

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Greek Standards of Excellence

The Greek Standards of Excellence are the result of students, staff and University administration collaborating to create a doctrine that establishes the standards by which Greek chapters are measured. The standards have been constructed in a manner to serve as both a set of guiding principles and a mechanism of accountability for the Greek chapters at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Greek Presidents along with staff in the Leadership Center will implement the Greek Standards annually. At the start of each academic year, each Greek chapter president will meet with a staff member in the Leadership Center to discuss the Standards of Excellence and to submit chapter goals for the year. The chapter president, along with their chapter members, will work to meet their annual goals while living by the standards. Near the end of each academic year, each chapter president will submit a written progress report and provide an oral presentation to the Greek Standards of Excellence Committee to summarize progress toward meeting their goals. The Greek Standards of Excellence Committee will then make recommendations helpful to each chapter, and recognize chapters exceeding the standards.

The Greek Standards of Excellence are divided into the following categories:

- Community Service
- Financial Management
- Membership Affiliation
- Academic Achievement
- Social Events
- Intra-Greek Relations
- Alumni Relations
- Chapter Operations
- Campus Involvement
- House Management (if applicable)

Campus and Community Service:

Service to campus and community is an integral part of Greek Life. Historically, UW-Whitewater Greek chapters have been involved with activities that benefit the campus and community, many chapters making significant contributions in both time and money to various agencies and causes. Both the Greek community and the University have high regard for service, therefore service continues to be a standard upon which each chapter will be measured. The following will help guide chapters in the collection of data and filing of reports:

- Service to campus and community is a donation of time and effort to a cause beyond oneself that benefits the recipients of the service.
- Philanthropy is charitable aid or donation to an institution or cause designed to promote human welfare and benefit to the world.
- The Student Organization Community Service Report Form should be utilized for each service activity.

Financial Management:

All Greek chapters are expected to manage their financial affairs in a way that demonstrates good stewardship of other people's money. The following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this expectation:

- Chapters should create a budget for each year. This budget will be included in the chapter's Greek Standards of Excellence report. The chapter goals for the Standards of Excellence should be reflected in the chapter budget.
- Chapters should delineate membership dues for new and continuing members in the Greek Standards of Excellence report.
- Chapters are expected to be current with all of their financial obligations.

Membership Affiliation:

All UW-Whitewater student organizations are expected to recruit and initiate new members with dignity and respect. Adherence to the UW-Whitewater Anti-Hazing Policy is expected at all stages of participation in the organization. The following will help guide chapters in fulfillment of this expectation:

- All advertising for recruitment events should be done in good taste.
- Rush activities and events should reflect the positive attributes of the Greek life and be in accordance with the chapter's Board of Directors/National Office, InterFraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Council, University policy, and municipal, state and federal law.
- Information such as the chapter grade point average and University recognition status (good standing, disciplinary probation, etc.) should be shared with all prospective members.
- Membership dues should be shared with prospective members prior to giving them a bid.
- New members must have a minimum of 2.0 GPA by University standards to affiliate with a chapter along with meeting the minimum GPA requirements of the Board of Directors/International/National organization.
- New/associate member education programs shall be kept to a reasonable length so as not to interfere with students academic work.
- Each semester, chapters must submit the following to the Leadership Center: bids given, intake applications received, names of students entering the new/associate member education program, and the names individuals initiated into the chapter.
- Each chapter shall have on file at the Leadership Center a copy of their new/associate member education program.
- Students serving in the role of chapter educators should be knowledgeable of hazing, risk management, and academic assistance available on campus.

Academic Achievement:

The Greek community is a learning community and all chapters are expected to demonstrate a commitment to this standard on a daily basis. Chapter performance in this standard is measured through the compilation of chapter grade point averages. The following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Along with the completed Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act waiver form, each chapter shall submit a list of continuing members to the Leadership Center at the start of each semester.
- Along with the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act waiver form, each chapter shall submit a list of new/associate members to the Leadership Center by the end of the first week of the affiliation process.
- As part of the annual goals for the chapter, a goal related to how the chapter will foster academic achievement among its members shall be submitted. The minimum chapter GPA goal is 2.3.

Social Events:

Greek chapters are expected to sponsor social events that are safe, lawful, and allow all members an equal opportunity to participate. Social events reflect upon the chapter, the Greek community as a whole, and the University community. Chapters are therefore expected to sponsor events that do not focus solely on alcohol, nor subject anyone to ridicule. All events should be conducted in accordance with guidelines from the chapter's Board of Directors/National Office, InterFraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Council, University policy, and municipal, state and federal law. They following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Social events where alcohol is served should be implemented in strict accordance with the guidelines from the Board of Directors/National Office, appropriate governing council, University policy, and municipal, state and federal law. Chapters that are part of a Fraternity Insurance Purchasing Group are expected to follow the guidelines for alcohol beverage service as established by the FIPG.
- Chapters are expected to abide by their risk management guidelines when sponsoring an event. When necessary, seek guidance from the University's Office of Risk Management & Safety.

Intra-Greek Relations:

Promotion of the Greek community as a whole is an expectation of all Greek chapters and members. Brotherhood and sisterhood is not limited to one's own chapter, but should extend to the Greek and the University community as a whole. The attitude and behavior Greek students display towards one another directly affects the University community's attitude toward the Greek community as a whole, and has a negative affect upon the quality of the experience for all Greek students. The following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Activities that the chapter or individual members have done that support other chapters and/or the Greek community as a whole.
- Activities that the chapter or individual members have done that have a negative affect on other chapters and/or the Greek community as a whole.

Alumni Relations:

Greek affiliations do not end upon graduation. UW-Whitewater Greek chapters remain very important to alumni, and alumni are very important to their Greek chapters. The following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Chapters are encouraged to sponsor alumni events and to communicate on a regular basis with their alumni.

Chapter Operations:

Greek student leaders are expected to manage the business of the chapter in a quality and timely manner. This includes communicating and complying with requirements of the chapter's Board of Directors/National Office, Leadership Center, governing council, and advisors. The following will help guide chapters in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Greek student leaders must submit all of the paperwork necessary for annual renewal as outlined in the Student Organization University Recognition Process. This includes, but is not limited to: proof of affiliation with a national organization or Board of Directors, proof of current liability insurance coverage (\$100,000 minimum), and submission of the Annual Renewal Form listing chapter officers, advisors and contact information for Board of Directors/National Office.
- Greek student leaders must submit and update membership list and waiver forms as required for the determination of the chapter grade point average.
- Greek presidents must meet with a staff advisor in the Leadership Center on a regular basis throughout the year. Early in the academic year the president must submit Greek Standards of Excellence goals for their chapter to the advisor.
- Greek presidents must submit a written Greek Standards of Excellence Report and make an oral presentation to the Greek Standards of Excellence Review Board at the conclusion of each academic year.
- Greek presidents must attend regularly scheduled meetings for Greek chapter presidents.
- Greek chapters must participate in a respective governing council.
- Greek student leaders should consult with their chapter's faculty advisor on a regular basis.

Campus Involvement:

UW-Whitewater provides numerous opportunities for individual students to grow both personally and professionally through participation in activities, organizations, internships and employment. Members of Greek chapters are encouraged to participate in the campus beyond their particular chapter. Greek student leaders are expected to encourage member participation in non-Greek activities.

House Management (for applicable chapters):

Greek chapters owning or renting a house are expected to operate the house responsibly and be good neighbors in the community. The following will help guide the chapter in the fulfillment of this standard:

- Greek student leaders should work to ensure that the proper fire safety equipment and procedures are in place (i.e. fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, posted escape routes and safety inspections by the city of Whitewater building inspector).
- Greek student leaders should work to ensure that their house is accessible as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Chapters with a House Corporation comprised of alumni should submit the contact name for the House Corporation to the Leadership Center annually.
- Chapters are expected to keep the house presentable (i.e. lawn mowed regularly, sidewalks clear of snow, yards kept neat, etc.).
- Greek student leaders are encouraged to meet their neighbors to build positive relations with members of the community living near their chapter house.

Jurisdiction

The Greek Standards Review Committee will meet annually to review the written report, oral presentations and any other information relevant to each chapter's performance during the year. The Committee has the authority to assign a ranking recognizing the performance of each Greek Chapter for the subsequent academic year. Recognition levels include:

Excellence
Meets Standards
Below Standards

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