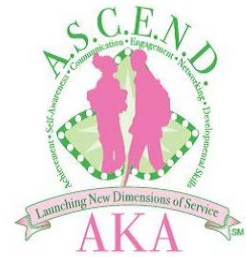




Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
Gamma Eta Omega Chapter  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Gwendolyn Thomas  
President

Micheline Millender  
Vice-President



## ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> Program Overview

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Gamma Eta Omega Chapter, invites high school students to participate in the 2017 – 2018 ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> Program. ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> (Achievement, Self-Awareness, Communications, Engagement, Networking and Development Skills) is a college and career readiness program focused on providing students in grades 9 through 12 with life, academic, career and character-building skills. Students will engage in a variety of group and mentor – mentee activities that will promote these ideals.

*Group activities will occur monthly on a Saturday from September 2017 through June 2018, excluding the Orientation and Closing Program.*

## ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> Program Criteria

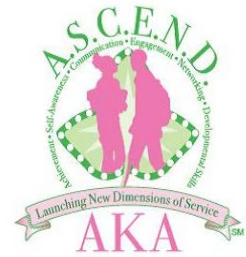
- The ASCEND program is open to high school female and male students in grades 9 through 12.
- Applicants must be enrolled in grades 9 through 12 during the 2017 – 2018 school year and be in good standing.
- Applicants must have and maintain a C grade point average or higher.
- Applicants must agree to follow the guidelines outlined in the Student Code of Conduct while participating in the program.
- Applicants must submit a completed parental consent form, signed by the parent/legal guardian and the student.
- Successful applicants and a parent/legal guardian are required to attend the ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> Orientation to be held **Sunday, September 17, 2017** (time and place to be announced).



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## ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> Application Packet Checklist

A complete ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> application must be received by SEPTEMBER 13, 2017, and must contain all of the items listed below.

- Parental Consent & Responsibility Form
- Student Code of Conduct & Responsibility Contract
- ASCEND Program Student Application Form
- ASCEND Pre-Assessment Form
- A letter of recommendation from a counselor, teacher or community leader.
- A typed personal statement (not to exceed 500 words) that
  - articulates why the applicant would like to participate in the ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> program and
  - discusses the applicant's future career goals.
- A copy of the student's high school transcripts. Freshman students may provide their middle school transcripts.

A completed ASCEND<sup>SM</sup> application may be submitted

via email to:

**ascend.geobr@gmail.com**

Please use the email title:

ASCEND Application – *Insert Your Full Name*

via mail to:

Gamma Eta Omega Chapter  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority,  
Incorporated  
**ATTN: ASCEND**  
Post Office Box 3902  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

For more information please contact Mrs. Alrica L. J. Payne at 225-573-5582.  
You may also send an email to **ascend.geobr@gmail.com** for more information.



# ASCEND Application Packet

## Parental Consent & Responsibility

As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter to as “she” or “her” or “he” or “his”), I hereby certify and affirm the following:

1. I am legally entitled to give consent for her/his participation in the ASCEND program.
2. I acknowledge that she/he will be enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade and a student in good academic standing with a cumulative minimum average of a “C” or its equivalent (new applicants must be matriculating in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade at the time of participation). Students with less than a “C” average will be placed on probation and must show improvement to remain in the program.
3. I am aware that upon application to the ASCEND program, I must provide a copy of her/his most recent grade report.
4. I understand that program membership may be revoked after three unexcused absences from meetings and activities within an academic year and I must notify the ASCEND program personnel of any absence.
5. I understand that her/his personal and private information will not be shared with any individuals, agencies or institutions without my written consent.
6. I understand that she/he will be involved with workshops and activities that seek to prepare her/him for career and/or college which will also include community service and cultural enrichment activities.
7. I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure that she/he is present at all program activities.
8. I authorize permission for her/him to attend all sanctioned enrichment and cultural excursions that are off-site from the regular meeting place.
9. I understand that guests (i.e., younger siblings, friends, un-enrolled students) should not be brought to the meeting or activities without prior consent or knowledge of the ASCEND program personnel.
10. I understand that her/his admission and participation in the program is voluntary and may be terminated by any party of this agreement at any time.
11. I authorize the ASCEND program personnel to transport her/him (or arrange transportation) to a hospital or medical facility in the event that I cannot be reached and authorize consent to examination, care and treatment as deemed necessary by a licensed physician or dentist.
12. I understand that she/he may be photographed or videotaped during the program meetings and activities and give my consent for use of such images by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the ASCEND program personnel in print or electronic media used to promote the program.
13. I understand that as the parent or legal guardian, I may be called upon to attend a mandatory parental orientation, periodic meetings and program activities. In the event I cannot attend, I agree to send an adult representative in my place.
14. I relieve Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and ASCEND program personnel from any liability that may arise during her/his involvement in the ASCEND program meetings and activities.
15. I understand that this form will be kept on file by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the ASCEND program personnel.
16. Termination of a student’s involvement in ASCEND will be in writing.

By affixing my signature below, I certify that I have read all of the above information and agree with the provisions and my role and responsibilities.

|                                    |                                       |       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Parent/Legal Guardian Printed Name | Relationship to Applicant/Participant | Date  |
| Parent/Legal Guardian Signature    | Contact Number                        | Email |



## Student Code of Conduct & Responsibility Contract

As a participant of the ASCEND program:

1. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the ASCEND personnel and to conduct myself with respect.
2. I agree to be cooperative and follow instructions ensuring that I respect adults and all authorized authority.
3. I will not bully or participate in negatively speaking to or of anyone nor act in a violent manner.
4. I will provide a copy of my recent grade report with the application.
5. I will remain in good academic standing with a cumulative minimum average of a "C" or its equivalent.
6. I understand that my membership may be revoked after three unexcused absences from meetings and activities within an academic year and that I must notify the ASCEND program personnel of any absence.
7. I understand that my personal and private information will not be shared with any individuals, agencies or institutions without my parent's written consent.
8. I will participate in workshops and activities that seek to prepare me for a career and or college attendance.
9. I will be fully engaged in attending program meeting and activities that will include civic and cultural activities.
10. I understand that I cannot bring guests to meetings or activities without prior consent or knowledge of the ASCEND program personnel.
11. I understand my admission and participation in the program is voluntary and maybe terminated by any party of this agreement at any time.
12. I understand that I may be photographed or videotaped during the program meetings and activities for use of such images to be used by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and ASCEND program personnel in print or electronic media for promotion of the program.
13. I understand that this form will be kept on file by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the ASCEND program personnel.
14. I will evaluate the ASCEND program when requested.

By affixing my signature below, I certify that I have read all of the above information and agree with code of conduct and responsibilities as a participant of the ASCEND program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student/Applicant Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student/Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email



# ASCEND Application Packet



## ASCEND Program Student Application Form

### Applicant Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Initial)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Number) (Cell Number)

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy) \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level : \_\_\_ 9<sup>th</sup> Grade (Freshman) \_\_\_ 10<sup>th</sup> Grade (Sophomore) \_\_\_ 11<sup>th</sup> Grade (Junior) \_\_\_ 12<sup>th</sup> Grade (Senior)

High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

High School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Current GPA (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_

### Career Interest (check all that apply):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services (e.g., Social Work, Counseling)                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture & Construction                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts  | <input type="checkbox"/> Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio/Visual Technology                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Management & Administration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications  | <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business  | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Training                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Military Services (e.g., Army, Marines, Navy, or Reserves)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Planning  | <input type="checkbox"/> Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government & Public Administration Planning             | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation, Distribution & Logistics                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Science (Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational Trade (e.g., Automotive, Construction, Industrial, Technician) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality & Tourism                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

### Parental/Legal Guardian Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Initial)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Number) (Cell Number)

### Emergency Contacts

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_





## ASCEND Pre/Post-Assessment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Tell us what you think about the agricultural sciences as a career. Using the scale that follows, please choose the number that best describes your response to the items below.

|                       |              |             |           |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 = Strongly Disagree | 2 = Disagree | 3 = Neutral | 4 = Agree | 5 = Strongly Agree |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|

Circle one

- |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I know very little about courses I will need to take to be ready for college.               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. I plan to study for the ACT or SAT to prepare for college.                                  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. I enjoy math and science classes in school.   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. I know about historically black colleges and universities.                                  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. I know how and when to apply for financial aid.   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. The cost of college is a factor in my plans to attend.                                      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. I plan to work after high school.   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. The military or community college are options for me.                                       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. I am interested in learning about people from other countries.                              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 10. Understanding racial and cultural differences is necessary to be successful in any career. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Please provide the following information.

- Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Race/Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you from a: Rural area \_\_\_\_\_; Urban area \_\_\_\_\_; or Suburban area \_\_\_\_\_?
- Do you participate in other activities outside of school? If so, list those activities.
- What type of high school do you attend:
 

|               |                           |                   |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| _____ Public  | _____ Parochial           | _____ Home school |
| _____ Private | _____ College preparatory | _____ Other       |
- What is the student population like at the high school you attend?
 

|                                 |                                    |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| _____ Majority Hispanic         | _____ Equal mix of all groups      | _____ All female |
| _____ Majority African-American | _____ Majority White/Caucasian     | _____ All male   |
| _____ Majority Asian American   | _____ Other (please specify) _____ |                  |
- Do you participate in a college preparatory program (e.g., magnet, honors, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
- Do you take courses outside of your regular high school classes (e.g., Saturday classes, college courses)?  
If yes, please specify what types. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this survey!**

