

Northern Arizona University Leadership & Engagement Fraternity & Sorority Life Standard of Excellence 2025

History

Introduction to Fraternity and Sorority Life at Northern Arizona University

Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) at Northern Arizona University began in 1949 with the founding of Sigma Pi. Sororities followed in 1958, including the groups now known as Delta Delta Delta and Gamma Phi Beta. Today, NAU's Greek community includes 14 national fraternities and 12 national sororities under the Office of Leadership and Engagement. FSL continues to promote leadership, service, community, friendship, and scholarship as vital parts of campus life.

University Commitment to Fraternity and Sorority Life

For over 60 years, fraternities and sororities have enriched student life at NAU through scholarships, alumni engagement, and campus involvement. Their legacy of leadership and academic excellence aligns with the university's mission. The Greek system promotes scholarship, service, leadership, community, friendship, and scholarship. NAU remains committed to fostering a Greek community rooted in excellence, accountability, and student development.

Standard of Excellence (SOE) Program

The **Standard of Excellence (SOE) Program** was established to assess chapter performance at NAU and focus on the holistic approach to supporting student development based on the five pillars of FSL.

1. Leadership

2. Service
3. Friendship
4. Community
5. Scholarship

These key factors were chosen after combined feedback between staff and students to help improve and uphold the FSL experience at NAU. Holding accountable these SOE's brings forward many growth opportunities for students, including but not limited to:

- Promoting and upholding operational standards for the FSL Office.
- Offering a comprehensive guide for best practices for chapters.
- Recognizing chapter achievements and areas for development.
- Ensuring a well-rounded fraternal experience for all members.

Chapters will annually (starting at the beginning of each school year in August) complete a submission through Qualtrics. This will document their accomplishments and provide evidence such as event flyers, reports, pictures, and letters of support that can be uploaded. This tool helps evaluate each chapter's alignment with the listed SOE standards. The assessment tool will be provided by the FSL staff in a template that will allow students to upload documentation.

Points

The points given for the standards reflect a comprehensive picture of a fraternity or sorority chapter. The FSL staff will utilize a predetermined points system that will be distributed to the chapter presidents and advisors. All points will be scored by events facilitated through NAU, National Offices, L&E, or another acceptable avenue.

*Points will NOT be awarded for any standards that were met due only to requirements from a university or council sanction.

All chapters and colonies affiliated with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Association (CPC), and United Greek Council (UGC) are required to participate. This is for the continued success of the Greek life chapters within NAU and to hold everyone to fair and equal standards. The program will review chapter performances over (1) academic year through the submission of narratives, event summaries, chapter programs, and other detailed supplemental materials.

Evaluation and Accumulation of Points

Chapter performance is assessed annually, with points awarded based on adherence to the five pillars. Chapters are categorized into four statuses:

Status	Score	Group Conduct	Council Standing
Chapter of the Elite	141	Clear	Good/Active
Chapter of Excellence	47-140	Clear/Resolved	Good/Active
Chapter of Promise	1-46	Violations/Unresolved	Poor/Inactive
Probationary Chapter	0	Active Probation with NAU	Poor

Chapter of the Elite

Chapters scoring 141 points are listed in our system as a Chapter of the Elite. This is the highest status that can be earned and takes a lot of dedication. To receive this status the chapter will have to max out points for all pillars, earning a perfect score.

This rewards the chapter with eligibility for awards at the annual Order of Omega, where they will receive recognition for their hard work, and a letter of support for your chapter from the Dean of Students sent to headquarters.

Chapter of Excellence

Chapters scoring between 47-140 points are listed in our system as a Chapter of Excellence. This means that chapters have done at least the minimum number of points requested to keep good/active status and continue clear group conduct or resolve previous violations.

This will allow chapters to function as active chapters within NAU. They will be able to host events on and off campus, run philanthropic fundraisers, and utilize campus resources.

Chapter of Promise

Chapters scoring between 1-46 points are listed in our system as a Chapter of Promise. This means that chapters have not met the minimum number of points requested to keep good/active status. This will place the chapter on temporary probation for one year. Requirements include bi-monthly meetings with FSL staff, a chapter improvement plan, and restrictions on events with alcohol.

Probationary Chapter

Chapters either having a score of 0 or receiving this status due to failure to meet other required standards are listed in our system as a Probationary Chapter. This means that the chapter is placed on a probationary period for an amount of time to be determined by FSL staff and other entities within NAU. Their chapter will also be listed on the NAU webpage as a chapter not currently in good standing. Requirements will include bi-monthly meetings with FSL staff, a chapter improvement plan, and restrictions on events with alcohol.

Overview of Fraternity & Sorority Life Pillars

Through its focus on leadership, service, friendship, community, and scholarship, Fraternity and Sorority Life continues to be an integral part of the NAU experience. By upholding high standards and encouraging accountability, NAU's FSL community fosters personal growth, academic success, and lifelong connections to ensure a meaningful and impactful student experience.

Leadership

Greek-letter organizations serve as close-knit communities within the broader campus, fostering meaningful connections and traditions that bring students together. Signature events like Homecoming and Greek Week create a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere, uniting students through shared experiences. This pillar emphasizes active engagement in campus wide activities, with many fraternity and sorority members holding leadership roles across diverse areas of university life. By upholding standards aligned with their mission, chapters provide opportunities for personal growth and leadership development.

Membership Development

- Chapters implement new member education programs that emphasize a holistic approach to health and well-being.
- Encouraging outside involvement, chapters demonstrate their commitment by:
 - Creating written descriptions of leadership position responsibilities and expectations.
 - Rewarding members who engage in activities beyond the chapter.
 - Promoting involvement through shared opportunities.
- Host planned brotherhood/sisterhood/siblinghood events focused on organizational values, fostering strong, intentional connections among members.

Chapter Management

- Maintain 100% accurate rosters in True Blue Connects for both fall and spring semesters.
- Submit chapter calendars on time, ensuring clear communication of events and expectations.
- Each chapter president meets once per month with Fraternity & Sorority staff.

Chapter Leadership Involvement

- Actively participate in campus leadership opportunities and initiatives.

- At least 50% of chapter members must be affiliated with one or more clubs, organizations, agencies, or workplaces outside their Greek organization (chapter intramural teams do not qualify).
- Engage in at least one campus-wide event annually (ex. Homecoming, Health Promotions events, or Campus Living events).
- Participate in Order of Omega sponsored events.
- Participate/Volunteer in at least one Leadership & Engagement sponsored event.

Service

Fraternity and Sorority Life is deeply committed to fostering a culture of giving back through impactful community service projects and philanthropic initiatives. This dedication not only uplifts the surrounding community but also enriches the college experience by instilling a profound sense of purpose and personal fulfillment.

Community Service

- Chapters must submit a semesterly report detailing community service events and total funds raised.
- Chapters must also organize at least one volunteer event within the community or through NAU each semester.

Philanthropy

- Host at least one philanthropy event per academic year to support a cause or organization.

Participation & Involvement

- Participate in at least four philanthropic events, including those within and outside the Greek system.
- Attend other student organizations, NAU philanthropy, or community service events.

Friendship

Fraternity and Sorority Life fosters a close-knit community that provides a network of support, friendship, and camaraderie. This pillar enhances your college experience that builds lifelong connections that extend beyond graduation into your professional and personal life.

Chapter Programming

- National Requirements: Fulfill programming required by your inter/national office.

- Siblinghood Engagement: Actively participate in bonding events within the chapter and across councils.
- Advisory Support: Maintain an active chapter advisor supported by the inter/national organization.
- Internal Policies: Ensure the chapter has a documented internal judicial system to enforce policies and procedures.
- Bonding Activities: Host at least one bonding activity per quarter without alcohol, with over 50%-chapter participation.
- Alumni and Parent Support: Host one program annually to encourage alumni involvement and one program to engage parent supporters.

New Member Programming

- Beginning Fall 2025, ensure at least 75% of new members attend FSL new member programming.

Outreach & Programming

- Leadership and Engagement Events
 - Participate in monthly Presidents' calls hosted by Leadership & Engagement (L&E).
 - Attend the annual fall training summit for student organization leaders (President and one additional executive member).
 - Attend the annual spring Greek Summit (required for chapter executives).
- Campus Partner Events
 - Attend events hosted by the Office of Inclusion, Health Promotions, and Career Development, such as fairs and workshops.
 - Attend 1 NAU athletics event a year with more than 50% in attendance (Tailgating does not count).
- Chapter Training
 - Title IX education, reporting, and awareness.
 - Bystander intervention training.
 - Inclusive excellence initiatives.
 - Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) training, including Screen-U.
 - Monthly Pod meeting attendance (for the position required).

Community

Community lies at the heart of Fraternity and Sorority Life, fostering strong bonds, service-mindedness, and connections that provide a lasting network of support, friendship, and camaraderie throughout the Lumberjack experience.

Inclusive Excellence in Chapter Programs

- **Self-Care Focus:** Host one event per semester dedicated to promoting self-care practices.
- **DEI Engagement:** Hold one event per semester focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), or attend a university-hosted event, such as the Black Leadership Summit.
- **Mental Health Training:** Participate in Campus Connect suicide prevention training or a mental health awareness workshop.
- **Awards Recognition:** Apply for the Annual Order of Omega Awards at High Pine Awards to celebrate chapter achievements.

Equity & Access in Recruitment

- **Recruitment Practices:** Chapters recruit members each semester, when eligible, including the formation of interest groups.
- **Recruitment Meetings:** Attend all Recruitment/Outreach meetings sponsored by the respective council.
- **Inclusive Policies:** Implement policies and practices to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) during recruitment.
- **Diversity Chair:** Appoint or elect a Diversity and Inclusion Chair responsible for regulating training and ensuring best recruitment practices.
- **Financial Accessibility:** Offer financial support to potential and new members through scholarships and payment plans.

Risk Reduction and Education

- **Mandatory Training and Workshops:**
 - **Bystander Intervention:** Equips members with the tools to act responsibly in challenging situations.
 - **Hazing Prevention:** Foster a culture of safety, respect, and inclusion.
 - **Alcohol and Other Drug Training:** Participate in Screen U workshops.
- **Risk Management:**
 - **Develop and submit Risk Management Plan** with FSL staff at the start of each academic year and after presidential transitions.

- Maintain a Risk Management or Social Chair with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
- Attend Risk Management/Social Chair POD meetings.
- Insurance Compliance: Maintain a Certificate of Insurance listing the university as an additional insured (effective Fall 2025).
- Hazing Prevention Participation: Engage in National Hazing Prevention Week activities.

Scholarship

Fraternity and Sorority Life fosters a culture of academic excellence, empowering members to achieve their educational goals while preparing them for lifelong success. This dedication to learning not only enhances personal growth but also instills a sense of purpose and fulfillment as members contribute positively to their communities.

Academic Achievement

- Chapters showcase their academic performance and standing through semesterly grade reports.
- Chapters are listed in the semesterly grade report, highlighting their academic achievements within the community.

Academic Standards

- Develop and maintain academic plans to support members' success (ex. study hours, targeted support for those below the chapter's GPA requirements).
- Establish minimum GPA requirements for all members, including new members and officers, that meet or exceed university standards.
- Create a written process detailing consequences, sanctions, or reviews for members who do not meet academic expectations, aligned with the chapter's or (Inter)national Headquarters' policies.

Academic Programming

- Host or participate in at least one career development activity annually, with 50% or more of the chapter in attendance (ex. Career fairs, resume workshops).
- Engage with academic success centers and provide resources for members needing academic support.
- Offer programming that promotes academic skills and success, such as:
 - Time Management
 - Study Techniques
 - Note-Taking Strategies

- Preparing for Graduate Exams
- Utilizing Campus Academic Resources
- Reading for Content

Documentation

To demonstrate compliance with the five pillars, chapters must provide appropriate documentation, including:

- Submission of event in True Blue Connects (including dates, rosters, agenda, and calendars) within the designated 10-day window to ensure events are approved. These include both internal NAU events and external activities.
 - Provide evidence for each event, including date, time, attendance list, and photos.
 - Submitting officer reports detailing academic programs and attendance records in True Blue when appropriate. These records can be pulled from Qualtrics, Canva, Google Forms, Excel, etc.
 - If the event is community service related, include dates, hours served, organizations supported, and funds raised.
 - Include officer position descriptions, including roles for Risk Management and Diversity Chairs.
 - Written chapter goals for diverse and inclusive programming.
 - Documentation of payment plans and financial support policies.
 - When relevant, add chapter goals for improving academic performance during the term.
 - If needed, adding supporting documents such as:
 - Screenshots or copies of academic plans, meeting notes, and progress tracking.
 - Documentation of study hours, using tracking forms or apps.
 - Evidence of engagement with academic resources or programming activities.

Documentation can be submitted through the Qualtrics form on the website throughout the year. The FSL staff, however, may not begin scoring the points until closer to the end of the Spring semester.