Fraternity & Sorority Life - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
COVID-19

How do I reach the CFSL and the CFSL staff during this time?
The CFSL staff will be working remotely and providing support to the community from home during this time of social distancing. The CFSL physical office will be closed starting on Thursday, March 19, but the staff will still be available M-F 9am-5pm. You are encouraged to send emails to cfsl@oregonstate.edu or call (541) 737-5432 and someone will respond to you within one business day.

*Updated March 18, 2020*

What should we do about chapter meetings?
We are encouraging chapters to utilize Zoom or other types of technology to conduct meetings virtually. Based on the current guidance for restricting the size of gatherings to less than 25, it is best for chapters to only plan to meet virtually, regardless of size.

*Updated March 18, 2020*

Should my chapter continue to collect dues?
We suggest you work with your advisors and inter/national organization to navigate collecting chapter dues. Many organizations are encouraging their chapters to continue to collect dues.

*Updated March 18, 2020*

What should I do about chapter sponsored events?
All chapter sponsored events should be postponed and/or canceled for the spring term if your event cannot be held remotely or virtually. This includes but is not limited to: socials, functions, meetings, philanthropic events, retreats, recruitment events, alumni events, founders’ days, etc.

*Updated March 20, 2020*

Can our chapter still participate in recruitment and membership Intake?
Chapter recruitment activities should be paused at this time. Your governing council will communicate a specific plan related to your recruitment processes.

Membership intake activities already underway should be completed virtually or with social distancing, if possible. Beginning any new membership intake process should be considered through consultation with your chapter coach, chapter advisor, and inter/national organization.

*Updated March 18, 2020*

What if I’m feeling sick?
If you are not feeling well, you should contact your primary care physician, Student Health Services, or a local emergency medical care provider immediately and isolate yourself according to their instructions.

*Updated March 18, 2020*

If my fraternity/sorority is housed, what should I do if one of my members become sick?
Please provide space where members can be quarantined to prevent the spread of illness.

If a member informs you that they have tested positive for COVID-19 and are undergoing treatment, contact Aubrie Piper (Director of Student Care) at aubrie.piper@oregonstate.edu and she will assist with next steps.

*Updated March 18, 2020*
How long will my chapter facility remain open?
Please consult with your advisors, house corporation board, and inter/national organization as it pertains to housing while university classes and services are operating remotely.

OSU is not closing the Residence Halls at this time. We know there are questions regarding members who live in housed chapters and who wish to stay on campus or return to campus after Spring Break. Fraternity and sorority houses are privately owned, and it is up to each organization to determine what should be done with individual tenants. We do ask that each housed chapter keep the CFSL informed of plans/intentions moving forward as it relates to student housing during this time.

We recommend restricting access to facilities and not allow guests and non-residents. Take time to analyze your own internal measures to prioritize the safety of your tenants.

On March 18, 2020, Oregon Governor Kate Brown issued an Executive Order related to higher education. The executive order also limits on-campus operations to critical functions, such as dining services and dormitories — all of which are directed to employ social distancing — as a way to ensure students have a safe place to live and eat, since some may not otherwise have housing options.

Updated March 20, 2020

How can my housed chapter provide safe food service during this time?
Please consult with your house director, advisors, house corporation board, and inter/national organization as it pertains to the best food service practices for your chapter. Many housed chapters have closed their kitchens to non food service staff, and have moved away from buffets and are serving members individual portions. Disposable products (plates, silverware, etc.) are also being used to reduce contact with used items. Meal times should be staggered in order to maximize social distancing and ensure no gatherings of large groups is occurring.

Updated March 18, 2020

How can my housed chapter provide safe social distancing at this time?
Please consult with your house director, advisors, house corporation board, and inter/national organization as it pertains the best options for your facility and own chapter needs. Gatherings of more than a few members at a time should be restricted in order to maximize social distancing.

Housed chapters with sleeping porches should attempt to spread out members amongst beds to maximize social distancing. Sheets should be washed often and bed posts/door handles should be wiped down daily.

OSU is not closing the Residence Halls on campus at this time. Each hall holds more residents than each fraternity/sorority and chapters are seeking to follow similar guidance to University House & Dining Services. You can view their FAQs here: https://uhds.oregonstate.edu/covid-19

Oregon Governor Kate Brown issued an Executive Order related to higher education. From her website: ‘The executive order also limits on-campus operations to critical functions, such as dining services and dormitories — all of which are directed to employ social distancing — as a way to ensure students have a safe place to live and eat, since some may not otherwise have housing options.’
Informed by Gov. Brown’s directive and effective March 17, OSU established a prohibition on university-sponsored or sanctioned events of more than 25 people. However, social distancing should be considered a shared responsibility. We continue to encourage our students and staff to maintain a six foot distance from others, including friends, coworkers and classmates. This practice should also be utilized in fraternity/sorority housing. For fraternity/sorority residents, this should include keeping a safe distance when studying in the house, eating in a dining room, or spending time in a study room or recreation room. Consider reducing furniture in shared spaces, allow for more room between desks, as well as tables in dining areas.

*Updated March 20, 2020*

If you haven’t seen an update yet from your inter/national organization, please refer to their website. You can find a number of notices linked at the sites below:

- North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC)
- National Panhellenic Conference (NPC)
- National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)
- National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO)
- National APIDA Panhellenic Association (NAPA)