



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

5656 S. Stony Island Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60637 · Phone 773-684-1282

TO: Chapter Basilei

FROM: Jacquelyn Lewis Young
Executive Director

RE: **2026 Spring Mailing**

DATE: April 15, 2026

As we prepare for the 72nd Boule, we are pleased to send you the contents of the 2026 Spring Mailing, the final mailing of the “*Soaring*” Administration. As Basileus, please share this information with your chapter members and disseminate materials to the appropriate chapter officer and committee chairmen.

- Message from the Supreme Basileus
- Letter from the Executive Director
- International Constitution Committee
 - Proposed Bylaw Amendments
- International Diamond/Pearl/Golden/Silver Committee
 - Best Practices and FAQs
- International Finance Committee
 - Proposed 2027 and 2028 Budgets
- International Music/Entertainment Committee
 - Soaring To Greater Heights Through Music Flyer
 - 72nd Boule Join the Boule Choir Flyer
- International Program Committee
 - 72nd Boule Community Service Flyer
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation, Inc.®
 - 72nd Boule EAF® Scholarship & Awards Luncheon Flyer
- Corporate Office
 - 71st Boule Minutes
 - 71st Boule Minutes Substantive Changes Form
 - 72nd Boule Delegate Selection Instructions
 - Chapter Foundation FAQs
 - 2026 Boule Graduate Advisor Certification Training Application

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Corporate Office via helpdesk@aka1908.com. The Ivy Center staff is honored to *SOAR!*

cc: Directorate
International Committee Chairmen
Former Supreme Basilei
Former Executive Directors

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®



OFFICE OF:

Danette Anthony Reed
Supreme Basileus

2026 Spring Mailing Message to Membership

Dear Sorors,

Thank you for working hard and being so supportive of the “Soaring” administration. Your outstanding program results were evident to enhance the sorority’s global service initiatives. In countless ways we are making a difference to those we serve. A few of our accomplishment:

- More than 1, 988, 700 million CHIPP Bags have been distributed to fight food insecurity;
- 22,150 Youth Leadership initiative (Y.L.I.) participants are learning how to lead;
- \$50 Million was spent on Pink Fridays when we “Wore Pink, Spent Green & Bought Black;”
- 194,000 trees were planted as we enhanced our environment;
- 24,912 AKA PALS relations formed across the globe; and
- 199,148 advocacy letters written to legislators to advocate for social justice.

As we conclude our final year, your enthusiasm is appreciated as we continue to *Strengthen Our Sisterhood, Empower Our Families, Build Our Economic Wealth, Advocate for Social Justice, and Uplift Our Local Community*. Our program results, energizes our membership, and productive legacy of service reaffirms our commitment to improving the lives of others worldwide.

This Spring 2026 chapter mailing contains important and time sensitive materials related to the 72nd Boule. Please complete the online Delegate Certification by May 25, 2026, as instructed in the enclosed information provided by the Corporate Office. Information about the Proposed Bylaw Amendments, Proposed 2027 and 2028 Budgets, and Minutes from the 72nd Boule in Dallas, Texas also are contained in this mailing.

I look forward to hosting you for our 72nd Boule conference, July 18 – 24, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Alpha Kappa Alpha reigns supreme in its mission of "Service to All Mankind." We will convene “Soaring Together: Celebrating Our Impact on Service & Sisterhood, stimulate effective culture, and showcase best practices. I am so proud of all you are doing. Let’s make this Boule a record breaking experience.

Sisterly,



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®



Best Practices and FAQ's

Diamond, Pearl, Golden, and Silver Sorors

Danette Anthony Reed, Supreme Basileus

Dazzle. Dazzazz. Glitz. and Sparkle!

As each new year approaches, sorors across all regions are excited about officially beginning their milestone year of membership in our sorority. Chapters have the awesome opportunity of supporting them in numerous ways. To assist sorors and chapters, the International Diamond, Pearl, Golden, Silver Committee (DPGS) created The Royal Guide: "Honoring our Diamond, Pearl, Golden, and Silver Sorors." This SOARsational resource includes helpful tips for acknowledging and celebrating milestone recipients.

Our sisterhood is forever grateful for Soror Bernice Irene Sumlin, 19th Supreme Basileus (1974-1978). She took delight in marking milestone years in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® to honor members' service.

Under her administration, the recognition for 25 years of service was established. The first recognition was held in 1976 at the Boule in New York. The recognitions for 75-, 65- and 50-years of service were later incorporated, and we continue to uphold this illustrious tradition.



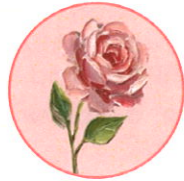


Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

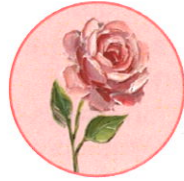


Best Practices

Honoring Diamond, Pearl, Golden and Silver Star Jewels



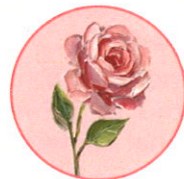
Identify new DPGS Sorors



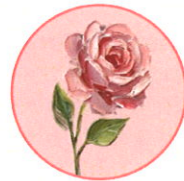
Assist DPGS Sorors in submitting the proper paperwork



Plan a celebration for New DPGS Soror Recognition



Encourage the DPGS Sorors to register for the Milestone Celebrations at Regional Conference and Boule



Celebrates Centenarians





FAQ's

1. Can I still apply for Silver status if I have not been active for 25 years?

Yes. Financial consecutive membership is not a requirement. Silver, Golden, Pearl, or Diamond recognitions do not require a certain number of active years to qualify. If the member is currently active the year she applies and meets the requirements for the award, she will be deemed eligible.

2. My anniversary to be recognized (25, 50, 65, 75) is in November 2025. Can I be recognized at the 2026 Boule?

Yes, you can register to attend the DPGS event and submit your photo with your Boule registration.

3. If I submit paperwork to the Corporate Office for recognition, does that mean I will be recognized at the regional conference?

No. The Corporate Office forms and recognition are different than the region's conference recognition.

4. Can I apply for Silver Soror®, if I am a Golden Soror®?

No, you no longer meet the requirements for the Silver award. Please refer the member to page 42 of the current *Manual of Standard Procedure* for the qualification.

5. Can a soror/chapter apply for recognition for a member who is deceased?

No, the member must be active to apply for any recognition.

6. I will be Golden next year can I apply now?

You may only apply in the year of your anniversary.

7. I lost my Golden Soror medallion, what should I do?

You would have to pay for a replacement. You may contact the Corporate Office at members@aka1908.com regarding the request.

8. This is my Silver Soror year, do I have to apply for the recognition at the Corporate Office?

It is not a requirement that you do so. An active member may voluntarily seek the award. You now may apply for the recognition through the AKA portal, by logging into AKA1908.com and then clicking the STORE tab, and then the Awards tab.

9. Who is responsible for submitting milestone forms to the Corporate Office, the soror or a chapter representative?

A chapter representative or the soror may submit her recognition request. Sorors may apply for the recognition through the AKA portal, by logging into the AKA1908.com and then clicking the STORE tab, and then the Awards tab.

10. Is there a deadline for regional recognition submissions?

Each region sets a deadline for the recognitions for its regional conference. The deadline is in the region materials.

11. Will I get a crown at the regional recognition celebration?

Recognition varies by the regions. In the past, some regions have provided a crown to the recipient, and some have been purchased by the recipient.

12. Can I still get recognized if I'm a transfer member?

Any active member regardless of being a graduate member or general member, may apply to be recognized for her years in the sorority. Please refer the member to page 42 of the current *Manual of Standard Procedure*.

13. Are general members honored on the regional & Boule level?

Yes, general members may apply and be recognized for the year of their initiation at both the regional conference and Boule.

14. What if I've never participated in a milestone celebration, is there a deadline to be able to participate?

At regional conferences, the celebration is for those who meet the recognition level that year. For the Boule, the recognition the same year as the Boule and the one year preceding.





Soaring to Greater Heights

Through Music



Bitly link: <https://bit.ly/AKASongbook>



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®



72nd Boule

Soaring in Song

JOIN THE BOULE CHOIR

We want **YOU** to join the choir for the 72nd Boule

Please use the QR code



72nd Boule COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Service at Scale. Impact in Action.



During the 72nd Boule, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® will once again demonstrate what coordinated, intentional service looks like at the highest level.

In partnership with community organizations, the International Program Committee will lead two large-scale service initiatives designed to create immediate and measurable impact:

CHIPP® Bags

10,000 CHIPP™ Bags Packed

Supporting children facing food insecurity through the Childhood Hunger Initiative Power Pack (CHIPP®) program.

Each CHIPP® bag provides weekend nourishment to help ensure that children return to school ready to learn, focused, and supported. What began as a commitment to combat childhood hunger has grown into a global program that has already delivered nearly two million CHIPP® bags during this administration.

At the 72nd Boule, we will continue that momentum — one bag, one child, one family at a time.

Care Kits

10,000 Infant Care Kits Packed

Supporting maternal and infant health outcomes.

Each kit will include essential supplies to assist families with newborn care during critical early stages of life. These kits are designed to offer both practical support and compassionate care to mothers and infants in need.

New Milestone

A Record of Service — And A New Milestone Ahead

During this Boule, we will attempt to set our second World Record for Service, reinforcing Alpha Kappa Alpha's legacy of delivering large-scale impact through collective action. When thousands of members unite with purpose, service becomes a movement.

Donations for:

Chipp® Bags - Individual macaroni cheese cups or boxes

Care Kits - Travel size baby wipes & baby bibs

Service is our mission. Impact is our standard.

And at the 72nd Boule, we will make history — again.



72ND BOULE

EAF[®] SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS LUNCHEON

JULY, 2026 | LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

BECOME A TABLE SPONSOR!

Sorors, we are excited to welcome and recognize our award winning chapters at our annual EAF Scholarship & Awards Luncheon in Las Vegas during the 72nd Boule! Chapters have the opportunity to become a table sponsors and receive additional sponsorship benefits.

COMPLETE A SPONSORSHIP FORM TO GET STARTED!

To access our form, scan the QR code, visit us online at AKAEAF.org, or email us at akaeaf@akaeaf.net



TABLE SPONSOR

\$2,500

- One table with reserved seating (10 seats) at Luncheon
- Sponsor acknowledgment in the Conference Program Book and App

In addition, don't miss your chance to win exciting prizes while supporting EAF! Purchase your raffle tickets today by scanning the QR code below or visiting AKAEAF.org.



EAF[®] RAFFLE TICKETS

TICKETS:
\$10 EACH
-OR-
3 FOR \$25



We thank you for your continued support to
Promote Lifelong Learning!



2026 Boule Graduate Advisor Certification Training Application

Who must receive a Graduate Advisor Certification?

- Primary/Lead Graduate Advisor to an undergraduate chapter
- Members of the Chapter's Graduate Advisory Committee
- Graduate Certification will expire in 2026

What are the Graduate Advisors' Certification Levels?

- **LEVEL I** – Comprehensive training for sorors who have never been certified: Graduate Advisor candidates, Graduate Advisory Committee Members, sorors in chapter leadership positions; **OR** sorors who have allowed their certification to expire.
- **LEVEL II** – Intermediate training for currently certified Graduate Advisors seeking to recertify within the effective period of their certification.

You **MUST** be registered for the 2026 Boule to attend GAC Training.

Soror's Name: _____ Financial #: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Graduate Advisor Certification expiration date (if applicable): _____

Primary/Lead Graduate Advisor GAC Member

Supervised Undergraduate Chapter: _____

Training: Level I Never Certified Expired Certification

Level II Certification extended and 2026 Boule Needed

Location of Training: 2026 Boule, Las Vegas, NV, July 19, 2026

GRADUATE ADVISOR CERTIFICATION REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15, 2026

AFFIRMATION AND VERIFICATION STATEMENTS:

I, (insert name) _____, DO HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

I have been a member of (insert graduate chapter) _____ Chapter for at least two consecutive years [24 months of active membership as defined by Corporate Office] immediately as of April 1, 2026, and financially active for five (5) years; I have never been suspended for hazing or sanctioned for misappropriation of funds; I attended either the 2022 or 2024 Boule AND either the 2024 or 2025 Regional Conference. By signing this form, I verify the information I have provided is true and correct. I understand Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® can rescind any rights or privileges of a member based on the submission of false information or documents.

Conferences Attended: _____ Boule _____ Regional Conference

Chapter Name: _____ Region: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHAPTER VERIFICATION STATEMENT: Based on chapter records/documents, I hereby affirm that this applicant has met the requirements for Graduate Advisors' Certification Training – (1) there are no chapter records of the applicant ever having been suspended for hazing or sanctioned for misappropriation of funds; and (2) the applicant has been a member of this graduate chapter **(including Life Members-who have paid current dues)** for at least two consecutive years [24 months active membership as defined by Corporate Office] immediately as of April 1, 2026 and financially active for five years. I also affirm that I am not signing my own verification statement.

Printed Name of Basileus*: _____

Signature of Basileus: _____

*Grammateus (ONLY sign if Basileus applies to training)

Printed Name of Grammateus*: _____

Signature of Grammateus: _____

QUICK FACTS FOR 2026 CERTIFICATION TRAINING:



Eligibility

Your eligibility is determined by whether you have:

- No previous certification, last certification has expired, or your certification expires December 31, 2026.
- Never been suspended for hazing or sanctioned for misappropriation of funds.
- Active with your Chapter for 24 consecutive months before April 1, 2026, and currently active for the year.
- Financially active for five (5) years prior to Certification. The 5 years do not have to have been consecutive.
- Attended either 2022 or 2024 Boule **AND** either 2024 or 2025 Regional Conference as of the signing date on this application.
- **If 2026 Boule attendance is needed for Level II Training eligibility, please check the appropriate box on the application.**



GAC Level I

You may apply for **Level I** if:

- You have **never** been certified as a Graduate Advisor or last certification expired on or before December 31, 2024.
- **FIRST TIME APPLICANTS:** Must include a sealed official transcript or a letter from the Registrar Office with official seal, confirming you are at least five years post-baccalaureate with your Application. E-transcripts must be sent to gact@aka1908.com Attn: Patricia Watkins. Transcript must be received by May 15, 2026. **Your transcript or letter will not be returned.**
- **NO TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED** if you held a GAC certification anytime after July 2006 that has since expired.



GAC Level II

You may apply for **Level II** if:

- You have a current Graduate Advisor certification expiring December 31, 2026.
- Your certification expiration date was extended in 2025 or expiring December 31, 2026.
- **NO TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED** if your certification expired after July 2006.



Verification

Your application must have signed verification statements

- Only an original application will be accepted. Digital signatures are acceptable.
- A soror who serves as basileus cannot sign the Chapter Verification section for her own GAC application. In the event the basileus is seeking certification, she must obtain the signature of the grammateus.



Registration

You will receive registration priority based on your status

- Training registration is first come, first served **AND** you also **must register for the 2026 Boule** when that registration opens.
- Priority will be given to sorors who currently serve as the Primary/Lead Graduate Advisor, Members of the chapter's Graduate Advisory Committee, or whose certification was either extended in 2025 or will expire in 2026.



Notification

You will receive training status confirmation

- **The International Graduate Advisors' Certification Committee will email approval or denial confirmation at least ten (10) days before the Certification training.**
- If application and/or registration fee for training is not submitted to the Corporate Office by deadline, your application will be denied.
- Sorors that pay but are deemed ineligible, will receive a refund.
- Sorors that pay but do not register to attend 2026 Boule, will receive a refund.
- Sorors that pay but do not attend the GAC Training at 2026 Boule, will **NOT** receive a refund.

Graduate Advisor Certification (GAC) Level I or Level II Training Instructions:

1. **YOU MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE 2026 BOULE TO ATTEND GAC TRAINING. The GAC Training registration fee is a Corporate Registration Fee separate from the Boule registration.**
2. **The GAC Fee for both Levels is \$150.00.** Make your money order or cashier's check payable to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® **Personal checks will be returned.**
3. The \$150.00 registration fee includes: Graduate Advisors' Certification Training Manual, General Information for the Collegian, Financial Operations Guide, Anti-Hazing Handbook, shipping/handling cost, and light lunch. Materials will be distributed at the Training.
4. The application must **contain all signatures (digital signatures are acceptable)**. If the application is not completed in its entirety, it may be deemed ineligible.
5. The application with all signatures and the \$150.00 registration fee must be **RECEIVED BY** the Corporate Office (**ATTN: GAC Training, 5656 S. Stony Island Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637**). Due Date is May 15, 2026. **Please mail your application with tracking capabilities if you want to verify receipt by the Corporate Office.**