



**Oregon State**  
University

**Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life**

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**Oregon State University & Fraternity/Sorority Relationship Statement**  
**Revision Date: November 30, 2022**

**Purpose**

Fraternal organizations and sororities have played an important role at Oregon State University (OSU or University) since the founding of the first national organization in 1882. In the past century, both OSU and fraternities and sororities have benefited from the mutual relationship. Fraternities and sororities provide a valuable component of the undergraduate experience and complement the curricular and co-curricular aims of the University. Fraternities and sororities recognized by OSU are expected to maintain this history of positive contribution by conducting themselves in accordance with the shared values and expectations of their affiliate inter/national organizations and the University.

This Relationship Statement between Oregon State University and its fraternities and sororities formalizes those shared values and expectations that are instrumental in ensuring a mutually beneficial relationship between all of the parties. Among the specific areas addressed are leadership development, academic achievement, risk reduction and management, diversity and inclusion, membership development, campus engagement and community service, advising and alumni relations, and community standards. This Relationship Statement serves as the basis for ensuring the positive presence and continued contributions of fraternities and sororities at Oregon State University, and that each party to this document is working collaboratively to enable each other to meet and exceed their individual missions and goals.

**Annual Registration Process**

To be recognized by Oregon State University, fraternities and sororities must register annually with Student Experiences & Engagement (SEE) for University recognition as a student organization. Registration can be accomplished through the annual Recognized Student Organization (RSO) renewal process and the completion of the yearly Relationship Statement through the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Chapters are required to complete all expectations for annual recognition established by Oregon State University. Among the prerequisites for recognition is requirement that all student organizations must have a minimum of four (4) members.

**Standards for Recognition:**

1. Chapters must be fully chartered and comply with the rules of their inter/national organizations. In the case of an expanding group, it must be under the supervision of the inter/national organization.
2. Chapter operations and activities must comply with all federal and state laws and local ordinances.
3. Chapter operations and activities must comply with all intern/national fraternity and sorority charters, constitutions, and by-laws.
4. Chapter operations and activities must comply with all University regulations and policies, specifically including the [OSU Code of Student Conduct](#).
5. Chapters must retain membership in a governing council sponsored by the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life.
6. Chapter operations and activities must comply with policies determined by the governing council (Collective Greek Council, Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Council, and Unified Greek Council) of which they are a member.

## **Privileges of All Recognized Fraternities & Sororities:**

1. [Recognized Student Organization \(RSO\) status](#) recognized by the University and all privileges afforded to RSOs.
2. Use of the University's name when identifying the fraternity or sorority as RSOs may list their name as "(name of group) at OSU" in print and other media.
3. Access to professional staff members in the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life (CFSL) who serve as liaisons between fraternity and sorority chapters, governing council officers, and faculty and staff of the University.
4. Recognition and support of the principle of self-governance for fraternities and sororities.
5. Use of the reservations system for on-campus meeting space.
6. A listing of the fraternity or sorority name in University publications and student directories including the online index for student organizations.
7. The opportunity to fundraise and allocate endowed scholarship funds through the OSU Foundation.
8. Representation in University recruiting events and welcome events for new students.
9. Access to Motor Pool vehicles for travel to leadership programs with the sponsorship of the CFSL.
10. A mailbox for each fraternity and sorority.
11. A fraternity or sorority agency account.
12. Compilation of chapter grade reports each term.
13. Provision of mailing lists for recruitment purposes.
14. Access to University-sponsored leadership and development opportunities.

## **Annual Evaluation Process**

To ensure all parties to this Relationship Statement are in compliance with all standards and shared expectations as outlined herein, the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life will initiate an annual review process of each recognized fraternity and sorority for the prior calendar year every winter term. Additional reviews may be conducted on an as-needed basis at the request of the fraternity or sorority chapter, their inter/national organization, the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life, or the Dean of Student Life.

Fraternity and sorority chapters that violate these standards and shared expectations (including violations by their alumni advisor teams and/or inter/national organizations) risk losing their status as recognized student organizations at OSU.

Through the annual evaluation based on the criteria within each section of this agreement, chapters will have the opportunity to be considered for recognition at the annual Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards program.

## **Criteria for Recognition & Evaluation**

Fraternities and sororities at OSU will be annually evaluated according to the following criteria. The completion of the below criteria will be reported and compiled regularly throughout the academic year through coordination with the CFSL.

### **A. Leadership Development**

Development of values-based leadership among members of fraternities and sororities is critical to the sustained success of these organizations. Strong leadership within organizations contributes to an overall successful community and OSU student community at large.

#### Chapters are required to:

1. Each chapter president (or their appointee) will attend the fraternity/sorority leadership retreat during the winter term.
2. Each member will take part in at least one leadership education or student organization membership opportunity offered on campus during the calendar year.
3. Each chapter president (or their appointee) will attend chapter president meetings and all CFSL

- required events for chapter presidents.
4. Appoint one member to attend the annual Emerging Leaders Retreat.
  5. Have a meeting with the chapter's designated CFSL staff point of contact at least once per term in the academic year.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Officer transition resources to assist in the successful transition from outgoing to incoming leadership.
2. Sponsor the annual fraternity/sorority leadership retreat in the winter term.
3. Sponsor the annual Emerging Leaders Retreat in fall term.
4. Offer additional leadership programs and opportunities, which include sponsorship of fraternity and sorority community leaders to attend the Association of Leadership and Values (AFLV) annual leadership conference and other national leadership development opportunities.

**B. Academic Achievement**

Each student who attends Oregon State University is enrolled first and foremost to receive an education and pursue a college degree. It is expected that the basic academic relationship between the student and the University will be enhanced, and not degraded, by a student's membership in a fraternity or sorority. It should be a primary goal of all fraternity and sorority members to lead in the effort to promote academic success in the classroom.

Chapters are required to:

1. Maintain a minimum term GPA of 2.5 for the chapter average for all terms in the review period.
2. Recruit only potential new members who are in good standing academically with the University.
3. Attend or host at least one program or workshop in the academic year with focus on academic skills and strategies, career readiness, or professional development where 80% or more of chapter membership attends for each term the chapter term average is below a 3.0 GPA.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Recognize the chapters that meet or exceed academic standards set for fraternities and sororities.
2. Provide chapters with resources about academic success training and other services through the Academic Success Center.
3. Compile and distribute individual chapter grade reports.
4. Compile and distribute an academic report listing the community and chapter averages each term.
5. Assist chapters in developing and implementing academic improvement plans when necessary.

**C. Risk Reduction & Management**

Improving the overall health and safety of all members is a high priority for the fraternity and sorority community. Providing relevant educational workshops and programs as well as access to University and community resources to members is a foundational expectation for all fraternities and sororities. Chapter leadership is responsible for mitigating any potential risks that may be faced in hosting events and programs. Priority is placed on providing resources and relevant programming to members related to overall wellness, health, and safety topics.

Chapters are required to:

1. Attend or host one educational program or workshop in the academic year where 80% or more of chapter membership attends focused on high-risk alcohol and/or drug use prevention.
2. Attend or host one educational program or workshop in the academic year focused on consent, sexual violence prevention, and/or supporting survivors where 80% or more of the chapter's new members attend.
  - a. Chapters without any new members during the 2023 calendar year must have at least 50% of the current membership attend one of the fall sexual assault prevention workshops.
3. Implement and adopt the [governing councils' shared social event and](#) risk management policies and best practices. Chapters that have stricter risk management policies than the shared policy can choose to follow their own organization's risk management guidelines when those are stricter.

- a. Hard alcohol (defined as alcohol that is greater than or equal to 15 percent alcohol by volume or 30 proof) is prohibited in housed chapter facilities and at fraternity/sorority hosted social events. An exception is made for social events hosted at licensed retail locations (third party venues) where hard alcohol (as defined above) is allowed to be served by a licensed bartender. University Housing & Dining Services has updated their policies for on-campus living to also reflect this prohibition.
4. Purchase General Liability insurance with a minimum of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate, adding Oregon State University, its trustees, officers, employees and agents as additional insured with the insurance carrier of the chapter's choosing.
5. Designated chapter leadership will attend the annual Risk Management 101.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Offer access to workshops and resources on relevant risk reduction, wellness, health, and safety topics.
2. Coordinate with governing councils to offer party smart resources, including event monitor training, to chapters that are interested in utilizing this resource.

**D. Diversity & Inclusion**

As is reflective of the University population, the fraternity/sorority community is comprised of individuals representing a variety of heritages, backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives as well as of individual organizations with unique histories and missions. As our campus becomes more diverse, it is essential that the fraternity/sorority community honors and maintains an inclusive atmosphere. Chapters are encouraged to partner across councils to host events together that allow members to get to know members in other councils/chapters so that all community members better understand the unique array of chapters at Oregon State University.

Chapters are required to:

1. Adopt and follow the nondiscrimination policies put forth by inter/national affiliate organizations and Oregon State University.
2. Include education on the various types of Oregon State University fraternities, sororities and governing councils in the chapter's new member education process.
3. Attend or host a program or workshop in the academic year which focuses on diversity and inclusion for the chapter or community where 30% or more of chapter membership attends.
4. Actively discourage cultural appropriative activities and practices and hold members accountable who engage in cultural appropriation.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Offer access to ongoing diversity education and programming through the efforts of Diversity & Cultural Engagement, the Office of Institutional Diversity, University Housing & Dining Services, Equal Opportunity & Access, Community Engagement & Leadership, and other service areas.
2. Assistance with the development of diversity and inclusion programming through partnership with Diversity & Cultural Engagement.

**E. Membership Development**

Membership development is the lifeblood of Fraternities and Sororities. For chapters to survive, they must continually recruit new members and provide ongoing development for their active members. It is the charge of fraternity and sorority organizations to enhance the experience of new/prospective members and current members by providing on-going membership education and utilizing a values-based ritual program.

Chapters are required to:

1. Have all new and active members be currently enrolled Oregon State University students.
2. Report 100% of all members and new members on the approved reporting system offered through the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life.

3. Ensure all new member/membership intake activities reflect the values and policies of OSU and the fraternity/sorority community.
4. Prohibit alcohol at recruitment events, new member/pledge/associate/neophyte programs, activities or ritual events and ensure these events are facilitated in accordance with community and inter/national organization policies and values.
5. Prohibit all forms of hazing and 80% or more of chapter membership must complete the hazing prevention online modules offered from OSU.
  - o Following the completion of the training, executive board leadership will lead a peer-led discussion about the training module content, including the established OSU learning outcomes, to at least 80% of the chapter's membership during the calendar year.
6. Complete and submit a membership intake form each term if the chapter conducts membership intake.
7. Require all new members attend the annual governing council sponsored new member orientation program.
8. Promote on-campus resources regarding mental health to chapter members and conduct or participate in one program, workshop, activity, or other engagement annually during the academic year focused on positive mental health.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Access to OSU directory contact information about incoming students for recruitment and promotion purposes.
2. Access to the START summer orientation program via participation in a Memorandum of Understanding with New Student Programs & Family Outreach.
3. A confidential hazing reporting mechanism.
4. Opportunities for members to develop skills through collaboration, workshops, and training.
5. Co-host governing council sponsored new member orientation program(s) annually for all new members to attend.

**F. Campus Engagement and Community Service**

Fraternities and Sororities are key participants in the University's ongoing efforts to serve the greater Corvallis community. The fraternity and sorority tradition of direct service activities includes donating thousands of volunteer hours as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars to local and national non-profit organizations. The continued leadership of the fraternity/sorority community in this area is essential to the success of OSU's sustained relationship with the Corvallis area.

Chapters are required to:

1. Host at least one chapter-sponsored service project and/or philanthropic fundraiser during each academic year.
2. Participate as a chapter in one University-wide event per calendar year external to the fraternity/sorority community (i.e. Beaver Community Fair, Homecoming, help with UHDS move-in day, participating in Community Engagement & Leadership service opportunities, etc.).
3. Expect members to engage in direct service regularly by reporting service activities each term on the approved reporting system offered through the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life.
4. Co-sponsor or co-host at least one educational program/project or social activity with another fraternity/sorority, student organization, or OSU department during each academic year.
  - a. Social activities do not include events with alcohol, date dashes, formals/house dances, or similar events.

Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. University departments will provide opportunities for chapters to participate in University-wide service projects and/or philanthropic fundraisers.
2. University departments will provide leadership training that will assist chapters in their coordination of service projects and/or philanthropic fundraisers.
3. Assistance with public relations and marketing of planned events and activities.
4. A mechanism to track and report fraternity and sorority service hours and appropriately recognize and

celebrate service initiatives.

## **G. Advising & Alumni Relations**

OSU strongly supports the contributions that inter/national headquarters make to the fraternity and sorority community and the University. It is essential for each chapter to work closely with the representatives of their inter/national organizations to exemplify the ideals and values of those organizations within the fraternity and sorority and campus communities. Active members of Fraternities and Sororities are expected to foster positive relationships with alumni in order to increase the visibility and continued connection to Oregon State University.

### Chapters are required to:

1. Have an alumni advisor and/or team in accordance with the structure prescribed by their inter/national organization that oversees chapter activities such as recruitment or membership intake, standards, finance, scholarship, and chapter operations.
2. Have an advisor who serves as a house corporation liaison (if applicable) to address issues with the chapter facility.
3. Have a designated faculty/staff advisor from campus to serve as an academic resource and a connection to the on-campus faculty/staff community.
4. Have a live-in House Director/Resident Advisor residing in the chapter facility full-time during the academic year for all housed chapters. A live-in house director is an individual selected by the organization who can assist with a variety of tasks dependent upon the individual housed chapter's needs. The purpose of having a house director for every facility is to ensure that a responsible non-undergraduate person of authority is present to assist collegiate chapter members with accountability and the upkeep of the facility. Undergraduate members of the chapter are not eligible to fulfill this role. This person can be either a Graduate Student or a traditional House Director/Mother/Father who lives in the facility during the academic year.

### Oregon State University will provide the following support:

1. Identify potential advisors by working with the Alumni Association to identify local alumni, faculty and staff with fraternity/sorority affiliations who may be interested in serving as advisors.
2. Timely communication regarding issues and concerns relating to campus fraternity and sorority life and their chapters.
3. Facilitate regular meetings for advisors to discuss common issues and facilitate communication.
4. Optional educational opportunities and training in which advisors may participate to help them carry out their responsibilities.
5. The Alumni Association will assist chapters with access to their alumni through their database. This will be coordinated through the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life.

## **H. Community Standards**

Chapters and members will promote and adhere to Governing Council Policies and the Standards of Conduct as stated in the [OSU Code of Student Conduct](#).

### **Revision**

This Relationship Statement between the OSU fraternities and sororities and Oregon State University is expected to evolve over time. Fraternities and sororities in conjunction with the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life will review the Relationship Statement template at least two (2) years after its adoption to determine if amendment and revision are required. Thereafter, this template will be reviewed at least every three years. Suggestions or proposed revisions to this template will be forwarded to the CFSL for review and implementation. It is recommended that the required minimum term GPA average be incrementally increased at each revision opportunity as the overall fraternity and sorority community GPA rises over time.