

The purpose of this document is to reaffirm the relationship between University of North Georgia and the almost 150 years of rich Fraternity and Sorority life history recognized by the University. The University's continued commitment to fraternal life is based upon the significant opportunities these organizations provide their members in the areas of personal and social growth, in academic and intellectual development, and in the acquisition of leadership skills and community service. The successful achievement of these standards will require mutual and reciprocal commitments from both the University and the Fraternity and Sorority Organizations.

University of North Georgia

University of North Georgia, through the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office, is committed to fostering a positive co-curricular experience for those students who choose to affiliate with a Fraternity and Sorority Organization. It is the desire of all involved that the Fraternity and Sorority community be given every opportunity to reach its fullest potential. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life will assist the chapters in meeting the standards of the University, individual Inter/National organizations, and alumni chapters by providing resources and support in the areas of:

1. Advising
 1. The University has expressed its commitment to the Fraternity and Sorority Life community by assigning an administrator responsible for working with Fraternity and Sorority organizations, including but not limited to the Interfraternity Councils, National Panhellenic Council, Order of Omega, and Fraternity and Sorority Judicial Board.
 2. The University will assist chapters in finding faculty/staff/alumni chapter advisors as well as provide training and resources to such volunteers.
2. Administration
 1. The University will retain accurate minutes of past Council meetings, updated chapter and council rosters, term GPA reports, and updated constitutions and bylaws.
 2. The University will assist the Panhellenic and Interfraternity councils in investigating allegations of misconduct by fraternities and sororities and facilitate due process in judicial matters along with the help of the Office of Student Integrity.
 3. The University, through correspondence, meetings, conferences, and telephone contact will maintain cooperative relationships with local alumni and the professional staff and volunteer officers of the international organizations represented at University of North Georgia.
 4. The University will develop criteria, policies, and procedures for the establishment and recognition of chapters in conjunction with all the Fraternity and Sorority Governing Councils.
3. Recognition
 1. The University will regularly identify and recognize the positive endeavors of the University of North Georgia Fraternity and Sorority Life community and encourage both individuals and chapters to notify the University of awards, achievements, and community relations events.

2. Creating and distributing University of North Georgia Standards of Excellence and evaluating the results.
4. Academics
 1. The University will provide the means to promote, support, and evaluate scholarship as an integral part of Fraternity and Sorority Life as well as develop a system of services to enhance the attainment of the educational and developmental goals of the chapter.
5. Membership Development
 1. The University will provide information to Fraternity and Sorority organizations regarding University policies, procedures and regulations as well as state and local laws affecting fraternities and sororities.
 2. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life is expected to act as a consultant to councils and chapters in their organizational development including: officer training, constitution and bylaw review, financial assessments, and crisis intervention training and response.
 3. The University will organize and assist councils and chapters in organizing leadership, educational, and developmental programs including retreats, workshops, and seminars.
 4. The University will provide support in new member recruitment and education processes.
6. Service
 1. The University will assist chapters and councils in identifying service projects and develop and promote Fraternity and Sorority Life annual community service and philanthropy efforts.

Fraternity and Sorority Letter Organizations

Members of the Fraternity and Sorority community have an obligation to themselves and the University to assume responsibility for actions, behaviors, and attitudes of membership. To maintain good standing, chapters must follow the guidelines set forth by the governing councils and University of North Georgia's Student Handbook, Responsibilities, and Disciplinary Procedures, as well as the policies of the Student Activities Office. Recognizing that Fraternity and Sorority organizations may be held to higher standards than the general student body, the following basic standards have been established to assist each chapter to reach its fullest potential:

1. Academic Excellence
 1. Each fraternity and sorority will develop scholarship programs that reflect the commitment to academic excellence in their organizational purpose and that will challenge members to achieve academically, provide scholastic support, and recognize both improvement and excellence in performance.
 2. Chapter members will share responsibility for the academic performance of initiates and new members and examine activities that detract from academic success.
2. Citizenship
 1. All chapter members and affiliates are expected to speak and act with respect for the human dignity of others.

2. Each fraternity and sorority is expected to adhere to the University policy on non-discrimination and select their members without regard to race, color, religious creed, national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, or age.
3. All chapter members will practice and promote good neighborhood citizenship and conduct consistent with the high values and ethics based on the purposes and principles of fraternity and sorority founding.
4. Those with fraternity and sorority official/nonofficial houses, to maintain respect for community mores and consideration for others, should provide for maintenance of the chapter house and yard, exhibit noise control, and adhere to proper parking arrangements.
3. Leadership and Campus Involvement
 1. Each fraternity and sorority will present campus involvement opportunities to its members on a regular basis and is encouraged to co-sponsor events with non-Fraternity and Sorority student organizations.
 2. Chapter members are strongly encouraged to be actively involved with other, non-Fraternity and Sorority organizations.
4. Inter/national Organization Relationship and Alumni/Advisor Participation
 1. Each fraternity and sorority will support the ideals and standards set forth by its inter/national organization and demonstrate a strong commitment to upholding the basic values upon which it was founded. Relationships with individual alumni, advisory boards, and alumni organizations should be actively strengthened.
5. Community Service
 1. In addition to participation in philanthropies recognized by each chapter's inter/national organization, all chapter members must demonstrate a commitment to serving both the University and the Schenectady community. Although fundraising is an integral part of philanthropy, it is the expressed desire of the University that all Fraternity and Sorority students take an active role in providing service to the community.
6. Fraternity and Sorority Relations
 1. All chapters will work with each other to promote the standards, ideals, and benefits of Fraternity and Sorority membership and to build alliances with members of the University faculty, staff, community, and non-Fraternity and Sorority students.
 2. Each fraternity and sorority is encouraged to develop positive promotions for chapter events that well represent their membership and the Fraternity and Sorority system.
7. Risk Management
 1. The university has zero tolerance for the illegal use of drugs, controlled substances, sexual abuse, and hazing. All chapters will educate their members on and follow closely a) FIPG, b) Anti-Hazing Policies c) the Risk Management policies as established by their national organizations, d) University policy, e) state and local laws. Violations may result in loss of university recognition as well as personal sanctions against individuals concerned.
8. Housing
 1. Each fraternity and sorority will ensure that their property (official or unofficial) which is occupied by the organization, complies with the applicable state and

local housing and fire codes and provisions of the University and their national headquarters' risk management policy. The exterior physical appearance should be maintained and should not appear unkempt or disorderly to the public (e.g. adequate removal and storage of trash, well-groomed landscaping, appropriate outdoor furniture).

9. Membership Recruitment and Development

1. Focus on the continued education and development of all initiated and new members should be implemented. Chapters will regularly sponsor educational programs that enrich knowledge, understanding, and skills for academic success, personal development, and exercise of leadership.

10. Administrative Responsibility

1. Positive overall chapter management requires strong organizational skills and financial practices. Each chapter must take seriously the importance of accurate and timely administrative duties.

*The value of Fraternity and Sorority Life for students who choose to participate is the merging of almost every segment of the campus community into one cohesive program – self governance, leadership development, academic achievement, service learning, social activities, housing, alumni relations, citizenship, and education. If the University, the local chapters, and the national organizations work together to foster the development of the Fraternity and Sorority community and embrace the mission of University of North Georgia, Fraternity and Sorority letter organizations will provide a unique and distinguished opportunity to the University student.