



Setting Total in Continuous Recruitment

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) continues to receive several questions about total and the continuous recruitment style. NPC policy states for fall 2020 total that “All College Panhellenics must use the fall 2019 total for the fall 2020 total; unless the evaluation of total in fall 2020 results in a higher total than in fall 2019.”

For most continuous recruitment campuses, the College Panhellenic will decide to use the fall 2019 total; however, a continuous recruitment campus may decide to use a higher total in fall 2020 if voted on by the College Panhellenic.

Total should be set high enough to ensure the maximum growth for each chapter, taking into consideration the number of women currently and potentially interested in sorority membership. A campus should consult with its NPC College Panhellenic area advisor on what number should be proposed as total.

Here is an example of a continuous recruitment scenario:

- The campus total for fall 2019 was 35.
- The three chapters on this campus are returning with 30, 29, and 26 members each.
- Typically, each chapter pledges an average of 10 new members each fall.
- If 10 new members were added to each chapter, the new sizes would now be 40, 39 and 36.
- All chapters are now above the fall 2019 total.

So, this College Panhellenic should look at one of the other methods to set fall 2020 total at a higher number, based upon the projected sizes from the recruitment of new members. Those methods are:

Average or median chapter size (whichever is larger)
<i>Average is 38 (38.33 rounded down)</i> <i>Median is 39 so the larger option is 39</i>
Largest chapter size (recommended for College Panhellenics with five or fewer chapters)
<i>40</i>
Midpoint between median and largest chapter size (the third quartile)
<i>40 (39.5 rounded up)</i>
For communities in contraction (i.e., falling open house pool, falling quota): largest chapter size plus 5-10%
<i>40 + 5% = 42; 40 + 7% = 43; 40 + 10% = 44</i>

If the College Panhellenic believes a higher total should be considered, the College Panhellenic must vote to decide which of these methods would be used and set total prior to chapters beginning their recruitment events.