



Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



“Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence”

“The State of the Black Male”

Greetings Potential EMBODI Participants,

This letter is to invite you to participate in an exciting mentoring program for the 2018- 2019 school year. The women of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., offer this opportunity young men who are interested in joining the *EMBODI (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) Program*.

EMBODI is a mentorship program that is designed to address educational, social and emotional obstacles young men of color may experience. The program provides an opportunity for young men between the ages of (11 - 18) years old, in grades (6 - 12), to interact with positive men and women who will serve as mentors. Program activities and events will focus on, but are not limited to, cultural/academic enrichment, building self-confidence, conflict-resolution strategies and any other issues impacting our youth.

Applications must be postmarked **no later than Saturday, July 7, 2018**. 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: EMBODI – 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 Lee-Edwards, Co-Chair
(407) 719-9444**

**Tina Watts-Co-Chair
(407) 963-8501**

OR

EMAIL: youthgroups@oacdst.org

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

Sincerely,

Neika Berry
Neika Berry, Chapter President

Sherri King
Sherri King, PP&D Chair

EMBODI 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. *Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence (EMBODI)* is the signature program of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s 24th National President, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre. *EMBODI* is designed to refocus Delta's efforts to collaborate with other established organizations and agencies to address the plight of African American males. The *EMBODI* program provides a continuum of services and addresses the specific needs of African-American male high school students (ages 14-18) and middle school students (ages 11-14).

Both informal and empirical data suggests that African American males continue to be in crisis and are not successful educationally, socially, and emotionally. *EMBODI* is designed to address these issues through dialogue, recommended strategies, programs and activities.

The goals of EMBODI are:

- To expand the horizons of young African American males by cultivating a personal vision for their lives;
- To provide tools for young African American males to attain a higher quality of life;
- To provide young African American males with an awareness of various college and career options to make rewarding life choices and decisions; and
- To create community-minded young African American males by actively involving them in service learning and community service opportunities.

The *EMBODI* Program serves as a motivational tool for African American teenage males with the ultimate goal of increasing their knowledge and awareness of issues affecting young men today.

The mission of the *EMBODI Committee* is to provide young males 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.

EMBODI Participation

Criteria for Participation:

Participation into the **EMBODI** Program is held once a year. The following criteria will be used to determine eligibility:

- Entering or attending middle school (grade 6 - 8) or high school (grades 9-12) in the fall of 2018
- 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 scheduled tentatively for **Saturday, July 28, 2018.**
- 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 schedule for Saturday, September 8, 2018.**

Activities:

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

- Teen Summits
- Presentations and Seminars
- Volunteer Ushers
- Black History Month Observance
- Community Service
- Academic Testing Workshops, Updates, and Study Sessions
- Annual Christmas Party, Parent Appreciation, Field Trips, and
- End of Year Banquet/Awards Program/Rites of Passage

Code of Conduct:

Participation in **EMBODI** 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.

EMBODI Important Dates and Deadlines

Selection Process:

- All interested candidates should complete and submit an **EMBODI** Application via direct mail to be postmarked by **Saturday, July 7, 2018**.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Attn: EMBODI – Orlando Alumnae Chapter
PO Box 555238
Orlando, FL 32855
youthgroups@oacdst.org

- A completed application and recommendation letters **MUST** be returned at the time the packet is submitted or you will not be considered for participation.
- Interviews will be scheduled for **tentatively July 28, 2018**. Those candidates selected for interviews will be notified at least **a week** prior to their scheduled time. Each interview will take approximately 10 minutes.

If you have any questions, please contact the current **EMBODI Co-Chairs**: Mrs. Cathy Lee Edwards at (407) 719-9444 or Mrs. Tina Watts at (407) 963-8501 or **email**: youthgroups@oacdst.org.

If selected for participation:

All participants **MUST** attend the **Student/Parent Orientation** currently scheduled for **Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.** The location is TBA. Participants should 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 **EMBODI** Program 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 **EMBODI** activities are governed under the auspices of Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., **EMBODI** 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 Sunday of every month starting in September from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., occasional midweek workshops from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*) and other planned activities are 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 **2018-2019** school year.
7. Appropriate behavior becoming of a gentleman should be exemplified at all times.

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

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION**Participant Information**Name: _____
Last First Middle Name or InitialAge: _____ Date of Birth: _____
As of 7/1/2018 Month Day YearAddress: _____
Street Number (Include Apartment Number)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

T-shirt Size (select one): XS _____ S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____

Church Affiliation: _____

High School _____ Grade (2017-2018) _____ GPA _____

Are you a participant in the free/reduced lunch program? YES _____ NO _____

This will be my 1st __ 2nd __ 3rd __ 4th __ year participating in the EMBODI program.

How did you hear about the program? _____

Parent or Guardian Information:

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name: _____

Home Number: _____ Work Number: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Cell Number: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) E-mail: _____

Personal Information:

Is your mother a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.? Y ___ N ___

Have you participated in any other EMBODI program? Y ___ N ___

Do you currently have a sibling participating in an EMBODI program? Y ___ N ___

If yes, please give name _____

Have you participated in any Delta Sigma Theta sponsored activities (i.e., Teen Summit, etc.)?

Y ___ N ___

SECTION 2: APPLICANT QUESTIONS

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

Describe your strengths and areas for development.

What are your future goals after graduation?

List all extracurricular or after-school activities

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

Why do you want to be a participant in EMBODI?

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

SECTION 2: APPLICANT QUESTIONS (cont'd)

List and describe your involvement in non-school related activities and community service. i.e. 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 EMBODI Activities?

Are you currently employed? Y _____ N _____

If so, where? _____

How many hours do you work per week?

If no, do you plan to work? Y _____ N _____

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| _____ College Prep | _____ Social Etiquette |
| _____ Personal Hygiene & Grooming | _____ Healthy Relationships |
| _____ Technology | _____ Career Development |
| _____ Financial Awareness | _____ Home Economics |
| _____ Health Issues | _____ Peer Pressure/Bullying |
| _____ Diseases Affecting Youth | _____ Substance Abuse Prevention |
| _____ African-American Culture/History | _____ Other (educational or social) |

Please specify: _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ **DATE** _____

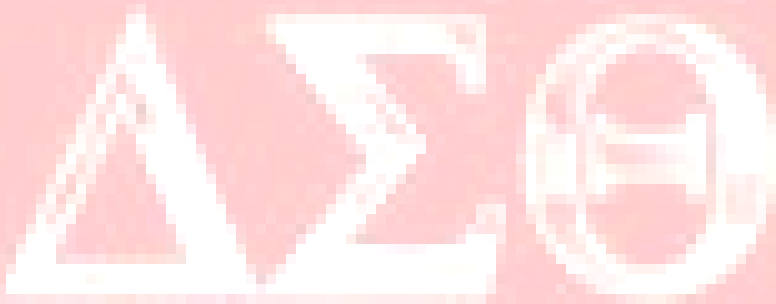
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____ **DATE** _____

SECTION 3: 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 EMBODI enable *you* to confront or contribute to this issue or development?



SECTION 4: EMBODI CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

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

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

I will adhere to the EMBODI 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 EMBODI 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 described in this code of conduct and gentlemen 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 son. Should it be necessary, I will provide transportation for my son regardless of the time or day or night. I will not hold Orlando Alumnae Chapter or its members responsible if my son is sent home early due to misconduct.

Parent / Guardian _____ **Date** _____

THE CONTRACT (The First Meeting)

OAC EMBODI

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 EMBODI 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