

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Division of Student Affairs
Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life

**MINIMUM AND REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS PROGRAM
FOR FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES**



In order to implement positive change in the fraternity and sorority community and for The Pennsylvania State University to pledge its support for each chapter's continued presence on campus, all fraternities and sororities will complete a Chapter Annual Report, demonstrating that they meet the following reasonable expectations.

By meeting these minimum and reasonable expectations, chapters will be recognized by the University and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life as a fraternity or sorority on campus and will be provided with a variety of services and supports. Failure to meet these minimum standards will result in progressive action on the part of the University, ranging from a required action plan up to the loss of University recognition after multiple years of inadequate progress.

1. **ANTI-HAZING COMMITMENT:** The University is committed to providing an environment that is safe, respectful, and educational for the fraternity and sorority community. In order to educate and hold the community responsible for this shared commitment, each new member will sign an anti-hazing agreement that affirms Pennsylvania statute and The Pennsylvania State University policy. This agreement will also inform all members and new members of the process for reporting violations to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, anonymously if desired.
2. **ACADEMIC MINIMUM:** Each chapter must maintain a minimum average chapter GPA of 2.5 (for their current members and new members) unless a higher average GPA is established by their Inter/National headquarters and/or their respective governing councils.
3. **ADVISING:** All recognized student organizations at The Pennsylvania State University are required to have an advisor. Each fraternity and sorority is expected to have an active and involved advisor who attends chapter meetings on a regular basis, has consistent contact with chapter officers, and attends at least two training sessions per year sponsored by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
4. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT:** Each chapter is expected to be in good standing with their Inter/National headquarters, Council, Alumni/Housing Corporations, and the University with regard to financial obligations and should operate under a chapter budget reviewed by the chapter advisor.
5. **POLICY EXPECTATIONS:** Each chapter will document that they are in compliance with the expectations and policies of their Inter/National Headquarters, Council, Federal, State, and Local laws and codes, and for those with houses/facilities, their House Corporations, Residence Life, and/or landlords. In addition, the chapter must provide proof a valid Certificate of Liability Insurance with a minimum \$2 million liability insurance policy where The Pennsylvania State University is named as an additional insured.

6. **OFFICIAL RECOGNITION:** Each chapter must be registered with the Office of Student Engagement, and be in good standing with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, completing all necessary paperwork within designated deadlines and complying with all University policies. Additionally, chapters will attend mandatory events and keep their online chapter information updated each semester.
7. **NEW MEMBER PERIOD:** Each chapter shall operate a new member education program that completes all education during a single semester and over a period of no more than 12 weeks or the standard established by the Inter/National headquarters if less. The program content shall be consistent with that established by the Inter/National Headquarters. Delaying or extending initiation of new members over a semester may only be done with the prior, joint approval of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Inter/National Headquarters.
8. **NATIONAL STATUS:** Each new chapter must be affiliated and in good standing with an Inter/National fraternity or sorority organization. Those chapters currently not affiliated with an Inter/National organization must establish an affiliation within 5 years of the implementation of these minimum and reasonable expectations; local chapters currently in existence may petition for an exception. Furthermore, representatives of the Inter/National organization, either staff or volunteer, will meet with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life on their visits with the chapter at The Pennsylvania State University. For most organizations filling this report, the target date for Inter/National affiliation is before the end of fall semester, 2010.

SERVICE AND SUPPORT FOR FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES MEETING MINIMUM AND REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS



To support the efforts of our chapters and to enable their ongoing success, The Pennsylvania State University will provide the following services and support to those chapters meeting the preceding Minimum and Reasonable Expectations:

1. **STAFF LIAISON AND ADVISOR SUPPORT:** The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will provide a staff member as a liaison for each chapter, and have the opportunity to benefit from individualized assistance from the Center staff members. Professional expertise will be provided on topics such as strategic planning, recruitment, new member education, advisor training, leadership development and risk management.
2. **UNIVERSITY BILLING:** Each chapter will have the option to bill selected financial obligations (such as dues or rent) to their members through The Pennsylvania State University Fraternity and Sorority Bursar Billing Process.
3. **FACULTY AND STAFF INVOLVEMENT:** Faculty and staff will be encouraged by the University to serve as advisors and will be rewarded/recognized for their efforts and contributions.
4. **ACCESS TO LOANS:** The University will use its relationships with financial institutions to facilitate access to bank loans for house/suite improvements for each chapter.
5. **MARKETING AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS:** The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will provide Penn State Greek Life informational publications that may be distributed to potential new members, parents, alumni and other community members.
4. **UNIVERSITY FACILITIES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT:** Each chapter will be eligible to reserve space in University facilities for events, programs and functions. Additionally, each chapter will receive assistance in program planning.
5. **FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS:** If desired, each chapter will be provided an Associated Student Activities (ASA) account for the management of chapter funds.