



NPC Position Statement on Fraternity/Sorority User Fees

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), one of the world's largest organizations advocating for women, is the umbrella group for 26 inter/national women's-only sororities. NPC and its member organizations continue to advocate for college affordability for today's student. The promotion of college affordability is a pillar of the NPC Government Relations Platform as NPC engages regularly with policymakers and leaders across higher education to affirm the value of women's-only organizations as a means to empower today's collegiate women.

Our organizations provide an added value and a transformative experience for undergraduate women, which, we acknowledge, comes at an expense to our members. We do all we can to limit those expenses. Additional expenses like those that are levied by an institution of higher education to sorority members are discouraged by NPC.

If an institution of higher education determines a need for a fraternity/sorority user fee, NPC encourages critical assessment to determine an appropriate fee for a campus and the size of the Panhellenic community. This assessment should consider the programming already offered to sorority members and the current fees assessed by the College Panhellenic and sorority chapters. The aim should be to avoid overlapping or redundant purposes and expenses, wherever possible.

In partnership, NPC requests that institutions engage College Panhellenic officers, chapter leaders and alumnae advisors in a dialogue as soon as a fee begins to be considered. College students are responsible consumers and expect transparency in the collection and use of their money and NPC encourages sorority members to make financial decisions responsibly.

In an effort to create checks and balances between institutions of higher education and sorority members, NPC has created a list of recommendations including:

- Policies and procedures established do not infringe on the rights of sororities as private member organizations.
- Clear documentation of the policies, procedures and restriction of these fees to be used only for the sorority community.
- Annual reporting and analysis of the fees assessed and the specific use.
- The establishment of an advisory board made up of students and alumnae to participate in the annual analysis of the services provided by the fee.
- The institution collects these fees from each student at the same time and in the same manner that tuition and other fees are collected. (Fees should not be collected by chapters or the College Panhellenic.)

[Adopted: 2019]