UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF SORORITY & FRATERNITY AFFAIRS

FLORIDA GREEK STANDARDS ACCREDITATION PROGRAM
FOR SOCIAL SORORITIES AND FRATERNITIES

Social sororities and fraternities are student organizations that have an extensive and pronounced history at the University of Florida. Social sororities and fraternities are values-based organizations founded on a variety of distinct, yet central guiding principles. Through the ideals of friendship and personal growth, social sororities and fraternities promote the highest standards of scholarship, leadership, service and community.

The United States Department of Education has established guidelines and criteria necessary to be classified as a social sorority or fraternity (which includes a provision that allows an organization to operate as a single-sex organization). In keeping with the criteria established by the Department of Education, the University of Florida classifies social sororities and fraternities as organizations that:

- Do not limit membership to persons pursuing or having interest in a particular field of study, profession or academic discipline
- Do not serve as honorary societies for academic, leadership, or any other endeavor
- Do not permit members to hold membership in other social sororities or fraternities.

In addition these organizations must also:
- Have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code
- Limit membership to currently enrolled students at the University of Florida.

Social sororities and fraternities shall exist at the University of Florida as registered student organizations and shall be classified as social sororities and fraternities, governed by policies established by the Division of Student Affairs and administered through the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs (OSFA).

The governance structure established by the University of Florida includes student input and participation. Student input and participation is accomplished in part through authority delegated by SFA to designated student governing councils. Social sororities and fraternities must abide by applicable university policies, regulations, and procedures governing student organizations, as well as policies, guidelines, and procedures established by OSFA and the designated governing councils.

FLORIDA GREEK STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Florida Greek Standards Accreditation Program (FGS) is a set of guidelines and achievements that establishes minimum operating standards for social sororities and fraternities at the University of Florida, as well as opportunities for demonstrating success above and beyond the minimum expectations.

Based on the community's tenets of scholarship, leadership, service and community, this program is designed to identify and encourage high ideals, principles, and standards critical to the success of each organization and its members. The FGS was originally created as simply a minimum standards program. Florida Greek Standards has since been updated as an accreditation program and its development included input from university staff, students, chapter advisors and other important members from the community and fraternal movement. Through the accreditation assessment, the accomplishments and progress of each chapter can be monitored relative to meeting the established standards and opportunities for excellence.

In addition to complying with all applicable University rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, social sororities and fraternities at the University of Florida are expected to maintain accreditation by achieving the necessary requirements contained in the FGS. The FGS is divided into eight sections. Each section is described below along with requirements and recommendations for success for organizations.

Section One: Scholarship

Social sororities and fraternities must be committed to the ideal of academic achievement and success. Organizations must affirm that scholarship is the most important aspect of the college experience.

To facilitate a successful scholarship program, chapters are encouraged to recruit one or more faculty members or alumni/alumnae to serve as scholarship advisor(s). A scholarship advisor assists the chapter in achieving the requirements of the Scholarship Section of the FGS and promotes a culture committed to scholastic excellence within the organization.

Requirements
1. Chapter must maintain a semester chapter GPA of at least 2.85 for both active and new members.
2. Chapter must elect or appoint a Scholarship Chair.

Additional Opportunities
1. Chapter has a Scholarship Advisor. For full credit, the Scholarship Advisor must meet with (in person or on the phone) a member of OFSA at least once each academic year.
2. Chapter maintains an overall (active and new members combined) semester GPA of 3.0 or above.
3. Chapter maintains an overall (active and new members combined) semester GPA above the All Greek Average for that semester.

> **Suggested Role of Scholarship Advisor:**
> 1. Assist the chapter in creating a scholarship plan
> 2. Meet with new members each semester to review their academic progress
> 3. Assist with developing a scholarship recognition and academic incentives program for the chapter
> 4. Assist with individual members who are in need of academic guidance

Section Two: Service

Social sororities and fraternities value service and philanthropy. Individual members of organizations are encouraged to demonstrate selfless service and embrace the opportunity to give back to the community through their organization. Through service and philanthropic initiatives, members gain a deeper understanding of their individual value system and develop a sense of civic responsibility. Organizations are encouraged to exceed the minimum requirements defined by the FGS. Active members as well as new members are encouraged to participate in service activities; chapters should not have new members (pledges) be responsible for more than their share of service efforts.

Service projects identify issues within the community and address them through direct, hands-on interventions, activities, or programs. Examples of service include tutoring children, serving food at a soup kitchen, and/or building a Habitat for Humanity house. More ideas can be found through the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs and the Center for Leadership and Service, www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu.

Philanthropy projects gather resources needed to address an issue within the community. Examples of philanthropic projects include raising money for a specific community service need, conducting a clothing or canned food drive, blood drive, or coordinating the collection of school supplies for children.

Requirements
1. Chapter must elect or appoint a Service Chair.
2. a.) Chapter must complete at least two service projects and at least one philanthropy project (philanthropy project coordinated by chapter; not participating in another chapter's event) with at least 25% of the chapter participating per project per semester (fall and spring semesters).

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OR

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   b.) Chapter must complete at least four service projects with at least 25% of the chapter participating per project per semester.

Additional Opportunities
1. Chapter completes a service or philanthropy project (philanthropy project coordinated by chapter; not participating in another chapter's event) with at least 50% of the chapter participating per project per semester.
2. Chapter completes additional service or philanthropy projects (philanthropy project coordinated by chapter; not participating in another chapter's event) beyond requirement with at least 25% of the chapter participating per project per semester.
3. Chapter participates in another chapter's philanthropic event (no minimum percentage of chapter members required).

Suggested Role of Service Chair:
1. Organize chapter service projects/philanthropies
2. Collaborate with other chapters as needed to facilitate cooperative programming and effective program management
3. Be knowledgeable of and maximize use of available university resources to aid in successful delivery of service to the community

(*Helpful Hints*):
- Choose a community service project or philanthropy that a <u>majority</u> of chapter members are affected by and/or are passionate about
- To enhance the service experience, take time as a chapter to reflect on the activities and the community impact
- Consider participating in joint-service projects with other organizations from different councils

Section Three: Leadership

Social sororities and fraternities provide opportunities for members to become involved in their chapters, the University, and the community. The experiences gained through involvement play an instrumental role in the personal growth and maturation of individual members. These leadership experiences can be rewarding and can also provide a foundation for future success as they allow students to obtain invaluable practical experience and transferable skills.

<u>Requirements</u>
1. Chapter president must attend annual Greek Advance leadership retreat.
2. Chapter must host/conduct at least one seminar, guest speaker, and/or presentation on a leadership topic each semester with at least 50% of chapter membership in attendance per program per semester. *Note: for at least one of the semesters, the program must be a based on a cultural competency topic.*

<u>Additional Opportunities</u>
1. Chapter sends required attendees to any of its regional/state/(inter)national leadership training programs or convention on an annual basis. If the organization does not have an annual leadership opportunity, the chapter may send appropriate representation to a general fraternal leadership experience such as the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute or other comparable program provided prior approval is obtained from SFA.
2. Chapter has members participate in at least one campus-based leadership development opportunity. Examples of campus-based leadership opportunities can be found by consulting with the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Affairs staff or visiting the Center for Leadership and Service website: www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu.
3. Chapter has representation in Greek leadership positions outside of the chapter such as Florida Greek Ambassadors, council (or Order of Omega) executive board, council position (non-executive), Order of Omega membership (non-exec), and state, regional or national Greek leadership role. Pi Chis are not included.
4. Chapter president enrolls in the Greek Leadership Class (Fraternity/Sorority Communities and Leadership).

Section Four: Community

The social sorority and fraternity community consists of more than 6,000 students, which is approximately 20% of the University of Florida undergraduate population. Belonging to the sorority/fraternity community at UF means that we share similar values and goals in our organizations and for individual members. It is vital for the success of the community that we continue to build a cohesive relationship and remain partners in all endeavors.

Requirements
1. Chapter must collaborate with at least one other registered student organization to plan and implement a program at least once per academic year. The co-sponsored program may be educational, service/philanthropic, or social (alcohol-free) in nature. Exchange dinners will not count to satisfy this requirement. A program or event that counts toward another standard in this policy can count here.

   The following will be required as part of the annual registration process with the Department of Student Activities and Involvement:
2. Chapter must be a recognized/active member of one of the four governing councils (Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or Panhellenic Council).

Additional Opportunities
1. Chapter implements a co-sponsored program that is educational, service/philanthropic, or social (alcohol-free) in nature in addition to the minimum standard. Exchange dinners will not count to satisfy this requirement.

Section Five: Alumni/Alumnae Relations

Many social sororities and fraternities attribute the rich history of their chapters generally to their alumni/alumnae. Alumni/alumnae serve critical roles such as advisors, trustees, members of house corporations, and financial contributors. In order to maintain a positive relationship with alumni/alumnae and further the principles of sisterhood/brotherhood, the following are requirements:

Requirements
1. Chapter must organize and host one alumni/alumnae event per year such as Founder's Day, Initiation, Homecoming event, etc.
2. Each chapter must elect or appoint an Alumni/Alumnae Chair.

Additional Opportunities
1. Chapter creates and submits a newsletter to their alumni/alumnae, outlining the chapter's achievements for that semester. Electronic newsletters or other online method of communication will be acceptable.

Section Six: Risk Management

The physical and emotional well-being of individual members as well as the financial security and reputation of the individual chapter are of great importance to the success of any social sorority or fraternity at the University of Florida.

All chapters shall adhere to all local, State, and federal laws, University regulations and policies including the Student Code of Conduct, and policies of the respective governing council. Violations will be subject to the Greek conduct process among other possible actions from the University.

Requirements
1. Chapter Presidents, Social Chairs and Risk Management Chairs must attend Social/Risk Management Training, hosted by SFA, at the beginning of each semester.
2. Chapter must document that it has an Internal Judicial System allowing the organization to address inappropriate behavior, hold members accountable, and create high standards of ethical conduct. This is submitted as part of the annual organization registration process at the beginning of each fall semester.
3. Chapter must participate in two or more alcohol-free social events each semester. The event may be a closed sisterhood/brotherhood function or be co-sponsored with another registered student organization. Exchange dinners will not count to satisfy this requirement.
4. Chapter must host/conduct at least one seminar, guest speaker, and/or presentation concerning bystander intervention, alcohol, drugs, hazing, sexual assault prevention and/or similar topic each semester, where 50% of chapter is in attendance per program per semester.
5. 75% of the new member class must participate in a training program which focuses on bystander intervention, alcohol, drugs, hazing, sexual assault prevention, and/or similar topic provided during the new membership process or during that semester of their initiation.

    The following will be required as part of the annual registration process with the Department of Student Activities and Involvement:
6. Chapter must be knowledgeable of its organization Crisis Management Plan (provided by Inter/National Office, House Corporation, or others). That chapter must also acknowledge that it is knowledgeable of the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs Supplemental Crisis Management Plan. This acknowledgment will be part of the annual organization registration process at the beginning of each fall semester.
7. Chapter must maintain liability insurance in the amount of $1 million for un-housed chapters and $2 million for housed chapters. Copies of up-to-date certificate of insurance must be filed with SFA. This is submitted as part of the annual organization registration process at the beginning of each fall semester, or when certificate expires.

Section Seven: Administrative Affairs

Administrative affairs are vital to the success of the social sorority and fraternity community. Through effective chapter management and communication with OFSA, sororities and fraternities can be viable and integral partners with the University and surrounding community.

Requirements

1. Chapter must maintain accurate contact information for the chapter leadership, chapter advisors, house director (if applicable), and house corporation (if applicable) with OFSA.
2. Chapter must maintain an active chapter advisor or chapter advisory board. If the chapter has an advisory board, one person should be designated as the primary chapter advisor and should meet the requirements as defined below in "Role of Chapter Advisor."
3. Chapter must maintain the online chapter roster (managed by OFSA) by the required dates (in the fall, spring, and summer).
4. Chapter president must conduct a one-on-one meeting with his or her council advisor (OFSA staff member) at least once per year.
5. Each chapter advisor must conduct a one-on-one meeting at least once per academic year with the appropriate OFSA staff member.
6. Chapter New Member Educator and Chapter President must attend the appropriate Outcomes Workshop (*Outcomes of New Member Education, Outcomes of New Member Intake*) prior to or shortly after conducting recruitment/intake each semester.
7. Each chapter must submit all required membership intake/new member education paperwork (e.g. New Member Report Form, Anti-Hazing Commitment, etc.) to OFSA by the required date(s).
8. Chapter must abide by the University's initiation/intake window: new members must be initiated within 8 weeks of beginning of process and no later than 2 weeks before the last day of class.

Role of Chapter Advisor:

An active, involved chapter advisor or advisory board is a key ingredient to a successful chapter. Accordingly, each chapter must have a chapter advisor who either lives or works within the immediate Gainesville area and who has the support of the chapter's Inter/National office. If the advisor is an alumna/us of the sorority or fraternity, she/he must be at least three years removed from her/his undergraduate chapter experience [unless a specific exemption is granted by the University in conjunction with the (Inter)National organization]. The advisor should have the relevant experience necessary to provide the chapter and individual members with continuing advice and support. The advisor should agree to:

1. Attend most chapter meetings
2. Attend Chapter Advisor meetings scheduled by OFSA
3. Communicate regularly with OFSA advisors
4. Assist with chapter-sponsored events and programs
5. Work closely with the chapter executive board in the execution of their duties
6. Assist the chapter in preparing and implementing chapter budgets, goals, event management, and crisis management procedures
7. Stay abreast of relevant University policies, guidelines, and procedures
8. Stay abreast of the rules and regulations of the Inter/National organization

OFSA shall work with chapters to locate potential chapter advisors and will provide additional resources toward training and development for advisors.

Section Eight: Facility Management (if applicable)

Facility management, when properly executed, ensures a residential environment that is safe and secure, conducive to learning, and is aesthetically pleasing within the larger University community.

Requirements
1. Chapter with a recognized live-in facility must be in compliance with the Chapter Facility Policy for Social Sororities and Fraternities.
2. The chapter facility must maintain a Level 1 or Level 2 rating for each Fire Safety Inspection.

ACCREDITATION PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

On an ongoing basis, chapters will report and/or submit to the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs completion of or compliance with the standards described in this policy. The process of collecting and recording completion of standards will be defined by OFSA. Upon the end of each academic year (summer semester through spring semester), OFSA staff will assess all registered University of Florida social sororities and fraternities for chapter accreditation. The assessment will be based upon the chapter's completion of the minimum requirements and additional opportunities for excellence as outlined in this policy. OFSA will set a deadline each semester by which all submissions are due.

After assessment, each chapter will receive an official designation, directly reflecting that particular chapter's achievement for the previous academic year. The chapter will maintain that designation until the next review at the close of the following academic year. Chapter presidents will receive official notice from OFSA of their chapter's designation.

In practice, chapters who receive certain designations will have the opportunity to receive allowances or be eligible for awards as determined by the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs, and the Greek governing councils.

PROGRAM DESIGNATIONS

Chapter of Excellence

Chapters with this designation have met the minimum requirements in the categories of scholarship, leadership, service and community. These chapters have earned at least 90% of the possible allotted points through achieving Florida Greek standards and/or the additional achievements. These chapters have gone above and beyond the expectations of social sororities and fraternities, demonstrating excellence through the milestones outlined in Florida Greek Standards.

Noteworthy Chapter

Chapters with this designation have met the minimum requirements in the categories of scholarship, leadership, service and community. These chapters have earned at least 80% of the possible allotted points through achieving Florida Greek standards and/or the additional achievements. These chapters met and exceeded expectations for social sororities and fraternities, as outlined in Florida Greek Standards.

Accredited Chapter

Chapters with this designation have met the minimum requirements in the categories of scholarship, leadership, service and community. These chapters have earned at least 70% of the possible allotted points through achieving Florida Greek standards and/or the additional achievements. These chapters have met the expectations for social sororities and fraternities as outlined in Florida Greek Standards.

Provisional Chapter

Chapters that fail to meet minimum requirements in any one of the categories of scholarship, leadership, service and community will automatically be considered a provisional chapter. Chapters in this category may also have earned less than 70% of the possible allotted points through achieving Florida Greek standards and/or the additional achievements.

Provisional chapters will be required to meet with the Florida Greek Standards Review Committee at the end of the assessment period in the spring. The chapter will be required to create, and present, a corrective plan of action to the Committee. The committee will then recommend to the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs what actions should be taken with the chapter.

FLORIDA GREEK STANDARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

When a chapter achieves the status of Provisional Chapter, the organization shall be referred to the Florida Greek Standards Review Committee. This committee shall consist of a professional staff member from OFSA (not the Director of the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs); the each council's Executive Vice President; two student members from the Greek Conduct Committee (must be from two different councils). The Executive Vice President of the council in which the organization is a member shall serve as chairperson of the committee during that organization's scheduled meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Vice Presidents to coordinate the review meeting schedule. These meeting should occur prior to the end of the spring semester.

The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs will provide information to each council Executive Vice President regarding those chapters in poor standing for that year. The Executive Vice President shall convene the committee and schedule meetings with the chapter leadership of those Provisional Chapters. Chapter advisors, house corporation board members and/or the house director may be requested to attend the meeting by the Executive Vice President and/or by the chapter. The purpose of the meeting is to afford the chapter leadership the opportunity to provide information to the committee as to why the chapter did not meet expectations/ accreditation and to discuss and collaborate on necessary actions or strategies for the chapter to achieve and maintain compliance.

After the meeting, a recommendation of corrective measures will be forwarded to the Director of the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs. The Director will review the recommendations and make a final determination relative to the corrective actions that chapter must take.

If a chapter fails to meet expectations outlined in this policy for two or more consecutive years, the Florida Greek Standards Review Committee may make a recommendation for loss of registration. If cancellation of registration occurs, the organization must work with the OFSA and the appropriate governing council to return to campus upon demonstration of a strategy to meet and maintain FGS standards as well as any terms and conditions as may be deemed appropriate by the Director of the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs.

Note: If a chapter is found responsible for violating the UF Code of Conduct, points will be removed from that chapter's overall score. The penalty points will be deducted during the assessment term (summer-spring) in which the violation occurred. If the conduct process is not concluded by the end of the assessment term (i.e. by the end of the spring assessment deadline) for that violation, points will be retroactively deducted. If the chapter then falls in Provisional Chapter status and the review committees have already been conducted, that chapter will undergo a review conducted by a OFSA staff member and that chapter's Council EVP only.

Accreditation Rubric

Scholarship
Maximum Points Calculated: 300

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Active Mem. Sem. GPA 2.85 or above	100	200
Scholarship Chair	25	50

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
Scholarship Advisor	5	10
Overall Sem. GPA 3.0 or above	10	20
Overall Sem. GPA above All Greek Ave.	10	20

Scholarship Penalties	Semester	Yearly
NM GPA below 2.85	-25	-50

Points can be combined. For example, a chapter with an overall semester GPA above the All Greek Average for a semester can receive 100 for active member GPA above 2.85 + 10 for being above 3.0 + 10 for being above average = 120.

Service
Maximum Points Calculated: 220

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Service Chair	20	40
Service (S)/Philanthropy (P)	40	80

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
50% Participation (S) or (P)	20[1]	40
Additional project (S) or (P)	15[2]	30
Participation in another chapter (P)	15[3]	30

Leadership
Maximum Points Calculated: 245

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Greek Advance	N/A	25
Leadership Program	25	50

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
National Leadership/Conference[4]	N/A	10
Leadership Development	25[5]	50
Florida Greek Ambassadors	10[6]	20
Council Exec Board	10[7]	20
Order of Omega	15[8]	30
Council Non-Exec	10[9]	20
State/Regional/National Leadership	5[10]	10

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[1] Maximum of four at five points each per semester. Project can count toward minimum standard, plus receive additional points for having 50% attendance.
[2] Maximum of three at five points each per semester
[3] Maximum of three at five points each per semester
[4] Attendance at only one program or conference will count
[5] Maximum of five programs at five points each per semester
[6] Maximum of two members at five points each per semester
[7] Maximum of two members at five points each per semester
[8] Maximum of three members at five points each per semester
[9] Maximum of two members at five points each per semester
[10] Maximum of one at five points per semester

Greek Leadership Class	N/A	10

Leadership Penalty	Semester	Yearly
Failure to Attend Greek Advance	N/A	-10

Community
Maximum Points Calculated: 60

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Co-Sponsor Event	N/A	30

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
Additional Co-sponsored event	15[11]	30

Alumni/Alumnae Relations
Maximum Points Calculated: 60

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Alumni Event	N/A	30
Alumni Chair	10	20

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
Newsletter	5	10

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[11] Maximum of three events at five points each per semester

Risk Management
Maximum Points Calculated: 80

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Social/Risk Management Training[12]	10	20
Internal Judicial System	N/A	20
2 Alcohol-Free Events[13]	10	20
Education Program	10	20

Risk Management Penalty	Semester	Yearly
Conduct Violations (Found Responsible)[14]		-200 Per Incident
No NM Program or Attendance Under 75%	-10	-20

Administrative Affairs
Maximum Points Calculated: 95

Requirements	Semester	Yearly
Complete Chapter Information and Paperwork[15]	10	20
Active Advisor	N/A	20
Accurate Chapter Roster	5	15
President 1:1	N/A	20

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[12] All required members must be in attendance to receive credit.

[13] All or nothing; no half credit for only one alcohol-free event.

[14] Penalty will be imposed at the time that the chapter is found responsible. The penalty points will be deducted during the assessment term (summer-spring) in which the violation occurred. If the conduct process is not concluded by the end of the assessment term (i.e. by the end of the spring assessment deadline) for that violation/incident, points will be retroactively deducted.

[15] Includes providing all required chapter information and New Member paperwork as described in Administrative Affairs section.

Advisor 1:1	N/A	20

Administrative Penalties	Semester	Per Incident
Not completing admin tasks by deadline (i.e. paperwork)	N/A	-5
Not attending NM Outcomes	-5	-10
Not submitting all NM forms	-5	-10
Not Following Intake Window	-5	-10

Facility Management
Maximum Points Calculated: 15

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Yearly
Level 1 Fire Safety Score	5	15

Facility Penalties	Semester	Yearly
Not Meeting Facility Compliance	-10	-30
Receiving Fire Safety Failing Score	-10[16]	-30

Accreditation Status	Point Values
Chapter of Excellence	900 – 1000
Noteworthy Chapter	800 – 899
Accredited Chapter	700 – 799
Provisional Chapter	Below 700

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[16] Only for the semesters in which students are occupying the house.