meetings reviewing ritual, governing documents, and upcoming events. Additionally, leadership officers are consistently meeting with their assigned advisors from IHQ and FSL.
- Several committees, such as DEI, Ritual, and Philanthropy work to assist with the operations of chapter programming. These committees are re-evaluated on a yearly basis to meet the current needs of the chapter.

- The chapter worked closely with their staff advisor to develop a survey asking members questions regarding their satisfaction with their membership along with any challenges or concerns they have. These results will assist the next executive board officers to determine goals and initiatives for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- A breakdown of the budget and dues is presented to chapter members at the beginning of each academic year. Members have the option to sign up for individualized payment plans in order to meet these obligations. For members who may need financial assistance, the chapter offers scholarships from IHQ, Lehigh and the National Panhellenic Conference.
- In order to promote inclusivity during recruitment, the chapter participated in an inclusive recruitment experience presentation reviewing implicit biases and cultivating a more inclusive environment for potential new members.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- How can the chapter begin to explore more restorative practices into their accountability processes for members?
- What can Alpha Gamma Delta do to formally collect data around the effectiveness of their inclusive recruitment practices?

In the area of **Organizational Operations**, the committee rated Alpha Gamma Delta to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Community Service & Engagement

- Alpha Gamma Delta required seven hours of community service per member per semester following a standard set by HQ. Members are held accountable for the completion of these hours as they serve as a prerequisite to attend date parties and social events. Fines are also imposed if necessary.
- Alpha Gamma Delta partnered with the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley's food pantry, where members volunteered their time to organize and stock supplies every Friday as well as submitting their own donations. This service initiative directly ties into the chapter's national philanthropy, Fighting Hunger.
- The chapter partnered with Sigma Phi Epsilon and Theta Chi for their annual Color Run to raise money for the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley, raising \$1,175.
- Through the CSO, Alpha Gamma Delta volunteered with Homework Club, Spooktacular, Kids Night Out, Holiday Hope Chests, Feel Good Friday and Spring Fling.
- Alpha Gamma Delta has raised over \$2,500 for the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation through their "Grilled Cheese with AGDs" and their "Candy Grams" sale with Sigma Phi Delta. The chapter also used proceeds from Playa Bowls and Kendra Scott. The Zeta Beta chapter received "Jewel Status" for exceeding the \$2,500 standard from HQ.
- Alpha Gamma Delta received the Commitment to Service Award from Fraternity and Sorority Life recognizing these efforts at the annual Leadership Awards ceremony.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- Alpha Gamma Delta is completing excellent service and philanthropy work, how can the chapter build reflection opportunities into their initiatives?
- What can Alpha Gamma Delta do to provide educational opportunities or awareness to the Lehigh community around food disparity?

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Alpha Gamma Delta to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Alpha Gamma Delta was ranked third out of eight Panhellenic sororities in the fall 2023 semester with a GPA of 3.52, an increase of 0.08 from the spring 2023 semester. The 3.52 GPA placed the chapter above All Panhellenic, All Sorority and All Greek averages.
- Alpha Gamma Delta was ranked third out of eight Panhellenic sororities in the spring 2024 semester with a GPA of 3.54, an increase of 0.02 from the fall 2023 semester. The 3.54 GPA placed the chapter above All Panhellenic, All Sorority and All Greek averages.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's fall 2023 new member class GPA was ranked first out of seven Panhellenic sororities conducting fall recruitment.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's spring 2024 new member class GPA was 3.46 ranking third out of eight Panhellenic sororities conducting spring recruitment.
- Alpha Gamma Delta had 49.4% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2023 semester and 51.8% on the Dean's List in the spring 2024 semester.
- Members who fall below the 2.5 required GPA are put on a scholarship improvement plan consisting of holistic reflection, mandated study hours, and sharing campus resources and tutors. Members on the scholarship improvement plan must also complete a module on Acorn, which is Alpha Gamma Delta's learning management platform.
- The chapter recognizes members who are achieving academically through "A's for Gams" where members are entered into a raffle to win gift cards. Members are also recognized through Alpha Gam's annual scholarship banquet.
- Academic Buddies, a mentorship program where upperclassmen get 1-2 mentees of the same or similar majors to guide through coursework and registration.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How can Alpha Gamma Delta begin to connect their classroom learning with membership development?
- What can the chapter do to enhance professional development opportunities for seniors specifically?

In the area of **Academic & Intellectual Development**, the committee rated Alpha Gamma Delta to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Facilities Management

- Alpha Gamma Delta had no common area damages during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Alpha Gamma Delta had no issues with openings or closings during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Alpha Gamma Delta had no major or minor life safety violations during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Alpha Gamma Delta communicates effectively with Housing Services and are dedicated to keeping their house safe and in good standing. They continually have few violations and are responsive to feedback.
- Alpha Gamma Delta exceeded their occupancy requirements in both fall and spring semesters.
- In order to keep the facility tidy, the House Manager assigns weekly chores shared on a Google Doc to residents. Once members have completed their chore they are to sign off on the sheet. If members do not complete their assigned duty they are reminded and if necessary fined.

- Sustainability practices and goals are regularly reviewed by the Green Chair Director. This officer educates residents on water and energy conservation, reusable products, and recycling guidelines. The chapter partnered with the Office of Sustainability's K-Cup initiatives and held a dress swap for the chapter's formal.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- What other incentives can Alpha Gamma Delta incorporate to increase member accountability outside of monetary fines?

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the committee rated Alpha Gamma Delta to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall, Alpha Gamma Delta has been rated an Accredited with Excellence chapter by the 2023-2024 Accreditation committee.

Alpha Gamma Delta exemplifies the organization's mission and values in all its initiatives. Whether through service, sisterhood, DEI, recruitment, or academics, the chapter places these values at the core of member and leadership development. The chapter excels in all areas of accreditation and continually strives to enhance the member experience with intentionality and inclusivity. By integrating service work into philanthropy initiatives, Alpha Gamma Delta demonstrates a profound commitment to their mission, contributing to positive morale within the chapter. The areas of improvement for the chapter include integrating intellectual advancement into member development and creating a strategic plan to incorporate initiatives for senior members. Alpha Gamma Delta continues to achieve excellence year after year creating a community of care and support for students on Lehigh's campus.

The Accreditation committee assigns Alpha Gamma Delta an overall rating of Accredited with Excellence, chapter exceeds expectations set forth by Lehigh University. The chapter excels in multiple metrics, making valuable contributions to the Greek and Lehigh communities. Congratulations!

Chapter Development Questions

- Do members feel overwhelmed by the amount of expectations they have? If so, how can the chapter build in proactive practices to combat possible burnout?
- How can the chapter begin to explore more restorative practices into their accountability processes for members?
- What can Alpha Gamma Delta do to formally collect data around the effectiveness of their inclusive recruitment practices?
- Alpha Gamma Delta is completing excellent service and philanthropy work, how can the chapter build reflection opportunities into their initiatives?
- How can Alpha Gamma Delta begin to connect their classroom learning with membership development?
- What can the chapter do to enhance professional development opportunities for seniors specifically?
- What other incentives can Alpha Gamma Delta incorporate to increase member accountability outside of monetary fines?

Best Practices

- Alpha Gamma Delta's overnight membership retreat at Camp Green Lane is regarded as a best practice due to its strong emphasis on instilling core values, which have become a cornerstone of their membership development program.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's ability to connect their service work at The Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley directly to their philanthropy, Fighting Hunger is considered a best practice.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's emphasis on values-based recruitment practices and the incorporation of DEI is considered a best practice.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's commitment to forming collaborative relationships with organizations outside of the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils is considered to be a best practice.