

Procedures of The College for Recognition of Fraternities and Sororities

The College recognizes the value that individuals may derive from participation in fraternities and sororities. By virtue of their unique characteristics these groups can advance the educational mission of the University by providing members with special opportunities for personal growth and through establishment of high standards and incentives which motivate members to contribute to the quality of University life. The traditions, rituals, selective membership and the affiliation with a national or international organization which typify many sororities and fraternities require that their University establish a special relationship with such groups.

As The College advances and adapts to the changing needs of students, so too must the fraternity and sorority system. In efforts to provide a fair and accurate review of new groups, as well as ensure the proper support for existing groups, the following procedures for recognition of fraternities and sororities will be applied in the event of expansion. The University of Rochester reserves the right to implement a moratorium on expansion or re-colonization at any time. This policy will serve as a guideline for all groups with the intent to establish a new social Greek-lettered organization at the University of Rochester. In order to provide the maximum stability, guidance and support for each group, all fraternities and sororities intending to apply for recognition must be an inter/national fraternity/sorority. Preference will go to members of the following national umbrella organizations: North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC), and the National Asian Pacific American Panhellenic Association (NAPA).

Temporary Recognition

Steps for Temporary Recognition

1. Recognition procedures shall be essentially the same for all prospective chapters of an inter/national organizations. The term “inter/national fraternity/sorority” shall mean:
 - a. A National governing body must recognize each organization. Preference will be given to members of the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC), the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC), and the National Asian Pacific American Panhellenic Association (NAPA).
 - b. Organizations seeking recognition must demonstrate local alumni support, a National Executive Board of alumni/alumnae officers for over five years, and at least seven chapters of the national organization.
2. The following is an outline of the process for expansion.
 - a. Meet with the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs to review expansion process (January/February).
 - b. Submit all required material, including the Expectations for Excellence Proposal for Expansion (March).

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- c. Make a 15 minute proposal presentation to the Fraternity/Sorority Management Committee *ad hoc* recommendation task force (March).
 - d. Management Committee meets to discuss and confirm decision (April).
 - e. Approved groups take direction from the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs for further expansion procedure.
3. Information that must be submitted to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs:
 - a. Current list of National officers, Alumni/ae, Graduate and/or Chapter Advisor(s), with current addresses and phone number contact information. Please include an electronic mail address, if available. Please specify who will be responsible for expansion effort.
 - b. A letter from the National or Graduate/Alumni Chapter President which confirms national support of the expansion.
 - c. Current and official list of local chapter members (if applicable).
 - d. Current list of potential members (interested women/men).
 - e. Current constitution and by-laws of the National organization and local chapter.
 - f. An updated copy of the organization's New Member Education/Membership Intake policy and outline of procedure. This outline must be consistent with the all applicable state, university, and national organization rules and regulations.
 - g. A copy of the organization's current insurance certificate.
 - h. An Expectations for Excellence Proposal for Expansion
4. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs will forward the non-confidential information and request to the Fraternity and Sorority Management Committee (FSMC).
 5. The FSMC will notify the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs of their decision regarding probationary recognition. If denied, a group may re-apply in subsequent years.
 6. If granted temporary recognition by the FSMC in conjunction with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, the individual(s) will be allowed to reserve University facilities for the purpose of conducting organizational, recruitment and interest meetings. No pledge/intake/new member activity may occur until such permission is received from the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.
 7. After a semester of temporary recognition (or until such permission is received from the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs) the organization may begin their pledge/intake/new member activity upon receipt of the following materials:
 - a. Letter from the National office, which authorizes the membership intake/new member activity.
 - b. An outline, consistent with all the applicable rules and regulations which details the dates and activities for the process, and the list of any and all persons to be involved with the process.
 - c. Completed Student Activities group registration form (Campus Club Connection Registration).
 - d. A listing of candidates being pursued by the organization so that the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs can verify student status and eligibility for sorority/fraternity affiliation.

8. Organizations will be reviewed based on the Expectations for Excellence Accreditation Process.

Full Recognition

If all procedures outlined have been followed and the organization has had a successful new member education program, completed all council specific requirements, and has achieved Accreditation, said organization will be granted Full recognition.

Unauthorized Expansion/Intake/New Member Activity

Violation of this policy will prompt the following action to be enacted against the fraternity/sorority:

- Inability to seek recognition of fraternity/sorority as a recognized student organization and fraternity at the University of Rochester until, at least, two calendar years after there is clear and definite evidence that no University of Rochester student has been initiated into the fraternity/sorority.
- Inability to host or coordinate any events at the University of Rochester that are affiliated, in any way, to the fraternity/sorority.
- Inability to participate as a co-sponsor of any student event hosted at the University of Rochester.
- Without formal recognition at the University of Rochester the fraternity/sorority are not given permission to list the University of Rochester as a chapter/auxiliary on any materials, including, but not limited to, websites, chapter rosters, etc.

Re-chartering a previously recognized fraternity or sorority

The guidelines for the re-establishment of a fraternity or sorority that was previously recognized by the University and the undergraduate councils shall be decided by whether the group was voluntarily or involuntarily closed.

Voluntary closure re-colorization

A fraternity or sorority which was previously recognized by the university and undergraduate councils and subsequently closed due to decreasing membership or by no fault of the group or any of its membership shall return to full recognition by following the University Procedures for recognition with the following addendum:

1. All outstanding debts to the university and undergraduate council must be retired prior to approval of colony/chapter status.

Involuntary closure re-colorization

A fraternity or sorority who was previously recognized by the University and undergraduate council and subsequently closed due to University and/or international disciplinary sanctions shall return to full recognition under the following guidelines.

1. The inter/national headquarters wishing to re-charter a fraternity or sorority at the University must send a notice to the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs outlining interest and how judicial sanctions imposed by the University and or inter/national headquarters have been satisfied.

2. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, in consultation with the Associate Dean of Students, the Dean of Students, and the Dean of the College, can create a review committee to assist with the re-colonization process.
3. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs shall meet with the Associate Dean of Students office to review sanctions and establish whether or not sanctions have been met. Special focus will be on compliance with University expectations that undergraduate chapter operations and activity and group support by alumni and the inter/national organizations cease during the suspension period, as well as, responses if such violations of the sanctions occurred. If the review determines the sanctions have not been met, further direction will be provided to the inter/national headquarters as to how the sanctions might be met. Ongoing communication between the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the inter/national headquarters will work toward the completion of all sanctions. If the review determines that all sanctions have been satisfied, consideration of the colonization will continue.
4. Following determinations that all sanctions have been satisfied, and no continuation of the closed group has occurred, an inter/national representative will meet with the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs to review system, statistics, guidelines, interest and the Expectations for Excellence Accreditation Process and Expansion Process.
5. Same procedures as outlined in original expansion process with the following additions
 - a. Strong consideration should be given to the concept of substance free housing when re-chartering a fraternity/sorority. These types of housing situations allow the new chapter to concentrate on group development and community connection through substance free activities and programs.
 - b. A fraternity/sorority re-chartered following an involuntary closure shall be placed on probation for a period of two years. The probation period will begin when the final review has been successfully completed. At the end of each probationary year, the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs will call together a committee to review the progress of the group. Organizations will be reviewed based on the Expectations for Excellence Accreditation Process.

Please note: University policy requires that all membership candidates be a student in good standing.

Currently, the following governing councils for social sororities and fraternities exist at the University of Rochester:

1. Fraternity President's Council (for North-American Interfraternity Conference member fraternities)
2. Multicultural Greek Council (for National Pan Hellenic Council, National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGK), and National Asian Pacific American Panhellenic Association (NAPA) member organizations, and other national fraternities and sororities)
3. Panhellenic Association (for National Panhellenic Conference sororities)