

DePauw University
Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Local Greek Organization Recognition Procedure

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life has developed a local Greek organization recognition procedure in an effort to provide support and direction for any student(s) interested in establishing a local Greek organization. Through the recognition procedure, local Greek organizations will receive all support and advising offered to our previously established Greek chapters as well as receive guidance through the rush/recruitment/intake process, themed housing selection, and individualized support from a full-time, professional staff member (Greek Life Coordinator). A student or group of students who are interested in establishing a local Greek organization must seek recognition from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life in order to receive support and endorsement.

Greek organization qualifications:

Greek organizations are a subset of recognized student organizations (campus groups that are initiated, organized, and run by students) which possess the following unique and fundamental qualities:

- ✓ They offer membership described as “brotherhood, sisterhood, siblinghood” where affiliation extends beyond the undergraduate college years.
- ✓ Their membership is restricted/exclusive/closed, in that the organization determines who will affiliate with their organization and in that members are not members of other Greek organizations.
- ✓ Their purpose is generally more social, philanthropic and academic than solely academic, athletic, service/philanthropic or focused on a special interest or talent.
- ✓ They have discretion to conduct subjective membership selection, where selection is mutual between student and organization.
- ✓ They have defined values that are set forth in their governing documents with the intent of living those set values.

(Modified from Dartmouth College’s Handbook and Policies for Coed, Fraternity, and Sorority Organizations.)

DePauw University Greek organizations qualifications:

Greek organizations at DePauw University must have the following additional qualifications:

- ✓ Collegiate membership of the organization is limited to DePauw University full-time, degree seeking students.
- ✓ Local Greek organizations adhere to all University policies and procedures regarding Greek organizations as well as all federal, state and local laws.
- ✓ Local Greek organizations have provided a proposal for recognition from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life as a Greek organization.
- ✓ Local Greek organizations are recognized by Student Congress. This process can happen before the organization is recognized by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, however the organization will not be classified as a Greek organization and thus, not receive support from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life until they have sought recognition.
- ✓ Local Greek organizations must meet the Residence Life and Housing Office to discuss housing options for members of the organization. Local Greek organizations should be housed within 2 years of the establishment of their chapter. Local Greek organizations that are not recognized by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will not be eligible for group housing.

Steps to establish a local Greek organization:

Organizations interested in receiving recognition from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will need to complete a recognition application. Students seeking recognition of their organization need to submit their recognition application to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life may limit the number of local Greek organizations recognized in a given year to provide for the success of each local Greek organization established.

The local Greek organization recognition application will include the following materials:

*Please provide the documents, at one time, in the order they are listed.

- Written statement of intent to establish a local Greek organization
- Governing and Recording Documents including, but not limited to a Constitution and Bylaws
- Current membership roster (identifying initial members of organization)
- Current chapter officer roster
- Current advisory board roster
- Completed application to become a recognized student organization
- Outline of action plan for compliance with the Greek Standards Initiative
- Description of relationship with existing Greek councils
 - Whether or not to join, in full or part
 - Seek to set up broader council
- Description of intended recruitment process, and timetable of new member education program (if applicable)
- Anti-hazing statement with action plan for ongoing hazing education
- Evidence of meeting with a Greek Life Coordinator regarding your proposal and governing documents

The proposal will be reviewed within one week of submission by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Members of the organization will have a meeting with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to review the materials and to provide any clarifying information requested no later than two weeks after the submission of the recognition application.

Local Greek organization colony status:

Local Greek organizations will be at colony status for the two years of their recognition by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. After the first year of the colony status and again one month prior to the end of the colony period, there will be a meeting between the chapter leaders and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to determine if the chapter has successfully met the following requirements:

- Recruited and retained 10 active members.
- Received verification from University Residences that themed housing is an option in the next year.
- Carried out the plan set forth in their original proposal for recognition.