



## ENGAGING RECENT GRADUATES

### Guide for Alumnae Groups

Each year, thousands of Delta Gamma sisters graduate and transition from their collegiate experience to post graduate life. We know that sisterhood extends way beyond college days and the alumnae experience can be a rewarding one with new personal and professional connections, continued dedication to our philanthropy and stronger bonds of sisterhood.

The first step is making sure our women can easily connect with their local alumnae group (if there is one in the area). This resource provides information on reaching out to these members and how to welcome them into your group in a unique and special way. Although we find this especially important this year during a global pandemic, this resource would be helpful to utilize any time.

The first step is identifying the new sisters that will be joining your group's roster. Depending on when in the year you would like to begin communicating, there are two places to find seniors/recent graduates in Anchorbase.

#### **Locating seniors in your area by the "Collegians in our Area" Report**

Once you are logged into Anchorbase, go to Roster > Reports > Collegians in our Area

This report displays the collegiate sisters living within the zip codes that are designated to your alumnae group. Keep in mind this depends on what a woman listed as her permanent address, which may be a parent's address or her college address.

You can download this report by clicking the disc icon and choosing Excel to export this list to a spreadsheet. In the spreadsheet, you can sort or filter by graduation year to view the women who are current seniors.



[Watch a quick instructional video on how to access this report.](#)

#### **Locating recent graduates in your area by the "Alumnae Roster" Report**

Once you are logged into Anchorbase go to Roster > Reports > Alumnae Roster

This report displays all alumnae living within the zip codes that are designated to your alumnae group.

You can download this report by clicking the disc icon and choosing Excel to export this list to a spreadsheet. Once in the spreadsheet, you can sort or filter by graduation year to view the women who are current seniors.



[Watch a quick instructional video on how to access this report.](#)

## Virtual Programming Ideas to Welcome Recent Graduates

We hope you can utilize some of these ideas below to welcome these sisters into your alumnae group! They have had a unique end to their collegiate experience, so using some of these may help with a smooth and exciting transition into alumnae life. These are also great ideas to use at any time to welcome members as new women move into the area throughout the year.

- **Personal welcome** - Send a personal welcome email using their name, their chapter/university and graduation year to congratulate them on this accomplishment. For this year, it would be appropriate to express that though senior year might not have been as they'd imagined, alumnae life is waiting for them when they are ready!
- **Virtual Welcome Call** - Host a video introduction call (on [Zoom](#) or [Skype](#)) to allow members to meet a small group of women so that they will have a familiar face once they attend an in-person event. Consider sharing some basic information about your group, like events you hold, Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and if there are women in the group from their chapter of initiation or in similar professions. Although holding group events virtually may feel new for your alumnae group, these sisters have finished out the academic year this way, so this may feel rather normal for them.
- **Mentor 1:1 Pairing** – Who doesn't love the buddy system? Consider pairing the new alumna with another alumna in the group who may be close in age, location, life experience or major/professions. This can be included in the welcome email or can be sent separately connecting these two sisters. When alumnae group members agree to be paired with these sisters, encourage them to attend an event with this new sister so she feels comfortable for the first time.
- **New Alumna 1:1 Pairing** – Similar to the suggestion above, try pairing new alumnae members together. This can be a great way for the recent graduates to have a partner who is also entering postgrad life and wanting to engage with the alumnae group. Try to pair women who are not from the same chapter of initiation (if possible) to ensure they are able to make a new connection.
- **Get to Know You Q & A** - Get to know these new alumnae sisters through a video call where you ask each attendee to have a handheld whiteboard or notepad and dark marker (so it will show on video). Ask questions about them, their DG experience and postgraduate plans/goals. Have everyone write out their answer and hold it up to share. This is a great way to get to know everyone all at once and avoid people talking over each other. Have your alumnae group members brainstorm some fun questions and everyone can play at your next event or meeting!
- **DG Trivia** – Invite these new sisters to join a team and flex their DG knowledge. A great prize for the first place team would be waiving their local alumnae dues for the first year or tickets to something fun around your local area! [Find DG Trivia questions here.](#)
- **Host an Alumnae Group Panel Call** - Our alumnae members have different talents and experiences that recent graduates may enjoy learning more about. Host a panel discussion that highlights some of your group members to help the new alumnae build connections and ask questions.
- **Survey These Sisters** – Nothing welcomes new members more than letting them know you want to include them in the programming. Spend time getting to know these new members and what they need, want or expect out of an alumnae group. Ask them what events/groups they would like to see either now or in the future. Members are more likely to attend things that they ask for or feel meets their needs. You can make a copy and edit this [sample survey for a start!](#)