



# INTERCULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL

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## EXPANSION POLICY

This document outlines the process for culturally-based fraternities and sororities to establish or reactivate a chapter at the University of Connecticut. The Intercultural Greek Council (IGC), formerly the Multicultural Greek Council, maintains an open, yet intentional, expansion policy and process. The IGC Membership Committee oversees all matters concerning expansion and examines the climate of the community to determine if expansion is advisable. All action with regards to expansion must be initiated and sanctioned by this committee. An organization may not establish a new chapter at the University of Connecticut (UConn) unless these guidelines are followed. However, completing the requirements outlined by this policy does not guarantee expansion at UConn.

### IGC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The IGC Membership Committee deals with all matters pertaining to expansion of the cultural Greek community and shall consist of, but is not limited to, the IGC President (Chair), chapter representatives as approved by the IGC Executive Board, and the IGC Advisor.

The purpose of this committee shall be to support the successful development of cultural fraternities and sororities at UConn and to ensure the longevity of all chapters. Therefore, the IGC Membership Committee shall:

- Examine the current conditions and historic trends of the Greek community in consideration for the expansion or reactivation of culturally-based fraternities and sororities at UConn and make recommendations regarding future expansion.
- Review the IGC *Expansion Policy* at the beginning of each semester for compliance with current IGC, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) and UConn policies and procedures.
- Guide interested students and organizations throughout the application process and provide information regarding IGC, OFSL, and UConn policies and procedures.
- Assist new chapters/colonies to become contributing members of the greater Greek community.

### IGC EXPANSION PROCEDURE

To be considered eligible to establish a chapter at UConn, under the IGC, an organization must be a national culturally-based or multicultural Greek-lettered organization. However, preference will be given to organizations that are affiliated with the National Asian/Pacific-American Panhellenic Association (NAPA), the National Association for Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), or the National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC). Organizations wishing to be considered must complete the following steps:

1. Contact the OFSL (For contact information, visit: [www.greeklife.uconn.edu](http://www.greeklife.uconn.edu))
2. Meet with the IGC Advisor
3. Submit an Application for Expansion (See "*Applying for Expansion*")
4. Present to the IGC
5. Gain University Recognition

## APPLYING FOR EXPANSION

Any organization wishing to establish a chapter at UConn must submit a complete *Application for Expansion*. Submission of the following materials to the OFSL shall constitute a complete application:

1. **Letter of Interest.** An official letter of interest on letterhead from the inter/national organization stating that organization has an interest in establishing a new chapter at UConn and (if applicable) has knowledge of an interest group at UConn.
2. **Letter of Petition.** A letter of petition explaining the purpose and intent of the organization and interest in affiliation with University of Connecticut, and a mission statement outlining the group's goals, outstanding characteristics, and potential benefits to the campus community.
3. **Letter of Support.** A letter of support, along with contact information, from an alumnus/alumnae of the organization agreeing to serve in an advisory capacity to a new chapter at UConn.
4. **Interest Group Roster (if applicable).** A roster of all UConn students who are interested in starting the chapter at UConn. Include each student's full name, contact information, year in school, major, and any leadership positions held on campus. All members must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA.
5. **Organizational Documents and Information:**
  - A. The following documents and information will be shared with the Membership Committee:
    - Background Information
      1. History of the Organization
      2. Membership Statistics
      3. Locations of Chapters
    - Proposed Chapter Constitution and/or Bylaws
    - Risk Management and other National Policies
    - National Standards – Expectations of Chapters/Members
    - Colonization/Chapter Reactivation Process and Requirements
    - Resources and Support Provided to Chapters  
*This should include any training and membership development or support programs offered on the national and/or regional level of the organization.*
    - Member Financial Obligations
    - Proof of Liability Insurance. Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.
  - B. The following documents and information will be shared with only the OFSL staff:
    - National Constitution/Bylaws
    - Code of Conduct
    - Recruitment and Membership Selection (Intake) Policy  
*This should include the minimum standards for a prospective member and the method for identify/recruiting new members.*
    - Complete New Member Education/Orientation Program
6. **Action Plan:** Provide a 6-12 month timeline, assuming that recognition is granted, for the affairs of the new chapter that take into consideration the national organization's expectations for chapters and the OFSL Project Arête Accreditation Program (<http://greeklife.uconn.edu/forms.html>).
7. **Submit:** A hard copy and electronic copy (if possible) of the completed *Application for Expansion* to the address to the OFSL (address found on last page). Concerns regarding the confidentiality of any documents should be directed to the IGC Advisor.

## PRESENTING TO THE IGC

Upon receipt of an *Application for Expansion*, the IGC Advisor will review the materials to ensure that all of the required information has been submitted. If components of the application are missing, the organization will be notified. If the application is complete, the materials (except for documents that are OFSL staff only) will be turned over to the IGC Membership Committee for review. The IGC Membership Committee will contact the national organization, via email, to schedule the presentation.

The presentation will be made before the IGC Membership Committee, OFSL staff, members of the UConn Greek community, and other university faculty/staff. All presentations must be lead by a member of the organization, interest group members are encouraged to attend, and must address the following, in addition to the information called for the in the application:

- *What makes the organization unique and what will it add to the UConn Greek community?*
- *Why does the organization wish to join the IGC? What will it contribute?*
- *How does the organization plan to meet the expectations of the IGC and OFSL (Project Arête)?*

Additionally, the presenters should be prepared to answer any other questions asked during the presentation. Following the presentation, the IGC Membership Committee will secure feedback from the individuals attending the presentation to make a recommendation regarding the presenting group. The organization will be contacted within ten (10) days of the presentation regarding the committee's final decision. **The IGC Membership Committee will determine the appropriate semester for chapter expansion given the current status of member organizations and campus trends. No more than one "like" group will be selected to expand in a given year.**

## GAINING UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

If the IGC Membership Committee supports expansion of the organization at UConn, the IGC Advisor will work with the national organization and the interest group (if applicable) to complete the recognition process. After which, the group will be entitled to all privileges associated with University recognition. It is expected that the organization and interested students will immediately begin to abide by all IGC, OFSL and UConn policies and procedures. Once the new chapter/colony has been established, the organization will automatically considered an associate member of the IGC and will begin working towards fulfilling the requirements for full membership.

If the IGC Membership Committee does not support expansion of the organization, the national organization will be notified of the reasons for the decision in writing. **Organizations that have not been selected cannot appeal this decision and must wait a full academic year before restarting the process.**

## EXPANSION OUTREACH

At the start of the IGC Membership Committee's term, the committee will evaluate the climate of the community. If the committee believes that the community would benefit from intentional expansion, the committee will identify and contact organizations (who are not currently going through the application process) that they would like to consider for expansion. Organizations that choose to partake in this request will then undergo the expansion procedure outlined above. If the organization is selected, the group will work with the IGC Membership Committee to plan informational meetings on campus until enough interest has been secured to establish an interest group.

## REACTIVATION OF DORMANT & CLOSED CHAPTERS

**If the University revokes recognition:** The fraternity/sorority will be eligible to reapply after the date as stipulated in the letter of separation. If a group is interested in returning to the University of Connecticut, the group must contact the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to discuss possible the re-activation/colonization. Groups permitted to return, will need to reapply for recognition in accordance with this policy as outlined above.

**If the Inter/National Organization closes the Chapter:** If the organization was in good standing at the time of closing, the fraternity/sorority must wait one full academic year before attempting to reestablish the Chapter. If the organization seeks to reestablish itself in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> semester after the Chapter closed, the organization will need to work with the IGC Membership Committee and the IGC Advisor to secure space until there are enough student members to re-register the group with the Student Activities Involvement Office. After four semesters, the organization will need to reapply for recognition in accordance with this policy as outlined above.

**If the Chapter becomes dormant (no active members):** If the organization was in good standing at the time it became dormant, the national organization will have four semesters from the start of the first semester that group went unregistered to reactivate the Chapter. The organization will need to work with the IGC Membership Committee and the IGC Advisor to secure space until there are enough student members to re-register the group with the Student Activities Involvement Office. After four semesters, the organization will need to reapply for recognition in accordance with this policy as outlined above.

## INTEREST GROUP POLICY

Approved inter/national organizations, if eligible, may form an official interest group in order to recruit students to assist in its establishment on campus. However, the interest group is prohibited from acting in any manner or hosting any events or meetings (including informational meetings) that would give the impression that the group is an official fraternity or sorority at UConn. Any event utilizing the name of the fraternity/sorority (including informational meetings) must be approved by the IGC Membership Committee and sponsored by the IGC or OFSL. Attendance must be taken at all meetings and must be submitted to the OFSL within 72 hours of the event. If after four semesters, the attempt to establish a chapter is unsuccessful, the IGC will rescind the invitation to expand and all efforts must be halted. Extensions may be granted by the IGC Membership Committee. **Failure to abide by this policy may jeopardize the organization's expansion at UConn.**

## APPLICATIONS & QUESTIONS

*Applications for Expansion* should be sent, hard copy, to:

**Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, IGC Advisor**  
University of Connecticut  
2110 Hillside Road, Unit 3008  
Student Union, Suite 203  
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3008

Questions can be directed to:

**IGC Membership Committee**  
[uconnigc@gmail.com](mailto:uconnigc@gmail.com)  
**IGC Advisor**  
(860) 486-4710  
[greeklife@uconn.edu](mailto:greeklife@uconn.edu)