



Alpha Phi Sigma Chapter Fundraising Activities

Over the past couple of years the National Headquarters and National Officers have received e-mails asking for information regarding conducting fundraisers. We therefore decided to publish, on our website, some ideas that will help chapters raise the necessary funds to attend the annual conferences.

Depending on the geographical location of your university, officers and members will find that some of these ideas work far better than others maybe due to weather conditions, demographics or resources available. Nonetheless, we are certain that those in leadership positions will take these ideas, build on them and make sure that their fundraisers are successful. Please feel free to elaborate and even e-mail us with fresh ideas for fundraisers and we will make certain that these ideas are communicated to other chapters.

The summers are generally slow at most universities, however small things like



bake sales, candy sales and garage sales are a great way to make a little money during the summer. Everyone loves a good garage sale. Get all your members to contribute items that have been lying around the house, dorm, etc, and put it all together for a weekend sale. Generally, if you have members that live at home, a house is a great place to have one. If you do not have access to a house, try a local park or on-campus may be good locations. Remember to get authorization from the proper authorities.

Find a shady tree and remember to have large signs that say Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society Fundraiser. You may also list your university, and local chapter name.

Bake and Candy sales may be held at the University or elsewhere. Make sure that you always speak to the proper authorities, security, etc, before setting up in public places. To obtain the goods, have your chapter bake or donate money. You may also contact the local supermarket and give them a letter explaining the purpose of Alpha Phi Sigma along with the reason(s) for holding fundraiser. Most times they will donate fresh baked goods that they cannot sell the next day. Remember, when selling food items at the University, the caterer of cafeteria/coffee shop may have an exclusive contract with the University and may not allow students to set up bake goods stands. So check with your university first.

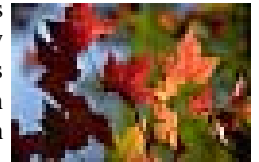


Car Wash A car wash is always a good fundraiser. You may contact local businesses and ask them for permission to use their parking lot for car washing. Always make sure that your sign expresses that this is a fundraiser. A chapter, in Miami, Florida contacted a local Wal-Mart, for approval to use the parking lot. Wal-Mart gave them approval and even donated \$100.

Other activities that you may think about are: arts and crafts shows, fairs, circus, etc. By contacting the parties in charge, you may obtain jobs such as hostesses, ushers, clean up crew, etc. The chapter can work these events and the proceeds go towards the fundraiser.

Miami chapters member's worked at the car races and hockey games. A chapter in Boise, Idaho operates a fireworks stand and receives a percentage of the sales. If fireworks are sold in your area, you may want to enter into a contract with a firework distributor and staff a stand.

Then comes the Autumn. Now you have a series of holidays in which you can fundraise.



Halloween candy sales are great. Get all members to donate candy, chocolate and small bags so that you can pack the bags and sell them for \$1 \$2 and \$3. You can also sell decorative cookies, cup cakes, etc. Members can sell these items in their work, neighborhoods and even Church.

A chapter staffed concessions' stands at university football games. You can check out this possibility for fundraising by contacting the company that holds the catering contract for your university. Oftentimes, concessions are staffed not by paid employees, but rather by student clubs and organizations. These student groups often receive a flat fee along with a percentage of the money they bring in.



During Thanksgiving you may want to bake or have pies donated and sell those at school and special events.

Christmas is a great time to sell goodies, cookie tins, and decorations. Your chapter may contact organizations that need help in setting up Christmas

trees, Menorahs and other festive decorations and their payment/donations will be applied to your fundraiser.



Loading Christmas trees onto people's cars is also good, especially when the tips are great.

Think of other holidays such as Mother's Day, the 4th of July, Secretary's Day, etc., and many ideas will come to mind.

Now for the most important fundraiser and probably the last one you may be able to hold before the conference, Valentine's Day. Contact flower distributor and make arrangements to purchase boxes of flowers, especially roses.



Search the internet and local business for small and larger flower vases and plastic or paper sleeves. Set up a site to sell the flowers. If at the university, make arrangements the week before and put someone in charge of going to the departments and pre-selling flower orders. You will find that many department Deans and Professors will purchase flowers for their assistants, spouses and loved ones but prefer to have them delivered. By creating a flyer with the details of where and when you will set up your booth, students, faculty and university staff will know that they will have flowers available at school and will probably purchase from your chapter as opposed to having to stop somewhere else for flowers. Create an order form, delivery schedule and while some of the members attend the booth and make the arrangements, other members can deliver the flowers. **Be careful what day of the week Valentine's day falls on). Sell the flowers reasonably priced so that you can sell them all or you will be losing money. This is why selling ahead of time will allow you to have an idea of how much merchandise to purchase.

Please Keep In Mind These Simple Suggestions:

- Create a sign in sheet and have members commit to volunteering at least 2-3 hours to a fundraiser.
- ALWAYS plan ahead
- Schedule the fundraisers in advance
- Know your University's and community's schedule of events.
- ALWAYS have your Alpha Phi Sigma sign visible and ALWAYS make sure people understand you are fundraising and that we are a non-for-profit organization. Let them know you are Criminal Justice honor students.
- Create a letter from your chapter that explains Alpha Phi Sigma's purpose and reason for the particular fundraiser in order to let the local merchants know who and for what cause they are making donations.
- Keep local law enforcement apprised of any fundraisers you may be holding outside school grounds, they will help and even contribute to our fundraisers.
- Apply for a chapter grant (see details on line under scholarship and awards)
- Apply for all awards to be issued at the conference. These prizes, although small allow your chapter to gather additional funding for the following years and have the opportunity to show the projects at the conference. (See our web site at www.alphaphisigma.org for awards and scholarship information) i.e. annual theme project, year-book, chapter of the year, advisor of the year, member of the year, etc.

We hope that these ideas will help your chapter join us at the national conferences as well as raise money to support your community. We are certain that many of the chapters have great ideas and held fundraisers that were successful. We would appreciate your feedback so that we can share the information with other chapters around the nation.

Please keep in mind that although the fundraisers are great, Alpha Phi Sigma members are committed to community service. Though you may be able to combine both at times, make sure your chapter understands the importance of helping the community.

If your chapter has ideas or participated in any other successful fundraisers, please email us the ideas. We will post in on our website.