

Texas Christian University
Fraternity & Sorority Life
Program Standards (rev. 1/8/07)

Introduction

Throughout the years, fraternities and sororities have thrived because of their ability to unite, in common purpose, students from different backgrounds. Since 1955 fraternity and sorority chapters have been in existence at Texas Christian University, representing membership in as many as twenty-six national chapters and three local organizations.

Fraternities and sororities offer students opportunities for personal development unmatched in most campus organizations. The leadership opportunities alone have caused some to call the American college fraternity a “laboratory” where students can test and develop their skills as organizational leaders, public speakers, community servants and good citizens.

College fraternities and sororities stand for some lofty ideals, scholastic achievement, public service, respect for one’s fellow human and so on. The conflict between these stated ideals and the behavior of undergraduate members on the campus has often caused confusion and a lack of support for the fraternity/sorority community. Only through cooperative efforts among undergraduate and alumni members, general fraternity/sorority leaders, inter/national offices, campus administrators and other concerned parties, will college fraternities and sororities meet their stated purposes.

It is clear, that in the cases where the true mission of fraternity/sorority is understood and supported by all concerned constituents, positive constructive relationships can be built between fraternities and sororities and the host institution. The counter is also true. (-paraphrased from “Baird’s Manual of American College Fraternities, 20th Edition”)

Standards

1. Mission & Goals

The fraternity and sorority community must develop, review and disseminate regularly their own specific mission, which must be consistent with the nature and goals of Texas Christian University and with the standards in this document. As a result, the fraternity and sorority community at TCU will achieve programs, services, and activities with purpose. The purpose will be pre-determined through a set of goals and objectives that are attainable throughout the fraternity/sorority community.

2. Program & Learning Opportunities

Fraternity and sorority activities must be (a) purposeful, (b) coherent, (c) based on or related to theories and knowledge of human development and learning characteristics, and (d) reflective of the demographic and developmental profiles of the student body. The fraternity and sorority community activities must promote student development by encouraging such things as positive and realistic self-appraisal, intellectual development, appropriate personal and occupational choices, clarification of values, physical fitness, the ability to relate meaningfully with others, the capacity to engage in a personally satisfying and effective style of living, the capacity to appreciate cultural and esthetic differences, and the capacity to work independently and interdependently. The educational experience of students consists of both academic effort in the classroom and developmental opportunities through membership in the fraternity and sorority community. As a result, members of the fraternity and sorority community at TCU will receive added benefit for membership in their fraternity/sorority chapter. Members of the fraternity/sorority will be better students, will achieve higher academic standing, will attain necessary leadership skills, and will be better prepared for life in the greater community.

3. Organization & Administration

The fraternity and sorority community must develop its own set of policies and procedures that include a detailed description of the administration process and an organizational chart showing the job function and reporting relationship within and beyond the community. As a result, the fraternity and sorority community at TCU will be self-sufficient, self-regulating and self-led as a community of students within the University.

4. Campus & Community Relations

The fraternity and sorority community must maintain good relations with relevant campus offices and external agencies, which necessarily requires regular identification of offices with whom such relationships are critical. To enhance the potential for student development and to properly represent institutional governance concerns, the community must seek to utilize multiple resources in the delivery of services and programs. These include, minimally, the inter/national headquarters staff, alumni, the chapter officers and the membership, faculty members, and other institutional administrators. As a result, the TCU fraternity and sorority community will be a friendly and effective community within TCU, utilizing necessary offices, staff and faculty to assure their success within the greater TCU community. A cooperative relationship will be maintained between TCU and the TCU fraternity and sorority community, including their (inter)national headquarters staff, alumni, chapters officers, and the membership as a whole.

5. Diversity & Multi-Cultural Programs and Services

The fraternity and sorority community must provide to members of its majority and minority cultures' educational efforts that focus on awareness of cultural differences, self-assessment of possible prejudices, and desirable behavioral changes. The fraternity and sorority community must provide educational programs that help minority students identify their unique needs, prioritize those needs, and meet them to the degree that numbers of students, facilities, and resources permit. The program must orient minority students to the culture of the university and promote and deepen their understanding of their own culture and heritage. As a result, the fraternity and sorority program at TCU will promote cultural educational experiences that are characterized by open and continuous communication that deepen understanding of one's culture and heritage and that respects and educates regarding commonalities, differences, and histories of cultures.

6. Ethics & Standards

All persons involved in the provision of the fraternity and sorority community must maintain the highest standards of ethical behavior. Fraternity and sorority administrators and leaders must develop and adopt standards of ethical practice addressing the unique problems that face the fraternity/sorority community. The standards must be published and reviewed by all concerned. Each chapter will communicate its values through its ritual at least annually or as prescribed by its policies. As a result, members of the TCU fraternity and sorority community will live to a higher standard. Stated standards will be published for public review and reviewed and revised regularly to meet the cultural change within the fraternity and sorority community.

7. Evaluation

There must be systematic and regular research on and evaluation of the overall fraternity/sorority community to determine whether the educational goals and the needs of the membership are being met. Although methods may vary, they must utilize both quantitative and qualitative measures. Data collected must include responses from student-members and other significant constituencies. Results of these regular evaluations must be used in revising and improving the program goals and implementation. Evaluation of the fraternity/sorority community goals and objectives should be sought from relevant administrative units, community agencies, alumni, students, faculty, and national headquarters staff. Selected critical aspects of evaluations should be recorded and maintained by the community. As a result, the TCU fraternity and sorority community will remain current with all programs, services and activities, maintaining factual and proven knowledge that they are fulfilling their goals and objectives through every effort of the community. Continued progress and development of the fraternity and sorority community will take place through systematic efforts of the TCU fraternity and sorority community.

In order to accomplish the aforementioned goals, purpose, and mission of the Texas Christian University Fraternity and Sorority Community, TCU, in conjunction with all fraternity and sorority life constituents, developed the Fraternity and Sorority Life Expectations. All student organizations defined by TCU as a fraternity or sorority will be held accountable on an annual basis to meet and hopefully exceed these expectations.

Each organization will submit a Scoring Sheet that will be evaluated by a standing committee. Below is a list of committee members:

Chair	Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life (facilitator)
Members	Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs (or appointee) Chair of Committee
	Chair of the Staff Assembly (or appointee)
	Chair of the Faculty Senate (or appointee)
	Chair, TCU Student Organization Committee (or appointee)

Once the committee has met and evaluated chapter submissions, the chair of the committee will convene a meeting with the chapter executive officers and local advisors to discuss the results. Additionally, the chair will communicate the decisions of the committee to the inter/national office.

TCU will publish the decision of the committee in a table format on the www.greeks.tcu.edu webpage. If a chapter meets and/or exceeds the minimum standard, the chapter will receive a green color in the individual category box. If the chapter does not meet the minimum standard, the chapter will receive a red color in the individual category box. The overall chapter distinction will be indicated in the box with the chapters name and with the same color distinctions.

Below is an example chart of what will be published on the website:

	Scholar.	Operational	Facilities	Risk Man	Co-Cur	Serv.
Alpha Chi Omega						
Alpha Delta Pi						
Alpha Kappa Alpha						
Alpha Phi Alpha						
Chi Omega						
Chi Upsilon Sigma						
Delta Delta Delta						
Delta Sigma						
Delta Tau Delta						
Kappa Alpha Psi						
Kappa Alpha Theta						
Kappa Kappa Gamma						
Kappa Lambda Delta						
Kappa Sigma						
Lambda Theta Phi						
Lambda Chi Alpha						
Phi Beta Sigma						
Phi Delta Theta						
Phi Gamma Delta						
Pi Kappa Phi						
Pi Beta Phi						
Phi Kappa Sigma						
Sigma Alpha Epsilon						
Sigma Lambda Alpha						
Sigma Phi Epsilon						
Sigma Chi						
Sigma Kappa						
Zeta Tau Alpha						

Fraternity and Sorority Life Standards
Texas Christian University

Academic Standards

1. Chapter has a Scholarship Chair/Officer with a written job description.
2. All executive chapter officers are enrolled as full-time, good standing students at TCU and are academically eligible to hold a leadership position at TCU (2.5 cumulative GPA or previous semester TCU GPA).
3. Chapter meets/exceeds the all women's/men's university grade point average respectively.
4. Each associate/pledge/new member has a minimum high school or college GPA of 2.3 (on a 4.0 scale).
5. Each associate/pledge/new member has a minimum 2.25 GPA during their first semester with the organization and maintains a minimum of a 2.25 thereafter. If the associate/pledge/new member/member falls below a 2.25 GPA, the chapter must submit a written plan that will assist the student increase their GPA.
6. The Chapter has a written scholarship policy which includes expectations for members (initiated and uninitiated members) with strategies for members with below minimum expectation performance.
7. The timing of chapter activities (excluding chapter meetings) do not interfere with university blackout dates as published by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
8. Chapter will have an Academic Coach.
9. Chapter distributes a directory of academic resources to members (initiated and uninitiated) each semester. This directory will be provided by TCU.
10. Chapter sponsors an academic skills workshop for all associates/pledges/new members prior to the conclusion of each associate/pledge/new member initiation or within two months of the conclusion of the Membership Intake Process. Programs may include but not limited to teaching study skills, test taking, note taking, etc.
11. Chapter will provide educational support for upper-class members of their chapter such as resume writing workshops, interviewing skills, etc.

Operation Standards

1. Chapter submits accurate roster of members to Fraternity and Sorority Life as requested each term.
2. Chapter Officers and chairs have written job descriptions.
3. Chapter Officers and chairs (or related officer) participate in all officer workshops related to his or her office as offered or coordinated by Fraternity and Sorority Life.
4. Chapter leaders and members participate in relevant national, regional, area, or state conferences throughout the year. At least one chapter officer attends his/her inter/national organization's annual Convention and Leadership Conference.
5. Chapter policies and position statements are reviewed annually and updated if necessary.
6. Chapter maintains, and utilizes as necessary, a crisis management proceedings booklet as provided by the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff or leaders and/or the chapter's inter/national office.
7. Chapters, its leaders and members, adhere to all inter/national policies, university policies, local, state, and federal laws, and your inter/national insurance policy.
8. Fall chapter associate/pledge/new member programs are concluded as mandated by the Inter/national office but no later than January 31 unless written permission is granted by inter/national office and TCU.
9. Spring chapter associate/pledge/new member programs are concluded as mandated by the Inter/national office but not later than August 31 unless written permission is granted by inter/national office and TCU.
10. Chapter submits the Initiation Report two weeks prior to initiation and the executive officer responsible for initiation week and/or initiation meets with the appropriate Fraternity and Sorority Life staff member prior to beginning initiation week.
11. Chapters provide the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff with verification of liability insurance.
12. Chapter president attends the mandatory TCU Student Organization Training hosted by the Office of Student Development Services.
13. Chapter will host and/or attend at least one recruitment skills seminar annually for their respective chapter.
14. Chapter initiates a minimum of 80% of their pledges/associates/new members each year.
15. Chapter will submit a letter from the Chapter Advisor, Chapter President, and Chapter Treasurer to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life stating the organization has an operating budget including revenue and expenses. The letter will also need to state the chapter has spent no money on alcohol including "passing the hat".
16. Chapter will host a comprehensive officer training/transition for all incoming executive officers.

Facilities

1. All agreements set forth in the Chapter Facility Agreement are met including the requirement that the chapter president and the minimum number of residents live in the chapter facility.
2. All Advanced Housing Payments are made by the deadlines.
3. Chapter residents are knowledgeable of fire drill procedures and emergency evacuation routes.
4. Chapter takes a continuous, strong position against destruction of chapter, institutional, or community property by members and guests by written and enforced chapter policy and procedures.

Risk Management

1. Chapter president and chapter advisor will submit an acknowledgement letter stating they have read and understand their chapter's risk management program and policies.
2. All chapter social programs are consistent with the policies of the chapter and its organization (national or otherwise), the chapter's insurance policies, and the laws and regulations of Texas Christian University, the State of Texas, and the City of Fort Worth.
3. Chapter social functions will meet the following:
 1. No open parties
 2. An invitation list
 3. Must have security
 4. Must have third-party vendor
 5. Must have non-alcohol beverages and food
 6. Must notify respective governing council of event
 7. Must have sober officers and members present at the event
4. A chapter alcohol policy or position statement is written, consistent with the policies of its national (or otherwise) organization and the laws and regulations of Texas Christian University, the State of Texas, and the City of Fort Worth, and shared with the chapter at a regularly scheduled meeting.
5. The chapter alcohol policy or position statement is reviewed annually and updated if necessary.
6. Chapter members are educated on policies pertaining to the issues of alcohol and substance abuse, underage drinking, and all inter/national policies pertaining to alcohol.
7. If alcohol is present at a chapter event, it is only consumed by those of legal drinking age.
8. Chapter prohibits use of alcohol at any recruitment event – including formal, informal and summer/break recruitment activities (i.e., all recruitment events/activities are dry).
9. Chapter prohibits use of alcohol during all new member, associate member, and pledge activities.
10. Chapter hosts a minimum of one (1) non-alcoholic social activity for every two (2) social activities that include alcohol.
11. If chapter is affiliated with the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), they will maintain a policy of an alcohol-free residential facility.
12. Chapter, its leaders and members, adheres to inter/national policies, university policy and state law regarding hazing.
13. Chapter president, risk manager, other officers, advisors, and house corporation officers (or related officer) participate in training programs on risk management and liability as offered or coordinated by Fraternity & Sorority Life staff.
14. Chapter will schedule and host at least one risk management seminar each semester for the entire chapter.

Co-Curricular Programming

1. Chapter will actively participate in their respective governing councils meetings and activities, and encourage members to hold leadership positions when applicable.
2. Chapter will co-sponsor and/or participation in non-Greek events on campus and in the Fort Worth community (excluding events where alcohol is present).
3. Chapter members will actively participate in external leadership positions, activities, and events (i.e. SGA, Frog Camp, OSA, Connections, International Student Association, etc.)
4. 50% of the chapter shall participate in a campus diversity program (for example, recruitment of a diverse population; ethnic, religious, and sexual orientation differences; and diversity issues that challenge our organizations/society today). Members are not required to attend the same program to reach the 50% target.
5. Chapter will apply and participate in awards programs such as Order of Omega, Celebration of University Leadership, etc.
6. Chapter will provide educational resources (speakers, programs, etc.) throughout the academic year.
7. Chapter will encourage members (initiated and uninitiated) to participate in the Emerging Leaders program.
8. Chapter participates in Inter/National Awards/Incentive programs.

Philanthropy and Service

1. An annual compilation of service hours donated by the chapter is provided to the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff to be published and circulated among key TCU offices, faculty members, chapter advisors, media contacts, community leaders, national organization headquarters, and national governing councils/conferences (i.e., NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO).
2. An annual compilation of actual money donated to charitable organizations by the chapter is provided to the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff to be published and circulated among key TCU offices, faculty members, chapter advisors, media contacts, community leaders, national organization headquarters, and national governing councils/conferences (i.e., NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO).
3. A minimum of 50% of the chapter engages in a minimum of one community service project of hands-on assistance each term.
4. No chapter member (initiated or uninitiated) will have alcohol at any chapter philanthropic event.
5. Chapter will establish goals for community service including dollars raised and participation hours.
6. Chapter will have a community service budget.
6. Chapter participates in at least one all-fraternity/sorority community service event annually.

Chapter Report

1.0 Academic Standards

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
1.1			Chapter has a Scholarship Chair/Officer with a written job description.*
1.2			All executive chapter officers are enrolled as full-time, good standing students at TCU and are academically eligible to hold a leadership position at TCU (2.5 cumulative GPA or previous semester TCU GPA).
1.3			Chapter meets/exceeds the all women's/men's university grade point average respectively.
1.4			Each associate/pledge/new member has a minimum high school or college GPA of 2.3 (on a 4.0 scale).
1.5			Each associate/pledge/new member has a minimum 2.25 GPA during their first semester with the organization and maintains a minimum of a 2.25 thereafter. If the associate/pledge/new member/member falls below a 2.25 GPA, the chapter must submit a written plan that will assist the student increase their GPA.
1.6			The Chapter has a written scholarship policy which includes expectations for members (initiated and uninitiated members) with strategies for members with below minimum expectation performance.*
1.7			The timing of chapter activities (excluding chapter meetings) do not interfere with university blackout dates as published by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
1.8			Chapter will have an Academic Coach.”
1.9			Chapter distributes a directory of academic resources to members (initiated and uninitiated) each semester. This directory will be provided by TCU. *
1.10			Chapter sponsors an academic skills workshop for all associates/pledges/new members prior to the conclusion of each associate/pledge/new member initiation. Programs may include but not limited to teaching study skills, test taking, note taking, etc.*
1.12			Chapter will provide educational support for upper-class members of their chapter such as resume writing workshops, interviewing skills, etc.*

2.0 Operation Standards

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
2.1			Chapter submits accurate roster of members to Fraternity and Sorority Life as requested each term.
2.2			Chapter Officers and chairs have written job descriptions.*
2.3			Chapter Officers and chairs (or related officer) participate in all officer workshops related to his or her office as offered or coordinated by Fraternity and Sorority Life. *
2.4			Chapter leaders and members participate in relevant national, regional, area, or state conferences throughout the year. At least one chapter officer attends his/her inter/national organization's annual Convention and Leadership Conference. *
2.5			Chapter policies and position statements are reviewed annually and updated if necessary.
2.6			Chapter maintains, and utilizes as necessary, a crisis management proceedings booklet as provided by the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff or leaders and/or the chapter's inter/national office.
2.7			Chapters, its leaders and members, adhere to all inter/national policies, university policies, local, state, and federal laws, and your inter/national insurance polices.
2.8			Fall chapter associate/pledge/new member programs are concluded as mandated by the Inter/national office but no later than January 31 unless written permission is granted by inter/national office and TCU.
2.9			Spring chapter associate/pledge/new member programs are concluded as mandated by the Inter/national office but not later than August 31 unless written permission is granted by inter/national office and TCU.
2.10			Chapter submits the Initiation Report two weeks prior to initiation and the executive officer responsible for initiation week and/or initiation meets with the appropriate Fraternity and Sorority Life staff member prior to beginning initiation week.
2.11			Chapters provide the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff with verification of liability insurance.
2.12			Chapter president attends the mandatory TCU Student Organization Training hosted by the Office of Student Development Services. *
2.13			Chapter will host and/or at least one recruitment skills seminar annually for their respective chapter. *
2.14			Chapter initiates a minimum of 80% of their pledges/associates/new members each year.*

2.15			Chapter will submit a letter from the Chapter Advisor, Chapter President, and Chapter Treasurer to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life stating the organization has an operating budget including revenue and expenses. The letter will also need to state the chapter has spent no money on alcohol including “passing the hat”.*
2.16			Chapter will host a comprehensive officer training/transition for all incoming executive officers. *

Chapter Report

3.0 Facilities

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
3.1			All agreements set forth in the Chapter Facility Agreement are met including the requirement that the chapter president and the minimum number of residents live in the chapter facility.
3.2			All Advanced Housing Payments are made by the deadlines.
3.3			Chapter residents are knowledgeable of fire drill procedures and emergency evacuation routes.
3.4			Chapter takes a continuous, strong position against destruction of chapter, institutional, or community property by members and guests by written and enforced chapter policy and procedures.

Chapter Report

4.0 Risk Management

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
4.1			Chapter president and chapter advisor will submit an acknowledgement letter stating they have read and understand their chapter's risk management program and policies. *
4.2			All chapter social programs are consistent with the policies of the chapter and its organization (national or otherwise), the chapter's insurance policies, and the laws and regulations of Texas Christian University, the State of Texas, and the City of Fort Worth.
4.3			Chapter social functions will meet the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No open parties 2. An invitation list 3. Must have security 4. Must have a third-party vendor 5. Must have non-alcohol beverages and food 6. Must notify respective governing council of event 7. Must have sober officers and members present at the event
4.4			A chapter alcohol policy or position statement is written, consistent with the policies of its national (or otherwise) organization and the laws and regulations of Texas Christian University, the State of Texas, and the City of Fort Worth, and shared with the chapter at a regularly scheduled meeting. *
4.5			The chapter alcohol policy or position statement is reviewed annually and updated if necessary.
4.6			Chapter members are educated on policies pertaining to the issues of alcohol and substance -abuse, underage drinking, and all inter/national policies pertaining to alcohol. *
4.7			If alcohol is present at a chapter event, it is only consumed by those of legal drinking age.
4.8			Chapter prohibits use of alcohol at any recruitment event – including formal, informal and summer/break recruitment activities (i.e., <u>all</u> recruitment events/activities are dry).
4.9			Chapter prohibits use of alcohol during all new member, associate member, and pledge activities.
4.10			Chapter hosts a minimum of one (1) non-alcoholic social activity for every two (2) social activities that include alcohol.*
4.11			If chapter is affiliated with the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), they will maintain a policy of an alcohol-free residential facility.
4.12			Chapter, its leaders and members, adheres to inter/national policies, university policy and state law regarding hazing.
4.13			Chapter president, risk manager, other officers, advisors, and house corporation officers (or related officer) participate in training programs on risk management and liability as offered or coordinated by Fraternity & Sorority Life staff.*
4.14			Chapter will schedule and host at least one risk management seminar each semester for the entire chapter. *

Chapter Report

5.0 Co-Curricular Programming

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
5.1			Chapter will actively participate in their respective governing councils meetings and activities, and encourage members to hold leadership positions when applicable.
5.2			Chapter will co-sponsor and/or participation in non-Greek events on campus and in the Fort Worth community (excluding events where alcohol is present).*
5.3			Chapter members will participate in external leadership positions, activities, and events (i.e. Frog Camp, OSA, Connections, International Student Association, etc.) *
5.4			50% of the chapter shall participate in a campus diversity program (for example, recruitment of a diverse population; ethnic, religious, and sexual orientation differences; and diversity issues that challenge our organizations/society today)*
5.5			Chapter will participate in awards programs such as Order of Omega, Celebration of University Leadership, Inter/National Awards, etc.
5.6			Chapter will provide educational resources (speakers, programs, etc.) during meeting times.*
5.7			Chapter will encourage members (initiated and uninitiated) to participate in the Emerging Leaders program.
5.8			Chapter participates in Inter/National Awards/Incentive programs.*

Chapter Report

6.0 Philanthropic and Service

* denotes chapter must provide documentation

Item #	Fulfilled	Document/Proof	Standard
6.1			An annual compilation of service hours donated by the chapter is provided to the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff to be published and circulated among key TCU offices, faculty members, chapter advisors, media contacts, community leaders, national organization headquarters, and national governing councils/conferences (i.e., NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO).*
6.2			Chapter engages in a minimum of one community service project of hands-on assistance each term.*
6.3			No chapter member (initiated or uninitiated) will have alcohol at any chapter philanthropic event.
6.4			Chapter will establish goals for community service including dollars raised and participation hours. *
6.5			Chapter will have a community service budget. *
6.6			50% of the chapter participates in at least one all-fraternity/sorority community service event annually.*