

Frequently Asked Questions about...



WHAT IS ALPHA PHI OMEGA

- Alpha Phi Omega is a national service fraternity founded on the principles of Leadership, Friendship, and Service. It is a non-traditional Greek-letter organization founded in 1925 at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.
- APO was founded by Frank Reed Horton, a Boy Scout. The organization incorporates some of the same traditions. However, APO is a completely separate organization with its own membership policies, bylaws, and operation policies.
- APO is the single most represented co-educational intercollegiate service organization in the United States. Since 1925, more than 525,000 members on over 700 campuses, have provided more service than any other collegiate service organization.
- Alpha Phi Omega teaches, through the principles of Leadership, Friendship, and Service that we are architects of our own ambitions and that each of us has the opportunity to develop ourselves to be whatever we seek to be.

IS APO JUST FOR MEN

- No, APO is co-educational. It has accepted women as members since 1976.

HOW IS APO DIFFERENT THAN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS?

- Brotherhood is what distinguishes APO from other organizations – students do not solely conduct service, but they also serve alongside people who have become their friends.
- There is an additional emphasis on leadership development in APO that doesn't exist in Circle K, Rotary Club, or other Greek-lettered service organizations.
- There is no religious or other affiliation required.
- There are many opportunities for alumni engagement and volunteer support.

WHY DO MEMBERS USE THE TERM "BROTHERHOOD" IF IT IS A CO-ED ORGANIZATION?

- Brotherhood is a term the Fraternity uses to describe the friendships created between members.
- Periodically, legislation is discussed at the biennial National Convention to abandon the term "Brother". However, members continuously vote to keep it; it is interesting to note that the women voting are largely responsible for keeping the term.

WHAT IS SERVANT LEADERSHIP?

- Alpha Phi Omega promotes the concept of servant leadership, which is about building relationships with others and turning ideas into reality.
- APO aspires to train all members to exemplify the qualities of servant leaders.

HOW DO STUDENTS DEVELOP LEADERSHIP THROUGH APO?

- Elected and appointed officers are not the only leaders. Students develop leadership qualities through events centered on the principles of service & friendship.
- At the national level, there are many leadership development initiatives, including the five-part APO LEADS program, APO IMPACT webinars, and on-demand Online Learning Center courses.

ARE CHAPTERS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT CERTAIN SERVICE PROJECTS?

- The four fields of service members complete our service to the campus, community, nation, and Fraternity. The mission of Alpha Phi Omega is to develop student leaders through service, so providing diverse service opportunities to as many students as possible makes for the best leadership development.
- As a National Fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega does not have a specific service requirement that chapters must fulfill. Each of the 370 chapters develops its own Leadership, Friendship, and Service (LFS) programs and requirements.
- The only national service expectation is to report whether the chapter participated in a National Service Week and Spring Youth Service Day project or not. Chapters that do participate in these national programs and thoroughly report have an opportunity to be featured in Fraternity publications and can become eligible for awards.

DOES APO HAVE NATIONAL PARTNERS?

- APO has many national partners, and there is not just one focus on a particular philanthropy or cause that the Fraternity supports.
- APO has Memos Of Understanding with the BSA, GSUSA, Campfire, the American Cancer Society, and many others.
- Each Chapter is required to have a youth service advisor.
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IS APO PART OF GREEK LIFE ON CAMPUS?

- Despite having Greek letters, Alpha Phi Omega is not a social Greek organization.
- APO does not participate in IFC, Panhellenic, or any other Greek governing bodies.
- APO has an open membership policy, so any member of a social Greek organization or any other organization on campus is allowed to be a part of Alpha Phi Omega.
- APO prefers to be a student service and leadership organization.
- APO encourages Brotherhood but also operates to promote leadership development and service to the campus, community, and nation.



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**APO Eagles -
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