



## **POLICY ON EXPANSION FOR SOCIAL SORORITIES AND FRATERNITIES**

The Policy on Expansion for Social Sororities and Fraternities outlines the guidelines and procedures for application, review, and registration of a new social sorority and/or fraternity at Murray State University (MSU).

The purpose of this policy is to determine, as much as possible, that the requesting group proves promising of becoming a successful, established and contributing organization in worthwhile ways to the life of the MSU Greek community.

The governance structure for social sororities and fraternities at MSU includes student Governing C

[murraystate.edu/greeklife](http://murraystate.edu/greeklife).

A social sorority or fraternity may register with the University only after a formal invitation has



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### Section I. Definitions and Guidelines

Social sororities and fraternities are student organizations that are founded on the principles of brotherhood/sisterhood and are based on the ideals of friendship, personal growth and service to the community. In partnership with MSU, social sororities and fraternities promote the highest standards of scholarship, leadership, and service for their members.

The United States Department of Education has established guidelines and criteria necessary to be classified as a social sorority or fraternity (which includes a provision that allows an organization to operate as a single-sex organization). In keeping with the criteria established by the Department of Education, MSU classifies social sororities and fraternities as organizations that:

- Do not limit membership to persons pursuing or having interest in a particular field of study, profession or academic discipline.
- Do not serve as honorary societies for academic, leadership, or any other endeavor.
- Do not permit members to hold membership in other social sororities or fraternities.

In addition these organizations must also:

- Have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Limit membership to currently enrolled students at Murray State University.

Social sororities and fraternities shall exist at MSU as registered student organizations and shall be classified as social sororities and fraternities, governed by policies established by the Office of Student Affairs and administered through the Office of Greek Life. The governance structure established by MSU includes student input and participation. Student input and participation is accomplished through authority delegated by the Office of Greek Life to designated student Governing Councils. Social sororities and fraternities must abide by applicable university policies, regulations, and procedures governing student organizations, as well as policies, guidelines, and procedures established by the Office of Greek Life and the designated Governing Councils.

A new social sorority or fraternity seeking registration at MSU must complete the expansion process as outlined in Sections II and III, dependent upon the situation. No social sorority or fraternity shall be registered at MSU without approval by and affiliation with a designated Governing Council.

A social sorority or fraternity that operates a residential unit and provides opportunities for housing to university students, must abide by facility management policies and standards as established by MSU, including but not limited to the following:

- Organizations must be in compliance with fire safety standards and must pass Fire Safety Inspections;



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Organizations must comply with building inspection and related policies and must take corrective measures as needed or required.

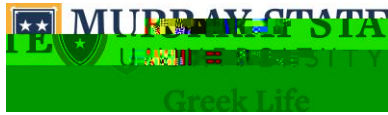
MSU reserves the right to withhold, revoke, or suspend the registration of any social sorority or fraternity when MSU rules, policies, and/or guidelines are not adhered to.

### **Section II. Student Interest Group Colonization**

#### **A. Initial Student Interest Group**

- a. A group desiring recognition as a potential colony of an inter/national fraternity or sorority will be required to submit to the Coordinator of Greek Life & Student





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12. Information on the status of the past five (5) colonizations of the organization.

### C. Review of Application

- a. Once the Application of Recognition Packet is received by the Office of Greek Life, the packets are forwarded to the appropriate Governing Council and their respective Advisor (CPC, IFC or NPHC).
- b. The Governing Council and their Advisor shall conduct a thorough review of the application and shall follow all procedures in their governing documents and their inter/national headquarters as it relates to expansion.
- c. The interest group will be invited to the next regularly scheduled Governing Council meeting to present to the members of the Governing Council and answer any questions.
- d. The Governing Council shall render a decision and provide written approval or denial within seven (7) to ten (10) days of the meeting of the Governing Council.
- e. The decision of the Governing Council shall then be forwarded by the Office of designee as the official recommendation of that Governing Council.
  - i. If the VPSA or the application, the Office of Greek Life shall notify the group with an outline of the conditions under which the colony may be recognized.
  - ii. If the VPSA or the Greek Life shall notify the group with a written document citing the reasoning for the decision.
- f. approval or denial within seven (7) to ten (10) business days from the date the materials were received.
- g. ation is denied, the group shall be eligible to reapply in one calendar year.

### D. Colonization

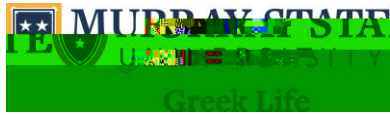
- a. shall then be required to abide by all policies, regulations, and procedures governing student organizations, as well as policies, guidelines, and procedures established by the Office of Greek Life and the designated Governing Councils.
  - i. Failure to abide by policies shall be reported directly to the inter/national headquarters of the colony.
- b. Colonies are required to petition the appropriate Governing Council for membership at the first regularly scheduled council/delegate meeting following
- c. Colonies will be required to follow all Governing Council policies during their colonization period, including but not limited to attendance at meetings and programs, payment of dues, etc.
- d. Colonies are required to have regular communication with the Office of Greek Life. The colony President shall arg



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### **c. Presentation**

Each invited organization shall be invited make a formal presentation to the University and Greek Community. Topics shall include:

1. Information and background of the organization;
2. Interest and rationale in expanding to Murray State University;
3. Colonization Process and Chartering Requirements;
4. Membership Development Program;
5. Leadership Development and Educational Programs;
6. Support structures:
  - a. Headquarters;
  - b. Regional;
  - c. Volunteer;
  - d. Alumni;
  - e. Nearby Chapters;
7. Any Additional Information, as determined by the presenting organization.

Following the presentation to the community, delegates or presidents of the respective council shall vote on all organizations presenting and select organizations to expand to the community. The organization(s) shall be notified in writing of the decision and if approved, shall be invited to expand in the following calendar year to Murray State University.

Organizations not selected may reapply for future consideration as outlined in Section II of this document.

### **D. Review of Application**

1. Once the Application Packet is received by the Office of Greek Life, the packets are forwarded to the appropriate Governing Council and their respective Advisor (CPC, IFC or NPHC).
2. The Governing Council and their Advisor shall conduct a thorough review of the application and shall follow all procedures in their governing documents and their inter/national headquarters as it relates to expansion.
3. The Governing Council shall render a decision and provide written approval or denial within seven (7) to ten (10) days of the meeting of the Governing Council.
4. The decision of the Governing Council shall then be forwarded by the Office

designee as the official recommendation of that Governing Council.

- a. If the VPSA or the  
of Greek Life shall notify the group with an outline of the conditions  
under which the colony may be recognized.



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- b. Greek Life shall notify the group with a written document citing the reasoning for the decision.
5. written approval or denial within seven (7) to ten (10) business days from the date the materials were received.
- 6.

