



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

Chapter Expectations Policy

CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS POLICY

The Chapter Expectations Policy outlines the minimum standards of recognition for University of Maryland fraternity/sorority chapters. The goal of this policy is to support recognized chapters as they live out their fraternity/sorority principles, values, code of conduct and creed; a chapter that follows these expectations will be recognized, in good standing on all levels, and eligible to apply for awards.

Each recognized chapter at UMD is part of a diverse and vibrant fraternity and sorority community of local, national and international chapters. Many of our chapters hold membership with The National Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Panhellenic Association (NAPA), The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), The National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC), The North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), or The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC). A central goal of this reimagined policy is to increase equity and inclusion, and foster appreciation for the diverse expressions of fraternity and sorority at UMD.

Our Guiding Philosophy for the recognized chapters in our community is based on the following six tenets:

- Values Congruence
- Individual Responsibility
- Peer Accountability
- Interconnectedness
- You have a choice/decision
- Have fun doing it

Chapter Expectations is an opportunity for chapters to enact these six tenets while building a better community for all. There are two Chapter Expectations categories: Administrative and Wellness Education. The Administrative expectations help chapters maintain consistent and effective communication with all stakeholders, and effectively manage chapter operations. The Wellness Education requirements help chapters effectively respond to campus and national issues, prioritize student health and safety, increase community civility and receive structured support and guidance. These expectations are strategically designed to be equitable and achievable for chapters of all sizes, without arbitrary numbers or deadlines, or excessive and redundant forms.

We believe that fraternities and sororities have the potential to be the most transformative part of the college experience, and our mission is to do everything we can to make that happen.

CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS OVERVIEW

Administrative Requirements:

- a. Student Organization Resource Center (SORC) Registration
- b. Department of Fraternity and Sorority Life (DFSL) Information Update (semesterly)
 1. Contact Information (Name, Email Address, Phone Number)
 - Alumni Advisor
 - Chapter President
 - Vice President
 - New member educator
 - Diversity and Inclusion Chair
 - Chapter Expectations Chair
 - Academic Chair
 - Sexual Assault Prevention Chair
 - Risk Management Chair
 - National Organization Representative (National Board Representative, Chapter Services Officer, Regional Director, etc.)
 2. Insurance Policy (minimum of \$1,000,000)
- c. Semesterly Membership Rosters (including active and new members)
- d. Annual Report

Chapters with a residential facility must also complete the following:

- a. Residential Facility Registration (semesterly; found in DFSL Information Update)
 1. Contact Information (Name, Email Address, Phone Number)
 - Resident Director or House Director
 - House Corporation
 2. Signed lease agreements for President and House Manager

Wellness Education Requirements:

- a. Chapter Wellness
 1. Monthly meeting with Chapter Coach
 2. Annual Meeting with Chapter Coach and Alumni Advisor following leadership transition
 3. Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Summit attendance
 4. New Member 101 (if applicable)
 5. Officer Trainings
 - Intake Coordinator/New Member Educator Workshop
 - Sexual Assault Prevention Chapter Liaison Training
 - Diversity & Inclusion Chair Training
 - Risk Management Chair training
- b. Community Wellness Programming
 1. Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD)
 2. Hazing Prevention
 3. Diversity & Inclusion (D&I)
 4. Sexual Assault/Violence Prevention & Awareness
 5. Mental Health and Wellness
 6. Community Service

ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Chapters are expected to satisfy all requirements to meet the minimum standards

Successful administration of a fraternity or sorority is crucial for member development and community impact. Additionally, effective communication and record keeping provides DFSL staff with an accurate understanding of chapter progress. The goal of administrative requirements is to maintain clarity, consistency and transparency for all stakeholders.

Student Organization Resource Center (SORC) Registration

Registration and renewal for new and returning student organizations are done through TerpLink. [This document](#) includes checklists of what you need to do to complete the registration process.

DFSL Information Update

The DFSL Information Update is also completed through TerpLink. Please submit your insurance policy as a .pdf file..

Semesterly Membership Rosters

Membership rosters are collected at the beginning and end of each semester. Please update your roster on the Google Sheet shared by your council advisor.

Annual Report

The annual report is presented during the Spring semester to a panel of DFSL staff and campus partners. Format for the presentation and questions to address will be shared at the beginning of the spring semester. The presentation and written questions must be submitted through TerpLink, and allows chapters to give an overview of their progress throughout the academic year. Chapters will also be required to submit an official letter of standing from their inter/national organization or national board.

Residential Facility Registration (housed chapters only)

Residential Facility registration is completed through TerpLink. Both the chapter President and the House Manager are required to live in the residential facility. As proof, signed lease agreements for both officers must be submitted. Please submit signed lease agreements as pdf files, and contact information as excel files.

WELLNESS EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Chapters are expected to satisfy all requirements to meet the minimum standards

The development of individual members is a primary goal of fraternities and sororities. Providing opportunities for members to reach their academic goals, experience new opportunities, build community, and realize their individual potential are important initiatives for chapters. The goal of community wellness programming is twofold: first, to enhance the experience of the members in each chapter; and second, to improve the relationships between fraternities and sororities and the campus and local communities.

CHAPTER WELLNESS REQUIREMENTS (*Chapters must fulfill all five requirements*)

Actively participating in meetings, programs, and events on campus is a significant part of developing a supportive community. The chapter wellness requirements provide chapter leaders with training and support that will help them manage daily chapter operations. Attendance at the following is mandatory:

Monthly Meeting With Chapter Coach

Chapter Presidents must meet monthly with their Chapter Coach. These meetings will provide the President with personal support as well as support planning programs, addressing member concerns and risk management issues, and communicating with other stakeholders.

Annual Meeting With Chapter Coach And Alumni Advisor

Each chapter must complete an Annual Meeting with their Chapter Coach during the semester that their chapter transitions leadership positions. This meeting should include the alumni advisor, and at least 75% of the chapter executive board.

Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Summit Attendance

Each year in the fall and spring, DFSL hosts the Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Summit (FSLs). At this day-long conference, students will build community, strengthen their leadership skills, and work on community-wide issues.

Fall & Spring New Member 101 Sessions

Each semester, DFSL hosts a number of New Member 101 sessions for chapters educating and initiating new members. The entire new member class or intake class must attend the session as scheduled in collaboration with chapter leadership.

Council Officer Trainings

Intake Coordinator/New Member Educator Workshop

Fraternities and sororities often struggle to identify appropriate activities for new members and interests to participate in as part of the new member program. Therefore, in order to be approved to conduct new member education, each chapter must send their Intake Coordinator/New Member Educator to this workshop if the chapter plans to conduct new member education in a given semester.

Sexual Assault Prevention Chair Training

Each chapter is required to send at least one person each semester to a chapter liaison training for sexual assault prevention. This training will teach participants about sexual assault prevention, as well as resources on campus.

Diversity & Inclusion Chair Training

Each chapter must send at least one person each semester to attend diversity and inclusion chair training. This training will provide ideas and resources for educating about diversity and inclusion in the chapter and beyond.

Risk Management Chair Training

Each chapter is required to send at least one person each semester to attend risk management chair training. This training will focus on risk management for the chair's respective organization and the DFSL community as a whole.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS REQUIREMENTS: (*chapters must fulfill all six requirements*)

Ideally, chapters will host or collaborate on programs. In general, collaboration means helping to plan and implement a program; **financial contributions alone will not satisfy this requirement.** Chapters may also attend programs and events that are hosted by outside groups to fulfill these requirements. For the six (6) mandatory programming categories, at least 90% of the chapter membership must attend a single program or a minimum total of 90% of the members must participate in multiple programs over the course of the year.

Program Evaluation forms should be completed and submitted via TerpLink for each program, and will be evaluated by staff members in the department. Chapters will be required to upload an agenda, the slides, a facilitator guide, or other evidence of the content that was delivered to the chapter. Additionally, chapters will be required to upload additional documentation and can choose between a roster of attendees or photo of the event.

Chapters are encouraged to host or attend programs that will simultaneously fulfill Chapter Expectations requirements and inter/national organization requirements. Please review the Chapter Expectations resource guide to view learning outcomes for each of the community wellness programming categories.

Chapters with a membership total below 10 members are encouraged to collaborate with their chapter coach to develop an action plan for fulfilling the requirements in this document or request flexibility with the chapter expectations requirements.

We encourage programs that are led by (or done in collaboration with) knowledgeable facilitators and speakers, such as a national organization representative, national/regional speaker, staff/faculty at UMD.

Alcohol And Other Drug (AOD) Education Program

Misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) is a constant challenge for college students. This program should help educate members about the effects and negative consequences related to AOD.

Hazing Prevention Program

The new member education or intake process sets the foundation for the fraternity or sorority experience. This program should help ensure a positive and safe new member process that excludes hazing practices by

Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Program

This program should enhance the chapter's knowledge, awareness, or skills and stretch members to consider different perspectives and experiences around areas such as race, religion, ability, sexual orientation, etc.

Sexual Assault/Violence Prevention & Awareness Program

Sexual assault and relationship violence are significant problems in the world, and specifically on college campuses. This program should help chapters demonstrate a commitment to eradicating these issues.

Mental Health And Wellness

Mental health is crucial to student success and overall well-being. Through this program, students will be able to highlight key focuses for their chapter around mental health and learn how to respond to chapter members in need while reducing social stigma of mental illness.

Community Service

Chapters are expected to create opportunities for each of their members to engage in at least five (5) hours of service each year. Community service is defined here as **direct, hands-on service (ex: volunteering at a homeless shelter, being a tutor, mentoring children, etc.)** as opposed to philanthropy/fundraising, which is not considered a fulfillment of this expectation. **Participation in chapter philanthropy events, campus events such as TerpThon, or hosting drives (food, clothing, etc.) do not fulfill the requirements of this expectation.**

RECOGNITION STATUS

Chapters are expected to satisfy all requirements as outlined in this policy. Failure to do so may result in a change in recognition status. At the conclusion of each academic year, the Recognition Review Board will holistically assess each chapter's progress and performance. Each chapter will receive a Recognition Letter prior to the start of the academic year that outlines their status as *Recognized* or *Probationary Recognition*. Chapters who do not satisfy requirements will be placed on a probationary status which will include an individualized chapter support program and may include social restrictions.

For more information, please refer to the *Policy on Recognition of Sororities and Fraternities*.

PERIODIC REVIEW:

This Policy will be evaluated on a periodic basis.