

FRATERNAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Northeastern University

*Originally adopted by Northeastern University and the Northeastern Fraternity and Sorority Community January, 1994.
Revised July 2009.*

ARTICLE I: University Commitment to Fraternities and Sororities

Herin, *Fraternity and Sorority Life Office* refers to the office that oversees the management and advising of fraternities, sororities, and governing councils. Herein, *Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor* refers to the administrator whose job it is to oversee the management and advising of fraternities, sororities, and governing councils.

In consideration of the commitment to fraternity and sorority life, Northeastern University will provide the following privileges/services to fully recognized fraternal organizations & governing councils in order to foster their growth and development:

- ◆ use of the Northeastern University name
- ◆ access to Northeastern University owned facilities
- ◆ ability to participate in campus-wide events
- ◆ chapter advising services from the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office
- ◆ program advising services from the Student Activities Office access to a cash and/or budget accounts from the Student Activities Business Office (SABO) and use of the services of this office
- ◆ access to SAF money/funds as outlined in the Budget Review Committee (BRC) manual
- ◆ utilizing the University's tax exempt status as appropriate
- ◆ access to other campus offices and services as needed
- ◆ posting and advertising privileges including a banner in the CSC
- ◆ support of recruitment/intake events & initiatives
- ◆ access to University hosted website
- ◆ use of the Resource Room area and a mailbox in 434 CSC
- ◆ assistance with gathering academic and other statistical data pertaining to organizations or members as required
- ◆ provide staff, leadership training, and educational programming for the purpose of creating an informed, cohesive, prepared community of fraternity and sorority leaders
- ◆ advocate on behalf of the fraternity and sorority community and act as a liaison between internal and external constituencies
- ◆ meet with consultants, advisors, and alumni/ae for the purpose of strengthening relationships and offering advice on sound risk management practices and leadership development within chapters.

**Please note that interest groups or colonies will not have the benefit of all of the above privileges/services until they become fully recognized. Specific privileges and services will be outlined in contract form by the appropriate governing body.*

ARTICLE II: Expansion and Colonization

Any inter/national fraternal organization wishing to be recognized as a colony and subsequent chapter at Northeastern University must adhere to the following guidelines. Effective January 1994, no local organization may be recognized at Northeastern University. This policy does not apply to those local organizations recognized prior to January 1994, however if a local organization is removed from campus they are not allowed to return to campus without the sponsorship of a national or international organization.

Section 1 Benefits of Campus Recognition

For a list of the benefits of campus recognition please refer to Article I of the Fraternal Governing Document.

Section 2 Expansion

The inter/national headquarters and/or representative of the campus interest group must contact the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor to discuss the possibility of colonization on campus. The Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor will contact the appropriate governing council (IFC/MGC/NPHC/Panhellenic) to determine whether or not there is an interest in expansion.

In the case of Panhellenic extension, a vote of the chapter delegates is required in order to open the campus up for extension. Please refer to the Panhellenic Constitution and bylaws as well as the *National Panhellenic Conferences Manual of Information* for specific details.

If the appropriate governing body (IFC/MGC/NPHC/Panhellenic) does not have an interest in expansion at the time of the request, they must provide documentation stating the following: reasons why expansion is not at interest at the time of the request and when expansion interest can be made again by the inquiring fraternal organization.

Section 3 Expansion Procedures (in the case of non-Panhellenic Chapters)

1. If the appropriate governing body (IFC/MGC/NPHC) has an interest in expansion at the time of the request, the interested fraternal organization will be required to submit a letter of intent, membership roster, anti-hazing form, student group registration form, certificate of liability insurance, risk management policy, and constitution.
2. The group will then begin to work with their governing council to gain full recognition. Each council has a unique process. Examples of IFC/MGC/NPHC requirements include but are not limited to: community service and philanthropic projects, participation in and co-sponsorship of on-campus events, and attendance the appropriate governing board meetings, and attendance on at leadership conferences.
3. Interest groups/chapters must secure a full-time NU faculty or staff member as an advisor prior to approval for recognition/reactivation being approved as well as provide the name of a local or national contact person responsible for the organization.
4. Interest groups/chapters must be knowledgeable of and adhere to the policies and guidelines in the NU Fraternal Governing Documents.

5. Interest groups/chapters not currently recognized on campus may co-sponsor educational or philanthropic events only with other fully recognized student organizations on campus. The fully recognized group, however, must be the ones to secure space and act as the primary contacts for the event. BRC funding may not be secured by organizations that are not recognized.
6. Once fully recognized/reactivated, organizations will be expected to participate in student leader training sessions, Budget Review Committee Treasurers' workshops, and any leadership trainings & programs offered while they are active.
7. Interest groups/chapters must notify the Fraternity and Sorority Advisor concerning any recruitment/intake efforts that they may be planning. A list of events, dates, times, and locations are appropriate **prior** to their taking place.

ARTICLE III: Failure to Uphold Fraternity and Sorority Life Policies

1. Chapters and individual members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with this document, the fraternal standards, their governing council's bylaws, the Student Code of Conduct, the Student Organization Handbook, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal laws.
2. All alleged violations of policy or standards should be brought to the attention of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor and will be investigated for their validity.
3. During investigations, chapters may be placed on "Administrative Suspension" by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office pending investigations pertaining to violations of policy/ies.
4. Chapters and individual chapter members will be held responsible for violations of this document, the fraternal standards, their governing councils bylaws, the Student Code of Conduct, the Student Organization Handbook, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal laws as necessary.
5. Chapter violations of policy will be adjudicated by the IFC/MGC/NPHC/Panhellenic Council respectively. Judicial procedures for each of the councils will be followed as outlined in their own governing documents and as overseen by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor.
6. Sanctions may result per the IFC/MGC/NPHC/Panhellenic Council governing documents should violations of policy/ies occur.