

# BIG BROTHER PROGRAM GUIDE

## PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE:

The purpose of this guide is to provide a basis for a functional Big Brother/Little Brother program in accordance with the Fraternity's purpose.

## GUIDE OUTLINE:

- I. Delta Upsilon's Purpose for the Big Brother Program
- II. Importance of a Functioning Big Brother Program
- III. Necessary Skills & Responsibilities of a Big Brother
- IV. Outline & Requirements for a Big Brother Program
- V. Sample Schedule of a Big Brother Program

### I. Delta Upsilon's Purpose for the Big Brother Program

The Big Brother program is an integral part of the associate member experience within Delta Upsilon. A proper program should provide associate members with a skilled and educated mentor and friend who will help guide him through the Associate Member Education process to his Initiation into Delta Upsilon. Both the Big Brother and Little Brother should hold each other accountable for upholding their expectations as members of the Fraternity.

### II. Importance of a Functioning Big Brother Program

A well-structured and operated Big Brother Program will have tremendous benefits for both the members directly involved and the overall health of the chapter. The Little Brothers will learn how to succeed in their academic, social and fraternal life with the help of a knowledgeable and emotionally supportive Big Brother. By providing associate members with a positive role model and teacher, the overall quality of membership in the chapter will improve leading to a stronger and healthier chapter.

### III. Necessary Skills & Responsibilities of a Big Brother

#### Skills:

- Extensive knowledge of the campus and collegiate system
  - › Library resources, tutoring services, financial aid services, health and wellness services
  - › Scheduling and advising system, etc.
- Active listening skills
- Responsibility and organizational skills
  - › A Big Brother needs to be able to help his Little Brother manage all of the requirements of Initiation while maintaining his academic commitments and performance.

## Responsibilities:

- ✦ Ensure that academic achievement is both role modeled and encouraged throughout the Little Brother's membership and beyond. This includes at least three hours of weekly study time together.
- ✦ Attend all Big Brother/Little Brother meetings and events.
- ✦ Ensure the Principles of Delta Upsilon as a non-hazing Fraternity are maintained in all Big Brother/Little Brother and associate member activities.
- ✦ Ensure that no alcohol shall be present at any Big Brother/ Little Brother programming activities.
- ✦ Ensure that Delta Upsilon's Four Founding Principles are translated into meaning through action. Display and discuss each Founding Principle through an activity that both Big Brother and Little Brother can participate in together.
- ✦ Provide his Little Brother with the information to utilize any campus resource he may need (financial aid, counseling services, tutoring centers, etc.).
- ✦ Provide his Little Brother with a suitable and appropriate Initiation gift. ( $\Delta Y$  tie, cufflinks, clothing with letters, etc.)
- ✦ Foster a trusting relationship with the Little Brother to provide a safe place for him to share doubts, stresses or hardships he may be facing.
- ✦ Participate in an annual evaluation and revision of the Big Brother/Little Brother Program.
- ✦ Provide for the Little Brother a model of the highest standards of conduct becoming of a gentleman.

## IV. Outline &amp; Requirements for a Big Brother Program

- ✦ **Revealing Night:** On this first night of the program, the Big Brothers are revealed to their Little Brothers. Then both the Big and Little Brother should review, discuss and sign the chapter's honor code together. The Associate Member Educator will then outline the Big Brother Program and explain the expectations and responsibilities of everyone involved.
- ✦ **Campus Education Event:** The Big Brothers will each plan events for their Little Brothers meant to educate them on an aspect of campus life that they will participate in together.
  - › Ex: Overview of campus resource centers, tour of campus facilities, advisor meet and greet, etc.

- ◆ **Founding Principles Events:** The Big Brothers will plan an event to exemplify each of the Four Founding Principles for his Little Brother and him to attend. After each event, the Big Brother should facilitate a conversation about how the event relates to one of the Four Founding Principles and what they can learn from it.
  - › Ex: Diffusion of Liberal Culture – Attend a cultural dance show, see a play, attend a meeting of a cultural interest club, etc.
  - › Ex: Development of Character – Attend a seminar on financial wellness, teach each other a new skill, attend a lesson on proper manners, etc.
  - › Ex: Promotion of Friendship – Plan a friendly competition with another Big Brother/Little Brother (bowling, put-put, etc.), cook each other dinner, host a movie night together, etc.
  - › Ex: Advancement of Justice – Volunteer at a local food bank, host an evening to discuss social issues with other Big Brother/Little Brother pairs, read to children at a local school.
- ◆ **Scholarship Event:** In addition to three hours of weekly study time, each Big Brother/Little Brother pair should engage in an event to promote scholarly excellence.
  - › Ex: Tour of tutoring services, study skills seminar, library tour, professor meet and greet, etc.
- ◆ **Initiation Education Event:** The Big Brother should facilitate a discussion about the importance of the Ritual & Oath of Initiation one week prior to his Little Brother's Initiation date. He should also review the entire Ritual so his Little Brother will be prepared.

#### V. Sample Schedule of a Big Brother Program

##### Week 1:

- ◆ Day 1: Revealing night followed by dinner cooked by the Big Brothers.
- ◆ Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- ◆ Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

##### Week 2:

- ◆ Day 1: Each Big Brother should take his Little Brother out to a meal and give him a tour of the student union and all of the resources within it (Campus Education event).
- ◆ Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- ◆ Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 3:**

- Day 1: Each Big Brother should attend a meeting of a cultural interest group on campus with his Little Brother and have a meal at a traditional cultural restaurant. They should then discuss what they learned about this new culture (Diffusion of Liberal Culture event).
- Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 4:**

- Day 1: Each Big Brother should attend a speaker or program on campus on a topic of interest with his Little Brother and discuss how they will use the lessons they learned in day-to-day life (Development of Character event).
- Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 5:**

- Day 1: Big Brother/Little Brother pairs compete against each other in a friendly bowling event and see a movie (Promotion of Friendship event).
- Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 6:**

- Day 1: Big Brother/Little Brother pairs should volunteer in their local community, for example at a food bank or school. They should then discuss the impact of their service and why it is important for them to give back to the community (Advancement of Justice event).
- Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 7:**

- Day 1: Each Big Brother should help introduce his Little Brother to his professors and teach him how to approach educators in a polite manner. The Big Brother should also introduce his Little Brother to the campus tutoring services (Scholarship event).
- Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.

**Week 8:**

- ✦ Day 1: Being the final week of Associate Member Education, the Big Brother should facilitate a conversation with his Little Brother about the Ritual & Oath of Initiation to prepare him for his transition into Delta Upsilon (Initiation Education event).
- ✦ Day 3: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- ✦ Day 5: 90 minutes of study time for each Big Brother/Little Brother pair.
- ✦ Day 6: The Big Brother should take his Little Brother to a congratulatory dinner before his Initiation. This would be a good time for the Big Brother to provide his Little Brother with an Initiation gift.
- ✦ Day 7: Initiation.