



The Gamma Beta Phi Society
Induction Ceremony
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Induction Ceremony FAQs–

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1.) What is the purpose of an induction ceremony?

The purpose of the induction ceremony is to provide new members with a memorable first-glance into your chapter and our Society. We use induction ceremonies to celebrate the academic achievements of our new members and to educate them on the responsibilities ahead, as members of our Society. Lastly, our induction ceremony provides family members, guardians, and friends with an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of their loved

ones. As a Chapter Advisor, your task is to ensure that all attendees (students, family members/guardians, friends, and institutional representatives) walk away with a positive, welcoming, and empowering experience with The Gamma Beta Phi Society.

New members pay between \$70 and \$105 (depending on local chapter dues) to join your organization. As a result, both the students and their families are expecting an induction ceremony that shows careful planning and extensive detail. We do not want students or their family members to leave your induction ceremony with a sour taste in their mouth because of poor planning and representation. Both National Headquarters and the National Executive Committee ask that you (as the Chapter Advisor) and your chapter leadership spend time ensuring that all details of the ceremony are organized, well in advance of your induction.

2.) How often do chapters hold induction ceremonies?

All active chapters are required to hold at least one induction ceremony each year. This can be done in three ways – Chapters can hold one recruitment campaign and one induction ceremony each academic year; Chapters can hold two recruitment campaigns, but one induction ceremony each year; Chapters can hold two recruitment campaigns and two induction ceremonies each academic year. Please note – if a chapter does not hold at least one recruitment campaign and induction ceremony during the academic year, they will be placed on “Inactive” status by National Headquarters (which will prevent them from holding future programs and events as a Chapter).

3.) How does my chapter register for an induction ceremony?

At the beginning of each semester, National Headquarters will send all chapter advisors a link to our “Pre-Induction Form.” Within this form, you will indicate the opening and closing dates of your recruitment campaign, along with your induction ceremony date. We always ask that chapters provide a gap of time (7 to 10 business days) between your recruitment campaign’s closing date and your actual induction date. During this gap of time, National Headquarters will process the information for all of your inductees and ship your induction materials to you, before your induction ceremony.

4.) In terms of chapter leadership, who needs to be in attendance for the actual induction ceremony?

Both the Chapter Advisor and the executive board **MUST** be in attendance for your induction ceremony. It is extremely important that you showcase (to new members and their families) strength and unification within your leadership. Therefore, chapter leadership must identify an induction ceremony date that works for both you **AND** your chapter leadership.

5.) How should we identify a proper space/venue for my induction ceremony?

Before you reserve a space, please ensure that it is properly designed to hold an induction ceremony. As noted earlier, the induction ceremony provides new members with their **FIRST** impression of your chapter. Therefore, please be mindful when you book a space, classroom, auditorium, or venue for your chapter’s induction ceremony. Please make sure that the facility is a clean, suitable, and welcoming space for your students and their guests. Furthermore, please

ensure that all logistical planning occurs with both your chapter leadership and venue managers well in advance (seating arrangements, room set-up, music, signs, lights, audio/visual equipment, unlocking the doors, organizing parking, etc.)

6.) Should we arrange for photography during the induction ceremony?

All induction ceremonies should be well-documented via photos. This can be done through your chapter leadership (a Historian), a member of your chapter (student volunteer), an institutional representative (a campus photographer), or the Chapter Advisor (personally taking photos during the ceremony). As a chapter, you should always document your induction ceremonies for historical records. Furthermore, we (National Headquarters) want to see your induction ceremony photos! Please send your photos to National Headquarters (info@gammabetaphi.org), and we'll provide your chapter with a spotlight on our website and on social media.

7.) How do we ensure that new members are fully aware of the upcoming induction ceremony?

During your chapter's fall/spring recruitment campaign, we send updated spreadsheets of new members to Chapter Advisors weekly. We receive numerous phone calls and e-mails from new members during the recruitment season, indicating that they joined their institution's chapter, but never heard anything from their new Chapter Advisor or chapter leadership. We kindly ask that you (as the Chapter Advisor) and your leadership reach out to those new members each week during your fall/spring campaign and ensure that they are well-aware of your upcoming induction ceremony.

8.) During the induction ceremony, what should we read (to the audience) or recite?

Your chapter's induction ceremony must include the recitation of the following – The Code of Ethics, the Objectives of the Society, the Coat of Arms, and the Membership Pledge.

9.) What is the Code of Ethics?

Members of The Gamma Beta Phi Society subscribe to, and seek to live by, the principles of:

I. HONESTY: knowing that honesty is a necessary attribute of good character and effective leadership;

II. SERVICE: being aware of the fact that true happiness comes only through helpful service to others;

III. INDUSTRIOUSNESS: knowing that real progress can be achieved only if the mind is alert to comprehend and the hands ready to perform individual and community tasks;

IV. HUMILITY: being convinced that true humbleness of spirit is the only proper attitude to maintain in their relations with their associates;

V. JUSTICE: believing that it is only right and proper to be just and fair in their dealings with other individuals; to condemn no one without giving him or her a chance to defend himself or

herself; to consider all factors before forming an opinion of another's motives, or before passing judgment on his or her actions;

VI. COOPERATION: realizing that they must work closely and harmoniously with others in this day of highly organized social and economic endeavor;

VII. RESPONSIBILITY: assuming always full responsibility for their actions, and accepting opportunities to fulfill their social, economic, and moral obligations;

VIII. CHARITABLENESS: being over tolerant, generous and considerate in their relationships with others; and courteous, gentle, and kind in their attitudes and actions toward their fellowmen.

These are the principles that the members of THE GAMMA BETA PHI SOCIETY adhere to in their promotion of scholarship, service, and character.

10.) What is the Objective Statement?

To recognize and encourage in education

To promote the development of leadership ability and character in its members

To foster, disseminate, and improve education through appropriate service projects

11.) What is the Coat of Arms?

The various features of the coat of arms of The Gamma Beta Phi Society have distinct meaning within the scope of heraldry.

The helmet is symbolic of the armored strength of the knight, and the scroll at the top of the coat of arms represents his tattered tunic which has been torn in his fight for truth and justice.

The three stars at the top of the shield stand for the moral and spiritual values in life for which all members of Gamma Beta Phi strive.

The Three letters ($\Gamma\beta\Phi$ - Gamma, Beta, Phi) on the ribbon across the center of the shield represent the ideals of the organization. Gamma is the initial letter of the Greek word "gnosis for "Knowledge" or "education;" Beta is the initial letter of the Greek word "bios" meaning "life;" Phi is the initial letter of the Greek word "philios" meaning "love" or "friendship." These three signify that education and friendship constitute the basis of a full and happy life.

The eagle with the outstretched wings at the base of the shield stands for loyalty to country: the olive branch in the right claw being emblematic of our national dedication to the cause of peace, while the arrows in the left claw indicate our readiness to fight for justice and freedom.

The ebony of the ribbon across the center of the shield signifies the dignity and strength of the fellowship of the organization.

The gold surface of the shield stands for the golden band of friendship which binds together the members of the Society.

The words "SCHOLARSHIP," "SERVICE," and "CHARACTER," inscribed on the ribbon around the base of the shield, are the watchwords of the organization and represent the ideals and purposes of THE GAMMA BETA PHI SOCIETY.

12.) What is the Membership Pledge? How should the new members recite the membership pledge?

The following statement (below) is the official Gamma Beta Phi membership pledge. Please have all new inductees stand, to recite the membership pledge together (they can refer to the back of the gold program covers, to recite the membership pledge).

I solemnly declare that I shall always strive to hold fast to the principles of honesty, to maintain a standard of academic excellence, to serve humanity, and to develop good character and leadership ability. I further pledge myself to cooperate with other members of the GAMMA BETA PHI SOCIETY in the active promotion of these ideals in our school, community, state, and nation.

13.) Does our induction ceremony need a keynote speaker?

Yes – your chapter's induction ceremony should include a Keynote Speaker. This individual should be utilized to motivate and inspire new members, as they become active members of their chapter. This can include an individual from campus (such as a faculty member, Department Chair, the Dean of Students, or the College President) or the Gamma Beta Phi Society National Executive Director.

14.) Can we have the National Executive Director serve as our induction ceremony's keynote speaker?

YES! As the visionary for the Society, the National Executive Director would love to speak to your new members, celebrate their academic achievements, and challenge them to contribute to their local chapter.

15.) If we desire to have the National Executive Director serve as our induction ceremony keynote speaker, how do we make that request?

At the beginning of each semester, we will send all Chapter Advisors a special "Pre-Induction Form." This is the form that we use to track all chapters who plan on holding campaigns and inductions during that particular semester. If you desire to have the National Executive Director at your induction ceremony, please indicate your preference within that Pre-Induction Form.

16.) Are there any costs or fees associated with having the National Executive Director attending and participating (speaking) during our induction ceremony?

No! All expenses are covered via National Headquarters. Therefore, the chapter does not need to worry about paying for special fees, flights, hotels, etc. We aim to attend as many induction ceremonies as possible, without placing any financial burden on the actual chapters.

17.) How can we ensure that we are promoting our specific chapter during the induction ceremony, while reading/reciting all of the national items?

We **strongly** encourage chapters to highlight their recent and past success stories during the induction ceremony. The ceremony should serve as a catalyst for student involvement.

Therefore, each chapter should aim to customize their induction ceremony and ensure that both students and families receive helpful information regarding the success of your chapter, along with your goals for the academic year. This can be done in several ways:

- 1.) Including a speech from the Chapter Advisor, the President, or another executive board member highlighting the great things occurring within the chapter.
- 2.) Including a short video or slideshow for guests to watch, highlighting what the chapter has done over the past academic year.
- 3.) Including a document, brochure, or pamphlet for attendees (for them to read in their leisure) about all of the great things occurring within your chapter, and encouraging them to get involved.

18.) Can we honor institutional faculty and staff members during the induction ceremony?

Yes! You can use the induction ceremony to recognize institutional faculty or staff members who serve as phenomenal resources and liaisons to the chapter during the academic year (via certificates, medals, or plaques).

19.) Can we honor current members during our induction ceremony, or should the induction ceremony focus primarily on new inductees?

Yes! We encourage you to use your induction ceremony to recognize current chapter members for their hours of community service (some chapters provide special certificates/honors for members who go above and beyond the call of duty, to complete large amounts of community service).

20.) How can we recognize graduating seniors during the induction ceremony?

Yes! We encourage you to recognize graduating seniors (with special certificates, honor cords, stoles, or more).

21.) How can we personalize our induction ceremony?

During the induction ceremony, you can recognize student members who go above and beyond the call of duty by attending every meeting, service project, etc. (example – “Spring 2019 Gamma Beta Phi, Chapter Member of the Year” Award). Also, we encourage chapters to use their induction ceremonies to formally recognize newly elected executive board members (for the upcoming academic year) – passing the baton from the old board to the new board.

22.) Should we serve food during our induction ceremony?

Depending on your chapter’s budget, **we strongly** recommend refreshments. This can include a special “Gamma Beta Phi” cake with punch, light/heavy hors-d'oeuvres, or a full, sit-down meal

(lunch or dinner). All chapters should operate within their financial boundaries. If your chapter has the financial resources, we strongly encourage you to consider having refreshments for guests (either before your ceremony or after your ceremony).

23.) How do we obtain our induction ceremony materials?

After your recruitment campaign closes, National Headquarters will process the information for all of your inductees. Once the final list of inductees is created and processed, National Headquarters will ship your induction materials to you before your induction ceremony.

24.) What does a new member receive, upon joining the Society?

We will provide you with special induction materials for all of your new members. They will receive a formal certificate, a Gamma Beta Phi pin (to wear), and a formal Gamma Beta Phi "Welcome Letter" with a personalized card with their information, along with their institution and their Chapter Advisor.

25.) Are we required to utilize the gold program covers?

We strongly encourage you to use the gold program covers for your induction ceremony. The program cover provides attendees with the Coat of Arms, the Code of Ethics, the Objectives of Gamma Beta Phi, and the Membership Pledge. We also encourage chapters to print a list of all new inductees and place that sheet inside of the program cover. Please ensure that you have the most up-to-date list of new inductees from National Headquarters before printing that list of new members.

26.) If I have additional questions about the induction ceremony process, what should I do?

If you have any questions concerning your chapter's induction ceremony, please feel free to contact National Headquarters. We are here to help you, every step of the way! You can contact us at (865) 951-1009 or info@gammabetaphi.org.