The pledge program is a 6-week program which is designed to both educate new members about the history and traditions of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and also prepare them to run the chapter. During the week the pledges are required to attend 3 meetings, one on Monday, one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday. These meetings include an hour of study time, and an hour discussion.

Also included is a weekly quiz. The quizzes are designed to make sure the pledges keep up with their learning and understanding of the fraternity. The quizzes in no way are attached to punishment. The scores are calculated based on correct answers and the pledge must relearn the items they missed. Some questions include “What is the Story of the Phoenix?” and “When and where was SAE founded?”

Every week the pledges are asked to write a brief paper about the main topics that we cover. These include how alcohol can be bad for friendships and relationships, the importance of good scholarship, the importance of philanthropy, and what they find the True Gentleman to mean.

The final aspect of the pledge program is designed to prepare them to be the leaders of the fraternity. Every executive council member and committee chair speaks to them about what they do for the chapter and how they do it. They discuss the different aspect of their job and provide a little training on what it takes to do it. Besides the Executive Council many chairs also take the time to explain what they do, these chairs include the Social Chair, Philanthropy Chair, Alumni Chair and also the Scholarship Chair.

Each pledge is expected to perform well on the quizzes and demonstrate a good understanding of what it means to be Greek and more importantly what it means to be a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. We also expect them to attend and participate in all meetings unless they have a valid reason. We expect them to attend all classes and perform well in their classes. The most important thing that we stress is that they meet all active members prior to being initiated.

Active members are also expected to actively participate in the pledge process. This is primarily achieved by meeting and interacting with the new members. We expect that the active members form bonds with all pledges and aid the pledges in any way that they can. We also encourage any active member to lead a discussion in one of the meetings and explain what their experiences have been as a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Our goals for the program include that each pledge learns the history of the fraternity and what the fraternity stands for. We also hope that the pledges are ready to lead our chapter and become good active members. To ensure that we accomplish this we give quizzes to the pledges to test their learning of the history. We also have them write papers to discuss how they interpret the lessons that we teach them. The final way to gage if our goals are being met is after they initiate the roles they play in the chapter.

The final week in the program is called inspiration week. During this week a brother is encouraged to open his house so that all pledges can stay together. We look for a member that has a house large enough so that the pledges may have a place large enough so that all of them can sleep comfortably. Besides the regular curriculum the pledges are asked to participate in group bonding activities with the full chapter to better build the bonds between the pledges and actives.
During this week, we ask that the pledges abstain from alcohol, sex, drugs and tobacco. This is to guarantee that the new members are able to make the decision to activate without any other influences. The week ends with a quiz that is designed to ensure they know the history and ideals of the fraternity. At the end of the week we initiate the pledges if they have made all of the requirements.

To ensure that there is no hazing we stress the night of bid acceptance that they are not to do anything that they do not wish to do. We tell them that if they feel uncomfortable doing anything to say no. We also instruct them to put the hazing hotline number into their phone. The final measure we take is to educate all members on what the hazing rules are at Creighton, and also in the state of Nebraska.

Our pledge father program is designed to pair an active with a pledge based on personality to help create a better bond. We wait till the second week in the program to select pledge fathers for the pledges. This is done so that we have a better idea of each pledges needs and personalities. The pledge father is supposed to create a bond of trust with their pledge son. This is done by helping them learn the materials and also getting to know them. They also guide their pledge son through the program and ensure that they are balancing their membership and school.

Topics Week 1 Why Fraternity, Pledgeship and pledging ritual overview, 12 things, the TG
Quiz: 12 things, the TG (word for word), why we have pledge programs, why fraternity
Assignment: Why joining a fraternity is beneficial

Week 2: Minerva’s Highway, story of the phoenix, the ritual of SAE
Quiz: topics from above, and TG word for word
Assignments: How I can be like brother hero and how do I confront brother nero

Week 3: Appearing Well in any company, undergraduate chapter, parliamentary procedure
Quiz: Main concepts from the 3 chapters, TG word for word
Assignment: how does alcohol affect our ability to appear well in any company

Week 4: Songs (11), Insignia (9), other odds and ends from the following segments:
Alumni (13), Leadership School (20), Governance (14), foundation (22), services, policies (18), finances, (16) communications (23), programs, awards, insignia, songs,

Quiz: Sing 1 chapter as a group to the chapter, concepts from chapters
Assignment: How can I stay involved in SAE for life

Week 5: History of Fraternity from chapters XXVI-XXIX
Quiz: Cumulative
Assignment: Pick 1 of the 5 men and describe how they influenced you and why

Week 6: INSPIRATION WEEK
Final quiz: The TG, the day, month, and year SAE was founded; and which of the 8 founding fathers is credited the most for founding SAE.