



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

## **Fraternity/Sorority Expansion and Colonization Policy**

[January 9, 2009]

National single-sex general fraternities and sororities may establish recognized chapters at the University of Central Florida only through formal invitation extended by the University. Invitation is contingent upon petitioners meeting the criteria outlined in this document. The University of Central Florida reserves the right, at any time and at its sole discretion, to alter, amend, change, modify, delete, revise, or restate the terms of this expansion process and may do so without providing advance notice to any then existing council or organization, any applying organization, or any other council or organizations.

The following statement establishes the guidelines and procedures for the colonization of national fraternities at the University of Central Florida. This statement is divided into three sections. Section I defines what the University considers a “national” fraternity or sorority. Section II outlines the procedure that a national fraternity or sorority must follow to request colony status. Section III outlines the benefits afforded a colony and chapter at the University of Central Florida.

### **SECTION I**

- A. The definition of a “national” fraternity or sorority is deemed in the following terms: The organization has a headquarters or office space and staff; has non-profit status with the IRS, has a Board of Directors and governance papers; has proof of insurance; and has regional and national meetings or conventions.

### **SECTION II**

- A. Any national fraternity or sorority wishing to colonize at the University of Central Florida should file a letter of intent with Fraternity and Sorority Life. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life shall notify the respective council which would oversee the expansion request of that particular national organization. The letter of intent shall be considered a request to become a colony at UCF.
- B. The national fraternity or sorority wishing to colonize must follow the expansion or extension guidelines for the University as well as one of the four recognized campus governing bodies (Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Diversified Greek Council.)
1. Interfraternity Council is the campus governing body of those fraternities who are members of the North-American Interfraternity Conference, or Fraternal Leadership Association.
  2. Panhellenic Council is the campus governing body of women’s organizations that have membership in the National Panhellenic Conference.
  3. National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the campus governing body of those fraternities and sororities who are members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.



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4. Diversified Greek Council (DGC) is the campus governing body of those fraternities and sororities whose national offices do not belong to those national associations or councils listed above; are members of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations; or have membership in another national fraternal association that is not currently listed.
- C. National Fraternity/Sorority Office shall provide Fraternity and Sorority Life, the University, and respective council with the following information:
1. Number of alumni in the area (50 mile radius of Orlando).
  2. Letter of confirmation of support for a chapter by area alumni.
  3. Written request and support for a chapter by the national office.
  4. Number of collegiate chapter's nation-wide.
  5. Number of chapters in the State of Florida.
  6. Average chapter size nation-wide.
  7. National risk management and alcohol policies.
  8. Copy of the new member education program.
  9. Any membership leadership development programs.
  10. List of other institutions where organization recently colonized.
  11. List of other institutions where the organization received any disciplinary sanctions within the last 5 years and the nature of the infraction(s).
  12. List of other institutions where the organization has any pending disciplinary sanction(s) or investigation(s).
  13. List all lawsuits filed against the organization with the last 5 years and the status of these cases. Agree to supply additional information regarding any such lawsuit, if requested by the University of Central Florida.
  14. Submit a plan of action or timeline for colonization. This will include support for the organization; length of time national staff will be on hand to colonize the chapter, and the degree of support and plan of consultations and supervision for establishing a colony.
  15. Financial support available to the colony from the national fraternity and alumni, to include a statement concerning how, and if, the national fraternity will handle any outstanding liabilities or other legal responsibilities incurred by the colony, in the event they are not successful in their attempt to colonize.
  16. A copy of the national constitution and by-laws, as well as all other rules, regulations, policies, etc., pertaining to colonies.
  17. Place of residence of the colony members and pledges (if applicable - a fraternity/sorority house is not required).
  18. Any additional information requested by the University of Central Florida.



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- D. The National Office must submit a letter that states it will agree to the following items:
1. Statement(s) from a local alumnus, or alumni, willing to serve as colony advisor or advisors.
  2. Agree to have a faculty advisor (employed faculty or staff member at the University of Central Florida).
  3. Headquarter staff will meet with Fraternity and Sorority Life Staff/Office prior to colonization.
  4. Agree to abide by all requirements of the office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, including participating in the chapter assessment program.
  5. Agree that the chapter will maintain at least a 2.5 chapter GPA.
  6. Be free of organizational disciplinary sanctions (if re-colonizing).
  7. Submit a registration for and chapter constitution to the Office of Student Involvement for approval (this is necessary to become a recognized student organization at the University of Central Florida).
  8. Agree to all other applicable policies and procedures from Fraternity and Sorority Life, Office of Student Involvement and the University of Central Florida that currently exist or that may exist in the future.
  9. Provide a schedule of colony activities for the first six months of the colonization once the invitation to UCF has been extended.
  10. The organization must agree, in writing, to comply with the Constitution of the respective council and all accompanying policies, all policies, rules and regulations of the University of Central Florida and the laws of the State of Florida that currently exist or may exist in the future.
  11. Multicultural organizations must follow the same process listed above. Must state in the mission of the organization that the organization is multicultural or serves a purpose to support students of a particular culture, race, religion, etc. (The organization must be open to all persons, regardless of such.)
  12. Any additional information, or indication of support, it wishes.
- E. Interested national fraternities shall provide all the information and material listed above in sections C and D; failure to provide said information shall exclude such organization from consideration for colonization. After submission of the required information each interested organization shall be afforded the opportunity to make a presentation to the council outlining the organization's mission, purpose, and desire for colonization. After the presentation(s) the council shall meet and discuss the merits of those organizations applying for colonization. The council shall then submit a recommendation in hierarchal order of preference, to the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life of the organization(s) recommended for colonization. At this time, the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life shall review the recommendation along with all of the submitted material from all the applying organizations. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life shall make a final



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determination of which organization shall be extended an invitation to colonize at the University of Central Florida. Once the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life makes his/her colonization decision, the University of Central Florida shall notify the applying organization of its expansion decision.

- F. At the end of two years from the date of University approval for colonization, any group, which fails to be (i) a fully chartered chapter by its national organization; (ii) a chapter in good standing by its national organization; or (iii) has not been granted membership in their respective council shall lose their status and recognition as a colony at the University of Central Florida. Each council, according to their own constitution and bylaws will consider exceptions to this policy on an individual and case by case basis.

### **Section III**

- A. A formally constituted Greek letter fraternity colony or chapter at the University of Central Florida will:
1. Receive the status of University recognition as a student organization. Official recognition by the University provides several advantages, as well as responsibilities, for the organization:
    - a) The opportunity to use designated University facilities for regularly scheduled meetings, usually at no cost:
    - b) The opportunity to place signs on campus with the proper registration:
    - c) The opportunity to have an on-campus mailbox:
    - d) The opportunity to use the non-postage mail service for distribution of materials pertaining to the business of the organization (This service is called "Campus Mail" and is restricted to on-campus locations); and
    - e) The opportunity to apply for a cubicle located in the Office of Student Involvement (for those organizations that do not have on-campus housing facilities).
  2. Be able to participate in all Council, Greek and related University activities.
  3. Have reasonable access to the Greek Council Office and all related supplies and equipment and related services.
  4. Be eligible for on-campus housing (space permitting).
  5. Receive University support through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life afforded all members of each council.
  6. Receive recruitment lists from Fraternity and Sorority Life.
  7. Meet with Fraternity and Sorority Life staff on a regular basis for the purpose of passing on recruitment information and discussing any recruitment related or internal issues. After the first semester of colonization, these meetings will be held on an as-needed basis.