



DEPAUW UNIVERSITY

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Frequently Asked Questions about Fraternity & Sorority Life

Why Fraternity and Sorority Life at DePauw?

DePauw University has a long and proud history of fraternity and sorority life on campus. Two National Panhellenic Conference organizations founded at DePauw, and our Greek community dates back to 1845 when the Delta chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity was established here. Over the years, a number of organizations have joined our community, ranging from National Pan-Hellenic Organizations, Multicultural Greek sororities, a local organization, Panhellenic women's fraternities and IFC organizations. Today, just under seventy percent of DePauw students belong to a fraternity or sorority, making DePauw one of just a few colleges in the country that have such a strong and flourishing Greek community.

What are the benefits to joining a fraternity or sorority?

Greek-letter organizations were founded on the principles of leadership, service, scholarship and brother/sisterhood. Students today find that fraternity and sorority life provides opportunities to get involved within the community and on campus, develop lifelong friendships, gain valuable leadership experience and achieve success academically.

How do I/How does my student join a fraternity or sorority?

Students can join a fraternity or a sorority at DePauw University in a few different and unique ways:

- NPHC does not sponsor a rush for the Historically Black Greek Lettered Organizations although they do host "Meet The Greeks" each fall so students can learn more about each chapter and ask questions about joining. Each fraternity and sorority recruits new members independently, and students can learn more by attending interest sessions, attending each organization's functions, and talking with current members.
- If students are interested in joining a Panhellenic women's fraternity or an IFC men's fraternity, their formal recruitment process takes place after Winter Term. Both Panhellenic and IFC organizations coordinate their individual processes, where each fraternity/sorority host events that allows potential members the opportunity to get to know the members and determine which organization is the best fit for them.
- Another option for membership for IFC and Panhellenic Organizations is called C.O.B. (Continuous Open Bidding). In C.O.B., students who are sophomores, juniors or seniors can join a fraternity or sorority organization during the fall semester or in the spring semester after the formal recruitment process under certain circumstances for Panhellenic and IFC organizations. There is no formal process for C.O.B.; each organization recruits independently if they chose to do so.

When is does MGC or NPHC Recruitment and/or Intake occur?

MGC and NPHC organizations recruit independently and on their own timelines. If you would like more information about this process, please contact Campus Living and Community Development at glc@depauw.edu.

When does Panhellenic Recruitment occur?

Panhellenic Recruitment occurs at the conclusion of Winter Term through the first weekend of second semester. If you would like more information about this process, please contact Campus Living and Community



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Development at glc@depauw.edu, refer to the Panhellenic Council webpage or e-mail panhellenic@depauw.edu to get in touch with your community's Rho Gamma.

When does IFC Recruitment occur?

IFC Recruitment occurs at the conclusion of Winter Term through the first weekend of second semester. If you would like more information about this process, please contact Campus Living and Community Development at glc@depauw.edu.

Why doesn't IFC and Panhellenic Recruitment occur in the fall semester?

DePauw University made the decision to defer these recruitment processes in 1999, taking place at the start of the spring/second semester. Deferred recruitment allows first year students the opportunity to better transition to the University, adjust to college level course work, meet friends outside of the Fraternity and Sorority community, join other campus organizations and form a strong community in their residence halls before deciding if fraternity and sorority life is for them.

How much does membership in a fraternity or sorority cost?

There are costs associated with Fraternity and Sorority life and it is important to get the facts before deciding to join as financial responsibility is a serious point of membership.

For all fraternities and sororities, membership dues support the chapter operational expenses, social functions, and national fees. New members can expect to pay higher dues their first semester for additional national costs (new member and initiation fees, badge cost, etc.). Additional – and often optional – costs through the semester may include t-shirts, pictures, etc. Most chapters offer payment plans and some even offer scholarships to help make financing Fraternity and Sorority life reasonable for anyone who wishes to join.

House corporations – not DePauw – own the Panhellenic and IFC Greek houses, so each individual organization determines the costs for living in their facility. However, room and board in the chapter houses is, on average, similar to what the University charges for students living in University-owned housing. In addition to room and board cost, each chapter also assesses dues to their members.

What are the requirements for joining a fraternity or sorority?

Any student wishing to join a fraternity or sorority on campus must meet DePauw University, Council-specific as well as inter/national requirements for membership.

- Men and women wishing to join a MGC/NPHC organization must:
 - Be in good standing with the University
 - Be at least a second semester first-year student and meet all expectations of the inter/national organization for membership
- Women wishing to participate in Panhellenic Association formal recruitment must:
 - Have a 2.5 G.P.A.
 - Disciplinary records must be free of recruitment restrictions
 - Be at least a second semester first-year student
- Men wishing to participate in IFC formal recruitment must:
 - Have a 2.5 G.P.A.



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- Disciplinary records must be free of recruitment restrictions
- Be at least a second semester first year student

Are letters of recommendation needed for recruitment?

Women participating in the Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment may submit recommendations to individual sororities if they choose, although requirement varies from individual organizations. Letters of recommendation are typically written and submitted by alumnae of specific Panhellenic organizations. Alumnae wishing to submit a recommendation should obtain the proper form from a sorority's headquarters and then submit the recommendation directly to the chapter leadership. Information on chapter-specific leadership can be found on the organization's inter/national webpage.

How are these organizations supported and advised?

Campus Living and Community Development (CLCD) professional staff are employed by the University and work directly with the undergraduate governing councils (Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and Panhellenic Association) as well as the undergraduate chapter leadership and alumni advisor/advisory board. CLCD is a part of the Student Life division and falls under the direction of the Dean of Students.

Each chapter also has an advisor or advisory board that provides guidance to the students in all areas of chapter operations. Most live locally or within a reasonable drive and have frequent contact with the chapter officers and membership.

IFC and Panhellenic organizations that own their chapter houses have a live-in House Director who is responsible for the day-to-day oversight of the facility, menu planning, addressing maintenance concerns and – in some cases – facilitate plans for response to emergency management. The House Director is employed by the local housing corporation that oversees the general up-keep of the house, facilitates room and board contracts and manages finances.

Students themselves play a large part in the management and leadership of their own chapters. Officers are elected each year and are responsible for living up to the standards and expectations the University, inter/national organization and alumni advisor/advisory board have of them. Fraternity and sorority life provides many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills and learn important life skills such as working with individuals from various backgrounds and communication skills development.

What if I have additional questions?

If there is anything else that we can assist you with, please contact the Campus Living & Community Development office by calling 765.658.4062 or e-mailing us at glc@depauw.edu.