New Member Intake and Education Guidelines

New Member Education and Intake programs should prepare new (associate) members for membership in the organization and the greater fraternity and sorority community.

- Organizational Expectations and Policies
- History
- Culture, Values, & Ritual
- Traditions
- Leadership Development
- Promote Scholastic Success

New Member Educator Workshop
Typically, New Member Education and Intake programs are facilitated by undergraduate members of a fraternity or sorority. CFSD offers a New Member Educators Workshop each semester to help inform students about these university guidelines. Per the Expectations of Excellence, every fraternity and sorority is expected to send chapter president, vice president, and new member educator/intake officer to the New Member Educators Workshop each semester. The dates will be determined and published on the CFSD Calendar.

Duration of Program
New Member Education programs should not exceed a maximum of six (6) weeks and should be completed at least ten (10) class days prior to the last day of classes. A deadline for program completion will be set by the university each semester, typically two Sundays before the last day of classes, and posted on the CFSD calendar. If for some reason, an organization cannot complete the new member program, including initiation, within the timeframe established by the university, the organization should request special consideration at least two weeks prior to the deadline. Requests can be submitted to and approved by the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Development.

Location of Activities
All intake and new member education activities are to take place on the UConn campus. When requesting permission to move forward with intake/new member education activities, the organization should also submit evidence of space reservations. Organizations can also choose to host activities virtually online. In recognition that some organizations have activities and rituals that require being off-campus, an organization can request permission for off-campus activities.
UConn Anti-Hazing Policy
Hazing, defined as any activity without reasonable or legitimate educational value expected of someone for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional, psychological, and/or physical harm, regardless of a person's willingness to participate.

In cases of individual violators, appropriate disciplinary action may be imposed as outlined in the Responsibilities of Community Life: The Student Code. In cases where organizations have authorized such conduct, loss of privileges, temporary suspension of registration, or rescission or termination of registration may be imposed. Such penalties shall be in addition to any penalties pursuant to the penal law (Public Act Number 88-328) which violator or organization may be subject.

There are many ways to report hazing and other dangerous activities. To report hazing directly to the Office of Community Standards, please visit: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofConnecticut&layout_id=1

New Member Program Development
Some organizations provide flexibility to chapters to develop and/or modify the new member education program. Our team is available to coach chapter leaders in developing safe, sustainable, and effective new member educational experiences. Additionally, CFSD staff may be available to facilitate and lead educational experiences for new members upon request.

New Member Eligibility
Per the Fraternity and Sorority Recognition Policy, membership in fraternities and sororities is limited to UConn students. The recruitment and inclusion of non-UConn students is strictly prohibited and can jeopardize the organization's university recognition. The CFSD expects that chapters will establish chapter expectations and maintain inter/national requirements when selecting new members.

Per Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, fraternities and sororities shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services. Further, social fraternities and sororities are exempt from the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and may limit membership based on sex and gender.

University Requirements & Reporting
Prior to conducting any new member intake and education activities, an organization must be in good standing per the Expectations of Excellence. Each organization, in good standing, must submit a request to conduct Intake & New Member Education activities. A complete request will include:

● National New Member Education Program (Official Process)
● Chapter New Member Education Calendar
● Risk Management Program
● Contact Information for New Member Educator(s) & Chapter Advisor
● Confirmation of Reservations for all activity spaces
● Certificate of Insurance (Commercial General Liability Coverage with a minimum General Aggregate Limit of $1,000,000 (1 million) AND with the University of Connecticut named as an Additional Insured)

Within the first 10 days of the start of the New Member Education program, each organization must:

● Complete a New Member Report: https://greeklife.uconn.edu/new-member-report/ (roster of all new/associate members)
● Have all new/associate members join organization on UConntact and be added to the roster as "Associate Member". See: Roster Maintenance Guidelines: https://greeklife.uconn.edu/rosters/
● Have all new/associate members complete: All three (3) Prevent Zone trainings – (1) Hazing Prevention 101, (2) the Fraternity and Sorority Life Module, and (3) Brave & Bold Dialogues: https://uconn.prevent.zone/

Bid Day/New Member Presentations
All organizations advised through the CFSD must adhere to the following requirements when presenting new members (hereafter “presentation(s)”) to the Storrs campus community or hosting Bid Day activities. The university recognizes national organizations’ policies and guidelines and expect all chapters to be in accordance with their national policies.

General Guidelines

1. Presentations/Bid Day activities cannot be scheduled for the last week of classes or during Finals Week.
2. CFSD will establish a deadline for bid day activities/new member presentations and publish this date on the CFSD calendar. Typically, the deadline will be the Sunday before the last day of class.
3. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted by any person in attendance.
4. In the event of a fight or other altercation during the event, those fighting will be removed from the event immediately and the event will be stopped.
5. Organizations planning to host their event outdoors must have an inclement weather plan. Inclement weather for the purpose of this document is rain, snow or a weather forecast showing <50 degrees Fahrenheit, 3 days prior to the presentation. In the case of inclement weather, organizations must move the event into an indoor space on campus.
Bid Day Guidelines

1. Bid Day activities must take place no more than one week (7 calendar days) after member selection has concluded.

2. Only members and new members from the organization may be in attendance at the bid day event.

New Member Presentation Guidelines

1. New Member Presentations must take place no more than two weeks (14 calendar days) after the newest members have been initiated into the organization. Holiday breaks will not be included in the timeline.

2. New Member Presentations are not to be scheduled to take place on the same date as a previously planned presentation of another chapter within the same council. Please check with your council advisor for details.

3. Props to be used in the presentation must be approved (i.e. shields, staffs, masks, etc.). In general, blindfolds, bricks, and other symbols of “pledging and hazing” are not allowed.

4. Because of its public nature, all presentations should be considered family shows and should be done tastefully. Therefore, excessive vulgarity, profanity, and “dissing” of other organizations will not be tolerated.

5. All attire should be appropriate. No revealing attire is permitted.

6. Physical or suggestive abuse is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to: slapping, kicking, spitting, punching, pushing, poking, caning, etc. (Canes may be used as a part of the performance but may not be used as a weapon to harm or suggest harm to an individual.)

Failure to comply with the stated guidelines may result in the loss of future presentation and university privileges, disciplinary review from the respective governing council, CFSD, and possible referral to the Office of Community Standards. This Policy shall be reviewed and revised as necessary by CFSD to remain current with new standards of practice as recommended by the University, inter/national organization, and higher education best practices. Questions related to this policy should be directed to the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Development, greeklife@uconn.edu.