



Resolved to Educate

Educational support for: Events with Fraternities and Other Student Organizations

In 2019, NPC updated the policy regarding events with men's fraternities and other student organizations (including non-social sororities), to assist chapters with event planning. The intent of this policy is to provide guidance to member organizations in their interactions with independent Interfraternity Councils (IFCs) and independent chapters (those not seeking recognition from their college/university).

NPC policies are standards and procedures created by a vote of NPC member organizations, usually to address recurrent problems or operating issues that local Panhellenics face. Policies are to be followed as they reflect the combined knowledge and experience of the 26 autonomous member organizations.

Policy (2013, 2019, 2020) NPC member organizations agree to advise their collegiate chapters to plan or participate in events with men's fraternities and other student organizations only when those men's fraternities and other student organizations are not suspended for reasons of organizational misconduct **and** are:

1. Men's fraternity chapters or newly established chapters recognized and in good standing with both their inter/national organization and the college/university; or
2. Men's fraternity chapters or newly established chapters recognized and in good standing with their inter/national organization, but which have voluntarily withdrawn from recognition by the college/university with no disciplinary action pending, or have had recognition denied or rescinded by the college/university for reasons other than organizational misconduct; or
3. Men's fraternity chapters or newly established chapters recognized and in good standing with their inter/national organization, but where the entire Interfraternity Council community lacks recognition from the college/university; or
4. Local fraternities and other student organizations recognized and in good standing with the college/university.

NPC member organizations agree to advise their collegiate chapters that the planning and execution of any event with a men's fraternity or other student organization shall:

- Reflect positively on the sorority experience and support NPC's shared values; and
- Be conducted with men's fraternities and student organizations whose members respect the dignity and safety of the Panhellenic community and its individual members.

Why is this policy important?

- The safety of our members is of utmost importance. Events with no risk management procedures in place can escalate out of control and jeopardize the well-being of participants.

- Participation in events with unrecognized fraternities or student organizations may violate organizational and campus social and risk management policies, and may result in sanctions.
- Recognized fraternity chapters have the support of their inter/national organizations and an obligation to follow organizational risk management and social policies and practices. Fraternities unrecognized by their inter/national organizations do not and often operate outside the scope of legal and safe behavior. It is also highly unlikely that a fraternity unrecognized by its inter/national organization has insurance coverage.
- This policy clarifies that independent fraternities/sororities, so long as they leave in good standing with the institution and have recognition with their inter/national organization can continue to associate with NPC member organizations

What is considered an event?

Most inter/national organizations and institutions define how many members can be in attendance before an activity is considered an official "event." Chapters should communicate with their inter/national organization regarding all events and seek guidance on what is considered an event.

How can your College Panhellenic educate chapters/members on this policy?

Encourage the leadership of each sorority chapter to understand their inter/national organization's policies regarding risk management and event planning. Additionally, take the time for chapters to educate one another on their own standards and expectations. From there, the College Panhellenic Association will be equipped to work collectively for the well-being of the community.

What does suspended mean?

NPC defines suspension as a chapter that is not allowed to operate per the university. This does not include chapters on a deferred suspension from the university if they are still allowed to operate during that time.

Who to look to for support in advising chapters:

If chapters are struggling to understand this policy they should contact their inter/national organization to gain additional information/clarification. If the College Panhellenic is looking for support or guidance they are encouraged to reach out to their College Panhellenic area advisor or the NPC office.

Should chapters continue to associate with groups who are suspended for reasons of organizational misconduct and/or do not have recognition from their inter/national organization, the College Panhellenic may inform the chapter's chief panhellenic officer.