

## **Greek Excellence Program Overview - details**

The Purpose of the Greek Excellence Program is to intentionally integrate the core principles of fraternity/sorority affiliation with the actions and behaviors of members and to promote the overall advancement of UMSL's undergraduate fraternity and sorority community. This program is intended to create a better understanding of what each chapter is doing well, and to explore areas where chapters may need assistance. The Greek Excellence Program is critical to the longevity and livelihood of the entire UMSL Fraternity & Sorority Life Community.

The university, in conjunction with the Office of Student Involvement, is dedicated to continuously engaging and developing its undergraduate fraternity and sorority members to enhance the management and quality of the fraternity and sorority experience at the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). The *Greek Excellence Program* is an agreement between the member chapters of the Panhellenic Association, Multi-Greek Council, and Interfraternity Council with their respective governing councils and the University.

By outlining a clear and comprehensive set of minimum standards for UMSL's Greek-lettered organizations, the groundwork has been created to achieve the following:

1. to improve the management and quality of Greek-lettered organizations while also maintaining the development and shared expectations of members,
2. provide a framework by which each chapter can evaluate and progress its contributions to the greater UMSL community,
3. quantify and document chapter activities and successes, and
4. create an assessment tool for the Office of Student Involvement to determine the recognition status of chapters.

### **Benefits afforded to Fraternities and Sororities at UMSL**

Based on adherence to the Greek Excellence Program, fraternities and sororities are afforded the following benefits:

- Office of Student Involvement staff dedicated to the advisement of the Fraternity & Sorority Community who receive ongoing training and professional development
- Access to several resources to better their membership experience
- Assistance with recruitment and intake processes including collection of recruitment applications, roster cards, GPA and enrollment verification, and technical support
- Inclusion in office presentations to University support services upon request (for example, New Student Programs, Admissions, etc.)
- Financial support toward recruitment materials and educational programming
- Resources for advisors and presidents including manuals and ongoing trainings
- Compiled reports, including but not limited to, membership rosters, grade reports, service hours, social events, and chapter officer contact information
- All rights afforded to other student organizations recognized by the Office of Student Involvement including right to reserve space, listing in University publications and/or webpages, right to request SABC funding (See Student Organization Handbook)

## **Relationship between the University and Fraternity & Sorority Life**

The Office of Student Involvement, a department within the Division of Student Affairs, is committed to engaging students in exploring their curiosities, developing passions, gaining a better understanding of self and others, and creating lasting community including support of student organizations and fraternities and sororities. Fraternities and sororities must serve the purpose and mission of the University of Missouri – St. Louis and the Office of Student Involvement and must embrace and uphold the standards of their respective inter/national organizations. These organizations have the unique and additional responsibility to hold their fellow organizations accountable for actions that violate University policies, the policies of their governing councils, and the values common to all members of the UMSL Fraternity & Sorority Community. The Office of Student Involvement has a primary responsibility to assist chapters, directly or by identifying available University resources, to meet and exceed the requirements of the Greek Excellence Program.

### **Scope of the Greek Excellence Program:**

The annual review of chapter performance (calendar year) will be based on the following areas of the Greek Excellence Program:

1. Academic Standards & Achievement
2. Community Relations & Philanthropic Service
3. Chapter Leadership & Operations
4. Member Development
5. Risk Management & Social Responsibility
6. University Relations

### **Greek Excellence Program Process:**

Chapters will receive instructions on the Greek Excellence Program from the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life prior to the start of the spring semester. Instructions will be given in the form of an educational presentation given to the incoming chapter presidents as a group.

By the end of January, each chapter is to schedule and attend a 45 minute initial meeting with the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life, incoming chapter president, and an advisor. Additional attendees, such as executive board members or membership leaders are encouraged, but not required. This meeting will be used to discuss past chapter performance in the Greek Excellence Program and to strategize for the present term.

By the end of May, each chapter must schedule and attend a 45 minute “Mid-Year Review” meeting with the Dean of Students, or their designee, the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life, chapter president, and an advisor. Additional attendees, such as executive board members or membership leaders are encouraged, but not required. This meeting will be used to discuss the chapter performance in the Greek Excellence Program thus far. Milestones will be celebrated, and areas of concern will be addressed.

A required, hour-long “Annual Review” meeting is required by the end of December with the Dean of Students, or their designee, the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life, chapter president, and an advisor. Additional attendees, such as executive board members or membership leaders are encouraged, but not

required. This meeting will be used to discuss the chapter's performance throughout the past year, and determine what next steps need to be taken in order to ensure chapter success.

Instructions on how chapter leadership can prepare for each meeting will be given, and questions/comments/concerns can always be directed to the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life.

The last component to the program will be to prepare and present a 20-30 minute presentation to an outside panel of reviewers with the prompt "how YOUR CHAPTER" exuded excellence during the past year." More details will be shared on how to prepare for this presentation.

Failure to schedule and attend these meetings, and provide the necessary Greek Excellence Program documentation by the deadlines may result in repercussions for your chapter. Consequences could ultimately include loss of recognition from the university.

## Greek Excellence Program Overview

### 1. Academic Standards & Achievement

*While the ultimate responsibility of doing well in academic pursuits falls on the individual, the chapter can help by creating an environment that expects success and provides support to its members.*

| Objective   | Documentation Needed  |
|---|---|
| 1.a - Chapter GPA meets or exceeds the all-men's/all-women's cumulative GPA or a 2.7 (whichever is higher) each semester. | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement   |
| 1.b - New member class GPA meets or exceeds a 2.7 average GPA each semester.  | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement   |
| 1.c - Chapter maintains an active academic support program.   | Detail the chapter's programming that provides academic support to members, as well as the chapter's academic requirements for members. |

### 2. Community Relations & Philanthropic Work

*Chapters can make a positive impact by being a valued and contributing member of the community. Individual members have an obligation to their chapters and other community members to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Chapters should create an environment that promotes a positive image and discourages inappropriate behavior.*

| Objective  | Documentation Needed  |
|--|---|
| 2.a - Chapter averages a minimum of 10 community service hours per member each semester. | The Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life will calculate this based off of the hours given to her in the end-of-semester report.  |
| 2.b - Chapter plans and executes at least one philanthropic project event each year      | Provide the name and a brief description of the event. Also include how much money was raised and to what organization the funds were donated. The event will be confirmed by the |

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|  | Event Notification form on MyEngage.   |
| 2.c - Chapter has at least 20% of their members participate in at least one of the Office of Student Involvement's major service projects (The Big Event, MLK Day of Service, Trunk or Treat, Homecoming Day of Service, etc.) | Provide a list of chapter members and the Office of Student Involvement's major service project they participated in. Attendance will be confirmed via MyEngage. |

### 3. Chapter Leadership & Operations

*There are certain tasks that must be completed by chapter leadership to ensure operations are maintained.*

| Objective  | Documentation Needed  |
|--|---|
| 3.a - Chapter completes their annual renewal in MyEngage by the deadline specified by the Office of Student Involvement.   | Confirmed through the Office of Student Involvement   |
| 3.b - Chapter attends the required Student Organization Leadership Education Training, as identified by the Office of Student Involvement (annually, unless not in good standing in the fall, then in the spring)  | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement and attendance will be confirmed via MyEngage |
| 3.c - Chapter maintains an updated roster with the Fraternity & Sorority Life advisor and communicates changes in a timely manner  | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement  |
| 3.d - Chapter President, or their designee, attends all monthly Presidents' Club Meetings  | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement  |
| 3.e - Chapter President schedules and attends monthly 1:1s with the Fraternity & Sorority Life advisor   | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement  |
| 3.f - Chapter maintains active involvement in their governing council  | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement and each governing council's executive board |
| 3.g - At least one chapter member submits an application to serve in a leadership role on the chapter's governing council executive board  | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement and the chapter's governing council          |
| 3.h - At least one chapter member attends all leadership opportunities afforded by their national organization where it is expected that every chapter sends at least one representative (national convention, leadership programs, Leadershape, UIF1, etc.) | Provide a list of chapter members and the opportunities in which they participated          |

### 4. Member Development

*For a successful chapter, members must have a rewarding, development and education experience. The chapter has an obligation to provide opportunities for that type of personal growth in alignment with their organizational values.*

| Objective  | Documentation Needed  |
|--|---|
| 4.a - Chapter plans at least two non-alcoholic social/brotherhood/sisterhood events each semester.   | Provide the name and a brief description of the event. The event will be confirmed by the Event Notification form on MyEngage.  |
| 4.b - At least 50% of the chapter attends an education program related to health and wellness (healthy lifestyles, eating disorders, mental health, etc.)  | Proved the attendance sheet from the mobile check-in feature in MyEngage. A validation email from the presenter needs to be sent to <a href="mailto:thinkgreek@umsl.edu">thinkgreek@umsl.edu</a> to ensure the presentation took place at the appropriate time/date/location/etc. |
| 4.c - At least 50% of the chapter attends an educational program related to diversity (cultural, religious, political, racial, etc.)   | Proved the attendance sheet from the mobile check-in feature in MyEngage. A validation email from the presenter needs to be sent to <a href="mailto:thinkgreek@umsl.edu">thinkgreek@umsl.edu</a> to ensure the presentation took place at the appropriate time/date/location/etc. |
| 4.d - At least 50% of the chapter attends an education program on the topic of the chapter's choice (academics, leadership, time management, finances, etc.)   | Proved the attendance sheet from the mobile check-in feature in MyEngage. A validation email from the presenter needs to be sent to <a href="mailto:thinkgreek@umsl.edu">thinkgreek@umsl.edu</a> to ensure the presentation took place at the appropriate time/date/location/etc. |
| 4.e - Chapter members participate in campus leadership programs (Emerging Leaders, Advanced Leaders, Challecelors Engaged Certificate Program, Leadership Discovery Summit, Women's Leadership Institute, etc.)                | Provide a list of members and which leadership program(s) they participated in. Confirmation will come from the Coordinator of Leadership Education.  |
| 4.f - Chapter submits new member education programs, not to exceed eight weeks in length. This includes an outline of the new member education/intake program, detailed new member calendar, and signed anti-hazing documents. | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement and the chapter's governing council   |
| 4.g - Chapter has 100% of their new member class complete the online new member on-boarding program provided by the Office of Student Involvement by the deadline established by the Fraternity & Sorority Life advisor        | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement   |
| 4.h - Chapter has at least 75% of their new member class attend the Fraternity & Sorority Life-sponsored, in-person New Member Day   | Provided by the Office of Student Involvement - attendance will be confirmed by MyEngage  |

## 5. Risk Management & Social Responsibility

*Each chapter has an obligation to provide a safe and secure experience to all its members and guests. Chapters must follow all city, state and federal laws and all University, governing council and inter/national policies, rules and regulations.*

| Objective   | Documentation Needed   |
|---|--|
| 5.a - At least 50% of the chapter attends an educational program related to alcohol, drugs, hazing, etc.  | Proved the attendance sheet from the mobile check-in feature in MyEngage. A validation email from the presenter needs to be sent to <a href="mailto:thinkgreek@umsl.edu">thinkgreek@umsl.edu</a> to ensure the presentation took place at the appropriate time/date/location/etc. If the program is sponsored by the organization, then the event will also be confirmed by the Event Notification form on MyEngage. |
| 5.b - At least 50% of the chapter attends an educational program related to consent, sexual violence, gender discrimination, Title IX etc.  | Proved the attendance sheet from the mobile check-in feature in MyEngage. A validation email from the presenter needs to be sent to <a href="mailto:thinkgreek@umsl.edu">thinkgreek@umsl.edu</a> to ensure the presentation took place at the appropriate time/date/location/etc. If the program is sponsored by the organization, then the event will also be confirmed by the Event Notification form on MyEngage. |
| 5.c - Appropriate chapter representatives attend the risk management workshop hosted by the Office of Student Involvement (Fraternity & Sorority Life) each semester  | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement   |
| 5.d - Chapter maintains an active internal chapter standards board/process that holds members accountable for their actions and behavior.   | Provide a list of the chapter members and advisors that serve on the internal chapter standards board.   |
| 5.e - The chapter complies with the "Fraternity & Sorority Advisor (FSA) Risk Notification" expectation   | Confirmed by the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life   |
| 5.f - Chapter completes an "Event Notification" form, via MyEngage, for all chapter events within the deadlines given by the Office of Student Involvement (7 days for events WITHOUT alcohol, 14 days for events WITH alcohol) | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement/Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life   |

## 6. University Relations

*The University and chapter relationship should be one which is mutually beneficial. The chapter has a responsibility to provide feedback to the University and request assistance when necessary as a means to better the Fraternity & Sorority Life community as a whole.*

| Objective | Documentation Needed |
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| 6.a - At least 75% of the chapter membership is involved in one other campus organization or has an on-campus job   | Provide a spreadsheet with chapter members and the campus organization they are involved in, or the on-campus job they hold (or both). Also, indicate if they hold a leadership position in their other group. On-campus jobs will be verified through UMSL HR. |
| 6.b - At least 75% of the chapter membership attends an event/program sponsored by another chapter  | Provide a spreadsheet with a list of all chapter members and the events/programs they attended.   |
| 6.c - At least 75% of the chapter membership attend an event/program sponsored by another student organization or university department, outside of Fraternity & Sorority Life. | Provide a spreadsheet with a list of all chapter members and the events/programs they attended  |
| 6.d - Chapter maintains an active staff/faculty advisor as described in the Student Organization Handbook   | Confirmed by the Office of Student Involvement  |