When researching an organization, you should speak with its members and ask questions to ensure that the organization...

1. Shares its mission and goals.
2. Supports your educational goals, which will allow you to be successful in the classroom.
3. Aligns with your personal goals and values.
4. Provides a caring environment where you are embraced and affirmed, and never physically, emotionally, or mentally harmed.
5. Offers opportunities for mentorship/coaching from experienced members and/or advisors.
6. Affords opportunities to serve the community.
7. Delivers leadership development programming for all members.
8. Embraces and celebrates diversity and inclusion by providing a welcoming atmosphere for all individuals.
9. Creates a sense of belonging without isolating its members from other interests or pursuits.
10. Encourages active participation in other healthy organizations.
11. Promotes collaboration between members and other organizations with similar interests or goals.
12. Encourages the attainment of your career goals by offering transferable skills that will enhance your resume.
13. Produces networking opportunities for all members to create lasting personal and professional relationships.
14. Fosters the advancement of its members into leadership roles.
15. Educates members about any financial commitments related to membership in the organization.
16. Inspires a healthy balance of activities, programs and services for its members.
17. Models positive verbal and non-verbal communication practices related to content and methods of delivery.
18. Uses positive approaches and practices to resolve internal and external conflict.
19. Cultivates a sense of safety and security for all individuals.
20. Encourages and demonstrates respect for a variety of world views.