



Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



“Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully”

“Discover the Brilliance”

Greetings Potential Delta G.E.M.S.,

This letter is to invite you to participate in an exciting mentoring program for the 2011- 2012 school year. The Women of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., are opening our arms and hearts to welcome young ladies who are interested in joining the *Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Delta G.E.M.S (Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully) Institute*.

An exciting year has been planned for you. The *Delta G.E.M.S* program is designed for females between the ages of (14-18) years old and in grades (9-12). The objective of the *Delta G.E.M.S.* program is to serve as a motivational tool which targets female teenagers in an effort to increase knowledge and awareness of issues and concerns that affect young women in our society today.

Applications must be postmarked **no later than Thursday, June 30, 2011**. Please be sure to complete **ALL** of the forms enclosed in this packet. Failure to submit all parts of the application will exclude you from consideration.

Please return all applications to:

Attn: DELTA G.E.M.S. – Orlando Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
PO Box 555238
Orlando, FL 32855

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact:

Cathy Edwards-Lee
Chair, 2010 - 2011
(407) 719-9444

Tasha Lang
Co- Chair, 2010 - 2011
(850) 766-2429

OR

EMAIL: youthgroups@oacdst.org

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance. We look forward to your participation in the program.

Sincerely,

Traci Smith-Kimes

Traci Smith-Kimes, Chapter President (2009-2011)

DELTA G.E.M.S. Program Information

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a non-profit nationwide organization, whose purpose is to provide service and programs to promote human welfare. The Delta G.E.M.S. Institute, formally known as Delteens, is a youth community service program of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter, which began in the early 70's. In 2006, the program was renamed to DELTA G.E.M.S. (*Developing Effective Leadership Through Achieving, Growing, Empowering Myself Successfully*), which is an extension of the Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy I program. The DELTA G.E.M.S. Program's name and content were changed to become consistent with other teen programs sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The DELTA G.E.M.S. primary focus is on teen girls between the ages of 14-18 and/or in grades 9-12 and to help them develop strong leadership skills.

The goals for DELTA G.E.M.S. are:

- To promote positive societal interactions
- To develop effective written and oral communication skills
- To encourage self-confidence, self-motivation, and self-discipline
- To foster meaningful public service; including mentoring and networking
- To strive for intellectual enrichment
- To assist with the exploration of various career paths and means for obtaining them (college and/or vocational skills training)
- To support talents in academics, technology, sports, and fine arts
- To maintain moral values and personal pride while experiencing the crossroads of life

The mission of the **DELTA G.E.M.S. Committee** is to provide young ladies with a firm structural program that will enhance their self-esteem, academic achievement, leadership skills, and cultural awareness. This, in turn, will provide them with the opportunity to develop emotionally, socially, and intellectually and be prepared to take an active role in their success as they face the challenges of the world.

The goals and objectives of the **DELTA G.E.M.S. Committee** will be accomplished through a series of workshops and community service activities using the following frame work:

- Scholarship (Academic Excellence)
- Sisterhood (Self Esteem, Health Awareness & Leadership)
- Showing Me the Money (Financial Awareness)
- Service (Social Responsibility Obtained through Community Service)
- Infinitely Complete (The Rites of Passage)

The **DELTA G.E.M.S.** logo is likened to a gemologist who can see, through the use of certain tools, the hidden treasure in unpolished jewels. **DELTA G.E.M.S.** uses the polished jewels as a symbol of the facets that shine and glow within our young African-American women.

DELTA G.E.M.S. Participation

Criteria for Participation:

Participation into the DELTA G.E.M.S. Institute is held once a year. The following criteria will be used to determine eligibility:

- Entering or attending high school in the fall (grades 9-12)
- Must have a grade point average of 2.5 or better
- Submit a completed application with a picture
- Submit one (1) letter of recommendation from one of the following:
 - Teacher or Guidance Counselor
 - Employer
 - Minister
 - A Sponsor /Advisor of any affiliation/organization
 - A member of a Greek sorority or fraternity
- Submit an official copy of 4th Quarter Final Report Card with Final GPA
- Participate in the interview process, if necessary
- Submit with Parental Signature the “Agreement to Participate”
- Submit with Parental Signature the “Code of Conduct”

If accepted for participation, you **must** attend the Student/Parent orientation.

Activities:

The following are potential activities to the organization’s participation:

- Teen Summits
- Presentations and Seminars
- Volunteer Hostess/Ushers
- Black History Month Observance
- Community Service
- Step Show Competitions and Exhibitions
- Academic Testing Workshops, Updates, and Study Sessions
- Annual Delta G.E.M.S. Conference
- Annual Christmas Party, Sleep-over, Parent Appreciation, Field Trips, and
- End of Year Banquet/Awards Program/Rites of Passage

Code of Conduct:

Participation in the DELTA G.E.M.S. organization requires a strong level of commitment and responsibility. All members are to adhere to a “Code of Conduct,” which consists of policies and procedures that governs the organization. The “Code of Conduct” addresses in detail: officers, attendance, participation, academic and disciplinary guidelines, voting, prerequisites for awards and recognition, etc. The “Code of Conduct” will be provided to every member of the program.

Motto:

“I believe I can succeed, and because I believe.... I have!”

DELTA G.E.M.S. Important Dates and Deadlines

Selection Process:

- All interested candidates should fill-out and submit a DELTA G.E.M.S. Application via direct mail by **June 30th**.

Attn: DELTA G.E.M.S. – Orlando Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
PO Box 555238
Orlando, FL 32855

- A Completed applications and recommendation letters **MUST** be returned at the time the packet is submitted or you will not be considered for participation.
- If needed, Interviews will be scheduled for *Late July/Early August*. Those candidates selected for interviews will be notified at least *two weeks* prior to their scheduled time. Each interview will take approximately 10 minutes.
- If you have any questions, please contact the current **DELTA G.E.M.S.** Chairs phone: Mrs. Cathy Lee at (407) 719-9444 or Ms. Tasha Lang at (805) 766-2429. You may also send an email: youthgroups@oacdst.org.

If selected for participation:

- All **MUST** participate in the *Student/Parent Orientation* currently scheduled for *Wednesday, August 31, 2011, 6:30 p.m.* at *Location TBA*. Participants, please be prepared to **wear professional business attire** and have at least one parent/guardian or family member present to receive information and fill-out any additional paperwork.

If selected to become a member of the **DELTA G.E.M.S.** Institute sponsored by Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., I understand and agree to the following guidelines and expectations:

1. Participation in the Student/Parent Orientation and Ceremony is mandatory.
2. Involvement and participation in all **DELTA G.E.M.S.** activities are governed under the auspices of Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., **DELTA G.E.M.S.** Code of Conduct, Officers, and Committee Chairpersons.
3. Participation is strictly voluntary and requires a strong level of commitment.
4. Members in good standing may continue participation until high school graduation.
5. Attendance at all regularly scheduled meetings (*currently the second Saturday of each month starting in September from 10:30a.m. — 12:30p.m., occasional midweek workshops/community service from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.*) and other planned activities is expected.
6. A 2.5 or better grade point average will be required and maintained. Note: All applicants must improve their GPA by 0.5 points by the end of the school year to be invited to return to the program for the **2012-2013** school year.
7. Appropriate behavior becoming of a lady should be exemplified at all times.

PLEASE KEEP THIS AND THE PRECEDING PAGES FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION.

SECTION 2: APPLICANT QUESTIONS

What are your favorite and least favorite subjects? Explain why.

Describe your personal strengths and challenges.

What are your future goals after graduation? Do you plan to attend college?

Do you participate in extracurricular or after-school activities/sports? If so, describe in detail the activity and how much time you spend on that activity.

Do you have any hobbies and/or interests? If so, describe.

Why do you want to be a participant in Delta G.E.M.S.?

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

SECTION 2: APPLICANT QUESTIONS (cont'd)

List and describe your involvement in extracurricular non-school related activities and community service. i.e. community/church, public service, etc.

Provide a brief overview of any special awards received for academics, philanthropic, athletic and/or achievements.

Is there anything that would prevent you from fully participating in Delta G.E.M.S. Activities?

Do you work part-time? If so, where and how many hours do you work per week?
Y _____ N _____ Hours Per Week: _____ Where: _____

If no, do you have plans to get a job? Y _____ N _____

Please place a check by each topic that may be of interest to you:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| _____ College Prep | _____ Fashion Tips |
| _____ Personal Hygiene | _____ Healthy Relationships |
| _____ Technology | _____ Career Development |
| _____ Financial Awareness | _____ Home Economics |
| _____ Health Issues | _____ Peer Pressure/Bullying |
| _____ Diseases Affecting Youth | _____ Beauty Tips |
| _____ Substance Abuse Prevention | _____ Art/Music/Dance |
| _____ African-American Culture/History | |
| _____ Other (educational or social) Please specify: _____ | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ **DATE** _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____ **DATE** _____

SECTION 3: TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

How will your child travel to and from **Delta G.E.M.S.** meetings and activities?

(Please Note: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Orlando Alumnae Chapter does not provide transportation and is not responsible for your child's travel to or from the Delta G.E.M.S. program.)

Car Walk Public Transportation Other (please specify) _____

Do you have any additional persons (*other than parent/guardians & emergency contacts listed in this form*) who you approve to transport your child? If yes, please list (*this may include a sibling, grandparent, family friend, etc.*):

1) Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Cell phone: _____

2) Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Cell phone: _____

3) Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Cell phone: _____

4) Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Cell phone: _____

SECTION 4: EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

(Two contacts MUST be provided)

1) Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Home telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

2) Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Home telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

SECTION 5: APPLICANT HEALTH INFORMATION

To the parent/guardian:

The health of the student is primarily the responsibility of her parent(s) or guardian(s). The Orlando Alumnae Chapter strongly recommends annual health examinations, dental check-ups and immunizations against preventable diseases. Our policy on health and safety implies a responsibility to the participants for their protection. It also implies the right of the organization to be assured, as much as possible, that the participants are physically able to take part in youth group activities.

Student Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Parent/Guardian Full Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Family Physician Name: _____ Phone Number: _____ Family Medical Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy/Group Number: _____
Part 1: Pre-Existing Conditions, Illnesses and Injuries Please list ANY chronic or recurring medical conditions or illnesses: _____ _____ _____
Part 2: Allergies <i>(Check all that apply and specify nature of any allergic reactions)</i> Animals ___ Hay Fever ___ Pollen ___ Insect Stings ___ Plants ___ Food ___ Drugs ___ Please Specify here: _____
Part 3: Immunizations Are all of the student's immunizations up to date? Yes _____ No _____ <i>(If not, please explain in Part 5)</i> Date of last: DPT: _____ Tetanus: _____
Part 4: Other Health Conditions <i>(Check all that apply)</i> Bed Wetting ___ Emotional Disturbances ___ Fainting ___ Constipation ___ Hearing Impairment ___ Sleep Disorders ___ Nosebleeds ___ Dental Appliances ___ Wears glasses/contacts ___ Motion Sickness ___ Menstrual Cramps ___ Special Dietary Needs ___ Sickle Cell Trait or Disease ___ Other (specify) _____
Part 5: Notes <i>(Please explain any items that are noted in previous sections. Indicate any information useful to the adult in charge in relation to any of these health conditions. Also indicate any activities to be restricted.)</i> _____ _____
Part 6: Medication Directions <i>(Please give detailed directions for any medications to be given to your child. Include dosage and times.)</i> _____ _____
I know of no reason(s) other than the information on this form, why my daughter should not participate in G.E.M.S. activities.
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

SECTION 6: APPLICANT HEALTH INFORMATION (cont'd)

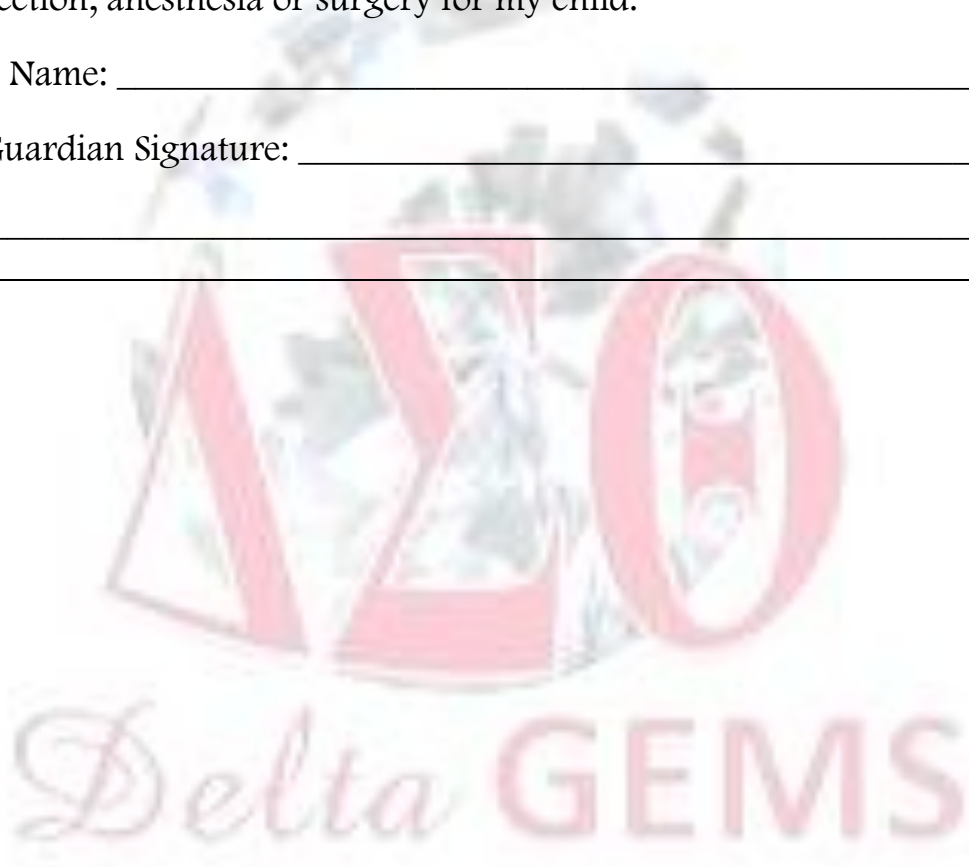
PARENT AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCY TREATMENT

In case of medical emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact parents or guardian of the child. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by authorized representative(s) of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for and to order injection, anesthesia or surgery for my child.

Student's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____



SECTION 7: APPLICANT ESSAY

Answer the following essay in clearly written form below or typed format on a separate sheet and attach to the application. Your response should be 250 to 500 words in length.

Name: _____ Date: _____

In your opinion, what is a significant issue or development, either positive or negative, that is affecting your generation? How will your participation in a program such as the Delta G.E.M.S. enable *you* to confront or contribute to this issue or development?



SECTION 8: CONSENT FORMS

STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE

We have read and agree with all the information provided for the DELTA G.E.M.S. Program sponsored by the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. If (our/my) child is selected for participation into the DELTA G.E.M.S. Program, please accept (our/my) signature(s) as (our/my) consent to have her participate. You may count on (us/me) for support and assistance whenever appropriate.

Student PRINTED Name: _____

Student SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

PARENT/GUARDIAN STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I voluntarily give my daughter (the student whose name is listed above) permission to participate in the Delta G.E.M.S. program. I am authorized to give permission for the student to participate in the program. My child's participation in the Delta G.E.M.S. program is completely voluntary. Delta G.E.M.S. is committed to providing the best possible climate for maximum development and achievement of goals for all student participants. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Orlando Alumnae Chapter and its related entities will make every effort to protect the welfare of the Delta G.E.M.S. participants; however, the program committee members are not responsible for ensuring the physical, mental, social and medical health of program participants. As a parent/guardian, I am responsible for the welfare of my child. The Delta G.E.M.S. committee may suspend a student's participation if their behavior does not reflect the spirit of the program.

Parent/Guardian's PRINTED Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

CONSENT TO PHOTOGRAPH

I voluntarily give permission for my daughter (the student whose name is listed above), to be photographed and videotaped. My signature gives consent to the use of her likeness in any publication, educational material, advertising, news media, and World Wide Web materials that the Delta G.E.M.S./Orlando Alumnae Chapter may utilize and produce. I understand and agree that such materials, including all negatives, positives, digital images, and prints shall become and remain the sole property of the Delta G.E.M.S./Orlando Alumnae Chapter and I shall have no right or title to such items. I further understand and agree that these materials may be kept on file and used by the Delta G.E.M.S./Orlando Alumnae Chapter for potential future use. I agree to release the Delta G.E.M.S./Orlando Alumnae Chapter from any and all liability arising from or in connection with the taking, use, publication, or dissemination of such materials. Copies of these photos may be distributed to the parent upon request.

Parent/Guardian's PRINTED Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Effective Date: July 1, 2011
Expiration Date: June 30, 2012

SECTION 8: CONSENT FORMS (cont'd)

Workshop Permission

I grant permission of my daughter, _____, to participate in the workshops presented to the participants of the Delta G.E.M.S. Program sponsored by the Orlando Alumnae Chapter. I understand that most of the workshops are listed in the Delta G.E.M.S./Orlando Alumnae Chapter yearly calendar.

Parent/Guardian's PRINTED Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

If you have any objectionable topics, please list them and sign below:

Parent/Guardian's PRINTED Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Field Trip Permission

As the parent/guardian of, _____, I hereby give consent for her to attend field trips with DELTA G.E.M.S. Program sponsored by the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

My daughter and I understand that she is to comply with all rules and regulations established by all representatives of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

I understand that precautions will be taken to ensure my daughter's safety. I, therefore, will not hold the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. or any representatives of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. responsible for any complication, injury, or illness experienced by my daughter.

Field trips are subject to change, and notification is at the discretion of Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Parent/Guardian's PRINTED Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Effective Date: July 1, 2011
 Expiration Date: June 30, 2012

SECTION 9: DELTA G.E.M.S. CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

I will cooperate with all adults in charge. I will be sensitive to the needs of the each participant.

I will respect the people and places with which I come in contact.

I will adhere to the Delta G.E.M.S. dress code.

I will participate in required activities & discussions, be on time for all scheduled activities, and be open to new ideas. In the event I must miss an event, I will contact a member of the Delta G.E.M.S. Committee at least 24 hours ahead of the activity.

I understand that obscene language and the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal or unauthorized drugs, and fighting will not be tolerated. Such usage during the activity may result in immediate dismissal from the program.

I will remember that I am a member of a program sponsored by the women of Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and I must abide by a high standard of conduct. My behavior will reflect the high values and expectations for conduct described in this code of conduct and lady like etiquette.

I will be responsible for all my personal belongings.

I understand that I will receive two warnings for unacceptable behavior. After two warnings, my parent/guardian may be notified. I understand if I am sent home early due to any misconduct, it will be my parent's responsibility to provide transportation regardless of the time of day or night. I also understand that any additional costs for transportation will be my parent's responsibility.

I understand that more than (2) absences may result in me being dropped from the program and may also prohibit me from being able to participate on any field trips.

I understand that my attitude and behavior are central to the success of this activity sponsored by the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Therefore, for the good of this activity, as well as for myself and my fellow group members, I agree to abide by the statements above:

Student Signature _____ Date _____

As the parent/guardian, I understand and agree with the above responsibilities fully accepted by my daughter. Should it be necessary, I will provide transportation for my daughter regardless of the time or day or night. I will not hold Orlando Alumnae Chapter or its members responsible if my daughter is sent home early due to misconduct.

Parent / Guardian _____ Date _____

THE CONTRACT (The First Meeting)

OAC DELTA G.E.M.S.

I will respect everyone else’s privacy.

There is to be no teasing or prying.

Each individual has the right to decide whether to share private thoughts during Delta G.E.M.S. meetings or discussions.

Anybody who wants to simply sit and listen may do so, with the understanding that participation is beneficial but voluntary.

I will show everyone respect.

There will be no teasing or scolding. The idea is for the whole group to arrive at its goals, but each individual will progress at a different rate.

I will uphold the family confidentiality.

There will be no telling.

What happens and what is said within the group stays within the group. Group members should feel free to discuss their thoughts and feelings knowing they need not feel bashful or shy, or worry that friends or people outside the group will find out things they’d rather keep private.

I will trust my group members.

There will be no blaming and no lying.

I promise to make my best effort to be honest, accepting that no one is perfect and everyone makes mistakes from time to time.

I will show up on time for group meetings and activities.

I will complete all my homework assignments.

I will listen to others without interrupting.

I will be positive and try to encourage everyone in my group.

If you agree to all of the above, sign below.

Student name (PRINT)

Student name (SIGNATURE)

Date