



PHI UPSILON OMICRON®
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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COVID-19 IMPACT ON PHI UPSILON OMICRON ACTIVITIES

We've been hearing from more and more chapters regarding COVID-19 and its impact on Phi Upsilon Omicron. On behalf of Phi U National Council, we thought it best to address the invitation processes, induction ceremonies, Phi U events and deadlines, and on-line member engagement.

First and foremost, please follow the protocol your institution outlines regarding events and gatherings. We'd like to provide additional insight for the following scenarios:

Open Phi U Invitations (students already invited; ceremony is upcoming)

Please consider conducting a virtual ceremony (i.e. Zoom, WebEx, Skype, etc.) OR move your induction ceremony to later in the spring or next fall, whichever your institution suggests. If a virtual ceremony occurs, certificates, membership cards, and pins can be mailed to the students or distributed in the fall. Be sure to communicate changes with your members and the National Office. Even if you can't confirm a new date right away, inform students the ceremony will be postponed, and you'll let them know the date at a later time.

Not Yet Invited, But Were Planning To

If you have not yet distributed spring invitations to Phi U membership, **we recommend you still move forward with the invitation.** Invitations can be sent via email or mailed to home addresses and ceremonies can be scheduled to a later date based on your campus' recommendation. **You can also choose to move forward and complete a virtual initiation before the end of your school year. Certificates, membership cards, and pins can be mailed to the students or distributed in the fall.** Be sure to get your eligible lists soon and invite new members as soon as possible; we strongly suggest you do not wait until the fall to invite students.

Overall, we suggest you commit students to join by May 1st if you can. Not only does it have an impact on retaining high-achieving students, but failure to invite students this spring can impact next year's scholarship process and future recruitment efforts. If you're not able to invite this spring, postponing it to the fall is fine.

Chapter Professional Project Report Deadline- Extension

The deadline for chapters to submit their professional project reports has been extended to **May 1st** (11:59 EST).

We encourage all chapters to engage membership through on-line resources, including social media channels @PhiUnational ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), & [Twitter](#)). Phi U National Council is also looking into hosting "chapter chats" on various topics and developing additional on-line content (TBA). You might also consider conducting chapter officer selections on-line. Get creative using Google Hangouts or the free version of [Zoom](#). Here is an [article](#) you may find helpful in supporting students through this pandemic.

Watch this [video](#) from the World Health Organization about the seven steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus. Your chapter could share this video with other students, faculty, and staff if you believe it might play a helpful role in the wellness of your campus community.

The Phi U National Office will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and provide updates as circumstances warrant. For further questions, contact us at national@phiu.org or 270-904-1340.