



Shippensburg University Fraternity & Sorority Life Recognition Guidelines

Revised August 1, 2023

I. **Relationship Statement**

Shippensburg University recognizes social Greek-letter organizations as an integral part of the campus community for their capacity to make positive contributions to the co-curricular environment of the campus and to individual students' growth and development.

It is further recognized that a special relationship exists between the University and the fraternities and sororities, and there is a need to define this relationship clearly so that both parties understand the rights and responsibilities of University-recognized fraternities and sororities.

II. **Recognition Defined**

Recognition as a social fraternity or sorority is granted by Shippensburg University in conjunction with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life. University recognition is a privilege and thus involves certain rights and responsibilities.

Rights of Recognition

- To utilize the University name along with the organization's name.
- The privilege of self-governing internal organization affairs.
- To use University facilities
- To participate in new member recruitment and intake programs and processes
- To participate as an organization in University-sponsored activities including, but not limited to, intramural sports, Homecoming, and Greek Week
- To receive assistance and support from University personnel and access to University resources.

For a fraternity or sorority to exist or operate at Shippensburg University the organization must be endorsed, recognized, and chartered. Recognition is divided into three categories: Full, Provisional, and Probational. In addition, there are two categories in which a group can lose the privilege of recognition. Recognition can be Suspended or Withdrawn.

If a previously recognized local fraternity or sorority applies for recognition, they will not be permitted to return to Shippensburg University as a recognized organization, regardless of dismissal status.

III. Types of Recognition

- A. **FULL RECOGNITION** grants a fraternity or sorority in good standing all rights, privileges, obligations, and appropriate use of Shippensburg University Resources as listed above.
- B. **PROVISIONAL RECOGNITION** is granted to Interest Groups and Colonies and provides University recognition as groups work to fulfill the requirements outlined in the Expansion and Reactivation Guidelines. During this period the Interest Group or Colony has rights, privileges and responsibilities as outlined in the Expansion and Reactivation Guidelines.
- C. **PROBATIONAL RECOGNITION** Probational Recognition may entail temporary withdrawal of certain University services and benefits. In addition, Shippensburg University may apply specific sanctions against a chapter for a specified period of time. These sanctions involve the imposition of a schedule of corrective action or a judicial sanction. In the event that further infractions occur, or if the corrective actions or sanction(s) are not met, University recognition may be suspended or withdrawn.

IV. Criteria for Continued Recognition

For an organization to retain full recognition by the University, all fraternity and sorority chapters must abide by the following:

- A. Maintain and pursue goals that are in support of the mission of Shippensburg University and their Inter/National Headquarters and are consistent with policies established by the Shippensburg University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life.
- B. Be affiliated with an inter/national fraternity or sorority.
- C. Maintain an updated chapter roster of active and new members with officer positions and requested member information.
- D. Maintain insurance coverage required by the University and submit Certificate(s) of Insurance at the start of each academic year and upon request.
- E. Maintain and submit an updated chapter constitution, bylaws, recruitment/intake dates and programs, and other documents where applicable or requested.
- F. Provide a current new member/associate education plan to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life prior to extending bids to students who are eligible for membership.
- G. Meet regularly, as determined by the University, with the chapter's designated chapter coach through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
- H. Adhere to the minimum requirements for membership when extending invitations for membership to potential new members/interests.
- I. Signed copies of the *Shippensburg University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life Anti-Hazing Agreement* must be on file in the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life for ALL chapter members and new members.
- J. Signed copies of the *Shippensburg University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life Membership Agreement Form* must be on file in the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life for ALL chapter members and new members.
- K. Adhere to all University organizational policies and procedures as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.
- L. Comply with all National, State, Local, University, governing council, and Inter/National Headquarters standards.

To be eligible for Continued Recognition, a chapter must provide the above information to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life as indicated on the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life calendar. Failure to provide this information may result in a review of the organization's recognition status with the

University and could result in judicial action. A Report of Recognition Compliance (also referred to as “dealbreakers”) will be included in the annual accreditation process.

Organizations must also refer to appropriate governing council documents for additional requirements or restrictions.

V. Loss of Recognition

The University may suspend or withdraw recognition of a Recognized Chapter for failure to comply with the expectations as set forth in Section IV: Criteria for Continued Recognition. A change in recognition would take place through the student conduct process. Suspension or withdrawal of recognition will go into effect at the conclusion of the related disciplinary process. The terms of the suspension or withdrawal of recognition are as follows:

A. SUSPENSION OF RECOGNITION is loss of university recognition for a prescribed period of time during which certain activities and privileges may be suspended. Suspension of Recognition will involve the imposition of a schedule of corrective action or a judicial sanction. Should recognition be restored, the chapters will be granted Probational Recognition for one year prior to the reinstatement of Full Recognition.

B. WITHDRAWAL OF RECOGNITION revokes the recognition granted by Shippensburg University and requires the chapter to immediately cease all operations. Upon Withdrawal of Recognition the chapter shall be ineligible to apply for university recognition for a period of time based on a determination by the University and the Inter/National Headquarters.

After the specified period has elapsed, the organization must meet the requirements for starting a new fraternity or sorority as specified in the Expansion & Reactivation Policy

Chapters whose recognition has been withdrawn by the University or were never granted recognition through a University-sanctioned expansion process but exist and operate as an unrecognized organization, shall not be eligible for recognition.