

Social Fraternity & Sorority Recognition Policy

The University of Connecticut-Storrs (UConn-Storrs) supports the existence of a fraternity and sorority community because of the leadership, service, social, academic, and sister/brotherhood opportunities that these organizations can provide. These experiences allow students to develop skills and values that will inherently impact the lives they lead upon graduation. We believe that when fraternity and sorority chapters function in accordance with their stated mission and the mission of the institution, the entire campus community benefits from the involvement, leadership and service of its members.

As part of the Division of Student Affairs, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) values the contributions of registered student organizations that support the mission of the institution. In an effort to ensure that we have thriving and sustainable student organizations, the OFSL is committed to providing programs, services, and co-curricular opportunities that enhance student learning, engage students in their academic and University experiences, and prepare students for the world of tomorrow. Additionally, the OFSL oversees the four Greek governing councils (Interfraternity Council, Intercultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Council), and grants recognition to social fraternities and sororities (not professional or honorary).

Recognition is the formal process by which the OFSL determines whether a social fraternity or sorority may become a registered student organization through the Department of Student Activities (Student Activities) and avail itself of certain university privileges. University privileges may include the use of meeting and program space, on-campus solicitation and fundraising, and recruit students enrolled at UConn-Storrs for membership.

To become an OFSL recognized social fraternity or sorority at UConn-Storrs, an organization must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 1) Be an inter/national organization (incorporation, national officers, etc.)
Affiliation with a national umbrella organization (NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO, NMGC, NAPA, etc.) is preferred. However, special interest fraternities and sororities, not holding membership in one of these organizations, may also be considered at the discretion of the OFSL.
- 2) Hold a liability insurance policy (\$1 million minimum with UConn listed as additional insured).
- 3) Demonstrate the ability to meet all *Expectations of Recognized Fraternities and Sororities* as required by OFSL and Student Activities including but not limited to:
 - a. Achieve the minimum requirements of the *Chapter Accreditation Program* and the *Scholastic Standard*
 - b. Have at least eight (8) members enrolled at UConn-Storrs

Note: An official relationship with an organization begins and ends with a partnership between the OFSL and the inter/national organization. Therefore, students will not be able to form a fraternity or sorority unless this partnership has been established. Organizations must adhere to this policy and participate in an expansion/extension process as required by the respective Greek governing council in order to become a recognized organization at UConn-Storrs.

The OFSL does not recognize citywide or metropolitan chapters and thus, all chapters must be based and chartered exclusively at UConn-Storrs. Additionally, recognized fraternities and sororities must limit membership to currently enrolled students at UConn-Storrs.

Any organization or student seeking to establish a chapter at UConn-Storrs should contact the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Union 203, (860) 486-4710 or visit greeklife.uconn.edu for additional information and before conducting any activities on the UConn-Storrs campus.

Recognition Process

The OFSL has a defined process for groups seeking to join the UConn-Storrs fraternity and sorority community. Efforts made to establish a new chapter or colony outside of this process may jeopardize the organization's ability to gain recognition. The procedure for securing OFSL recognition is as follows:



1. Contact the OFSL

Interested organizations/students should contact the OFSL to inquire about the recognition process and to receive guidance on the appropriate Greek governing council membership process.

2. Application Process

Any organization wishing to establish a chapter at UConn-Storrs must submit the following information and any additional materials as requested by the Greek governing council for consideration:

- a. General Background Information (History, Membership Requirements, etc.)
- b. Proof of General Liability Insurance Coverage
- c. National Expectations, Standards, and Risk Management Policy
- d. Colonization and Chartering Requirements
- e. Details of Support Provided for Colonies and Chapters
- f. New Member Education/Membership Intake Program

3. OFSL Recognition

Organizations submitting a completed application and meeting the minimum requirements for recognition will be invited to make an on-campus presentation before the respective Greek governing council and members of the university community (faculty, staff, and students). The presentation should highlight the components of the application and address how the organization will sustain a new chapter at UConn-Storrs. Feedback will be secured from those attending the presentation and/or reviewing application materials to make a decision regarding recognition. Organizations will be notified in writing regarding this decision.

4. Student Activities Registration

OFSL will notify Student Activities when an inter/national organization has been invited to expand or return and will support the inter/national organization and student members throughout the new student organization registration process.

5. Council Membership

Upon becoming a registered student organization, an organization will be eligible to participate in its respective Greek governing council and will be expected to meet the expectations of its member organizations. All organizations must maintain membership with one of the four governing councils. Determination of the appropriate council will be made based on the following:

a. *Interfraternity Council*

Organizations affiliated with the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), and other inter/national general men's fraternities, can be considered for UConn Interfraternity Council (IFC) membership.

b. *Intercultural Greek Council*

Organizations affiliated with the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), National Asian/Pacific Islander-American Panhellenic Association (NAPA), National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC), and other inter/national culturally-based and special interest fraternal organizations, can be considered for UConn Intercultural Greek Council (IGC) membership.

c. *National Pan-Hellenic Council*

All historically African-American (Divine Nine) fraternities and sororities, affiliated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc., may be considered eligible to reactivate their UConn National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) membership.

d. *Panhellenic Council*

Organizations affiliated with the National Panhellenic Conference can only be considered for membership after fully participating in the NPC Extension Process. Other national general sororities and women's fraternities may be considered for UConn Panhellenic Council associate membership if eligible.

Expectations of Recognized Fraternities and Sororities

To maintain good standing and continue as a registered student organization at UConn-Storrs, all OFSL recognized organizations must meet the following expectations:

1. Sustain at least eight (8) student members enrolled at UConn-Storrs.
2. Select students, currently enrolled at UConn-Storrs, to serve as the following officers (per Student Activities): President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
3. Meet the minimum requirements of the *Chapter Accreditation Program* and the *Scholastic Standard*.
4. Maintain a current roster of all chapter members with the OFSL that includes full names, UConn Student ID Number and contact information.
5. Attend all required activities and meetings as required by the OFSL and Student Activities.
6. Adhere to all university policies as they pertain to fraternities and sororities, registered student organizations, and University of Connecticut students.
7. Meet any requirements and expectations set forth by the respective Greek council at UConn-Storrs.

Fraternity & Sorority Discipline

All recognized fraternities and sororities will be held accountable to high expectations as set forth by the OFSL, Student Activities, and their respective council. Concerns regarding fraternity and sorority conduct will be addressed through the Student Organization Conduct Process. Failure to meet expectations or for violations of policies, oversight bodies can impose sanctions, which may include the loss of privileges and/or recognition.