

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - OSHKOSH

Expansion Policy For Fraternities & Sororities

When it is determined that a new group is needed to strengthen the Greek Community at UWO, the procedures outlined below will be followed. The purpose of these procedures is to ensure expansion of Greek letter organizations (fraternities and sororities) occurs in a manner which includes a carefully developed plan conducive to the educational mission of UWO and to provide specific guidance and support for new fraternities and sororities. This provides maximum opportunity for successful chartering and a meaningful and rewarding experience for the students within the Greek community.

All fraternities and sororities seeking to charter a chapter or reorganize a latent charter on the UWO campus after January 25, 2007 shall be required to follow the procedures set forth by this policy. All fraternities and sororities must be recognized by a governing council (IFC or Panhellenic). The Greek Governing Councils at UWO can only grant recognition and consider those groups affiliated with (Inter)National organization.

I. The Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee

A. Purpose – The Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee shall deal with all matters pertaining to expansion of the UWO Greek Community. All action in the area of colonization must be approved and sanctioned by this committee.

B. Membership - The Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee is composed of 7 members: IFC President, Panhellenic President, a chapter President from an NIC/Nationally-affiliated Fraternity, a chapter President from an NPC Sorority, a representative from each NALFO group (ΓΑΩ and ΩΔΦ), and the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement who serves a chair. These persons shall hold membership for one academic year (two semesters).

II. Procedures for Expansion

Fraternity/sorority expansion can occur in three ways:

A. Through a formal expansion plan approved by a Greek Governing Council (IFC or Panhellenic) or the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement

B. Through receiving a formal petition for recognition by an interest group, or

C. Through reviewing a formal petition for recognition by a group coming off of a disciplinary loss of University recognition.

A. Procedures for formal expansion plan by a Greek Governing Council

1. Determine need for expansion.

2. Council executive board must first gain approval from the general body and the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement to begin expansion.

3. The Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee will send out letters of inquiry to those organizations that have expressed prior interest in establishing a chapter at UWO.

Consideration should be given to fraternities or sororities who previously had a chapter on UWO's campus.

4. Interested organizations must submit the information requested in Section III to the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement for review from the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee.

5. The Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee must then review information and select 2-3 groups, of the groups that applied, to be invited to make an on-campus presentation to the Expansion Committee, Governing Council and Greek Community.

6. The fraternities or sororities making an on-campus presentation will meet prior to the various presentations with the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee to discuss expectations, policies and procedures, etc.

7. Following the various presentations, evaluations will be collected for review from the Expansion Committee.

8. A (Inter)National fraternity/sorority will be invited to start a colony or interest group at UW Oshkosh. The Governing Council will provide a checklist of expectations to the chosen group.

9. UWO will recognize no more than one fraternity and sorority per Governing Council as an interest group/chartering group at any one time. Therefore, the council will not be allowed to expand further until the interest group has become a chartered chapter, has disbanded or fulfilled their national standards to reorganize a latent charter.

B. Procedures for Petitioning Groups

1. Prior to initiating contact with potential new student members, the Greek letter organization must gain approval from the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement and the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee.

2. Submit information requested in Section III to the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement for review by the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee.

3. Schedule a meeting with the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement to discuss expectations, policies and procedures, etc.

4. The (Inter)National Fraternity/Sorority along with the interest group will be invited to make an on-campus presentation to the Expansion Committee, Governing Council and Greek Community.

5. Following the various presentations, evaluations will be collected for review from the Expansion Committee.

6. A decision will be made to invite or not invite the (Inter)National fraternity/sorority to start a colony or interest group at UW Oshkosh. The Governing Council will provide a checklist of expectations to the chosen group.

7. UWO will recognize no more than one fraternity and sorority per Governing Council as an interest group/chartering group at any one time. Therefore, the council will not be allowed to expand further until the interest group has become a chartered chapter or has disbanded.

C. Procedures for a Group coming off disciplinary loss of University recognition

1. Meet with the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement to discuss possible reorganization.
2. Submit information requested in Section III to the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement for review by the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee.
3. After duration of University loss of recognition, meet with the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee and receive a list of criteria to be met to return to UWO as an active chapter. The criteria include but are not limited to: a new overall chapter advisor, no involvement from the members who were involved in the incident, and pay any money owed to UWO or council.
4. The (Inter)National Fraternity/Sorority will be invited to make an on-campus presentation to the Expansion Committee, Governing Council and Greek Community.
5. A decision will be made to invite or not invite the (Inter)National fraternity/sorority to start a colony or interest group at UW Oshkosh. The Governing Council will provide a checklist of expectations to the chosen group.
6. UWO will recognize no more than one fraternity and sorority per Governing Council as an interest group/chartering group at any one time (unless group returning is under an agreement with the University). Therefore, the council will not be allowed to expand further until the interest group has become a chartered chapter, has disbanded or fulfilled their national standards to reorganize a latent charter.

III. Materials to be included in the petition for an interest/ reorganizing group

A. Letter of Interest from (Inter)National Greek-Letter Fraternity/Sorority Headquarters.

B. Logistical Information

1. Name of fraternity or sorority
2. Founding Date
3. History at UWO
4. Current number of undergraduate chapters
5. Current number of undergraduate members
6. Average chapter size
7. Number of chapters closed in the last five years and reasons for closing
8. Membership Costs: new member, initiation fees, insurance, regular dues
9. Proof of liability insurance (minimum \$1 million)

C. Program Policies

1. Policy on risk management
2. Position on hazing

3. Length/focus of new member program
4. Minimum standards for potential new members
5. Scholarship program
6. Community service program
7. Constitution and by-laws
8. Recruitment and membership intake program (including a time line of events and initiation date)

D. Chapter Chartering

1. List and status of interest groups established in last five years
2. Procedures for chartering or reorganizing
3. Ongoing support for interest group
 - a. graduate chapter support
 - b. recruitment support
 - c. additional resources
4. Criteria for chartering or reorganizing

E. Organizational structure

1. List of all Wisconsin undergraduate chapters and locations
2. Description or diagram of the governance structure
3. List of any other umbrella organization(s) the fraternity or sorority may be affiliated with
4. Established Chapter Volunteer Support
 - a. local
 - b. district
 - c. regional

F. Resources

1. (Inter)National Headquarters/Regional
 - a. Foundation scholarships/loans
 - b. Letter of endorsement from governing board
 - c. Leadership schools or conventions
 - d. Publications
2. Oshkosh Area
 - a. Nearest graduate/alumni chapter
 - b. Number of alumni in nearest graduate/alumni chapter
 - c. Contact information of graduate/alumni chapter president

IV. Chartering Procedure

A. Organizations selected to expand or reorganize must meet the following criteria:

1. Recruit at least 7 full-time, UWO undergraduate students.
2. Representatives must attend all Governing Council meetings and all members are strongly encouraged to participate in every facet of the Greek community (Greek Week, community service, etc.)
3. Secure the support of a faculty/staff advisor.
4. The chapter advisor should attend all meetings of the group and scheduled meetings for advisors by the UWO Greek Life Area.
5. The group must abide by all Governing Council, National and University policies, regulations, and guidelines.
6. The group must remain an interest group for at least one fall or spring academic semester, and has three additional semesters to fulfill membership obligations (2 years maximum). If an interest group has not achieved at least 7 members at that time and become a chartered organization with their (Inter) National organization, the organization must cease recruitment and organization efforts.
7. Organizations not fulfilling obligations can petition the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee after 2 years from their last effort.

B. All fraternities and sororities will be expected to maintain the Minimum Standards for Fraternities and Sororities at UW Oshkosh.

V. Chapter Recognition

- A. Membership in a Governing Greek Council (IFC or Panhellenic) is required of any fraternity or sorority to be considered part of the UWO Greek Community.
- B. As soon as the colony/interest group has been recognized by its (Inter)National organization as an officially chartered chapter, it may petition a Governing Greek Council (IFC or Panhellenic) for membership. The petition for recognition must be made no later than one month after the chartering of the chapter.
- C. A final vote will be taken by the Fraternity/Sorority Expansion Committee to fully recognize a chapter at UW Oshkosh.