

## **Expansion Policy for Social Fraternal Organizations**

### Student Organizations & Leadership, California State University – Sacramento

Social fraternal organizations are embedded in the rich history of Sacramento State. The growing interest of students to participate in fraternal activities shows that Greek Life remains relevant in the collegiate experience, and Student Organizations & Leadership is committed to providing support to all recognized social fraternal organizations.

University recognition is a privilege granted to student organizations by Student Organizations & Leadership. Student Organizations & Leadership supports the formation of and grants recognition to student organizations whose purposes and activities enhance the social, cultural, recreational, and educational functions of the University. Such organizations foster valuable experiences for students that often lead to significant learning and development.

Any social fraternity or sorority seeking University recognition will follow this policy.

#### **Step 1: Indicate interest by connecting with Student Organizations & Leadership’s Greek Life Advisor.**

In order for a social fraternal organization to expand, the interested students or organization representatives must meet/communicate their potential expansion interest with the Greek Life Advisor in Student Organizations & Leadership. This meeting will serve as an introduction for both parties to review the appropriate steps to reach recognition status.

#### **Step 2: Provide proof of 501(a) or 501(c) status.**

In order to comply with Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, Section 6A, all single sex Sacramento State fraternities and sororities must submit proof of their 501(a) tax exemption status. Organizations that are exempt under Section 501(a) include those organizations that are classified within Section 501(c). Section 501(c) applies to single-sex organizations recognized by the IRS under social or fraternal designation, including but not limited to sections 501(c)(4), 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), and 501(c)(10).

#### Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972 **Section 1681. Sex**

**(a) Prohibition against discrimination; exceptions.** *No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance, except that:*

#### **(6) Social fraternities or sororities; voluntary youth service organizations**

*this section shall not apply to membership practices –*

*(A) of a social fraternity or social sorority which is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of Title 26, the active membership of which consists primarily of students in attendance at an institution of higher education*

Interested social fraternal organizations must submit the required documentation to the Greek Life Advisor, providing proof of their 501(a) tax exemption status prior to moving onto step 3, obtaining membership in a social Greek Council.

### **STEP 3: Obtain membership in a social Greek Council.**

It is expected that this step be completed prior to a group functioning as a recognized organization.

Student organizations are formed for the purpose of bringing individuals together who have common goals or common interests. Student Organizations & Leadership does not recognize groups with duplicate or similar mission statements. The core principles of social fraternal organizations are similar in nature: to promote academic integrity, cultivate brotherhood/sisterhood, serve the campus and local community, provide opportunities for leadership, appreciate a specific culture or multiculturalism, strengthen character, and develop the values of confidence, honesty and dignity in members. Should an organization wish to expand with a similar mission or purpose, Student Organizations & Leadership expects the group to receive support from peer organizations in the form of an invitation to join a social Greek Council.

Greek Councils are formed when individual groups come together to form an umbrella organization. Greek Councils act as a governing body and serve their member organizations by providing programs, leadership opportunities, service learning, and organization recognition.

The five social Greek Councils at Sacramento State are the Latino Greek Council (LGC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), the Interfraternity Council (IFC), the Panhellenic Sorority Council (PSC) and the United Sorority & Fraternity Council (USFC). In the event a new Council is interested in forming, Student Organizations & Leadership expects the new Council to present a different purpose than that of a currently recognized Council.

### **STEP 4: Complete the Student Organizations & Leadership Recognition Process.**

Recognition procedures can be found in the Student Organization Handbook or online at <https://www.csus.edu/student-life/student-organizations/>

*Please contact Student Organizations & Leadership at (916) 278-6595 with questions regarding this policy.*