Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Frequently Asked Questions

What organizations are there under UNC Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL)?
We currently oversee 56 organizations - 54 fraternities and sororities and 2 Honor Societies. The 54 organizations fall under 4 councils: Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Association, and Multicultural Greek Council. You can find out more information regarding each council and our organizations by visiting our website at: https://carolinaunion.unc.edu/departments/fraternity-sorority-life

What are the financial requirements of joining a fraternity or sorority?
There is a one-time New Member/Initiation fee, as well as dues per semester. The specific amount of semester costs depends on the organization. Dues go towards a variety of expenses including, but not limited to, community service and philanthropic efforts, social events, chapter houses and meal plans (depending on the organization), parent and alumni events, insurance and national fees as well as general chapter expenses. Listed below, is an estimate of dues that could expect for the organizations that fall under each council:

- Multicultural Greek Council (MGC):
  - Initiated Member—Average: $150 (includes chapter fees)
  - New Member—Average: $750 (includes chapter fees and one-time fees associated with new member education and initiation.)

- Interfraternity Council (IFC):
  - Initiated member living in House (per semester)—Average: $4,300 (includes room, board, meals, and chapter fees)
  - Initiated member living out of house (per semester)—Average: $2,500 (include meals and chapter fees)
  - New Member (per semester)—Average: $1,780 includes meals, chapter fees, and one-time fees associated with new member education and initiation

- National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC):
  - Initiated Member--Average: $150 (includes chapter fees)
  - New Member-- Average $1,500-2,000 (includes chapter fees and one-time fees associated with new member education and initiation).

- Panhellenic Association (PHA):
  - Initiated member living in House (per semester)—Average: $4,000 (includes room, board, meals, and chapter fees)
  - Initiated member living out of house (per semester)—Average: $3,000 (include meals and chapter fees)
New Member (per semester)—Average: $2,500 includes meals, chapter fees, and one-time fees associated with new member education and initiation

Is there any financial support for those interested in Fraternity and Sorority Life? Many of the councils and organizations have scholarships that members can apply for. The National Organizations of the chapters may also have scholarships that can help members with their payments. Organizations also provide payment plans, so that students can pay in installments throughout the semester, instead of one large sum.

Why join a fraternity or sorority at Carolina? You should join a fraternity or sorority at UNC because this is a community that will treasure and value you, just as you will grow to love and cherish it. Fraternities and sororities are a community that will foster leadership and responsibility, as well as introduce you to others with similar passions and Tarheel spirit!

How do I join? What is recruitment/intake like? You can join a fraternity or sorority by going through the process of recruitment or intake. Recruitment/Intake for each council is different. Panhellenic Primary Recruitment takes place in the fall semester and gives prospective members an opportunity to visit each Panhellenic sorority and narrow down their choices each round. You may wait until spring semester to go through recruitment. However, please keep in mind that not all Panhellenic sororities will recruit in the spring semester and it will be an informal process.

IFC will also host a formal Recruitment in the fall semester starting with a Recruitment Kick-Off. This event allows prospective students to meet all the IFC fraternities in one place. After kick-off is completed, each individual fraternity is responsible for hosting their own week of recruitment events. If you are interested in multiple organizations, we encourage you to attend multiple events throughout the week. Similar to Panhellenic, IFC will host an informal recruitment in the spring semester. However, not all fraternities will participate.

NPHC and MGC recruitment/intake processes are individual to each organization. Typically, their process will start with an interest/informational meeting and an application and/or interview process. Once you are accepted, you will complete a new member process and officially end with a new member presentation. This is where each new member presents or “reveals” themselves to the entire FSL community. Not all NPHC/MGC organizations will do intake each fall and spring semester. Be sure to check their social media pages and our office periodically for more details and information regarding each organization’s process.
What opportunities will membership bring me?

Being a member of a fraternity or sorority at Carolina means a support base like no other. It means a group of friends you can count on at any moment within your years at Carolina, and endless memories, whether they be attending Carolina sporting events, eating out on Franklin Street in the dead of night, or doing homework in the library or at a fraternity or sorority house. Membership opens the door to community, leadership, and fostering better communication and service within your chapter, at UNC, and even at the national level. Being an affiliated Tarheel is truly an opportunity you shouldn’t miss. Your chapter will become a home away from home at UNC, and membership provides you with unique chances to give back to those around you. You will be able to connect with mentors and alumni, find lifelong friends, and be a part of something greater than yourself.

Will Fraternity and Sorority Life have an impact on my academics?

We recognize that membership in a fraternity or sorority is a large time commitment, like any other student life community or organization. The OFSL, and each organization we oversee, first and foremost supports you as a student. Organizations have academic/education chairs that can support you in finding a perfect balance as a student. To become a member of an organization under the OFSL, you must meet the minimum GPA requirement of 2.5, and organizations have GPA guidelines under their own national and local bylaws as well that are often higher than a 2.5. Scholarships, mandatory study hours, and GPA tracking are some of the tools that our chapters will extend to you in their support of your academic pursuits. Below is a summary of our fall 2019 Academic Statistics. We take pride in consistently being above the All University Average each semester:

- All FSL Community Average: 3.39
- All Sorority: 3.427
- All Fraternity: 3.336
- All University: 3.312

What about hazing?

Hazing, defined as actions or verbal expressions that produce bodily harm or danger, mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, fright, or ridicule, is not tolerated by the University and/or OFSL. We have a zero tolerance policy at UNC and take allegations of hazing very seriously. Each allegation received is thoroughly investigated through the Office of Student Conduct.

If you feel that you, someone you know, or your child has experienced or is experiencing instances of hazing, we encourage you to report the instances to the OFSL. To protect the identity of individuals or witnesses, we have an anonymous hotline and online reporting system that can be found here.
Who oversees each organization?
Each chapter’s day-to-day function is maintained by the governing executive boards, chapter executive board and chairs. Chapters are responsible to their (Inter-)National organizations, which provide support, leadership, and guidance. Chapter advisors are another important source of advice and additional assistance. At UNC, the OFSL, with three full-time professional staff members and one program assistant, as well as part-time student employees, is an integral unit that serves as a primary contact for our organizations.

Where can I find the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life?
The office is located in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union in Suite 3508. The office is open from 8:30am-5:00pm. You may contact the staff at (919) 962-8298 or greeks@unc.edu.