

## Additional Pledge Education Program Resources

### Best Practices for Being a Big Brother

1. Big brothers should reach out to pledges consistently throughout the Pledge Education Program.
  - Ask them to hang out. Invite them to join you and other brothers, or ask if they want to study together.
  - Make sure to work with their schedule and respect their commitments, their need to complete schoolwork, or if they want to hang out with other friends.
2. Brotherhood in the Pledge Education Program is focused around genuine conversations among organizational members (pledges and brothers). Interactions between big brothers and pledges should mirror that.
  - Ask pledges questions about their life, work, family, classes, or interests.
  - Talk about interests and life experiences you have in common. This could include family, academics, and experiences outside of Delta Sigma Pi on campus and fun things to do in the area.
  - Share your own history and involvement in Delta Sigma Pi. Big brothers don't need to have all the answers for pledges but sharing your personal experience as a brother and providing guidance will make them feel validated.
  - Tell pledges what brotherhood means to you, why the Fraternity is important to you, and how you experience good times and support from other brothers.
  - Checking in regularly. Ask pledges about their Pledge Education Program experience so far:
    - How did they become interested in the Fraternity?
    - Do they feel comfortable?
    - Have they gotten to know many brothers?
    - Are they having any difficulties with the Pledge Education Program?
    - Have they been able to balance Fraternity responsibilities with other commitments?
    - How can you, as a big brother, continue to assist and support them?
3. After big brothers get to know pledges, make sure to continue building a stronger bond support them in being the best Deltasig they can be.
  - Appreciate pledges as individuals. Your role is not to make them into what *you* think a Deltasig should be.
  - Assist pledges in their academic pursuits and offer to study with them. If your major is different from theirs, introduce them to someone who might be of assistance or inform them of resources on campus that can help such as a tutoring center. Provide suggestions for study methods you have found effective.
  - Encourage them to get more involved in the Fraternity by joining a committee (if applicable) and make sure they are aware of future leadership opportunities such as committee chair and executive committee positions.
  - Introduce pledges to people both in and outside of the chapter. This is especially important if they are new to the campus and area.
  - Encourage pledges to attend an upcoming LEAD event as a way to engage and meet Deltasigs from around the Region, Province, and Country.

If you have been a good big brother, pledges will find it easy and exciting to participate in their Pledge Education Program. Also, chances are better they will grow as a good brother of Delta Sigma Pi and an excellent big brother for future pledges.