



Communicating with Initiates

Communicating with Initiates is an important part of the Initiate Advisor role. You have been chosen by your Chapter to be their guide through the Initiation Program and lead them on their journey to becoming a Member of Phi Sigma Pi. Here are a few other things to consider when communicating with Initiates:

Start Early

Before the Initiation Program even begins, it is important to communicate the expectations and time commitment of the program. Once Initiates are pinned, important information should be reiterated and more details should be provided to ensure that Initiates know what is expected.

Stick to the Plan

Planning communication ahead of time and staying organized are imperative to ensuring great communication during the Initiation Program. Start by having one place for Initiates to access information and updates. Some Chapters use Google Drive, Google Sites or Slack to facilitate timely and thorough communication. Whichever you choose, be sure to walk the Initiates through how you will be communicating with them and how they can use it to communicate, too. Be sure to use email or other established channels for communicating important information rather than relying on texts or group chats.

Stay Positive

As the Initiate Advisor, you are a mentor--a coach and cheerleader all in one. The way you talk to Initiates is important. Be kind, supportive and encouraging. Remember what a scary time of learning this can be for Initiates and strive to convey patience and professionalism always. This will help Initiates feel more at ease and confident through the process.

Initiate Communication Schedule

Pre-Pinning Meeting

After bids are accepted, take the time to meet with Initiates to discuss Pinning. You'll want to share expectations for behavior, as well as details like where it will be held and what to wear.

Post-Pinning Meeting

Meet to select dates for the weekly meetings and review the Initiate Handbook, including the schedule.

Weekly Initiate Meetings

Check in with Initiates on a weekly basis to communicate updates to keep everyone on track and provide informal feedback on individual progress.

Midway Review

Meet individually with each Initiate near the halfway point of the program to discuss feedback about their performance and how they can improve.

Pre-Induction Meeting

Meet to answer any questions about Induction like when to arrive and what to wear. Also finalize dues payments!