Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Eta Eta Lambda Chapter

Annapolis, Maryland

Onboarding Packet

2025-2026 Academic Year



Access URL: annapolisalphas.com/aamp_onboardingpackage

From the office of the Chapter President

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.
ETA ETA LAMBDA CHAPTER
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

OFFICE OF
BRO. MICHAEL BERTTY II
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

P.O. BOX 6387
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
609.903.0179

Saturday, September 13, 2025

Greetings Brothers, Mentees, Parents & Guardians:

Welcome to our Alpha Academy Mentoring Program!

Today, we gather not just as individuals but as a community committed to growth, learning, and empowerment. This program is more than just a series of meetings—it's an opportunity to build bridges, share experiences, and create a supportive network that can change lives.

Mentorship has the power to shape the future. It is about more than just offering advice or sharing knowledge; it's about fostering potential, guiding each other through challenges, and celebrating victories, big and small. Whether you are here as a mentor or a mentee, you are here because you believe in the value of connection and the power of guidance.

To the Brothers, I want to say: you are stepping up as role models, as leaders, and as supporters. Your willingness to share your time, experience, and wisdom is invaluable. You have the power to shape not just careers, but character and confidence.

And to the Mentees: you are taking a powerful step by being here. Seeking mentorship is a sign of strength, not weakness. It shows that you are committed to learning, to bettering yourself, and to embracing the opportunities that lie ahead. Remember that every great leader, every successful person, has had someone who guided them, believed in them, and challenged them to be better.

This program is about building a foundation for success—success in your personal lives, your careers, and your communities. It's about challenging ourselves to rise above obstacles and to understand that our potential is limitless when we have the right support and mindset.

As we embark on this journey together, let's commit to being open, to listening deeply, and to pushing one another to grow beyond our comfort zones. Let's make the most of every conversation, every connection, and every opportunity to learn from one another.

Thank you all for being here. Let's make this program a transformative experience and a stepping stone to a brighter future for everyone involved.

Welcome, and let's get started!

Fraternally,

Bro. Michael Bertty II
President

FROM THE DESK OF
Bro. Michael Bertty II, Chapter President
609.903.0179 • michaelberttyii@gmail.com

CALLIS CHAPMAN JONES KELLEY MURRAY OGLE TANDY

From the office of the Alpha Academy Chairman

Dear Mentors and Supporters,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 program year of the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program (AAMP). We are excited to continue building on over 119 years of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. mentoring tradition, 66 years of Eta Eta Lambda Chapter service in Anne Arundel County, and more than three decades of Alpha Academy impact.

Our mission is simple but powerful: affirm the identities of young men of color, empower them to pursue their dreams, and prepare them for success in school, careers, and life. Through mentorship, skills training, and exposure to new opportunities, we equip our mentees to lead and serve with confidence.

This past year, we expanded our curriculum and experiences across every age group:

- Elementary mentees mastered the game of chess, building problem-solving and critical thinking.
- Middle schoolers designed Pinewood Derby race cars and advanced into competitive drone flying.
- High school mentees engaged in life-skills workshops, preparing them for life beyond graduation.
- We also introduced a mental health focus at Annapolis High School, completed our third year at Arundel High School, toured Morgan State and Towson University, attended the CIAA college fair and tournament, and even went fishing to build bonds outside the classroom.

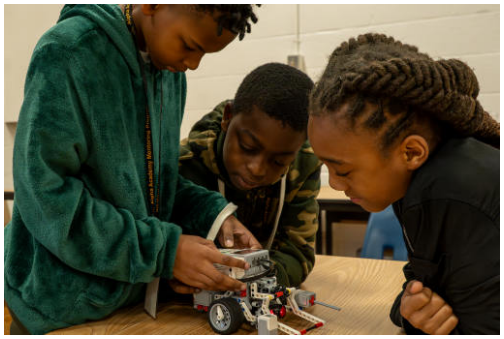
Looking ahead, our program will continue to grow with advanced STEM projects, expanded college and career tours, and a deeper focus on health, wellness, and leadership. Each mentor's role is vital to this mission. By giving your time, experience, and heart, you are shaping lives and strengthening our community.

Thank you for joining us in this important work. Together, we are making a lasting difference in the lives of young men across Anne Arundel County.

Stephen Williams

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The Alpha Academy Mentoring Program





Program Mission Statement

The Alpha Academy Mentorship Program is dedicated to developing young men of character, scholarship, and leadership. Our mission is to equip participants with the academic skills, confidence, and discipline needed to thrive in school and beyond, while instilling a commitment to service and personal excellence. Through mentorship, educational workshops, and community engagement, we support young men in grades 3–12 in their pursuit of high school graduation, higher education, and lifelong success.

Program Purpose

The Alpha Academy exists to inspire, prepare, and empower young men to reach their full potential. By creating a supportive environment rooted in accountability and brotherhood, the program builds pathways for success in academics, leadership, and life

Program Core Pillars

Confidence	Build strong self-esteem and belief in personal potential.
Excellence	Strengthen academic performance and prepare for future success.
Awareness	Develop social understanding, discipline, and responsible decision-making.
Pathways	Support high school completion and guide the next steps in higher education or career.

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Alpha Academy Mentors and Mentees







Mentee's Mission Statement

To grow as scholars and leaders, living with discipline and purpose while inspiring other young men to do the same.

Mentor's Mission Statement

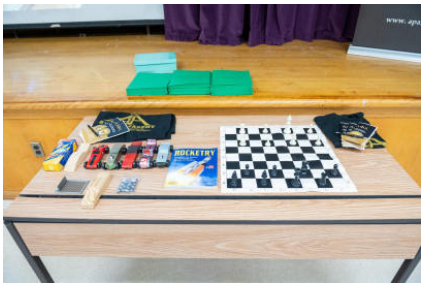
As mentors, we commit to guiding young men toward excellence, equipping them with the knowledge, discipline, and confidence to lead and serve their communities.

Mentor's Core Pillars

Inspire Confidence	Encourage young men to believe in their potential and pursue their goals boldly.
Teach with Purpose	Share practical knowledge, especially in STEM/STEAM, to prepare them for future opportunities.
Guide Growth	Develop leadership, social awareness, and decision-making through mentorship and example.
Open Pathways	Connect young men to education, resources, and community engagement beyond high school.

Typical Saturday Academy Agenda







8:45 AM	Doors Open Expedited Check-in with Alpha Academy ID
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Breakfast / Ice Breaker
9:15 AM - 10:00 AM	Themed Discussion (Entire Group Together)
10 AM to Noon	Break into different classrooms • Elementary School: Chess / STEM Robotics • Middle School: Pinewood Derby or Drone Piloting and Programming • High School: Career Development

Elementary School – Chess / STEM Robotics

Bro. Dexter Moore





At Alpha Academy, our elementary school mentees are introduced to a world of strategy, problem-solving, and creativity through our Chess and STEM Robotics program.

Chess is more than just a game—it's a proven tool for building critical thinking, focus, patience, and decision-making skills. By learning strategies and practicing with our tournament-quality chess sets, mentees develop confidence in their ability to plan ahead, analyze outcomes, and adapt when faced with challenges. These are the same skills that translate into success both in school and in life.

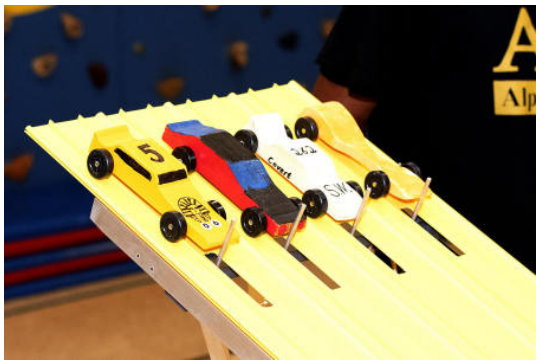
STEM Robotics sparks curiosity and innovation by allowing mentees to explore science, technology, engineering, and math in a hands-on, age-appropriate way. Using engaging robotics kits, mentees work together to build, design, and experiment. Along the way, they strengthen problem-solving abilities, teamwork, and creativity—while discovering that STEM can be exciting and fun.

Instructions are led by **Brother Dexter Moore**, who is truly *at home* when mentoring for Alpha Academy. As a current teacher at Annapolis Middle School, he opens his own classroom to our mentees—giving them access to a fully equipped learning environment and the same resources he uses every day with his students. His passion for teaching and mentoring ensures that every session is both engaging and impactful.

Together, chess and robotics provide a balanced learning experience: one that strengthens the mind, encourages collaboration, and builds lasting confidence. And perhaps most importantly, our mentees *love* this class!

Middle School / Pinewood Derby

Bro. Michael Askins & Bro. Michael Bertty















The Pinewood Derby, popularized initially by the Boy Scouts of America, has become one of Alpha Academy's most exciting traditions. We introduced it three years ago as a fun, hands-on way to explore **STEM** concepts, including **energy, gravity, center of gravity, and density**.

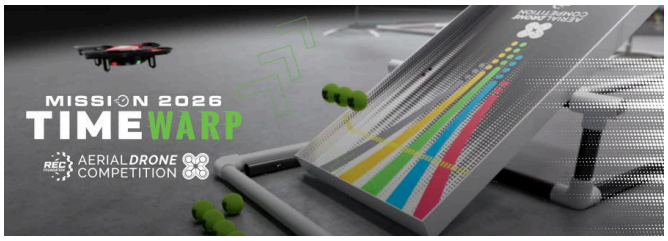
Mentees, guided by their mentors, design, build, and decorate small wooden cars that race down a sloped track. Along the way, they gain practical skills in **craftsmanship, sanding, and painting**, while also learning the value of **creativity and problem-solving**. The program emphasizes **teamwork, friendly competition, and building lasting memories**.

Race Day brings together Alpha Phi Alpha–sponsored mentorship programs from across Maryland, where mentees compete for prizes in both speed and design categories. All middle school participants—including those new to Alpha Academy or just entering middle school—are automatically enrolled in this program.

Middle School / Drone Piloting and Programming

Mentors: Bro. Dr. Adrian Hood & Bro. Jamaal Whaley





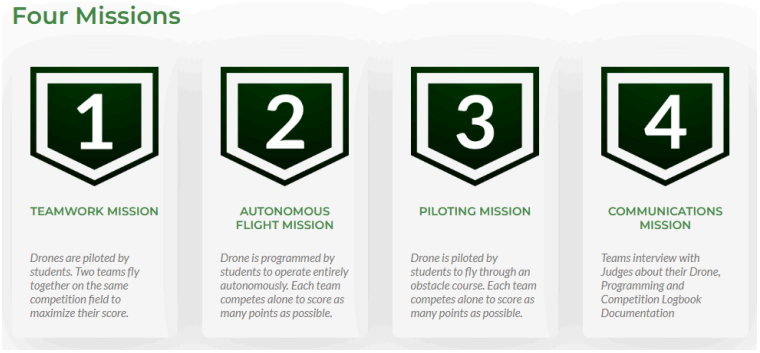


Building on the foundation of our Pinewood Derby experience, Alpha Academy introduced the **Drone Program** to give mentees an exciting next step in hands-on STEM exploration. Students learn both drone piloting and programming skills as they prepare to compete in the **Annual Aerial Drone Competition**, with scrimmages and meets held throughout the year.

The competition environment mirrors real-world challenges, requiring teamwork, critical thinking, and innovation to complete missions successfully. Through this program, students strengthen their problem-solving abilities, practice effective communication, and develop resilience—skills that will serve them well in school, future careers, and everyday life.

Terms / Science Concepts

- Potential Energy
- Kinetic Energy
- Conservation of Energy
- Mass
- Gravity
- Velocity (speed)
- Center of Mass
- Density
- Aerodynamics
- Lift
- Drag
- Vectors
- Pitch/Roll/Yaw
- Thrust
- Airfoil



High School - Saturday Academy

Bro. Stephen Williams





Our High School Program is designed to prepare young men for success in the classroom, in their communities, and beyond. Under the leadership of **Bro. Stephen Williams**, mentees engage in a year-long series of workshops and discussions that balance practical life skills with broader lessons in leadership and responsibility. Throughout the year, mentees will:

- Set goals and plan for the future, while building time management and organizational skills.
- Explore pressing social issues and learn to evaluate news and media coverage critically.
- Gain financial literacy by understanding credit, debt management, and the basics of entrepreneurship and business.
- Recognize the importance of volunteerism and community service as part of their personal growth.
- Explore cultural heritage and identity, fostering pride and self-awareness.
- Join workshops on conflict resolution and effective communication.
- Advance in practical life skills, from checking oil and changing a tire to other hands-on lessons that build confidence and independence.
- Participate in joint sessions with parents, reinforcing family involvement in the mentoring journey.

By combining academic, social, cultural, and real-world lessons, our High School Program equips mentees with the knowledge, discipline, and confidence to navigate life's challenges and seize opportunities.

Rules and Guidelines

As members of the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program, mentees are expected to uphold the highest standards of behavior and respect. These guidelines are in place to ensure a safe, supportive, and productive environment for all.

1. **Respect and Attitude**

    - Show respect to fellow mentees, mentors, and all adults at all times.
    - Maintain a positive attitude and contribute to a cooperative team environment.
    - Use appropriate language—profanity will not be tolerated.
    - Bullying, harassment, or inappropriate comments of any kind (verbal, physical, or online) will not be tolerated.

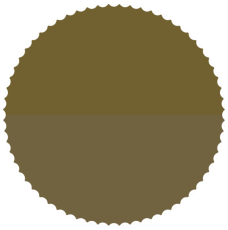
2. **Conduct and Responsibility**

    - Demonstrate good judgment and conduct yourself in a way that reflects positively on yourself, your family, your community, and the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program.
    - If conflicts arise, seek guidance from a mentor rather than arguing or fighting.
    - Respect the decisions of mentors and program leaders, as they are made in the best interest of the group.

3. **Preparedness and Participation**

    - Arrive on time for all sessions, programs, and field trips.
    - Bring necessary supplies and wear your Alpha Academy badge at all times.
    - Remain fully engaged: hoodies may not be worn over the head, AirPods may not be used during sessions, and cell phones must be put away upon entering the building.

People are watching your daily actions, and any act of misconduct is very disrespectful toward yourself, your family, your Mentors, the community, and the Alpha Academy Mentorship Program.



School Year Calendar

Regular Sessions

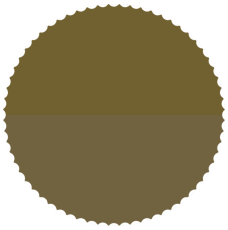
Sep. 13	Kick-off meeting
Oct. 11	Voting / Government & Politics
Nov. 8	Health & Wellness / College Fair
Dec. 13	How to Present Yourself as a Black Male
Jan. 10	Positive Behaviors & Relationships
Feb. 14	Black History Month
Mar. 14	Youth Symposium
Apr. 11	Know Your Rights Session
May 9	Young Men's Conference
Jun. 13	Lawrence E. Knight AAMP Awards Banquet

Upcoming Trips

Oct. 19	Community Service Initiative #1 (High Schoolers)
Nov. 8	KEL Chapter College Fair (High Schoolers) (Tentative)
Nov. 16	Community Service Initiative #1 (Elementary & Middle) (Tentative)
Feb. 15	Black History Tour (Our Legacy Tours) (All Groups)
May 16	Pinewood Derby

Project Alpha: AAMP Monthly Session Topics & Objectives

Month	Theme / Focus Area	Session Topics (Joint)	Objectives
Sep-25	**Opening Session**	• Orientation & Program Kickoff • Vision & Goal Setting • Introduction to Program Structure	• Build mentor/mentee relationships • Define program goals and set personal goals
Oct-25	**Personal Development**	• Building Self-Confidence & Self-Esteem • Importance of Organization & Planning • Goal Setting Review	• Strengthen self-confidence • Learn planning and organization skills • Reinforce goal setting
Nov-25	**Current Events & Social Issues**	• Discussions on Racism, Social Justice, and Other Relevant Issues	• Develop understanding of news and media • Encourage informed opinions & civic engagement
Dec-25	**Personal Finance**	• Saving & Investing Basics • Credit and Debt Management	• Understand credit and debt • Begin financial literacy and investing conversations
Jan-26	**Community Engagement**	• Review EnBloom and past service activities • Brainstorm new service initiatives	• Foster civic responsibility • Inspire ideas for future community involvement
Feb-26	**Cultural Awareness & Identity**	• Celebrating Diversity • Black History Month Reflections	• Develop pride in personal background • Appreciate diverse cultures and identities
Mar-26	**Youth Symposium**	• Finance, • Health, • Games & STEM • Art, • Barber Shop / Beauty Shop Conversations	• Expose mentees and parents to new knowledge • Engage in interactive, practical learning



Apr-26	**Positive Behavior & Relationships**	• Conflict Resolution • Building and Maintaining Healthy Relationships	• Learn positive relationship skills • Practice strategies for resolving conflict
May-26	**Career Exploration**	• Career Paths & Opportunities • Guest Speakers / Career Panels	• Explore diverse career options • Inspire long-term planning for education and careers
Jun-26	**Closing Session**	• Program Reflection • Recognition & Celebration	• Reflect on accomplishments • Celebrate growth and achievements

Forms

- Parental Consent Form
- Photograph & Digital Media Authorization Release Form
- Medical Release Form
- Field Trip Permission Form
- Youth Athletic Event Participation Waiver
- Code of Conduct
- Member / Volunteer Code of Ethics

Forms can be filled out on paper or online at

www.annapolisalphas.com/aamp_forms

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Communication

Communication will primarily take place through email and the Remind App. Program updates, summaries, and photos will also be shared on the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program page at annapolisalphas.com/alphaacademy. For questions, please contact us at **aampchair@annapolisalphas.com**.

Alpha Academy Mentoring Program Committee

Immense planning goes into the coordination and execution of this program, and we would not be where we are today without the dedication of our planning committee. Each year, the committee and I work diligently to design meaningful experiences that leave a lasting impact. We recognize the importance of early education and mentorship for young males of color and aspire for every participant to walk away with valuable insights, lifelong skills, and enduring mentor relationships.

Bro. Stephen Williams, Chair

Committee Members

Bro. Michael Bertty

Bro. Dexter Moore

Bro. Terrence Farmer

Bro. Dr. Adrian Hood

Bro. Dr. Lorenzo Hughes

Bro. Richard Messick

Bro. Michael Askins

Bro. Nivek Johnson

Bro. Jermaine Wilson

Bro. Brian Boles

Getting Started with Remind for the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program

Welcome to the Alpha Academy Mentoring Program! We're excited to use the Remind app to keep mentors, mentees, and families connected. Whether this is your first time using Remind or you're already familiar with it, getting started is simple.

This guide will walk you through the following steps:

1. **Set up your account**
2. **Choose your notification preferences**
3. **Join the Alpha Academy classes**
4. **Send and receive messages**

Step 1: Set up your account

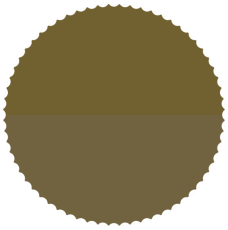
If Alpha Academy has created an account for you, check the email address you provided to us for login instructions. You'll be able to claim your account and see the classes you're connected to.

If you don't already have an account, simply download the **Remind app** or visit remind.com to create one.

- Be sure to use your own name and details when creating your account.
- If you've used Remind before and think you may have multiple accounts, merge them so everything stays in one place.

Step 2: Choose your notification preferences

Once logged in, go to **Account Settings** and decide how you want to receive messages:



- Email
- Text message (SMS)
- Through the Remind app

This is also a good time to update your profile photo, adjust your display name, or select language preferences.

Step 3: Join Alpha Academy classes

You'll be added to classes based on your role in the program (mentor, mentee, or parent/guardian). If you haven't been added automatically, you can join using one of the following methods:

- Entering a class code provided by Alpha Academy
- Clicking a direct invite link we send you

This ensures you'll receive updates about meetings, events, trips, and program opportunities.

Step 4: Send and receive messages

Once connected, you'll begin receiving updates from Alpha Academy. You can:

- Reply directly to messages (when enabled)
- React with emojis
- Stay informed on important announcements

You can also use the message composer to send a new message if you're authorized (mentors and staff only).