



Shippensburg University Fraternity & Sorority Life Recruitment and Intake Guidelines

Revised August 2023

I. Recruitment Event Definition

Events, activities, and gatherings sponsored by a fraternity or sorority will be considered a recruitment event if it includes any, but not limited to, the following characteristics:

- A. The organization or its members designate or refer to the event, formally or informally, as a recruitment event.
- B. The event is held during a primary recruitment period or formal recruitment where potential new members are present.
- C. The event's primary purpose is to attract or recruit prospective new members.
- D. The majority of non-member attendees are students that could be prospective new members.
- E. Invitations of membership or bids are extended during the event.
- F. Attendees believe the event is a recruitment event.
- G. Attendees believe they must be at the event in order to be considered for membership in the organization.
- H. A person could reasonably believe that the event, activity, or gathering was part of the recruitment efforts of an organization.

II. Recruitment & Intake Guidelines and Expectations

- A. Social Greek-letter organizations may recruit or conduct intake during the fall and spring terms of the academic year. Recruitment and intake are not permitted during winter or summer academic terms.
- B. All recruitment/intake events must be free of alcohol and may not be held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor in accordance with NIC Alcohol & Drug Guidelines. Recruitment/intake events must comply with all federal, state, and local laws; university policies; and the Shippensburg University Student Code of Conduct.
- C. Prior to extending an invitation of membership, social Greek-letter organizations must submit a completed Membership Agreement Form to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life to determine membership eligibility. A report of eligibility will be provided within 2-business days of the completed forms being submitted.

- D. It is the expectation of Shippensburg University that each organization will comply fully with any Inter/National Headquarters guidelines for recruitment/intake activities, so long as they do not directly contradict provisions in this policy, as well as their respective governing council policies. Organizations shall adhere to the most stringent of the relevant policies.
- E. Recruitment/Intake events and activities are only permitted in an (1) on-campus venue or (2) at a third- party business unless more narrowly defined by their governing council. Exceptions to this rule may be considered when requested in writing to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs no less than two weeks prior to the date of the activity.

III. Eligibility to Join a Fraternity or Sorority

Shippensburg University students wishing to receive an invitation of membership to a social Greek-letter organization must be verified as eligible by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life. No invitation to membership may be given to a student who is ineligible or who has not been verified.

To be eligible for membership, students must meet the following criteria:

- A. Be enrolled at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.
- B. Be in good judicial standing with the University, meaning not currently on probation or suspension as determined by the student conduct process.
- C. Have earned a minimum of 12 credit hours at Shippensburg University or transferred a minimum of 12 credit hours from an accredited college or university. Advancement Placement (AP) credits and/or dual-enrollment credits earned while in high school will not be counted toward the requirement.
- D. Have at least a 2.300 GPA and/or meet council or chapter-specific GPA requirements as applicable. Shippensburg University will enforce whichever is greater.
- E. Have submitted a signed Membership Agreement Form, allowing the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to confirm enrollment, share their academic record information with the chapter in question, and acknowledge the University's anti-hazing policy.

A student who does not meet the minimum criteria will not be eligible to receive an invitation of membership to join a fraternity or sorority at that time. This does not affect their potential future eligibility. If an organization extends bids prior to the completion of an eligibility check, they will be in violation of these guidelines and may be referred to Student Conduct and Community Standards.

In addition to these requirements, chapters may set their own criteria for membership.

See further information related to membership eligibility in the Membership Guidelines.

IV. Continuous Recruitment Practices

- A. Shippensburg University supports the continuous open recruitment of eligible members during the fall and spring terms in accordance with the policies and practices of governing councils, Inter/National Headquarters, and Shippensburg University.

- B. Prospective members may have routine contact with social Greek-letter organizations including but not limited to participating in public social, educational, or philanthropy events; study sessions; athletic events or intramurals; etc.
- C. Prospective members are not permitted to receive benefits of membership such as engaging in activities exclusive to social Greek-letter organizations. This includes but is not limited to private social functions; social functions with alcohol; new member education; chapter meetings; etc.

V. Organizational Eligibility to Recruit

To be eligible to conduct the recruitment/intake of new members, social-Greek letter organizations must:

- A. Have no institutional or Inter/National Headquarters sanctions prohibiting them from conducting recruitment/intake.
- B. Provide a valid certificate of insurance.
- C. Have submitted a new member education plan to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life with specific dates and times of activities.

VI. Bid Extension and Acceptance

- A. Organizations must provide the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life with a list of students the chapter intends to offer a bid or membership invitation to before bids are handed out.
- B. Chapters may extend bids or invitations of membership to confirmed eligible students. The chapter must notify the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life when a student accepts their bid within 48 hours of their acceptance.
- C. For Panhellenic Council affiliated organizations, students accepting their bids must come into the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to sign the Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement (MRABA) per National Panhellenic Council (NPC) policy.