

Kent State University Fraternity & Sorority Life Policies

Last Updated: August 2023



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Overview

Fraternity & Sorority Life, in collaboration with the Kent Student Center and Involvement, has formulated the following policies for our fraternity and sorority community and organizations at Kent State University. Please note that these policies, and any accompanying sanctions, do not supersede those contained within the Student Code of Conduct for Kent State University, or those established by the Office of the Dean of Students. These policies are subject to change and/or will be updated as deemed appropriate by the Fraternity & Sorority Life staff.

KSU Fraternities and Sororities

Kent State University is proud to be the home to 34 fraternities and sororities, including 22 men’s fraternities, 11 women’s sororities, and one co-ed fraternity. Fraternities and sororities are a vital part of the Kent State community, with almost 10% of the undergraduate student population belonging to a Greek letter organization.

College Panhellenic Council	Integrated Greek Council (IGC)	Interfraternity Council (IFC)
Alpha Phi Alpha Xi Delta Chi Omega Delta Gamma Delta Zeta Phi Mu Sigma Delta Tau Sigma Sigma Sigma	Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.* Alpha Psi Lambda Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.* Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.* Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.	Alpha Epsilon Pi Alpha Sigma Phi Alpha Tau Omega Delta Chi Delta Tau Delta Kappa Sigma Phi Delta Theta Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) Phi Kapa Psi Phi Kappa Tau Phi Sigma Kappa Pi Kappa Alpha Sigma Alpha Epsilon Sigma Chi Sigma Nu Sigma Phi Epsilon Tau Kappa Epsilon

*Currently inactive



About KSU Fraternity & Sorority Life

At Kent State University, our fraternities and sororities focus their efforts on promoting our five core values: Scholarship, Philanthropy and Service, Brotherhood and Sisterhood, Leadership, and Community.

Our Vision

Fraternity and Sorority Life at Kent State University strives to be the best community in the country by encompassing a nurturing and inclusive environment for everyone to call home. We aim to emulate our five values: brotherhood/sisterhood, scholarship, philanthropy/service, leadership, and community. It is our goal to provide students with unique learning and social environments to enhance the collegiate experience by developing the leaders of tomorrow.

Learning Outcomes

Students who engage in Fraternity and Sorority Life at Kent State University will:

1. Demonstrate the importance of scholarly success and academically perform at or above their non-affiliated counterparts. (Scholarship)
2. Strengthen their leadership skills and personal capabilities through executive roles, contributing to the self-governance community structure, and co-curricular involvement. (Leadership)
3. Engage in experiences for the betterment of the larger Kent State community. (Community)
4. Build life-long relationships based on shared values. (Brotherhood/Sisterhood)
5. Contribute to society through philanthropic endeavors and service to the community. (Philanthropy/Service)
6. Promote social justice, equity, and inclusion for all.

Recognition

To be recognized by Fraternity & Sorority Life, an organization must be recognized by both the appropriate governing council and registered as a student organization through the Kent Student Center and Involvement, as well as have a current signed relationship statement on file with Fraternity & Sorority Life. New organizations must submit a letter of intent to the Associate Director for Student Leadership Development Programs (see guidelines here), as well as follow the governing council specific expansion/extension procedures in order to be considered for recognition. All recognized fraternities and sororities are eligible to use university facilities and services and must follow all policies for recognized student organizations as outlined by the Kent Student Center and Involvement.

Governing Councils

- The College Panhellenic Council coordinates and oversees activities of recognized sororities that belong to the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC). The College Panhellenic Council will abide by all policies and expectations of the NPC.



- The Integrated Greek Council (IGC) coordinates and oversees the activities of the culturally-based fraternities and sororities and recognized fraternities and sororities that belong to the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).
- The Interfraternity Council (IFC) coordinates and oversees activities of the recognized fraternities within the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) and other nationally recognized fraternities.

Student Organization Recognition

One step for an organization to be recognized by Fraternity & Sorority Life is that they must be registered as a student organization through the Kent Student Center and Involvement. The below information provides information on the registration process, as well as expectations from the Kent Student Center and Involvement of registered student organizations.

Registration

Student organization registration for Fall 2023 is on a rolling basis, however, keep in mind the following timeline:

Student Organization Registration Opens:

April 1, 2023

Complete Registration by:

May 1, 2023 - to be eligible for priority scheduling and USG Summer Funding

August 1, 2023 - to be eligible to participate in Blastoff

October 15, 2023 - to be eligible for fall scheduling and funding

March 18, 2024 - Registration closes (No funding/scheduling available)

Registration Checklist:

- The FlashLine ID (email) and contact information of a minimum of five (5) officers that meet the following requirements:
 - Student must be enrolled in at least eight (8) undergraduate or six (6) graduate credit hours.
 - Student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.25.
 - Student must have passed at least six (6) or more hours in the proceeding semester.
 - Student cannot be on semester warning or academic probation.
- The FlashLine ID (email) of your advisor who must meet the following requirement:
 - Individual must be a full-time or part-time permanent university employee, or military personnel working with Kent State University ROTC programs. Campus Ministers (a registered member of Campus Religious Life Association [CRLA] are restricted to advising their affiliated organizations.)
- Your organization's constitution in Word or PDF format ready to be uploaded to the site.



- A .jpg or .png file that your organization will use as a logo. This will be displayed as a small icon next to your organization on the search list. Please also bring at least four (4) other images to upload in a gallery to enhance your organization page.
- A short summary of your organization to be displayed in the organization directory. This can be taken from your mission/purpose statement.
- A description of your organization to be displayed on your organization's page. This can also be taken from your mission/purpose statement.
- Be ready to select which category you would like your organization to be placed within. The categories are as follows: academic/professional, civic/political, cultural, educational, social fraternity and sorority, graduate, honorary, media, military, religious, service, special interest, sports and recreation, student government.
- You will also be able to enter keywords representing the interest of your organization.
- If applicable, bring your external website and social media handles.
- Finally, be sure to bring your organization's mailing address. If your organization is utilizing a mailbox provided by the Kent Student Center and Involvement, a list of mailbox assignments will be provided.
- Once you have submitted your registration, it will be sent to a staff member in the Kent Student Center and Involvement for approval. You will receive email notification within three (3) business days once your organization has been registered!

To re-register your student organization:

1. Log into the [student organization registration website](#) with your Flashline credentials.
2. Complete your profile as a new user of the KSU Engage platform.
3. Navigate to the Manage tab using the grid icon in the upper right corner.
4. Click your organization.
5. Click the blue button that says, 're-register this organization.'
 - a. Note: If you do not see your organization in the manage view, you may not be listed as the primary contact for your organization. Please contact Kent Student Center and Involvement at csi@kent.edu or (330) 672-2480.
6. Follow the steps to complete the re-registration process and submit. Once approved, you will receive an email from the Kent Student Center and Involvement within three (3) business days.

To register a new organization:

1. Log into the [student organization registration website](#) with your Flashline credentials.
2. Complete your profile as a new user of the KSU Engage platform.
3. Navigate to the 'Organizations' tab and click 'register an organization.'
4. Click a blue button that says, 'register a new organization.'
5. Follow the steps to complete the registration process and submit. Once approved, you will receive an email from the Kent Student Center and Involvement within three (3) business days.

Faculty/Staff Advisors



Individual must be a full-time or part-time permanent university employee, or military personnel working with Kent State University ROTC programs. Campus Ministers (a registered member of Campus Ministers Organization (CMO)) are restricted to advising their affiliated organizations.

Student Organization Officer Requirements

- Student organizations must have a minimum of five officers that meet the following requirements:
 - Student must be enrolled in at least eight (8) undergraduate or six (6) graduate credit hours.
 - Student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.25.
 - A single summer term does not impact eligibility except in regard to the cumulative grade point average. A two-term summer program has the same status as any other semester.
 - Student must have passed at least six (6) or more hours in the proceeding semester.
 - Student cannot be on semester warning or academic probation.
- The primary advisor and the president of each organization are primarily responsible for determining the eligibility of its participants and for enforcing the eligibility regulations.
- Any members of, or advisor to, an organization may request that the Kent Student Center & Involvement staff determine the eligibility of officers of that organization on the basis of these criteria. Additionally, the Kent Student Center & Involvement staff may initiate the checking procedure. If any students are ineligible to hold office, the advisor and president will be notified. Students who participate in the activities described in this rule must withdraw from such activities at once if the student becomes ineligible to participate. The primary advisor shall be required to review student standing at the beginning of each academic term.
- Changes to chapter officers must be reported to the Kent Student Center and Involvement within five days of the change occurring. Updates can be made through [Engage](#).

Event Registration Process

- Requests for use of University facilities or grounds must be submitted utilizing the [Event Management System \(EMS\) web request portal](#). Requests are not guaranteed until an approved confirmation of event registration has been issued. Once event registration confirmation is received, changes may be submitted in writing via email [uecs@kent.edu] or through the EMS web request portal.
- Event registration requests are processed in the order in which they are received, with consideration given to size of the group, type of set-up needed, and space availability. UECS reserves the right to assign and, if necessary, reassign facilities to assure the maximum and most appropriate use of facilities.
- Event registrations for individual conference rooms, academic classrooms, lecture halls and informational tables will begin on August 1 of each year for the upcoming academic term. Any meetings requested prior to the first day of fall classes can be made prior to August 1. Approval



for these registration requests will not be completed until the academic calendar for each semester has been set.

- Event Registration requests for regular meetings and tables within the Kent Student Center (KSC) received less than three (3) calendar days before the event may be denied due to insufficient time and/or space available to process and accommodate the request.
- Event Registration requests for academic classrooms, lecture halls and outdoor space received less than seven (7) calendar days before the event may be denied due to insufficient time and/or space available to process and accommodate the request.
- Event Registration requests for events in the KSC Ballroom, KSC Kiva, MAC Center, Cartwright Room 306, The Market, Rockwell Atrium, and/or large-scale or special events received less than thirty (30) calendar days before the event may be denied due to insufficient time to process and accommodate the request.
- Event Registration requests for large-scale university-wide programs can be submitted sixteen (16) months in advance of the event date.
- UECS reserves the right to cancel and/or reschedule event registrations due to situations beyond the control of the University (e.g., adverse weather conditions/acts of nature, disruption of utilities, etc.).
- Rooms are provided in the standard setup unless advance arrangements have been made with the UECS office five (5) business days prior to the event. Members of organizations are not permitted to move furniture in any campus building on their own.
- For more information, please visit the [University Events & Conference Services website](#).

Social Event Policy

Additional policies govern social events sponsored by registered student organizations held on any Kent State University campus. [See the Policy Registrar 4-11.6 for additional details](#).

Recruitment/Intake Process

Eligibility for membership in our fraternities and sororities is up to the discretion of the individual chapters. Each chapter is required to develop and maintain membership selection and training procedures and practices, consistent with the inter/national office applicable laws, constitutional guarantees and the University mission goals and objectives.

General recruitment/intake requirements are as follows:

- All recruitment events must take place on campus or at a location approved by Fraternity & Sorority Life.
- No alcoholic beverages or illegal substances of any kind may be serviced or made available to anyone; member, prospective member or guest, in a chapter house and/or at any chapter functions during the recruitment period.
- IGC organizations participating in intake must completed the Membership Intake Packet prior to beginning the process.



- Within five days of beginning an intake process or receiving a bid, all new members or neophytes must complete an [affiliation agreement](#).

Anti-Hazing Statement

What is hazing?

Any action, intended or carried out, that causes or creates a substantial risk including, but not limited to: mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, personal degradation or ridicule, whether or not the act is voluntarily agreed upon. Actions may be in conjunction with recruitment, initiation or continued membership in any group or recognized student organization. See operational procedure regarding hazing (4-07.101) for further details.

Operational Procedure Regarding Hazing

1. Policy statement. All registered student organizations are required to adhere to the following operational procedures regarding hazing:
2. Prior to any act of pledging or initiation, where applicable:
 - a. The Ohio hazing law and the university hazing policy will be displayed in a prominent place in each fraternity and sorority house. The Ohio hazing law will be published annually in the "Digest of Rules and Regulations."
 - b. The president, chapter advisor and pledge master of each fraternity and sorority will sign a statement at the beginning of each academic year certifying that he/she has read, understands and will make known to all members and pledges the Ohio hazing law and the university hazing policy.
 - c. Faculty/staff advisors or administrative unit heads will make the Ohio hazing law and university hazing policy known to staff and students under their direction (e.g. residence life, intercollegiate athletics, band and ROTC).
3. The office of campus life may require a pledge/associate or initiation activity listing from a registered student organization or other student group.
4. Student organizations that fail to comply with the operational procedure of hazing may be deregistered by the assistant dean for enrollment management and student affairs or designee.

University Policy Regarding Hazing

1. Kent state university students as individuals, members of registered student organizations or any other recognizable groups, teams, or associations of students are expressly prohibited from engaging in hazing. Pursuant to Ohio law under section [2903.31](#) of the Revised Code, ("hazing") is defined as committing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to commit any act of initiation individually or with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.
2. In addition to Ohio law, Kent state university defines "hazing" as any action or situation intentionally created, whether on or off university premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.



3. Students and/or organizations charged with violating this rule are subject to disciplinary action under the code of student conduct, rule [3342-4-02](#) of the Administrative Code and this register.

Minimum Standards

The following are minimum standards established for each fraternity and sorority to maintain in good standing with Fraternity & Sorority Life. The following must be completed each academic year:

- Per Semester:
 - Complete an average of 10 hours of community service per a member per semester*
 - 75% of members must attend a risk management education session on the topic of hazing, alcohol and drugs, or safety each semester
 - Send a representative to Presidents Prep Day
- Per Academic Year:
 - Meet with council advisor a minimum of once per month during academic terms and attend other meetings and events as requested by the Fraternity & Sorority Life Staff
 - Raise and donate a minimum of \$25 per member (average) for local or inter/national philanthropies annually*
 - Send a representative to the Emerging Leaders Retreat
 - Send a representative all biweekly FSL President Meetings
 - 75% of members must attend an approved sexual violence prevention program annually
 - 75% of members must attend an approved social justice/cultural competency program annually
 - Participate in the Annual Standards of Excellence process

* Any monies donated or hours served after undergraduate commencement for the academic terms will be counted for the following semester

FSL Relationship Statement

Each chapter is required to have a current, signed copy of the [Fraternity & Sorority Relationship Statement](#) on file with Fraternity & Sorority Life. This must be signed by the chapter president, on behalf of the chapter, and information must be presented to the chapter at large. Both faculty/staff and chapter advisors must also sign the relationship statement, verifying that the information has been presented to the chapter.

This is due no later than 9/24/2021.

Proof of Insurance

All fraternities and sororities are required to provide proof of insurance to the Kent Student Center and Involvement via email or US Mail to their council advisor. All certificates of insurance must be provided

PO Box 5190
Kent, OH 44242

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(330) 672-2480
csi@kent.edu



no later than the fourth Friday of each semester and must be **current**. Expired policies will not be accepted.

Roster Management

It is critical that each organization maintain an updated roster throughout the semester. It is expected that the chapter notify Fraternity & Sorority Life via email when a member is added or removed, as well as updating the chapter roster on [Engage](#). Rosters must be up to date no later than December 1st in the fall semester and May 1st in the spring semester.

Chapter Advisors

Each chapter must designate the following advisors whose name, position, email, and phone number will be on file with Fraternity & Sorority Life:

- Chapter Alumna/Alumnus Advisor
- Campus Faculty/Staff Advisor
- Housing Corporation Representative (if applicable)
- Regional Representative

Attendance at FSL/University Events

Throughout the year, it is expected that fraternities and sororities attend events sponsored by Fraternity & Sorority Life and the Kent Student Center and Involvement. Chapter presidents and advisors will be given a list prior to the start of the semester of these events, which include, but are not limited to: Leadership retreats, president meetings, community-wide speakers, awards ceremonies, and other programs deemed necessary by the Fraternity & Sorority Life staff.

Chapter Housing

Kent State is lucky enough that many of our fraternities and sororities have houses in which chapter members can reside. In order to maintain a safe and healthy environment for residents, as well as remain in compliance with policies set by Resident Services, please keep in mind the following:

Fire Safety Requirements

In order to be eligible for housing Fall Exemptions and Spring Releases, chapters must complete the following:

- Conduct a fire inspection with Kent Fire Department or Kent State University Fire Prevention. A certificate of compliance dated within the last calendar year must be on file with Fraternity & Sorority Life.
- Host a fire safety training with Kent Fire Department or Kent State University Fire Prevention within the last calendar year. At least 75% of the chapter must be in attendance at this training.



Chapter can contact the Kent Fire Department at (330) 676-7393 or Kent State Fire Prevention at (330) 672-1962 or nbushhek@kent.edu.

Fall Exemptions

Students requesting for an exemption from the university policy regarding student housing for the Fall Semester will only be considered if the student requesting the exemption meets all of the following criteria:

- The student is a member of a fraternity or sorority residing in a recognized (lettered) fraternity/sorority facility;
- The student is an active member of the fraternity/sorority and appears on the chapter's member roster in all semesters in which the exemption will occur;
- The student has a minimum 2.25 cumulative grade point average;
- The student has attained sophomore standing (30 credit hours or above) with the university.

If the student meets the above criteria, the student must fill out and submit the [Housing Exemption Form](#) to Residence Services by May 1st.

Students will be notified of their status after grades for the Spring Semester are posted and verified and a housing contract is verified by their Chapter President. If a student is completing summer classes to obtain the 30 credit requirement, they will be placed in a pending status until the classes are complete.

*No release is needed if the student will have over 60 credits at the start of the Fall Semester

*All students that will begin the Fall Semester below 60 credits earned must complete this form even if they have been released from a prior contract

Spring Release

Students requesting a release from the university policy regarding student housing in the Spring Semester will only be considered if the student requesting the release meets all of the following criteria:

- The student is a member of a fraternity or sorority residing in a recognized (lettered) fraternity/sorority facility;
- The student is an active member of the fraternity/sorority and appears on the chapter's member roster in all semesters in which the exemption will occur;
- The student has a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average;
- The student has attained sophomore standing (30 credit hours or above) with the university;
- The student holds an officer position within their fraternity/sorority that requires them to reside in the fraternity/sorority facility according to the chapter's constitution and bylaws.

If the student meets the above criteria, the student must fill out and submit the [Contract Release Form](#) to Residence Services by December 1st.



Students will be notified of their status after grades for the Fall Semester are posted and verified and a housing contract is verified by their chapter President.

*You cannot check out of your room until this is approved

*All students that will begin the Fall Semester below 60 credits earned must complete this form even if they have been released from a prior contract

Judicial Processes and Student Code of Conduct

Fraternities and sororities, as well as the councils, are self-governing organizations. This being said, it is expected that chapters:

- Conduct all activities in accordance with the policies and procedures of the University
- Comply with all federal, state, and local laws
- Be responsible for their own actions and omissions as a chapter, as well as the actions and omissions of their membership, to the extent required by Ohio law and university policy
- Develop and maintain an internal judicial system to ensure fairness and due process in the application of chapter rules and policies
- Comply with all applicable local and state fire, health and other safety codes in the organization's facility