

FRATERNAL STANDARDS

Northeastern University

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Fraternity and Sorority Relationship Statement

Northeastern University recognizes the positive contributions that fraternities and sororities make to the University community. The fraternity and sorority community at Northeastern University seeks to provide opportunities for student leaders to serve the community, cultivate leadership skills, be engaged in campus life, encourage academic excellence, and support a diverse community. We believe all of these endeavors enhance the collegiate experience of undergraduates while also contributing positively to the Northeastern University community as a whole. The intention of this document is to articulate the rights and responsibilities held by both fraternities and sororities at Northeastern University and to further enhance the growth and development of the fraternal community.

The fraternity and sorority community at Northeastern University is composed of several relationships. These are between the University, each chapter, their inter/national or local organizations, alumni/ae, and the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Multicultural Greek Council (MGC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), and Panhellenic Council respectively. Along with the privilege of being a recognized Fraternity or Sorority comes a responsibility to adhere to all Northeastern University policies particularly those listed in the Student Organization Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct. These policies as well as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal laws supersede the rules and procedures of fraternity and sorority chapters, their alumni/ae corporations, and their inter/national or local organizations. Fraternity and sorority chapters that are unable to operate within these policies and/or laws or adhere to guidelines will lose or be denied recognition as a student organization at Northeastern University. Recognition is needed in order to operate as a student organization at the University. Chapters and individual members are representatives of Northeastern University and the fraternity and sorority community at all times and have the duty to represent both favorably. An important way of accomplishing this objective is to abide by the standards and responsibilities set forth in this document as well as the Fraternity and Sorority Governing Document.

Fraternal Standards

In an effort to strengthen the fraternity and sorority community, Northeastern University recognizes the need to be clear in the articulation of expectations and responsibilities. The goal of these is to enhance and ensure the quality of the fraternal experience for members, individual chapters, and the University. The Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Council respectively are charged with ensuring that chapters are meeting the standards set forth below.

A. We set high values and standards

1. Each chapter must follow all Northeastern University policies, including those in the Student Organization Handbook, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal laws, Interfraternity Council/ Multicultural Greek Council/ National Pan-Hellenic Council/ Panhellenic Council rules, inter/national/ local organization's policies, its' own risk management policy, and their own code of conduct.
2. Each chapter must meet all administrative responsibilities within the prescribed deadlines including but not limited to:
 - ◆ completing the registration process, signing all anti-hazing acknowledgements, and submitting accurate chapter rosters and executive board information
 - ◆ providing membership data and inter/national/ local contact lists to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor as well as street addresses and telephone numbers of any chapter owned real estate

- ◆ notifying the Fraternity and Sorority Advisor prior to any fraternity or sorority organization's plan to buy real estate
 - ◆ providing a schedule of all prospective recruitment events to be reviewed by the appropriate governing council and/or the Fraternity and Sorority Advisor.
3. Chapters must follow the standard policies and procedures for all student organizations when organizing programs, events, and conducting general business. These guidelines can be found in the Student Organization Handbook.
 4. Chapters must maintain a strong relationship and be in good standing with their own inter/national/ local organizations and alumni/ae boards and keep both groups informed about chapter business and activities.
 5. Chapters must participate in the governance structure of the Fraternity and Sorority community IFC/ MGC/ NPHC/ Panhellenic, respectively. Participation includes being active and involved members of the councils and attending events sponsored by those bodies.
 6. Chapters must demonstrate support of the Fraternity and Sorority community by attending events and collaborating with other student organizations, most especially other chapters.
 7. Chapters must promote educational, leadership, and personal development programs to all members especially in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and brotherhood/sisterhood.

B. We provide a safe & healthy environment

1. Chapters must submit or have on file a risk management policy accepted and approved by their inter/national, local, alumni/ae organizations and with the Fraternity and Sorority Advisor. A recommended resource for drafting such a document is the Fraternal Information Programming Group (FIPG). In addition to this policy is chapters must present a certificate of liability insurance to the Fraternity and Sorority Advisor yearly. Chapters that own housing are encouraged to outline safety precautions for living accommodations.
2. When sponsoring chapter events or programs off campus, chapters must utilize a third party venue that can meet the guidelines set forth in the Student Organization Handbook and have a Northeastern University contract. Please familiarize yourself with contract and event guidelines. *Students may never sign a contract on behalf of their chapter and/or the University.*
3. Chapters must follow University standards for all events where alcohol is present. Individual members of the chapter must understand the Student Code of Conduct and commit to all established alcohol policies as well as Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal laws.
4. Executive Board members, including the chapter Risk Manager, must be actively involved in chapter events and programs.
5. Executive Board members are accountable for the actions of their chapter.
6. All chapter members have a duty and responsibility to intervene when others are at risk.
7. Chapters must implement a basic standards/judicial board as a means of "checks and balances" for the chapter's constitution, bylaws, ethics, and standards.
8. Chapters are highly encouraged to keep local/national/alumni advisors involved in chapter management. These individuals should also be kept informed about chapter events and be invited to attend chapter events and programs.

C. We recruit and develop value-centered leaders

1. Recruitment events or programs of individual chapters must follow the prescribed guidelines set forth by the appropriate governing council and/or the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.
2. All MGC and NPHC member organizations must complete a membership intake form indicating that the chapter will be conducting intake during that semester.
3. All IFC and Panhellenic organizations must have their recruitment events approved by the appropriate governing council.
4. Use of alcohol, drugs, and/or negative fraternity/sorority stereotypes will not be tolerated in advertising or in executing any recruiting event.
5. Chapters must provide (potential) new members with a statement of purpose/mission and discuss with these individuals the tenets on which the chapter was founded.
6. (Potential) new member rosters must be submitted to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office within one (1) week of bids being accepted.
7. Each chapter must provide a statement in writing to each (potential) new member which clearly indicates that the (potential) new member will not be called upon or required to participate in any activity that could be construed as hazing.
8. Chapters must provide (potential) new members with information about the financial responsibilities they will incur as members of the organization.
9. Each chapter must have approval for their new member education calendar of events, including any events arranged by alumni/ae or inter/national representatives.
10. Programs or events hosted for or with (potential) new members must follow the standard planning procedures for all student organizations and be reviewed with the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.
11. (Potential) new members must meet a minimum GPA requirement of 2.5 at the time they begin the recruitment process and prior to their initiation.
12. Each chapter must complete the initiation process within the same semester of issuing bids. Exceptions to this may be made but only with the knowledge and permission of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.
13. Executive Board members must play an active role in the new member education program.
14. All chapter members must understand what constitutes hazing under Commonwealth of Massachusetts law. No form of hazing will not be tolerated at any time.

D. We are fiscally responsible

1. Chapters must be in good standing financially with their inter/national/ local organizations, Northeastern University, IFC/ MGC/ NPHC/ Panhellenic Councils and outside vendors.
2. Chapters must follow University guidelines and procedures when utilizing funds from their SABO account/s.

3. Chapters must meet the criteria set forth in the Student Organization Handbook when fundraising. Funds raised must be tracked carefully and deposited into your Student Activity Business Office (SABO) account. Checks to charitable organizations must be requested from this account.

E. We achieve high academic success

1. Chapters must conduct their organizations in a manner that promotes the personal development and academic achievement of individual members.
2. Chapters must plan and/or participate in programs which enhance personal development and academic excellence, support the academic mission of the University, and encourage interaction with faculty.
3. Chapters must submit accurate rosters when requested. These reports will be used by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office to retrieve chapter/individual grade reports at the conclusion of both the Fall and Spring semesters.
4. Chapters must maintain a chapter term grade point average of at least a 3.0.
5. Chapters must put a scholarship program in place to support all members in their academic endeavors, this includes recognizing outstanding achievement and requiring a minimum level of academic achievement.

F. We make the campus & community a better place

1. Chapters must hold and/or participate in community service activities which contribute to the community and enhance personal development.
2. Chapters must have an average of at least 10 hours of service per member per semester.
3. Chapters must perform, at least, one philanthropic event per year which raises money for a community service agency/organization.
4. Chapters must at all times conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the surrounding neighborhood and community.
5. Chapters members must participate in at least 1 co-curricular activity or organization outside of the chapter.

G. We prepare our members for life

1. Chapters must actively seek ways to reach out to alumni/ae constituents.
2. Chapters must actively seek ways to teach members the importance of active alumni/ae involvement.
3. Chapters are highly encouraged to establish close working relationships with parents, alumni/ae, and campus and community leaders in order to contribute positively to their success.
4. Chapters must integrate the teachings and values contained in your Ritual and use them according to your inter/national/local organizations' recommendation.