

Florida Greek Standards Accreditation Program

2020 - 2021

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FLORIDA GREEK STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS

The Florida Greek Standards (FGS) is a set of guidelines that establishes minimum operating standards for social sororities and fraternities at the University of Florida, as well as identifies and encourages high ideals, principles, and standards critical to the success of each organization and its members. The FGS was created with input from university staff, students, chapter advisors and other individuals from the community. Through the chapter score card, the accomplishments and progress of each chapter can be monitored relative to achievement of established standards.

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 meet or exceed all 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.

For the purpose of continuing this program in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been several modifications to the program for the 2020-2021 school year as detailed below:

- The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs highly encourages all chapters to conduct virtual meetings and events, but in the case that it is not, it is strongly advised to follow all safety and social distancing guidelines.

- All chapters are expected to adhere to state and local guidelines and mandates and follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Additionally, chapters are expected to follow University of Florida guidelines and expectations for the fall semester. Especially for events such as Community Collaboration and Alcohol-Free socials, and more.
- This guidance may change as the virus develops and research emerges. An event hosted on campus is expected to following the “[Campus Events and Gathering in Response to COVID-19](#)” policy at minimum.
- It is also required that any event in person requires pre-registration with contact information 15 days before the event as well as attendance at the event with contact information to support the contact tracing process, if needed.
<https://eventservices.ufsa.ufl.edu/coronavirus/studentactivities/>

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 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.

The following requirements are established to further scholastic achievement among individual members of organizations:

Requirements

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

Additional Opportunities

1. Each chapter successfully recruits a Scholarship Advisor.
2. Overall chapter GPA above 3.0
3. Chapter maintains an overall semester GPA above the All Greek Average for that semester.

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 those in need of academic assistance and/or advice regarding academic program requirements.

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 Florida Greek Standards. 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 at the Center for Leadership and Service, www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu.

In the event that chapter members would prefer to complete their service hours virtually, this link provides resources for some virtual service opportunities: http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/virtual_services/

Philanthropic 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, or coordinating the collection of school supplies for children.

Requirements

1. a.) Chapters shall complete **at least two service projects and participate in at least one philanthropy project** (coordinated by chapter; not participating in another chapter's event) with at least **15% of the chapter** participating per project per semester (fall and spring semesters)

OR

b.) Chapters shall complete **at least four service projects with at least 15% of the chapter** participating per semester.

2. Each chapter must elect or appoint a Service Chair.

Additional Opportunities

1. Chapters complete additional service or philanthropy projects than minimum required

2. Chapters participate in another chapter's philanthropy/philanthropic event
3. A minimum of two chapter members attend non-administrative office-related events

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 such as the Center for Leadership and Service to aid in successful delivery of service to the community

(Helpful Hints):

- Choose a community service project or philanthropy that a majority 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.

The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs highly encourages all chapters to conduct virtual meetings and events, but in the case that it is not, it is strongly advised to follow all safety and social distancing guidelines.

Requirements

1. Each chapter president must virtually attend annual Greek Advance leadership conference.
2. Chapter programming shall include **at least one** seminar, guest speaker, and/or presentation on a leadership topic each semester with **at least 15% of chapter membership in attendance at one program**

Additional Opportunities

1. Chapter sends required attendees to its regional/state/ (inter)national leadership training or convention (virtual) on an annual basis.
2. Chapter has members participate in at least one campus-based leadership development opportunity.
3. Chapters that have representation in various Greek-related leadership positions outside of chapter.
4. Chapter presidents enrolled in the Greek Leadership Class

Section Four: Community

The social sorority and fraternity community consists of in excess of 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.

The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs highly encourages all chapters to conduct virtual meetings and events, but in the case that it is not, it is strongly advised to follow all safety and social distancing guidelines.

Requirements

1. All chapters must be recognized by one of the four governing councils (Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or Panhellenic Council).
2. All chapters **must collaborate with at least one other registered student organization** to plan and implement a program at least once per year (during fall or spring semester). The co-sponsored program may be educational, service/philanthropic, or social (alcohol-free) in nature. Exchange dinners will not count to satisfy this requirement.

Section Five: Alumni Relations

Many social sororities and fraternities attribute the rich history of their chapters generally to their alumni. Alumni serve critical roles such as advisors, trustees, members of house corporations, and financial contributors. In order to maintain a positive relationship with

alumni and further the principles of sisterhood/brotherhood. The following are requirements:

Requirements

1. Each chapter shall organize and host **one alumni event per year**.
2. Each chapter must elect or appoint an Alumni Chair.

Additional Opportunities

1. Chapter creates and submits a newsletter to their alumni, outlining the chapter's achievements for that semester

Section Six: Risk Management

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.

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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. To promote such an environment, the following are required:

Requirements

1. Chapter Presidents, Social Chair and Risk Management Chair **must attend** Social/Risk Management Training at the beginning of each semester.
2. At the beginning of each academic year, each chapter shall **document that it has an Internal Judicial System** allowing the organization to address inappropriate behavior and create high standards of ethical conduct.
3. Chapter **must participate in two or more alcohol-free social events** each semester. The event may be a closed sisterhood/brotherhood function (please note that

exchange dinners must include some type of programming in order to satisfy this requirement).

4. Chapter programming shall include at least **one seminar, guest speaker, and/or presentation** concerning bystander intervention, alcohol, drugs, hazing and/or sexual assault each semester, where **15% of chapter is in attendance**
5. **75% of the new member class** must participate in training which focuses on alcohol, hazing, sexual assault, or similar topic, provided during the new membership process or during that semester of their initiation.
6. Each 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.

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 SFA, sororities and fraternities can be viable and integral partners with the University and surrounding community.

Requirements

1. Each chapter **must maintain accurate contact information** for the chapter advisor, , house director (if applicable), and house corporation (if applicable) with SFA.
2. Each chapter **must maintain an active chapter advisor** or chapter advisory board as defined in the Florida Greek Standards.
3. Each chapter **must update the online chapter roster by the required dates** (in the fall, spring, and summer).
4. **Each chapter president must conduct a one-on-one meeting with his or her council advisor** (SFA staff member) at least once per academic year.
5. **Each chapter advisor must conduct a one-on-one meeting** at least once per academic year with the appropriate SFA staff member.
6. Each new member educator and chapter president must attend the appropriate Outcomes Workshop 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.) by the required date(s).

8. **Each 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 is a key ingredient to a successful chapter. Accordingly, each chapter shall 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. The advisor shall be an alumnus of the sorority or fraternity and 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 shall agree to:

1. Attend most chapter meetings
2. Attend Chapter Advisor meetings scheduled by SFA
3. Meet with staff from SFA at least once per academic year
4. Assist with chapter-sponsored events and programs
5. Assist the Scholarship Advisor in the promotion of scholarship
6. Work closely with the chapter president, treasurer, risk manager, social chair, and new member educator in the execution of their duties
7. Assist the chapter in preparing and implementing chapter budgets, goals, event management, and crisis management procedures
8. Stay abreast of relevant University policies, guidelines, and procedures
9. Stay abreast of the rules and regulations of the Inter/National organization

SFA shall work with chapters and their Inter/National organizations 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. Each chapter with a live-in facility must be in compliance with the Facility Policy for Social Sororities and Fraternities.
2. The facility must maintain a Level 1 or Level 2 rating for each Fire Safety Inspection.

Role of House Corporation:

An active, involved house corporation is a key ingredient to a successful chapter residential facility. Accordingly, each chapter shall have a house corporation officer who either lives or works within the immediate Gainesville area, and who has the support of the Inter/National organization. The house corporation shall ensure the completion of and/or shall agree to:

1. Complete all paperwork with the Internal Revenue Service and State of Florida to be an incorporated entity in good standing
2. Establish costs for living in the house, meal plans, and out-of-house fees as well as bill for and collect the referenced funds (use of a professional accountant or collection agency is acceptable)
3. Hire, supervise, and train the House Director in accordance with appropriate policies
4. Ensure compliance with the University of Florida Social Sorority and Fraternity Facility Policy
5. Attend House Corporation meetings scheduled by the SFA
6. Submit an annual Emergency Management Plan for the facility
7. Submit contact information for the representative from the House Corporation who will serve as liaison to SFA on maintenance and facility issues as required by the Facility Policy for Social Sororities and Fraternities
8. Submit a copy of the House Director's employment contract, which should include all requirements as outlined in the House Director Policy
9. Submit on an annual basis a copy of the rules and regulations governing residents and guests of the chapter facility along with the process by which violations are addressed including sanctions that may be imposed

Accreditation Program

On an ongoing basis, chapters will report and/or submit to SFA after completion of or compliance with the standards described in this policy. The process of collecting and recording completion of standards will be defined by SFA. Upon the end of each academic year, SFA will evaluate all registered University of Florida social sororities and fraternities for chapter accreditation. The evaluation will be based upon the chapter's completion of the minimum and additional requirements, as outlined in the FGS. Sorority and Fraternity Affairs will set a deadline each semester by which all requirements must be complete and submitted.

After review, 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 SFA, with 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 Sorority and Fraternity Affairs, and the Greek Policy Advisory Committee.

Program Designations

Chapter of Excellence

Chapters with this designation will have completed at least 90% of the possible amount of points through FGS and the additional benchmarks. These chapters have met and gone above and beyond the expectations of what it means to be a Florida Greek, effectively demonstrating expertise in each area.

Noteworthy Chapter

Chapters with this designation will have completed at least 80% of the possible amount of points through FGS and the additional benchmarks. These chapters met and exceeded the minimum expectations for social sororities and fraternities, as outlined in FGS.

Accredited Chapter

Chapters with this designation will have completed at least 70% of the possible amount of points through FGS and the additional benchmarks. These chapters must also have satisfactorily achieved and/or maintained the minimum standards of FGS.

Provisional Chapter

Chapters with this designation will have earned less than 70% of the possible amount of points through FGS and the additional benchmarks.

Poor Standing

Chapters that fail to meet minimum requirements in the categories of scholarship, leadership, service and community will automatically be considered in poor standing. Chapters in poor standing will be required to meet with the Florida Greek Standards Review Committee. The chapter will be required to complete, and present, a corrective plan of action to the Committee. At that point, the committee will determine what actions will be taken from that point.

NOTE:

Chapters that are found to be responsible for violating the Student Conduct Code will not be able to achieve a rank higher than Provisional Chapter for the year in which they are found responsible.

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 the SFA (not the Director of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs); 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 meeting.

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 chapters in poor standing. 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 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 Sorority and Fraternity Affairs. The Director will review the recommendations and make a final determination relative to what the chapter must do to meet expectations.

If a chapter fails to meet expectations 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 SFA 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 Associate Director for Sorority and Fraternity Affairs.

Accreditation Rubric

Scholarship

Maximum Points Calculated: 300

Requirements	Yearly
2.85 GPA Active	200
Scholarship Chair	50

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

Scholarship Penalties	Yearly
Sub 2.85 GPA	-50

Service

Maximum Points Calculated: 220

Requirements	Yearly
Service Chair	40
Service/Philanthropy	80

Additional Opportunity	Yearly
Additional project (S) or (P)	60
Participation in another chapter (P)	30
Participation in Office related events	10

Leadership
Maximum Points Calculated: 245

Requirements	Yearly
Greek Advance	25
Leadership Presentation	50

Additional Opportunity	Yearly
Order of Omega	30 ¹
Greek Leadership Class	10
Leadership Development	50
Council Exec Board	20
Florida Greek Ambassador	20
Council Non-Exec	20
State/Regional/National Leadership	10

¹ Five points, per inductee; maximum of three

Greek Leadership Class	10
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Community
Maximum Points Calculated: 60

Requirements	Yearly
Co-Sponsor Event	30
Additional Opportunity	Yearly
Additional co-sponsored event	30

Alumni Relations
Maximum Points Calculated: 60

Requirements	Yearly
Alumni Event	30
Alumni Chair	20
Additional Opportunity	Yearly
Newsletter	10

Risk Management
Maximum Points Calculated: 80

Requirements	Yearly
Social/Risk Management Training	20
Internal Judicial System	20
2 Alcohol-Free Events	20
Education Program	20

Risk Management Penalty	Per Incident
Conduct violations (Found Responsible)	-200
No NM Program or Attendance under 75%	-10

Administrative Affairs
Maximum Points Calculated: 95

Requirements	Yearly
Complete Chapter Information and Paperwork	20
Active Advisor	20
Accurate Chapter Roster	15
President 1:1	20

Advisor 1:1	20
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Administrative Penalties	Per Incident
Not completing admin tasks by deadline	-5
Not attending NM Outcomes	-10
Not submitting all NM forms	-10
Not following Intake window	-10

Facility Management
Maximum Points Calculated: 15

Additional Opportunity	Semester	Per Incident
Level 1 Fire Safety Score	5	15

Facility Penalties	Semester	Yearly
Not meeting Facility Compliance	-10	-30
Receiving Fire Safety Failing Score	-10	-30

Point Distribution

Accreditation Status	Chapter without House
Chapter of Excellence	900+
Noteworthy Chapter	800 – 900
Accredited Chapter	700 – 799
Provisional Chapter	600 – 699
Poor Standing	Below 600