

Spades, Hearts, Clubs or Diamonds. Which one are you and why? (150 words max)

Fundamentally, there are two types of diamonds in the world: Aladdin's diamonds in the rough, and Rihanna's bright-shining diamonds. I like to think that I exemplify both. A diamond in the rough is someone who shows potential, but needs polishing up. As a freshman, I'm essentially a high school senior with extra debt. Over the next 4 years, I'll be moulded into a shiny new alum. This process will reveal a whole new world; admittedly, my magic carpet ride is more Steppenwolf than Disney. In another sense, I already shine. My accomplishments to date make me who I am; it wouldn't make sense to discount them. I've started for varsity volleyball, won state chess championships, and started learning to code. Under pressure, these diverse interests have combined to yield myself: a diamond.

If you were a brother of Alpha Kappa Psi, how would you contribute professionally to the brotherhood? (150 words max)

If I were a brother, I would contribute a diverse range of skills. For one thing, I'm a strong writer and editor. During my first semester, I edited several papers for my friends. It's not a chore for me: I'd be delighted to offer my service to brothers. Furthermore, I offer a strong work ethic. Over the course of winter break, I practiced coding Python for 2-3 hours every day. Even on days where I was working at my part-time job, I still made time. As a brother, I would extend that same effort to whichever role I embodied. The through-line connecting these contributions is my willingness to devote my time and resources to helping other brothers.

Out of all the applicants, what do you think makes you unique? Why do you believe you should be extended a bid? (200 words max)

The applicant pool is full of talent, charisma, work ethic, and passion. What really sets me apart is my sense of humor and positivity. My sense of humor is inextricably part of my personality; it finds itself expressed in most of my social interactions. I'm the guy who is silly and serious, clever but dry. I'm quick to crack a joke in a meeting, but not drag it out to the point of being distracting. It lightens the atmosphere, brings people together, and reminds people that we're not just suit robots. In my opinion, it makes for a far more engaging work experience. As a friend, I'm quick to make a joke, and quick to cheer people up when they're down. It lends me a sort of persistent optimism—a spirit that no matter what, I can try and make things better. That spirit of positivity, humor, and general willingness to joke around has brought me a long way in life. It's made the mundane extraordinary, made the good times great, and made the bad times tolerable. That's why I should be extended a bid: I see life as a pick-up game. I will try my hardest, but also remember that we're all friends and want the best for each other. After all, what's life without fun, competition, and brotherhood?