



Shippensburg University Fraternity & Sorority Life Membership Guidelines

Established August 1, 2023

I. Eligibility Requirements

Shippensburg University students wishing to receive an invitation of membership to a social Greek-letter organization must be verified as eligible by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life. No invitation to membership may be given to a student who is ineligible or who has not been verified.

To be eligible for membership, students must meet the following criteria:

- A. Be enrolled at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.
- B. Be in good judicial standing with the University, meaning not currently on probation or suspension as determined by the student conduct process
- C. Have earned a minimum of 12 credit hours at Shippensburg University or transferred a minimum of 12 credit hours from an accredited college or university. Advancement Placement (AP) credits and/or dual-enrollment credits earned while in high school will not be counted toward the requirement.
- D. Have at least a 2.300 GPA and/or meet council or chapter-specific GPA requirements as applicable. Shippensburg University will enforce whichever is greater.
- E. Have submitted a signed Membership Agreement Form, allowing the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to confirm enrollment, share their academic record information with the chapter in question, and acknowledge the University's anti-hazing policy.

A student who does not meet the minimum criteria will not be eligible to receive an invitation of membership to join a fraternity or sorority at that time. This does not affect their potential future eligibility. If an organization extends bids prior to the completion of an eligibility check, they will be in violation of this policy and may be referred to Student Conduct and Community Standards.

In addition to these requirements, chapters may set their own criteria for membership.

II. Unauthorized Membership

Fraternity and sorority membership, and its associated benefits, are limited to the students that meet the previously listed eligibility requirements, have accepted a formal invitation to membership, and are reported as members to both the University and the organization's headquarters. Students that are not registered and approved by the University that engage in organizational activities may be considered unauthorized members if they:

- A. Pay money toward organizational operations.
- B. Receive benefits from an organization not openly available to general students.
- C. Attend events, activities, and/or meetings that are meant only for members.

- D. Are referred to as a member, social members, or similar title by other members of the organization.
- E. Are led to believe they have been accepted as a member by other members of the organization.
- F. Are included in organization-specific communications.
- G. Engage in other activities with the implicit or explicit consent of the organization that would lead someone to believe they are a member.

III. Recognized Membership Statuses

Once a student joins a fraternity or sorority, the University will recognize that membership until that member leaves the organization permanently through voluntarily resigning their membership, having their membership revoked by the organization, or leaving the University through withdrawal, transfer, or graduating, at which point they will be recognized as an alum. The University does not differentiate membership statuses within an organization.

IV. Member Disaffiliation

Should a member voluntarily choose to leave their organization by resigning their membership (also referred to as disaffiliation) or if their membership and associated privileges thereof are revoked by the organization, the chapter must update their roster with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Removal is subject to approval from the organization's headquarters.

V. Multi-Campus Chapters

Some chapters may have multi-campus charters, subject to approval by the University. Shippensburg University students that are members of these organizations are responsible for adhering to Shippensburg University policies while operating off campus, including activities and operations taking place on those other campuses. Members of these organizations that are enrolled at one of the affiliated campuses are expected to abide by University policy while on Shippensburg University's campus.

VI. Affiliated Transfer Students

Students who transfer to Shippensburg University and are already affiliated with a fraternity or sorority that is active on campus may immediately affiliate with their organization if they wish to. The chapter must notify the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and update their roster. This roster addition is subject to approval from the organization's headquarters.

VII. Alignment with Headquarters Membership Status

If an organization's headquarters denies membership to a student or revokes the membership of a student, that student will not be recognized as a member of the organization by the University.