

State University of New York at Geneseo
Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
POLICY ON REGISTRATION OF FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

I. Definition:

Fraternal organization is defined as any group, social, service, civic, or professional in nature, That:

- a. Utilizes Greek letters in its nomenclature, with the exception of honor societies; or
- b. Maintains single-sex membership; or
- c. Has organization norms consistent with fraternal organizations such as but not limited to: ritual ceremony of initiation, membership recruitment and selection, big brother/big sister, brotherhood, sisterhood, or siblinghood, new member education/orientation/pledging, wearing letters.

II. Registration:

To be eligible to receive consideration for College privileges, services, and resources, as outlined in SUNY Geneseo and Greek Organizations Statement of Relationship: Rights and Responsibilities, fraternal organizations must hold registered status. Registration is granted at the discretion of the Vice President for Student Life or designee upon demonstrating that the organization is responsibly managed, fiscally reliable, a responsible steward of College and community property, and a constructive member of the College community that reflects the College's highest ideals. Registration will not be granted/extended unless the organization:

- a. Has filed an Application for Expansion with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and a Continuing Registration Form with the Department of Student Engagement;
- b. Has a minimum of four (4) currently enrolled SUNY Geneseo undergraduate members, in the case of continuing registration. Exceptions may be recommended to the Vice President for Student and Campus Life by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, on a case-by-case basis; and,
- c. Has a minimum group GPA of 2.25 in the case of continuing registration; and,
- d. Is in good standing with its inter/national headquarters. Local fraternal organizations recognized by the College prior to June 1, 2012 are exempted from this requirement.
- e. Has reasonably complied with the Student Code of Conduct, Student Organization Handbook, and SUNY Geneseo and Greek Organizations Statement of Relationship: Rights and Responsibilities. New fraternal organizations must demonstrate a capacity to uphold these policies.

All new fraternal organizations seeking registration on or after June 1, 2012 must have inter/national status.

New organizations seeking registration must also:

- a. Demonstrate the existence of sufficient, inter/national organization support with representative visits to campus
- b. Have selected a faculty/staff advisor.
- c. Demonstrate that the inter/national headquarters and/or inter/national officers have a proven track record of successful partnerships with the institutions they have chartered at.
- d. Adhere to the standards of the North American Interfraternity Conference, National Panhellenic Conference, National Pan Hellenic Council, National Multicultural Greek Council, National APIA Panhellenic Association, National Association for Latino Fraternal Organizations, National Interfraternity Music Council, or Professional Fraternity Association.
- e. Demonstrate that the inter/national organization provides sufficient educational training in the areas of chapter management, new member education, risk management/reduction, and leadership.

II. Application for Expansion and Term:

A fraternal organization will be considered for yearly registration upon submitting a completed Application for Expansion to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. The application and supporting documentation for new organizations will be reviewed by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and a recommendation made to the Director of Student Engagement and Vice President for Student Life to accept or reject the application.

Registration of new fraternities and sororities will be granted only if they complete the registration requirements as outlined in Section II above, agree to charter in a timeframe established by the College, there is demonstrated student interest, and College fiscal and human resources to support the additional organization. Registration is granted for a term of one academic year.

III. Expiration and Renewal of Registration:

Once recognized, a chapter is expected to remain in compliance with the terms of registration. Each fall, the Student Engagement Continuing Registration Form must be submitted to be eligible to receive College privileges and resources. Failure to submit this form or to uphold the requirements of registration will result in the suspension or termination of registration and a loss of all College privileges.

Local Greek Organization: A fraternity or sorority that is founded and operates exclusively at SUNY Geneseo. Local Greek organizations are independent entities with no affiliation to a national or international Greek-letter organization. They do not have chapters at other colleges or universities and are self-governed rather than overseen by a national headquarters.

Any local Greek organization chapter that loses official registration due to conduct-related incidents, violations of SUNY Geneseo policies, or other disciplinary action shall not be eligible for renewed registration at a later date without first gaining affiliation with a national organization, in accordance with the College's 2012 policy requiring national affiliation.

Additionally, any local chapter that becomes inactive as a result of insufficient membership or failure to maintain minimum operational requirements shall not be eligible to seek renewed registration at a later date without first gaining affiliation with a national organization, in accordance with the College's 2012 policy requiring national affiliation.

IV. Revocation of Registration:

Registration may be suspended on an interim basis by the Vice President for Student Life, or designee, for a pattern or incident of misconduct, criminal activity, or fiscal default (as documented via the Student Conduct Board) by:

- a. the undergraduate organization; or,
 - b. an undergraduate officer or member of the organization when representing the organization; or,
 - c. the housing or alumni corporation of the organization; or,
 - d. a resident on premises owned, leased, or licensed by the organization; or,
 - e. an invitee or guest of the organization,
- which in the judgment of the Vice President for Student Life, or designee, poses an unacceptable risk of harm to persons or property, including liability or financial loss to the College or community.

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In accordance with the College's Conduct Procedures For Recognized Student Groups, due process will be afforded a fraternal organization whose registration may be suspended or revoked. Absent extraordinary circumstances, a fraternal organization whose registration has been revoked will not be eligible to reapply for registration for a minimum of four (4) years. Evidence of a suspended or revoked chapter functioning as an "underground" unrecognized organization may extend this period by one year for each incident cited.

V. Privileges, Resources, and Services:

Fraternal organizations with recognized status are eligible to receive College privileges, resources, and services as outlined in the Student Organization Handbook and SUNY Geneseo and Greek Organizations Statement of Relationship: Rights and Responsibilities.