

NIC Standards for Campuses



SCSU Fraternities Guide

NIC Standards for NIC Member Fraternities

1. The following data, covering the preceding academic year, will be reported to the NIC headquarters by November 1st of each year:

Number of pledges/new members*

Retention of pledges

Number of initiates*

Number of initiated men (undergraduate)*

Retention of men for past academic years (annual retention rate for those who left fraternity prior to graduation)

Number of chapters opened and size at time of chartering

Number of closed chapters and reason for closure

Number of active chapters*

Number of members involved in campus leadership positions

Number of community service hours donated

Number of dollars raised for charitable causes

2. Member organization policies will include:

- a) Member's chapters agree to and support open expansion on their respective campuses
- b) Member organizations are insured with liability coverage
- c) Each associate/pledge/new member has a minimum GPA of 2.3 for first semester freshman year.
 - a) -minimum college GPA of 2.3 thereafter;
 - b) -or has a GPA at or above each campus all-men's average thereafter

Annual cumulative GPA of

-at least a 2.5 for each chapter

-or at or above each campus all-men's average

The associate/pledge/new member program shall last no longer than twelve weeks and encourages a program lasting less than twelve weeks. Groups must follow their inter/national headquarters program length. ie., if the fraternity has a 6 week program, it must follow that requirement.

Fraternity-chapter women's auxiliary groups (i.e. "little sisters") are not allowed

Risk management policies that address alcohol use, fire safety, hazing, and sexual assault/abuse

Alcohol free at all rush/recruitment activities including formal, informal and summer/break recruitment activities

Alcohol free pledge/associate/new member programs

Language allowing for immediate chapter emergency, temporary suspension by individual fraternity

3. Each member will communicate its values through its ritual at least annually or as prescribed by its policies

4. Each member organization will communicate the importance of its undergraduate members participating in educational programming (whether campus, national fraternity or independently led) covering any of the following: academic achievement, alcohol consumption, career preparation, civic engagement, hazing, leadership development, sexual assault, and values & ethics.

Resolution Regarding Little Sister Groups

WHEREAS, the North-American Interfraternity Conference believes sororities and women's fraternities offer excellent opportunities for women to share a fraternal experience; and

WHEREAS, auxiliary women's groups organized by men's fraternity chapters, commonly referred to as "little sisters" are inconsistent with the concept and philosophy of separate and equal women's fraternities; and

WHEREAS, the National Interfraternity Conference believes that these groups inhibit the accomplishment of chapter goals by:

- DIVERTING resources of time, efforts, and money, which are needed for chapter operations and programming;
- DISTRACTING chapter members in the performance of essential duties (e.g., membership recruitment and membership education).
- INVITING disharmony within the chapter by usurping the roles and responsibilities of initiated members;
- WEAKENING the bonds of brotherhood by adversely affecting interpersonal relationships within the chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Fraternity Executives Association and several member fraternities have taken a position against these auxiliary groups,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Interfraternity Conference and the presidents of its member fraternities believe that "little sister" groups are not desirable adjuncts to the collegiate chapters of men's fraternities and urges and recommends that member fraternities work with their chapters to eliminate these programs at the earliest possible time.

Adopted by vote of the 1987 House of Delegates

Resolution on Human Decency

WHEREAS, colleges, universities and educational associations have expressed increasing concern for inappropriate, insensitive and sometimes violent behavior in human interaction; and

WHEREAS, such behavior is reportedly practiced by some collegians, including undergraduate members of men's fraternities; and

WHEREAS, social codes and mores are in a period of transition and redefinition, causing confusion and inappropriate responses for the best interest of the fraternal community; and

WHEREAS, negative behavior is a contradiction of the principles and ideals of fraternal organizations; and

WHEREAS, education of current social mores has traditionally been part of the fraternal education within the ideals of the fraternities and is expected to result in change for the better as undergraduate men are taught the standards of gentlemanly conduct through the fraternal ideals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this body urges each member fraternity to intensify its efforts to educate its members in fraternal principles and ideas regarding positive human interaction.

Adopted by vote of the 1986 House of Delegates

Resolution Against Hazing

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North-American Interfraternity Conference hereby unequivocally repeats its historic repudiation of any pre-initiation or initiation practices antithetical to the laws and underlying principles for which each member fraternity stands;

FURTHER, that this body expects each fraternity to take appropriate action to implement the intent of this resolution;

FURTHER, that the Conference not only records its continuing disapproval of hazing in the strongest possible terms, but declares its intention to monitor closely the incidents of this activity through the establishment of a special ad hoc committee for such purpose, and

FURTHER, that all member fraternities endorse this resolution.

Resolution of Recommitment to Basic Objectives

As representatives of our several fraternities, we agree to use every reasonable means to encourage our chapters to:

1. Foster those character building and leadership training activities which have traditionally characterized fraternities; and
2. Avoid all actions and activities which detract from these basic objectives, including:
 - a. Violation of state, province, or national law
 - b. Open parties

Adopted by vote of the 1986 House of Delegates

Risk Management Policy

WHEREAS, the NIC unequivocally supports a legal, responsible, and safe lifestyle for undergraduate fraternity members;

WHEREAS, previously the NIC has taken a strong stance/positive action against hazing, sexism, and racism. In addition the NIC has endorsed the FIPG Risk Management Policy which provides regulations/ guidelines for the legal, responsible, and safe use of alcohol.

WHEREAS, the NIC is dedicated to a quality undergraduate fraternity experience and therefore urges college administrators, campus IFCS, and local fraternity chapters to adopt and implement the FIPG Risk Management Policy and provides leadership for a legal, responsible, and safe campus lifestyle for Greeks;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NIC adopts the risk management policy attached to this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NIC work with university I and college administrators and faculty, the campus IFC, and other interested organizations to implement this policy.

Statement of Principle Regarding Single-Gender Membership

WHEREAS, the North-American Interfraternity Conference believes that single-gender organizations are intimate associations that develop the character of an individual by:

- PROVIDING students with campus organizations that provide an intimate, family-like structure;
 - OFFERING A CHOICE to men to pursue men's college fraternity and to women to pursue women's college fraternities;
 - OFFERING FULL MEMBERSHIP to men and women in their respective single-gender organizations;
 - PROVIDING a focus on scholarship, personal development, trust, mutual assistance and friendships;
 - OPENING membership with no discriminatory clauses related to race, creed or national origin;
 - ALLOWING the chapter and candidate an opportunity for mutual agreement on membership;
 - ALLOWING the members of these private organizations to identify their friends without restraint;
- and

WHEREAS, the North-American Interfraternity Conference believes men's and women's fraternities offer excellent opportunities for men and women to share a fraternal experience; and

WHEREAS, women's fraternities, commonly referred to as sororities, are consistent with the concept and philosophy of separate and equal women's fraternities; and

WHEREAS, the North-American Interfraternity Conference supports the National Panhellenic Conference in their Resolution on Single-Sex Fraternities; and

WHEREAS, fraternities and sororities have the right under the United States Constitution and civil rights laws to exist as single-gender organizations and to maintain that status, especially under the First and Fourteenth Amendments; and

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972 provides that sexual discrimination shall not apply to membership practices of:

- a. A social fraternity or social sorority that is exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the IRS Code of 1954, the active membership of which consists primarily of students in attendance at an institution of higher education, or
- b. Voluntary youth service organizations, including but not limited to YMCAs, YWCAs, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, which are so exempt, the membership of which has traditionally been limited to persons of one sex, and

WHEREAS, the courts of the United States have recognized both a right of intimate association and a right of expressive association, rights that may be invoked by fraternities and sororities; and

WHEREAS, the North-American Interfraternity Conference and several fraternities and sororities have taken a position on single-gender membership in the Constitution by the acceptance of entirely male or female members;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North-American Interfraternity Conference and its member fraternities assert their right to confine their membership to men. These organizations have a right to exist as single-gender organizations, grow and to enjoy their right of intimate association.

Adopted by unanimous vote of the 1992 House of Delegates

RESOLUTION REGARDING ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND ACHIEVEMENT

WHEREAS, the members of the North-American Interfraternity Conference believe in supporting the academic performance of our student members;

WHEREAS, our own Basic Expectations of fraternity membership states we will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity;

WHEREAS, many of the creeds and mottoes of the member fraternities specifically mention their purpose is to assist in the acquisition of a sound education;

WHEREAS, the fraternity community is in a cooperative nature with institutions of higher education;

WHEREAS, fraternities exist in an academic setting and in accord with a tradition Of scholastic concern;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the member fraternities adopt that:

Each member fraternity shall express its expectations of academic achievement for new members, initiation and continued good standing for student members and for continued chapter recognition.

Each member fraternity shall have a program to assist members and chapters to achieve or exceed these standards and appropriate sanctions to enforce them.

Each member fraternity should develop additional programs to promote achievement beyond these minimum standards and to encourage academic excellence as an integral part of fraternal life.

Approved by the NIC House of Delegates, December, 1994

RESOLUTION TO FOSTER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

WHEREAS, the members of the North-American Interfraternity Conference believe in supporting the academic achievement of our student members;

WHEREAS, our own Basic Expectations of Fraternity Membership state we will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity;

WHEREAS, many of the creeds & mottoes of NIC member fraternities reflect their organizations' commitment to assisting their members in the acquisition of a sound education and becoming learned individuals;

WHEREAS, the fraternity community is in a cooperative relationship with institutions of higher education;

WHEREAS, fraternities exist in an academic setting and in accord with a tradition of scholastic concern;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the member fraternities support the North-American Interfraternity Conference in its continuing efforts:

To foster academic achievement among the membership of the 63 NIC member fraternities by offering educational resource materials such as *Making the Grade ... Getting the Job*.

To provide recognition by presenting the *NIC Academic Awards Program* to Interfraternity Councils and their chapters that demonstrate academic achievement.

To explore the establishment of a recognition program for faculty members who advise fraternity members toward academic achievement.

To support and enhance the leadership role played by national Greek academic honorary organizations such as Gamma Sigma Alpha and the Order of Omega.

To sponsor continuing education for NIC member fraternity scholarship chairmen such as the *NIC Academic Achievement Forum* on April 5, 1997 in the O'Hare Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

Approved by the NIC House of Delegates, December 7, 1996

RESOLUTION ON EXPANSION

The member fraternities of the North-American Interfraternity Conference believe that each individual member fraternity offers a unique and desirable fraternity experience. The members of the Conference also recognize that the most successful fraternity systems have no barriers to entry.

Therefore, the members of the Conference agree to:

Ensure that their member Chapters are open and receptive to expansion on their campuses.

Vigorously defend students' Constitutional freedoms of association and assembly on public campuses.

Insist that even at private institutions, the basic principles of freedom of association are upheld and that all applicable Federal, state, and local laws as well as university policies are applied fairly and evenly to all student groups.

This resolution was approved by the NIC House of Delegates in December 1999.