

# FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE STANDARDS

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A quick start guide for knowing the standards, practices, expectations, and resources for Greek members and advisors.

# INTRO

Hello! Thank you for taking the time to read our standards and practices guide. My name is Andrew Amaya-Shaw, Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life at the University of New Orleans and proud Privateer Class of 2017! It is an honor and a blessing to be able to aid the same Greek community that meant so much to my personal development. Much care and time has gone into the resources to support our community, such as this guide, and I certainly hope it is useful in your pursuits!

## Mission

It is the mission of the University of New Orleans Fraternity & Sorority Life Office to provide guidance, resources, and support to all of our Greek letter social fraternities and sororities. With a community of 180+ members spread across fourteen organizations and three councils, we take pride in the endeavors of our individual students and the life skills that they can learn within Greek letter organizations.

The UNO FSL Office would like for all of its students to answer yes to three key questions when they look back on their FSL experience:



Pictured: FSL Coordinator Andrew Amaya-Shaw

**1.) Did joining a Fraternity/ Sorority enhance my collegiate experience?**

**2.) Was I given the opportunity to develop organizational leadership skills?**

**3.) Five years after graduation, were those skills able to help me get ahead in my hiring class?**

If all of our students can say "yes" to these questions, we as an office have succeeded in providing a Greek experience that we are proud of.





## WHAT ARE MINIMUM STANDARDS?

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The Minimum Standards for Fraternities and Sororities are implemented to improve the management and the quality of the fraternity and sorority experience at the University of New Orleans (UNO). The agreement is between the member chapters of the InterFraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and National Panhellenic Conference as a condition of registered status as a Greek organization through the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. These shared standards will be implemented and documented by the chapters and governing councils in coordination with professional staff of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. All chapters are responsible to adhering to their national organization's policy as well as the University of New Orleans' Student Code of Conduct, UNO Student Organization Handbook, University Administrative Policies and University of Louisiana System Administrative Policies.

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# FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE STANDARDS



FRATERNITY &  
SORORITY LIFE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NEW ORLEANS



# CONTENTS

- 
1. Membership
  2. Scholarship
  3. Finances
  4. Housing Corporation
  5. Advisors
  6. Alumni
  7. Council Participation
  8. Service & Philanthropy
  9. Campus Involvement
  10. Greek Unity
  11. FSL Meetings
  12. Events
  13. Expansion
  14. Definitions
  15. Discrimination
  16. Hazing
  17. Required Participation
  18. Required Forms

# MEMBERSHIP

## 01

- IFC chapters are required to maintain a chapter size at a minimum of 50% the size of the largest chapter in their council. This will be evaluated at the end of each fall and spring semester.
  - Any IFC chapter who is not at 50% of the size of the largest chapter in their council are required to host recruitment activities each semester and work with the FSL Coordinator to create a recruitment/ retention recovery plan.
- NPC chapters are required to maintain chapter total that is set at by the Panhellenic Total Setting Team each semester. This will be evaluated at the end of each fall and spring semester.
  - NPC organizations who are not at chapter total are required to host recruitment activities each semester and initiate at least one new member. Chapters must submit plan for membership, retention, and visibility the first day of class each semester until the reach minimum number of members.
- NPHC chapters are encouraged to maintain a minimum of three members. This will be evaluated at the end of each fall and spring semester.
  - Inactive Status of NPHC Organizations Due to Membership Attrition: By definition, an undergraduate chapter must be comprised of enrolled collegiate members to remain active and in good standing. The chapter must re-generate membership on a continual basis in order to sustain itself long-term. When the situation arises where a chapter does not have any remaining undergraduate members, the chapter shall be immediately placed on “Inactive” status. Organizations who are "inactive" may host informationals/interest meetings or tabling events with special permission from the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. These programs should focus on enhancing visibility of the chapter in order to increase membership. However, inactive organizations are ineligible to vote in NPHC Council, hold leadership positions, and participate in NPHC programming without special permission/invitation from the university.
- Three consecutive semesters under minimum numbers of members will result in meeting to discuss inactive status or recession of University registration.
- The Office of Student Involvement must be notified when potential new members are extended a bid by completing all new member forms (listed in Section 20).

# SCHOLARSHIP

02

- Chapters are to maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA and a 2.5 semester GPA.
- If a chapter has below this requirement, they will be placed on probation for one semester. During this time, the chapter must pose and implement an approved action plan to the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life for improving the organization's academics. This must be turned in 14 business days after receiving grade report. The Greek Life Office will inform you if this is required upon distribution of grades.
- If the chapter does not raise their GPA at the end of the following semester, their chapter will be placed on probationary status for additional semester(s).
- Chapters must request grade checks via form on [greeklife.uno.edu](http://greeklife.uno.edu) for potential new members 3 business days before offering bids/membership. Bids can NOT be extended until a grade check is sent back to the chapter.

# FINANCES

03

- Chapters must meet all fiscal responsibilities including but not limited to: payment of all debts owed to the University of New Orleans, Greek Council, the Interfraternity Council, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, the National Panhellenic Conference, and the chapter's National Association. Failure to pay dues by given date will result in disciplinary action.
- Chapters must maintain their appropriate tax status as registered organizations in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations.



# HOUSING CORP.



04

- If a chapter is housed, it *must* have a Housing Corporation established and follow all local, state, and federal regulations and laws as well as the policies of its National/International organization.



# ADVISORS


05

- A chapter must have an on-campus faculty/staff advisor and an alumna/e advisor (not including the Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life unless express consent is given). The Alumna/e Chapter advisor must attend meetings as required through their responsibilities to their national organization.
- Chapter Advisors' contact information must be updated and on file with FSL staff each fall and spring semester (or as necessary). This change must be made through the form on [greeklife.uno.edu](http://greeklife.uno.edu) within 5 business days of the change.



# ALUMNI

06

- Alumni who attend any and all activities of the chapter are to adhere to all rules and regulations set forth by the University of New Orleans, Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and National Panhellenic Conference.
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# COUNCIL PARTICIPATION

07

- All chapters must be a member of their respective umbrella group (i.e., IFC, NPHC, and NPC) in order to be officially recognized by the University. Chapters must fully participate in Council events (both their respective Council's and Greek Council's), sending the appropriate number of representatives designated by the sponsored governing Council for each event.
- Chapters must adhere to the rules and regulations prescribed in the constitutions and by-laws of the respective umbrella organizations as well as the UNO Student Organization Handbook.

# SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY

08

- Chapters must contribute to the campus and community in the area of public service and will be required to support at least six (6) other Greek organizations in their service initiatives. In addition, each chapter must host one (1) philanthropic program per year.
  - When hosting a service program, the chapters must register the initiative 14 business days prior to the event via the event form on the website.
- There must be at least three (3) direct service hours (i.e., volunteer work outside of your organization) completed per chapter member, per semester.
  - Examples: Volunteering at City Park, attending service days offered by UNO organizations outside of the Greek community, LASPCA, etc.
- No chapter may host a philanthropy event/ week on the day/week of another organization's philanthropy event/ week. Improperly hosted philanthropy events will be ordered to cease and desist immediately, and the chapter president must meet with the FSL Advisor to discuss planning guidelines.



# CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

09



- Each chapter must have every member involved ONE (1) other student organization at the University of New Orleans or serve as a continual volunteer at a nonprofit in the Orleans Community.
- The chapter must submit a list of members and their involvement along with their annual Greek Life Evaluation.



# GREEK UNITY


10

- Chapters are expected to foster positive relationships with other Greek chapters. Each organization is expected to co-sponsor one (1) program with a fellow chapter within their council or between IFC/NPC chapters and NPHC organizations each academic year.
- This must be reported in the Greek Life Evaluation.



# FSL MEETINGS

11

- Chapter presidents are required to meet with the Coordinator for Fraternity and Sorority Life on a bi-weekly basis to discuss chapter progress. Chapters will be required to send representatives on an as-needed basis to programming planned by the Coordinator for Fraternity and Sorority Life.
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# EVENTS

12

- Social events (here defined any event that is social in nature and involves one or more participating organizations) must be reported to and approved by Student Involvement in Leadership and the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office via the Greek Social or Philanthropy Program Form on the UNO Website.
- For social events with alcohol, organizations must sign, acknowledge, and adhere to the RSO Policy concerning events with alcohol. Additionally:
  - At least 14 business days before events with alcohol, liability paperwork, event contracts (for venue, food, and alcohol), security contracts, and contact info for venue/security must be submitted to [greeklife@uno.edu](mailto:greeklife@uno.edu).
  - Events with alcohol will require submission of the guest list seven (7) business days prior to the event taking place. A guest list of actual attendees must be submitted the first business day following the event. These lists should be sent to [greeklife@uno.edu](mailto:greeklife@uno.edu).
    - The guest list should list name, age, attendance status, and contact number.

# EXPANSION

13

- Should an organization or student group seek recognition on the UNO campus as a Fraternity or Sorority, they will adhere to the guidelines set forth by the appropriate council and the FSL Expansion Guidelines.

# DEFINITIONS

14

- **Chapter Enhancement Plan** - a mutually agreed upon plan of correction that is developed by chapter officers, stakeholders, advisors, Greek Life, Student Accountability, and council representatives to ensure that similar violations do not occur in the future.
- **Chapter Warning** - a written notice that a chapter has been warned of a behavior, event, or custom that may violate certain rules or codes of conduct. A pattern of behaviors that result in warnings may or may not warrant a Wellness Check or Investigation.
- **Interim Suspension of Activities (Cease and Desist)** - a notification that a chapter must cease and desist with any and all activities typically pending the results of an investigation concerning an allegation made against the chapter.
- **Letter of University Reprimand** - a letter containing the sanctions placed upon a chapter who has violated any Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Involvement and Leadership, Registered Student Organization, or UNO Student Handbook policy.
- **Probationary Status** - a chapter status that may be incurred when a chapter is found in violation of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Minimum Standards or other codes of conduct. This status may stipulate the forfeiture of specifically listed social and/or other privileges for a period not less than three months nor more than three calendar years. a chapter may return to Good Standing from Probationary Status by completing the necessary sanctions, waiting the allotted time, or both.
- **Sanction** - a task or required action that may be assessed to a chapter in response to violations of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Standards or other codes of conduct. Sanctions are meant to be educational, not penial, in nature and are commiserate with the violation that has occurred.

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# DEFINITIONS CONTINUED

14

- **Revocation of University Registration** - this represents the most serious penalty that may be imposed on a registered student organization. It involves the revoking of the University's registration of the organization for a stated or an indeterminate period of time. If the organization also holds a charter from a national organization or association, the University may also request that the national organization or association revoke the organization's charter. Organizations that maintain a residence or meeting facility on university property may not occupy or utilize that facility unless and until the organization returns as a registered student organization in good standing.
- **Suspended Status** - a chapter status for chapters who have failed to complete sanctions or who continue to violate the Fraternity and Sorority Life Standards or other codes of conduct while already on probation. Chapters placed on suspension will adhere to a strict cease and desist policy until a joint decision concerning the future of the chapter is made by the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Student Involvement and Leadership Office, Chapter Advisors, and National/ International Headquarters.
- **Wellness Check** - a written letter denoting concern from the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life about an incident, behavior, custom, or allegation made about/against an active chapter. The Wellness Check requires a response from the checked chapter's president and chapter advisor and may or may not require a full investigation from the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life or the Office of Student Accountability.

# DISCRIMINATION

15

- Acts of prejudice or discrimination (whether physical, mental, sexual, or emotional) on any basis (including but not limited to sex, gender, race, religion) are hereby strictly prohibited by Fraternity and Sorority Life. Allegations of such will be taken seriously and handled by the appropriate office for investigation.

# HAZING

16

**The University will not tolerate nor condone hazing in any form.**

**•Each chapter is responsible for being in compliance with Louisiana Law, UL System Policies, University Policies (AP-SA-03.8) and National Organization policies in relation to anti-hazing.**

**As per the University of Louisiana System Policy and Procedures Memorandum:**

*I. No student organization shall employ a program of student initiation/pledge education which includes “hazing.”*

*II. Hazing shall be defined as:*

*A. Any action taken or situation created, whether on or off college or university property, which is life-threatening to the individual or are intended to hurt or to humiliate physically or mentally.*

*B. Kidnapping, paddling, slapping, branding, burning with cigarette, or any such activities which are life-threatening to the individual or are intended to hurt or to humiliate physically or mentally.*

*III. Hazing may include but is not limited to the following activities when these activities are life-threatening or intended to hurt or to humiliate physically or mentally:*

*A. physical exercise, scavenger hunts, road trips, any activity resulting in excessive fatigue, physical or psychological shocks;*

*B. wearing apparel which is uncomfortable to the individual or, if worn publicly, is conspicuous or not normally in good taste;*

*C. engaging in public stunts or buffoonery, hair cutting, morally degrading or humiliating games or activities, giving of food or drink (alcoholic or nonalcoholic) which is distasteful or designed to provoke nausea or inebriation;*

*D. any form of verbal harassment, any action or situation which subjugates an individual to a condition where he/she might tend to lose self-respect or suffer injury to personal or religious values;*

*E. any activities which interfere with the student’s scholastic responsibilities*

*F. the use of obscenities and vulgarities in dress, language, or action*

*IV. It shall be the duty of all current and potential student organization members and pledges to report immediately, in writing, any violation of this policy to the appropriate institution administrator. Any violation of this policy shall be investigated and appropriate disciplinary action taken.*

# REQUIRED PARTICIPATION

17

- **Greek Awards:** This event will take place during Greek Week and each chapter must have 50% of their chapter in attendance.
- **Canvas Hazing Prevention Course:** All members must spend one hour completing the Canvas hazing prevention course once per year, per Louisiana State Law.
- **Minimum Standards Review:** The chapter president, advisor (or any advisor chaperoning events), social chair, and standards chair must complete this training each semester.
- **Hazing/Academic/Alcohol Workshop:** The Greek Life Office will host one event each semester pertaining to the listed topics and each chapter must have 75% of their members in attendance.
- **Greek Leadership Retreat:** Each chapter is required to have at least the President or Vice-President attend the annual Greek Leadership Retreat.
- **RSO Alcohol Policy:** Must be signed and submitted to SIL every semester before any social events with alcohol occur.

# CALENDARING POLICY

18

Effective July 1st, 2024, The Fraternity & Sorority Life Office at the University of New Orleans is implementing a new policy for filling out the “Greek Calendar” which helps give equal space for events for our organizations. The new policy will be as follows:

- All events (social, philanthropic, retreats, and recruitment) must be registered and expressly approved by the FSL Office in order to be held. Routine or internal events, such as chapter meetings or brotherhoods/ sisterhoods need not be registered.

- All events registered must be in compliance with organization bylaws, UNO FSL Standards, Governing Council standards, UNO RSO Guidelines, as well as any applicable local, state, and federal guidelines. Organizations bear the responsibility of knowing whether or not their event is within compliance of all necessary rules that could apply.

- All prospective events should be submitted to the FSL Office by the appropriate deadline (July 1st at 11:59 PM for Fall Calendars/ January 1st 11:59 PM for Spring Calendars). Calendars should be submitted via email to both [greeklife@uno.edu](mailto:greeklife@uno.edu) and to the email of the Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life or otherwise direct overseer of FSL on the campus at that time.

- Once all calendars are submitted, the listed events shall be placed on the Greek Calendar by the FSL Office. Philanthropy Weeks or events and Large Invitation Socials (Formal Dinners or Dances, Semi-Formals, Parties) from different organizations will not be permitted to overlap days and times without express consent from the president of both organizations.

- If events from two organization’s calendars are in conflict with one another, priority will be given to the organization with the higher GPA. Previous Semester GPA will be first tiebreaker, followed by Cumulative, followed by New Member GPA if needed.

oIt is important to note that while having your event does hold your spot on the Greek Calendar, each organization is still responsible for reserving their own spaces, submitting all required paperwork, and following all RSO, UNO, and legal guidelines. Failure to do so may result in loss of your approval of your calendar date.

- To prevent organizations from losing space on the calendar from losing a priority claim, we recommend them sending multiple dates for any event so that we can still place them while the FSL Office is Calendaring.

- Once all submitted events are on the Greek Calendar, the open dates on the Greek Calendar will be available to claim on a “First Come, First Serve” basis.



# CHAPTER RECOGNITION

19

Chapter recognition is maintained by adhering to the FSL Minimum Standards, UNO Registered Student Organization (RSO) Policies, and staying in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, restrictions, and revocation of privileges from the organization, either by the FSL office or the organization's governing council. Chapter Recognition status is shown in the figure below for ease of reference.

**Active Chapter**  
*no restrictions or sanctions*

**Chapter Warning/ Probation**  
*some restrictions pending  
investigatory findings*

**Suspension**  
*Temporary loss of university recognition  
pending investigatory findings*

**Revocation**  
*Indefinite loss  
of university  
recognition*

# REQUIRED FORMS

# 20

Form	Due	Timetable	Located
<a href="#">Student Organization Registration Form</a>	First Day of Classes	Fall Semester	sil.uno.edu
Proof of Insurance	October 15th by 11:59pm	Fall Semester	National/ International HQ
Chapter Roster	First Day of Classes	Spring and Fall	<a href="#">Template available</a>
Annual Evaluation	June 1st at 11:59pm	Spring	Sent to Chapters
<a href="#">RSO Alcohol Policy</a>	Prior to first event with alcohol	Fall and Spring	Contact FSL Office
<a href="#">Greek Social or Philanthropy Program Planning Form</a>	14 days prior to event	as needed	greeklife.uno.edu
<a href="#">Philanthropy &amp; Volunteerism Report</a>	Within 2 weeks after the event	as needed	greeklife.uno.edu
<a href="#">Member Removal Form</a>	within 5 days of removal	as needed	greeklife.uno.edu
<a href="#">New Member Grade Check Form</a>	within 5 days of swearing/ pledging/ association ceremony	as needed	greeklife.uno.edu
<a href="#">Change of Officers Form</a>	Within 5 days of the election of new officers	as needed	greeklife.uno.edu

# REQUIRED FORMS CONT'D

18

Form	Due	Timetable	Located
<u>Change of Advisor Form</u>	Within 5 days of new advisor appointment	Annually, or as needed	<a href="http://greeklife.uno.edu">greeklife.uno.edu</a>
<u>Anti-Hazing Statement</u>	within 5 days of swearing/pledging/ association ceremony	as needed	<a href="http://greeklife.uno.edu">greeklife.uno.edu</a>
<u>NPHC Notice of Intake</u>	14 Days Prior to Probate	as needed	<a href="http://greeklife.uno.edu">greeklife.uno.edu</a>
<u>Panhellenic COB Acceptance Agreement</u>	Within 24 Hours of Bid Acceptance	as needed	<a href="http://greeklife.uno.edu">greeklife.uno.edu</a>

I understand that I am responsible for informing my chapter of these standards. I also understand that failure to comply with any of the above standards shall result in disciplinary action taken against the chapter by the respective umbrella organization and/or the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership.

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

President's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Greek Life Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

