

TOWSON UNIVERSITY FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE RELATIONSHIP STATEMENT



Revised January 2024

1. Towson University supports the right of assembly for all members of the university community. Students are therefore free to organize and assemble if they abide by local, state, and federal law.
2. University-recognized fraternities and sororities are affiliated with the Student Government Association (SGA) through their respective governing councils. The five SGA-budgeted governing councils are as follows: Interfraternity Council (IFC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), Independent Greek Council (IGC), Panhellenic Association (PHA), and Multicultural Greek Council (MGC). No local chapters may exist at Towson University unless they belong to one of the five governing councils.
3. Greek-letter organizations shall adhere to all university and local governing council policies and guidelines, as well as the policies of their respective inter/national organizations.
4. Towson University's Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will offer leadership training workshops and educational seminars to support chapter excellence and the personal development of fraternity/sorority members.
5. Fraternity/sorority academic reports shall be obtained through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. They can be sent within 3-4 weeks after a semester is over. Only the president, national office, or advisor may receive this report.
6. Each Greek-letter organization is required to have at least one active chapter advisor and one advisor from the faculty or professional staff at Towson University.

7. Governing council and chapter officers must be full-time, degree-seeking candidates at Towson University with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5.
8. Students interested in joining a Greek-letter organization must be a fully matriculated (full-time credit load) undergraduate student who possess a 2.5 cumulative GPA. First-semester freshman and transfer students are exempt from this requirement. No graduate students may participate, as a roster member, with the chapter.
9. Recognized Greek-letter organizations shall have no fewer than five (5) active (enrolled undergraduate) members. A chapter's failure to meet this requirement will result in the loss of university recognition. If a chapter falls below 5 members, they will have one (1) year recruit up to and over 5 members. If a chapter has zero (0) active (currently enrolled undergraduate) members, the chapter will no longer be recognized, and the national organization will need to go through the formal expansion process to regain recognition.
10. Each Greek-letter organization shall submit the Chapter Assessment Program (CAP) drive at the end of every academic term and achieve bronze status or higher. Organizations who fail to achieve bronze status will fall into the need's improvement status.
11. New members must attend all transition and educational programs sponsored by Fraternity & Sorority Life (i.e. Greek 101, T.I.P.S.)
12. The university recognizes that Greek-letter organizations employ selectivity in recruiting new members. The university further recognizes that some fraternity/sorority memberships are grounded in a particular cultural, religious, or historical heritage. Mindful of these legacies, the university encourages Greek letter organizations to abide by the Towson University non-discrimination policy, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, condition of handicap, marital status, or political affiliation.
13. Individual chapters, the Independent Greek Council, Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Association, and Multicultural Greek Council are bound by the same regulations and procedures that are followed by other student organizations, subject to the provisions of Section 86.14 of Title IX of the Education Acts of 1972 and will receive the same benefits as other student groups. Section 86.14 of Title IX of the Education Acts of 1972 allows Greek letter organizations to maintain single-sex memberships. This section guarantees that all student groups will receive equal benefits from the university.
14. Greek-letter organizations, by virtue of alumni support, foundations, and professional staff, can exist without the support or recognition of the university. To take advantage of the university's benefits and facilities, however, chapters must be a positive contributor to the university community. Towson University has no obligation to allow access to its facilities or services.

15. The university has a mission to maintain a safe, productive academic and cocurricular environment, and is within its rights to restrict the use of university facilities to those groups compromising that mission.
16. Alcohol events as part of membership recruitment and education are strictly prohibited. Chapters may not require nor encourage a prospective member to consume alcohol as a prerequisite for membership.
17. The university discourages the organization or sponsorship by a Greek-letter organization for any student subsidiary group (little sisters, sweethearts, etc.) which does not offer full membership in the parent organization. Any organization choosing to organize or sponsor a subsidiary group will be held responsible for the actions of the group despite any claim or proclamation to the contrary made by the chapter or the national. Greeks are granted single sex membership by law. By organizing a subsidiary group, the organization is in effect saying that it wants the opposite sex involved in the organization without having to grant full membership rights to the subsidiary. This jeopardizes the organization's exemption from the University's sex discrimination policy because the chapter cannot claim to be a single sex organization when members of the opposite sex are involved with the group in an organized manner. As a result, the parent organization is responsible for the actions of the subsidy group, even if the national office of the chapter has a policy which does not recognize subsidiary groups.
18. Each Greek-letter organization is required to review this document and the university hazing policy with their active members every semester.
19. Violations of these standards will be referred to the university's Office of Student Accountability & Restorative Practices to be processed as a student conduct infraction.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

DISCLAIMER I, _____ (print name), chapter president of _____ (organization), have read the Relationship Statement for Greek-letter Organizations at Towson University, reviewed the document with my active members and understand that the failure to adhere to these standards may result in disciplinary action.

Sign _____ Date _____

CHAPTER ADVISOR

DISCLAIMER I, _____ (print name), chapter advisor of _____ (organization), have read the Relationship Statement for Greek-letter Organizations at Towson University and can confirm that chapter president has reviewed this document and the university hazing policy with each of the active members of the organization prior to the signing of this document.

Sign _____ Date _____

