



## **NPC Extension Process**

### **Extension Glossary of Terms**

**Colony:** A term formerly used to describe a newly established chapter. NPC member organizations voted in 2020 to remove this terminology from the Manual of Information and all educational resources.

**Establishment:** When a Panhellenic extends an invitation to an NPC organization to establish a new chapter on their campus. New members are pledged during the establishment, which is considered the new member period.

**Exploratory Committee:** This committee is formed by a vote of the College Panhellenic Council to investigate extension possibilities in a deliberate and thorough manner. The report of the committee is presented to the College Panhellenic Council and, if warranted, a motion is made for extension. The committee is composed of College Panhellenic officers, delegates and alumnae advisors. Some campuses choose to involve faculty members as well.

**Exploratory Visits:** The purpose of exploratory visits is to aid NPC member organizations to research a campus that is open for extension prior to submitting extension materials. The College Panhellenic and fraternity/sorority advisor decide whether these visits will be allowed. Visits are optional, and participation in an exploratory visit should not be a factor or consideration in determining which member organizations are invited to campus for presentations; therefore, members of the College Panhellenic Extension Committee should not be informed about which organizations visit. Exploratory visits are not to include contact with any students, including College Panhellenic officers; contact can be with campus administrators only. Additionally, NPC member organizations may not promote their NPC organization during these visits.

**Extension:** Extension is the addition of National Panhellenic Conference chapters to the Panhellenic community on a college or university campus, or the establishment of a sorority community on a campus where previously none had existed.

**Extension Committee:** A committee formed after a College Panhellenic votes in the affirmative to open for extension, The Extension Committee should be representative of the College Panhellenic community, and is responsible for determining criteria for extension, reviewing materials received, evaluating presentations and making a recommendation to the College Panhellenic on which NPC member organization to invite to establish a new chapter.

**Interest Group:** An interest group is more loosely organized and without all the characteristics of a local sorority. Interest groups should, at a minimum, have a list of women who have expressed interest in joining a sorority, including their contact information and class year.

**Letters of Interest:** NPC member organizations may submit a one-page letter of interest to the College Panhellenic as part of the extension cultivation process. College Panhellenics that receive letters of interest should place them on file in the event of future extension. Campuses can reference letters of interest on file when making extension decisions but are not required to do so. NPC member organizations should not include other materials, gifts or gimmicks with their letter of interest.

**Local Sorority:** A local sorority is an organized group of women not affiliated with an NPC inter/national organization. Generally, the group will have constitution/bylaws, statement of purpose, officers and programs of activities and membership recruitment. The local sorority may or may not be an associate or affiliate member of the College Panhellenic.

**Newly established chapter:** A newly established chapter is a nonvoting member of a College Panhellenic. Upon installation by its inter/national organization, it becomes a voting member of the College Panhellenic.

**Proper Authority:** When a campus decides to open for extension, the “proper authority” at that institution must grant permission to establish another NPC chapter on its campus.

- Where there are two or more NPC sororities present on campus, then a vote of those sororities as evidenced in written minutes of the College Panhellenic Council (if organized) constitutes the proper authority. If there is no College Panhellenic Council, then a separate vote of the NPC chapters on campus constitutes the proper authority.
- On campuses where there is one or no NPC sorority and where the administration is willing to recognize women’s sororities, a letter from a senior-level student affairs administrator constitutes the proper authority.
- The NPC Panhellenic Extension Committee is the proper authority on campuses where there is one or no NPC sorority and the college administration does not grant recognition to women’s sororities but does not discipline students for joining.

**Stacking Agreements:** NPC member organizations will not enter into stacking agreements with College Panhellenic Councils or host institutions. In the past, stacking agreements were used to invite two or more NPC member organizations to establish a new chapter on a campus over a defined time period during a single extension process.

*All these terms are explained in detail in the Extension section of the NPC Manual of Information.*