



Fraternity and Sorority Policies

Preamble

The mission of The University of Tampa calls upon the University's academic services and co-curricular activities to support individual discovery and development and to provide leadership opportunities. Fraternities and sororities, by their very existence at the University, share in this vision. In turn, the University's recognition of fraternities and sororities supports the strong values, ideals and history that such groups possess.

Although fraternities and sororities are expected to follow the Student Organization Code of Conduct, they are additionally bound to their individual policies and standards on a national and local level. Men and women's fraternities differ from other student organizations particularly in membership selection, secret rituals of initiation, the broad scope of organizational activities, and high campus visibility.

For these reasons, The University of Tampa has established the following policies that fraternities and sororities must follow, in addition to the Student Organization Code of Conduct in order to be officially recognized by the University.

I. Recognition

- A. All fraternities and sororities must be affiliated with a (inter) national organization under the umbrella of NIC, FLA, FEA, NIMC, NPC, NPHC or NALFO.
- B. All fraternities and sororities must be recognized as an active chapter by their respective (inter) national organization.
- C. All fraternities and sororities must be under an umbrella council at The University of Tampa (Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, National Inter-Music Council or UT-National Pan-Hellenic Council).
- D. All fraternities and sororities must be a registered organization with the Student Activities Office.
- E. Each fraternity/sorority member must have a grade release and hazing card on file in the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement to be recognized as a member.
- F. Each fraternity and sorority must have an alumni (ae) advisor and a University faculty/staff advisor.
- G. Each fraternity and sorority must have a constitution on file with the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement.

II. Governance

- A. Each chapter must adhere to University of Tampa Student Organization Code of Conduct, Fraternity and Sorority Policies, and all other University policies.
- B. Each chapter must adhere to the constitution and bylaws of their respective governing council.

III. Expansion/Extension

The University of Tampa's Office of Student Leadership and Engagement, in conjunction with each the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council and under the direction of the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations, shall determine at the end of each academic year whether or not expansion is an appropriate goal for the upcoming year. Internal need and student interest in fraternity and sorority life, as perceived by the appropriate governing council shall be the chief concern for whether or not the goal of expansion should be undertaken. If it is determined that expansion is desirable it may occur in one of the following ways:

1. The Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations may develop an interest group for affiliation with a national organization. This may be done with a specific national organization in mind or the newly formed group may seek affiliation in accordance with local affiliation procedures outlined below.
2. A national organization may be invited onto campus to form a colony.
3. An organization may be formed by students as an interest group. The following guidelines will apply to this type of group:
 - a. The interest group will not be considered a fraternity or sorority until it affiliates with a national organization.
 - b. An organization cannot exist longer than one (1) academic year without actively seeking national affiliation.
 - c. All policies in the Student Organization Code of Conduct and Fraternity and Sorority Policies shall apply to interest groups.
 - d. When seeking national affiliation the group must hear presentations from at least three (3) organizations that are approved by the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations, in consultation with the Assistant Dean of Students. The Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations may waive this if there are not enough groups expressing interest in colonizing at UT or the group is being formed by transfer students who are initiates of a particular organization.
4. All social fraternity and sorority colonies must become chartered by its respective national sponsor within two years after its organization or lose its recognition with the University.
5. All social fraternities and sororities shall be members of their respective governing bodies in order to be recognized as organizations. National Organizations shall not necessarily be granted recognition as a student organization by virtue of having been allowed to participate in Recruitment/Intake. Rather, the newly recruited members must meet the necessary requirements to form their own organization and be recognized by the guidelines set forth by the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement.

IV. Housing

The University of Tampa realizes that the true spirit of fraternal living can be exemplified by group housing. The University is also aware of the unique concerns, which arise when groups choose to have their own living quarters. Although many housing facilities are privately owned through alumni(ae) house corporations, or by other private entities, The University of Tampa continues to maintain a relationship with the organization and the house. The University, the chapter, and the house cooperation/house landlord through the application of the following principles formalize this relationship:

1. In order to remain as a recognized organization on the campus of The University of Tampa, groups must adhere to all University policies at their place of group residence (i.e. a facility paid for by organization funds or alumni organization funds or serving a purpose which could justifiably be considered as a "fraternity house") regardless of location of ownership of said property or facility.
2. Prior to occupancy, the University and the chapter should research the feasibility of live-in advisors for all chapter houses whether such housing be on-campus or off.
3. The group must maintain the residence to a degree that it passes all fire and safety codes of the University, the City of Tampa, and the State of Florida. Documentation to this effect must be submitted to the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations two weeks prior to the start of the fall semester each year.
4. The grounds of the residence should be maintained in such a manner that brings credit to both the Greek organization and the University.
5. The alumni (ae) house corporation must include or provide the following:
 - a. a mutual understanding of the role of the fraternity as a partner with the University whereas one representative will assume a leadership position with regards to communication and workings with University officials,
 - b. an up-to-date record of the membership of the alumni corporation complete with addresses and phone numbers, submitted at the start of each fall semester to the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations,
 - c. a copy of the lease agreement/document or proof of ownership for the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations,
 - d. demonstrated support and supervision of the chapter's compliance with University regulations,
 - e. support for the efficient operation of the chapter house and assistance to members in living up to the ideals of the fraternity,
 - f. assistance in the management of the chapter finances in regards to the house arrangement,
 - g. representation at meetings as scheduled by staff members of the University,
 - h. documentation of routine inspections for the purpose of risk management.
6. The University staff agrees to:
 - a. provide assistance and guidance to chapter members upon request within all matters of house governance and leadership,
 - b. coordinate communication between all parties mentioned herein,
 - c. provides equal rights and responsibilities to the chapter as to any student organization/Greek organization.
7. The chapter and its members agree to:

- a. appoint or elect a house manager who will meet with the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations on a regular basis;
- b. complete all appropriate paperwork and forms as required by the University with regards to the house as well as those required of any organization, i.e. program registration, building service requisitions, etc.;
- c. register all house events, whether property is owned by the University or not, as any other event would be registered with the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement;
- d. abide by University regulations while at the chapter house;
- e. serve as a liaison between alumni(ae) and the University understanding that their alumni(ae) are representing the chapter;
- f. maintain communication among the University, the chapter, and the respective governing council.

V. Academic Achievement

Recognizing that the goal of higher education is the pursuit of knowledge through academic achievement, the University and the chapter must facilitate an environment that will contribute to the advancement of scholarship for each individual. Therefore any programs, activities or events that hinder such a learning environment will not be tolerated.

1. Each fraternity and sorority shall require that any member have a minimum 2.5 cumulative g.p.a. (the University's minimal requirements for good academic standing) in order to hold an executive office (President, Vice President, etc.) in the chapter.
2. Each chapter shall maintain at a minimum the all undergraduate men or women's semester g.p.a. Chapters falling below this average shall be placed on academic warning for one semester, during which time the following measures shall be taken:
 - a. a meeting shall take place between the chapter president, scholarship chair and the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations to establish an academic agenda.
 - b. Other applicable measures may be taken at the discretion of the Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Organizations and appropriate governing council.
3. If a chapter does not follow any determined course of action, or again falls below the all undergraduate men or women's g.p.a. the following semester, the chapter will be placed on an events with alcohol restriction and the issue will be referred to the judicial body of the appropriate council for review.
4. Each chapter shall strive to have each individual member maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative g.p.a. Those members who fall below a 2.0 g.p.a. will be reported by the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement to their chapter President, (Inter) National office, and alumni (ae)/faculty/staff advisor by the University of Tampa.