



**Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**  
In Partnership with the  
**DELTA Foundation, Inc.      A 501(c)3 Organization**

Greetings Prospective Cotillion Participants and Parents,

It is with great pleasure that the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter (PGCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. announces its 2023 Cotillion. We are excited about your interest in participating in the 2022-2023 Cotillion Program. After reading this letter and understand the commitment required, we hope that you will apply for acceptance into the program.

Being a contestant in the Cotillion offers participants exposure to a variety of cultural and educational events, bonding activities, and participation in community service projects. Activities will begin in October 2022 and will conclude with the culminating Cotillion Program on May 7, 2023.

The Cotillion is also a fundraising initiative for the sorority. Through the fundraising efforts of the Cotillion Program, PGCAC DST is able to provide scholarships to each contestant.

In order for your daughter to be considered for selection as a *Miss Cotillion Contestant* she must:

- Be a high school junior or senior during the 2022-2023 school year;
- Has never been married, has no children and not be an expectant mother during the 2022 -2023 Cotillion program time-frame (October 2022 – June 2023);
- Has not experienced any expulsions or out of school suspensions within the past two years;
- Has a 2.5 cumulative, high school grade point average (GPA) in her previous school year. Juniors will use her cumulative, sophomore year GPA / Seniors will use her cumulative junior year GPA.

A completed *Miss Cotillion Contestant* application packet will include the following:

- 1) Completed application
- 2) Electronic high school transcript sent directly from the school
- 3) Signed Miss Cotillion Contestant Letter of Commitment/Intent
- 4) A **\$375.00** application fee payable to: Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (PGCAC DST) via check or money order  
***The application fee is non-refundable if accepted into the program.***
- 5) A recent, printed (5x7) color portrait photograph (***No proofs, cell phone, personality or scanned photos.***). **Please note that the photo becomes the property of PGCAC DST.**
- 6) Completed Release of Liability form
- 7) An essay (350-500 words, typed in Times New Roman, doubled spaced) on **“How My Participation in the Cotillion Program Will Help Create My Destiny”**.
- 8) Two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a school official (on school's letterhead) and the other can come from a school, community, church official (on organization's letterhead), or a financially active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



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In order for your daughter to be considered for selection as a ***Little Miss Cotillion Contestant***, she must:

- Be between eight (8) and twelve (12) years of age during the 2022 -2023 Cotillion program time-frame (October 2022 – June 2023);
- Has never been married, has no children and not be an expectant mother during the 2022 - 2023 Cotillion program timeframe (October 2022 – June 2023);
- Has not experienced any expulsions or out of school suspensions within the past two years.

A completed ***Little Miss Cotillion Contestant*** application packet will include the following:

- 1) Provide a copy of their final report card from 2021 - 2022 school year
- 2) Completed application
- 3) Signed Little Miss Cotillion Contestant Letter of Commitment/Intent
- 4) A **\$375.00** application fee via check or money order made payable to: *Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated* (PGCAC DST). **The application fee is non-refundable if accepted into the program.**
- 5) A recent, printed (5x7) color portrait photograph. **(No proofs, cell phone, personality or scanned photos).** Please note that this photo becomes the property of PGCAC DST.
- 6) Completed Release of Liability form
- 7) Two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a school official (on school's letterhead) and the other can come from a school, community, church official (on organization's letterhead), or a financially active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

If your daughter's application package is complete and is received by **Friday, October 7, 2022**, a brief, virtual meeting will be scheduled with your daughter and Cotillion committee members to complete the application process. Parents or a responsible adult **must** be in attendance during the virtual discussion.

In addition to the application fee, there are other costs associated with participating in the Cotillion Program. The additional costs include but are not limited to formal wear for the contestants and their escorts, and the parents' tickets for the Cotillion. The contestants **must raise a minimum of \$750** to be presented at the Cotillion.

Again, we are excited about your interest in participating and look forward to a wonderful and fun-filled Cotillion year. You may email questions to the Cotillion Committee at [Cotillion@pgcacadst.org](mailto:Cotillion@pgcacadst.org).

Sincerely,

T'Wana Warrick-Bell, Cotillion Committee Chair  
Patti Ballentine, Co-Chair  
Tracye Burr-Mitchell, Co-Chair  
Sonya Stovall, Co-Chair

**Note: APPLICATION DEADLINE:** All materials except the electronic transcript must be submitted as ONE package by **Friday, October 7, 2022, to: Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; c/o Cotillion Committee; P.O. Box 3604; Capitol Heights, MD. 20791-3604.**

**A checklist is provided to ensure completeness.** All information is considered confidential. All materials, including the photo become the property of PGCAC DST.



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## CHECKLIST

- Be certain all questions are answered completely.**
  
- Typed essay detailing “How My Participation in the Cotillion Program Will Help Me Create My Destiny”.** (12-point, Times New Roman font, double-spaced 350-500 words)  
Miss Cotillion Contestants, only.
  
- Recent, printed (5x7) color portrait photograph.** **(No proofs, cell phone, personality or scanned photos).**
  
- Electronic transcript** - Miss Cotillion Contestants, only.
  
- Final 2021-2022 School Year Report Card** – Little Miss Cotillion Contestants, only.
  
- Two letters of recommendation typed, signed and dated.** One letter must be from a school official (on school letterhead) and the other can come from a school, community, church official (on organization's letterhead), or a financially active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
  
- Submit \$375.00 application fee via check or money order**  
Checks or money orders should be made payable to: *Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.*
  
- The following documents MUST BE SIGNED & DATED:**
  - Parental Permission to Participate
  - Miss/Little Miss Contestant Letter of Commitment/Intent
  - Parental Affirmation
  - Waiver and Release of Liability Form
  - Code of Conduct for Youth
  - Sanctions for Violating the Code of Conduct
  - Photograph and Video Authorization Release Form
  
- Mail all documents in one package except electronic transcript to:**  
**Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.;**  
**c/o Cotillion Committee; P.O. Box 3604; Capitol Heights, MD. 20791-3604.**

**\*\*If any items are omitted, the application will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered\*\***



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**2022-2023 Cotillion Application**

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

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ (Required for Miss Cotillion Contestants, **Only**)

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Last)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Last)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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**2022-2023 Cotillion Application (Cont.)**

Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Last)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Person to Contact in Case of an Emergency:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1) Have you ever been married? Yes  No

2) Do you now or have you ever had children? Yes  No

3) Have you **ever** been suspended, expelled, or involved in any disciplinary action in or outside of school?  
Yes  No

4) Is there any reason why you will not be able to participate in weekly rehearsals on Sunday afternoons?  
Yes  No

If your answer is "Yes" to any of the questions above, please explain:

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**2022-2023 Cotillion Application (Con't)**

5) Do you anticipate being employed this upcoming school year?      Yes       No

If you answered "Yes" please estimate the number of hours and days: Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Days: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Essay on "How My Participation in the Cotillion Program Will Help Me Create My Destiny" is attached? (Miss Cotillion only)

Yes       No

7) List all extracurricular activities (please include community activities, public service projects and interests). \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8) What talents do you have? Include things such as playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing, acting, public speaking, designing, poetics, dramatic reading, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Parental Permission to Participate**

I give permission for my daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Cotillion Program.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's signature is not required for Little Miss Cotillion applicants)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## 2022-2023 Miss Cotillion Contestant Letter of Commitment/Intent

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a contestant in the PGCAC Cotillion Program, agree to maintain good moral character and good standing within my school and community as stated in the requirements for contestant selection.

I also understand that all monies raised and collected as a Cotillion contestant will be turned in to the DELTA Foundation, Inc. at least every two weeks. I understand that **Sunday, April 2, 2023** is the **absolute last** date that *personal checks* will be accepted. All money turned in after that date must be in the form of a certified check. I also understand that the final collection day for competition purposes will be **Sunday, April 30, 2023**. All funds raised or received after the final collection date must be turned in to the Foundation and these monies will not count toward competition. I also understand that I must raise a minimum of \$750 to be presented at the Cotillion.

I understand that the scholarship distribution for the Cotillion Program will be as follows:

Miss Cotillion:	25% of funds raised by contestant
First Runner-up:	20% of funds raised by contestant
Second Runner-up:	15% of funds raised by contestant
Third Runner-up:	12% of funds raised by contestant

All other contestants will receive 10% of the funds raised by that contestant.\

I understand that:

- 1) If I withdraw from the Cotillion Program, I will advise the Cotillion Chairperson in writing via the Cotillion Committee email ([Cotillion@pgcacadst.org](mailto:Cotillion@pgcacadst.org)). Additionally, I understand that all funds collected by me for the Cotillion belong to the DELTA Foundation, Inc.
- 2) This is an application of consideration and therefore my acceptance is not guaranteed. Your application fee will be returned if you are not accepted into the program.

I agree to participate in all Cotillion activities and rehearsals. If circumstances deem it necessary to miss an activity, I will contact the chairperson **within 48 hours** of the activity.

I understand that excessive absences, even those that are excused, could result in my being asked to withdraw from the program.

***Please sign below:***

Miss Cotillion Contestant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Miss Cotillion Contestant Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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## 2022-2023 Little Miss Cotillion Contestant Letter of Commitment/Intent

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as the parent/guardian of a contestant in the PGCAC Cotillion Program, agree to the following terms:

I understand that all monies raised and collected as a Cotillion contestant will be turned in to the DELTA Foundation, Inc. at least every two weeks. I understand that **Sunday, April 2, 2023**, is the **absolute last date** that personal checks will be accepted. All money turned in after that date must be in the form of a certified check. I also understand that the final collection day for competition purposes will be **Sunday, April 30, 2023**. All funds raised or received after the final collection date must be turned in to the Foundation and these monies will not count toward competition. I also understand that I must raise a minimum of \$750 to be presented at the Cotillion.

I understand that the scholarship distribution for the Cotillion Program will be as follows:

Little Miss Cotillion:	25% of funds raised by contestant in the form of a check
First Runner-up:	20% of funds raised by contestant in the form of a check
Second Runner-up:	15% of funds raised by contestant in the form of a check
Third Runner-up:	12% of funds raised by contestant in the form of a check

All other contestants will receive 10% of the funds raised by the contestant in the form of a check.

I understand that:

- 1) If I withdraw my daughter from the Cotillion Program, I will advise the Cotillion Chairperson in writing via the Cotillion Committee email ([Cotillion@pgcacdst.org](mailto:Cotillion@pgcacdst.org)). Additionally, I understand that all funds collected by me for the Cotillion belong to the DELTA Foundation, Inc.
- 2) This is an application of consideration and therefore my daughter's acceptance is not guaranteed. Your application fee will be returned if your daughter is not accepted into the program.

I agree that my daughter will participate in all Cotillion activities and rehearsals. If circumstances deem it necessary to miss an activity, I will contact the chairperson within 48 hours of the activity. I understand that excessive absences, even those that are excused, could result in my being asked to withdraw my daughter from the program.

***Please sign below:***

Parent/Guardian of Little Miss Cotillion Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_





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**2022 – 2023 Cotillion PARENTAL AFFIRMATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Parent/Guardian, under penalty of perjury, do hereby affirm to the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated that I authorize the participation of \_\_\_\_\_, Participant Minor Child, in the Cotillion youth initiatives program (including planned activities), and that I have the legal authority to provide my consent and authorization for such participation.

_____ Printed Name	_____ Signature
_____ Relationship to Child	_____ Date

**WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Parent/Guardian, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (Participant Minor Child) do hereby release, waive, discharge, covenant not to sue and agree to hold harmless Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (Delta), its officers, National Executive Board, employees, members, local chapters, representatives, agents, affiliates, and assigns (collectively "Releases"), from any and all claims, demands, and actions of any and every kind directly or indirectly arising out of, or relating in any respect to Participant Minor Child's participation in the Cotillion Program.

My waiver and release of all claims, demands, actions, and liability shall include without limitation any injury, illness, death, property damage, or loss to the Participant Minor Child which may be caused by any act or failure to act by the Releases, unless such injury, illness, death, property damage or loss is a direct result of the willful misconduct of any Releases.

I understand that without limitation of the foregoing, neither Delta nor the Program shall be liable and each is hereby released from all claims that may arise from loss or damage to the Participant Minor Child's personal property.

_____ Parent/Guardian	_____ Date
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## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUTH**

### **PARTICIPATING IN THE COTILLION PROGRAM**

1. Respect all participants (other youth and adult volunteers) by not using foul, hurtful or obscene language or engaging in physical violence, bullying (including cyber-bullying) or other aggressive behaviors that threaten the safety of others.
2. Respect the property rights of others. This means do not damage or deface the building or property within the building where Cotillion activities are held; do not damage or take the personal property of any other participant or volunteer, and do not use Delta's name or any symbol or logo (Delta's intellectual property) on any clothing, books, bags, or other items.
3. Return supplies to their proper place after using them.
4. Clean up all work areas properly.
5. Listen carefully to directions and when someone else is talking.
6. Respect designated quiet areas, such as homework/reading area.
7. Stay within the program's designated areas within the building.
8. Cooperate and participate in organized activities.
9. Assume full responsibility for all personal belongings. Please leave valuables at home.
10. Do not bring any weapons, cigarettes/drugs, alcohol, or anything illegal to any activity at any time.

### **Sanctions for Violating Code of Conduct**

#### **Bad Language/Abusive Teasing and Related Acts:**

1<sup>st</sup> Time: Verbal warning, parent or guardian notified from this point forward

2<sup>nd</sup> Time: Loss of privileges

3<sup>rd</sup> Time: 1-day suspension from program

4<sup>th</sup> Time: 1-week suspension from program

**Next occurrence youth is removed from the program.**



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**Physical Violence and Other Misconduct:**

1<sup>st</sup> Time: Removal from situation, loss of privileges, parent or guardian notified from this point forward

2<sup>nd</sup> Time: 1-day suspension from program

3<sup>rd</sup> Time: 1-week suspension from program

**Next occurrence youth is removed from the program.**

**Illegal Substances or Dangerous Weapons:**

1<sup>st</sup> Time: Youth is removed from the program. If a youth is in possession of an illegal substance or dangerous weapon, the police will be notified as well.

With my parent or other adult, I have read the Code of Conduct and sanctions for violating the Code. I understand the Code and the sanctions. I will follow the Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

I have read and understand the Code of Conduct and sanctions for violating the Code of Conduct. I understand that my child's compliance with the Code of Conduct is a condition of her participation in the Cotillion program. I agree that the sanctions for violating the Code of Conduct are reasonable and will help my child comply.

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date



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**PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO AUTHORIZATION RELEASE FORM**

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_ (“Parent/Guardian”), as parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for Prince George’s County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (PGCAC DST) to publish on the Internet or media still photographs or moving images, including, if applicable any sound recordings accompanying the images (“Images”) taken of my child at the Cotillion Program activities during the 2022 – 2023 Cotillion program session operating between September 2022 through June 2023, without payment or any consideration and without notifying me.

I/We understand and agree that these Images will become the property of the PGCAC DST Chapter, which shall have complete ownership of the Images. I/We hereby irrevocably authorize the PGCACDST Chapter to publish or distribute these Images for publicizing the PGCAC DST’s program, including the Cotillion Program or for any other lawful purpose. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my child’s likeness appears. Additionally, I/We waive any rights to royalties or other compensation arising out of or related to the use of the Images.

I/We hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge the PGCAC DST Chapter and any of its officers and members; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; its officers; National Executive Board; employees; members; representatives; agents; and assignees from all claims, costs, suits, actions, judgments, and expenses which my child his/her heirs, representative, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on his/her behalf have or may have by reason of the use of the Images. This release specifically includes, without limitation, a complete release and discharge of any liability by any editing, distortion, alteration, or optical illusion, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of or editing of said Images, unless it can be shown that such was maliciously caused, produced, and published solely for subjecting my child to conspicuous ridicule, scandal, reproach, scorn, and indignity.

I/we hereby certify that I/we are the parents/guardians of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby give my/our consent without reservation to the foregoing on behalf of my/our child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name