FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

magazine











USU 3600

CSUSM
SLIC
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Table of Contents

3

WELCOME

A letter from the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

4

ABOUT FSL

Learn about the history of Fraternity and Sorority Life on CSUSM's campus.

5

PILLARS

Learn about the values that guide our community

6

FAQ'S

Frequently asked questions about Fraternity and Sorority Life

8

HOW TO JOIN

Learn about the opportunities to join an organization

9

INTERFRATENTITY COUNCIL

Learn about the social fraternities chartered on CSUSM's campus.

10

MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL

Learn about the cultural fraternities and sororities chartered on CSUSM's campus.

11

BLACK GREEK LETTERED ORGANIZATIONS

Learn about the Black Greek-letter organizations chartered on CSUSM's campus.

12

PANHELLINIC COUNCIL

Learn about the social fraternities chartered on CSUSM's campus.

13

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

A breakdown of the cost of being in a Greek organization.

14

TERMS TO KNOW

Common "greek" words to know

16

RESOURCES



Welcome to California State University, San Marcos



COORDINATOR OF
FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

CRISTIAN MCGOUGH

Greetings!

I am excited that you are considering or have an interest to learn more about our Fraternity & Sorority community. As you find ways to get involved on campus, it is important to think about the positive impact you want to have during your collegiate career. Fraternities and sororities have been an integral part of the Cougar experience for nearly thirty years, bringing many together and starting new traditions. Joining a fraternal organization can be one of the most impactful experiences someone can make during college, one that supports your leadership development and ability to engage with a diverse student population.

Our sorority and fraternity community is grounded on 6 core pillars that support our programs and initiatives. As a member of a fraternity or sorority, you will be challenged and empowered to be your best and do your best each and every day.

When I joined my organization, it provided me the ability to develop my leadership skills and challenged me personally to understand who I am and how to be the best version of myself. It also provided me a passion to work in and support the Fraternity & Sorority movement.

We hope you consider all the aspects that Fraternity & Sorority Life can provide to you, with a lifelong commitment and connection to Cal State San Marcos.

About

THE FRATERNITY & SORORITY COMMUNITY

Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) has been apart of California State University San Marcos since the 1994 - 1995 academic year. Our vibrant and growing community represents 9 sororities and 9 fraternities with almost 900 members or over 5% of the student population at CSUSM. The fraternity and sorority life on our campus provides students with outstanding opportunities for involvement in leadership and philanthropy, while pursuing an education. Joining this community allows students to get connected with campus and create life long friendships.







Our Fraternity and Sorority life focuses on six key pillars including:

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- Intellectual Development
- Community Service & Philanthropy
- Leadership Development
- Sense of Belonging & Lifelong Membership
- Organizational Standards & Chapter Operations

Pillars

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Fostering a community where individuals from various backgrounds, identities, and experiences feel welcomed and valued, while promoting equity and fairness. It involves actively promoting opportunities for all members to thrive by addressing systemic barriers, advocating for justice, and ensuring equal access within the fraternity & sorority life experience.

Intellectual Development

Promoting academic success within chapters while providing resources for scholarships, academic aid, and chapter development workshops. We encourage members to be involved on campus outside of Fraternity & Sorority Life to support their academic success.

Community Service & Philanthropy

Supporting philanthropic and service efforts, while advocating to make a positive impact to local and inter/national communities. We strive to provide hands-on service learning and promote the growth of the community.

Leadership Development

Developing leaders with transferable skills for post-college life is crucial within FSL engagement. Members are encouraged to participate in diverse programs aimed at fostering leadership skills. These avenues encompass elected officer roles, chapter committees, and programs tailored for emerging leaders and officers.

Sense of Belonging & Lifelong Membership

Organizations provide fulfilling experiences to their members through intercouncil collaboration and involvement within chapters. Promoting and fostering a sense of belonging and support strengthens the members' engagement and provides the ability for a life-long commitment to their organizations.

Organizational Standards & Chapter Operations

Encouraging a culture of health and safety through shared responsibility, effective risk management, and accountability. Both individual members and organizations are expected to uphold high standards that resonate with the values of their respective council, community, and CSUSM.

FAQ's

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS



How do I determine which chapter is best for me?

Meet current members

- Ask questions:
  - What are your organization's interests and values?
  - What opportunities exist for you within the organization?
  - How has your organization helped you grow?
  - What is your organization's philanthropy?
- Attend an info session to learn more!

What are the financial obligations?

- Costs differ greatly from one org to another
- Fees include new member and initiation fees as well as semester dues
- Some organizations ask for up front payment while others allow for payment plans
- Consult each chapter you are interested to obtain updated membership costs

Do Greek chapters provide housing?

Housing is currently unavailable for fraternity and sorority chapters at CSUSM

Is there hazing?

- California State University San Marcos expects that all members of recognized student organizations will observe and fully comply with the State of California Educational and Penal Code requirements on hazing
- All students are expected to adhere to regulations set forth by their respective regional/inter/national organization, the State of California, and the University concerning hazing
- California State University San Marcos prohibits hazing by any recognized student organization
- In order to foster positive relations within the CSUSM Greek community, all new members sign a no-hazing agreement upon joining a fraternity or sorority
- Contact the University Hazing Education Team (UHET) with any additional questions or concerns

How much will I have to put into it?

- Like most activities in college, you get out of it what you put into it
- On average, members contribute about 3-4 hours per week to weekly meetings, projects and events
- If you plan to hold a leadership position, expect to dedicate more hours

FAQ's

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES



How can I support my student as they consider Fraternity and Sorority Life?

Joining a fraternity or sorority is a making a lifelong commitment. We hope that parents/family members can act as a support network to encourage your student to take the time to find out more about the community. Asking questions will help them to think critically in deciding if Fraternity & Sorority Life is right for them and if so, which group. Provide them with more thoughtful questions, such as what values are fundamental to their fraternal experience? But also the practical questions, like how much will it cost?

Will my student experience stereotypical fraternity or sorority that I see in the media?

Just like with all stereotypes that exist, a lot of what you see is a caricature or drastically exaggerated version of the person/people depicted. And, there is a small level of reality. What we hope is that in almost any way possible our Fraternity & Sorority community is breaking these stereotypes and establishing new ones. Our six community-wide pillars are fundamental in them accomplishing this end. Furthermore, we host a new member education in which we cover the core of these stereotypes through education on topics of alcohol/drugs, hazing, sexual assault, diversity/inclusion, and community development. We believe the way we bring students in as new members is vital to how they are set up for success in meeting the expectations of our unique Fraternity & Sorority community.

What do I do if I have a question or concern?

The chapter president should be able to address any of your questions. Each also has an advisor (non student, alumni) who can help. If they can not assist you or your questions/concerns are of a more personal or serious nature, please do not hesitate to contact the Student Leadership and Involvement Center at 760-750-4970. There are university staff members who work directly with all fraternal organziations, interested students, and families, campus partners.

What should I do if my student is interested in joining an organization not recognized by CSUSM?

All student organizations at CSUSM go through a recognition process which includes advisement, education, and expectations from the campus and CSU. Additionally fraternities and sororities (please refer to the Chapter Directory) are provided training/education and have policies/procedures from the University and their individual regional/inter/national groups around organizational and risk management. Your student may be recruited by a group not recognized by CSUSM or following policies outlined in the Student Organization and/or Fraternity/Sorority Handbooks. There are risks associated with affiliation of non-recognized organizations. Please reference the recognized chapter letter for fall 2023 for the most up to date list.

How to Join

Fraternity & Sorority recruitment is held at the beginning of each fall and spring semester. During recruitment, chapters host events for interested students. We are a deferred recruitment campus, which means students must meet University eligibility requirements before joining an organization

Eligibility Requirements –

- 12 college units completed. Transferred college units and AP credit can meet this requirement.
- Cumulative 2.5 GPA: some individual chapters maintain an even higher minimum GPA requirement.
- Enrolled in at least 6 units at CSUSM.
- In good standing with the university conduct process and not on university probation.






INTERFRATERNITY Council

The IFC (Interfraternity Council) is the governing body for the majority of North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) fraternities on the California State University, San Marcos. Comprised of men's fraternities, the IFC is a self-governing institution at CSUSM, seeking to develop and maintain fraternity life and interfraternal relations by promoting unity and growth of its member organizations.

The 4 IFC Chapters on our Campus :

Alpha Sigma Phi ΑΣΦ

Kappa Sigma ΚΣ

Sigma Alpha Epsilon ΣΑΕ

Sigma Chi ΣΧ



MULTICULTURAL

Greek Council



Alpha Kappa Delta Phi

ΑΚΔΦ

Alpha Psi Rho

ΑΨΡ

Alpha Pi Sigma

ΑΠΣ

Nu Alpha Kappa

ΝΑΚ

The 4 MGC Chapters on our Campus :

The Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) is the governing council for numerous culturally-based Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities at California State University, San Marcos. The purpose of MGC is to unify all multicultural organizations, to further promote diversity and unity throughout the community, and to encourage cooperation and cohesion among member organizations and other organizations on campus.

BLACK GREEK LETTERED Organizations

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the governing council and collaborative body of the 9 Historically African American sororities and fraternities. We currently have 5 black greek lettered organizations chartered or city-wide chapters at CSUSM that operate under the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) as we work to grow and build our community.

The 5 NPHC Chapters on our Campus :

Alpha Phi Alpha ΑΦΑ

Omega Psi Phi ΩΨΦ

Delta Sigma Theta ΔΣΘ

Phi Beta Sigma ΦΒΣ

Sigma Gamma Rho ΣΓΡ



PANHELLENIC Council



Alpha Chi Omega ΑΧΩ

Alpha Omicron Pi ΑΟΠ

Alpha Xi Delta ΑΞΔ

Delta Zeta ΔΖ

Gamma Phi Beta ΓΦΒ

The 5 PC Chapters on our Campus :

CSUMS's (PC) Panhellenic Council is the largest women's organization on campus. They are the governing council of 5 National Panhellenic Conference chapters. They are committed to creating a unified, multi-faceted community by empowering women to discover their fullest potential through continued community service, campus involvement, interfraternal collaboration, and academic dedication

Terms to Know

Active Member - a fully initiated undergraduate member of a sorority/fraternity

Alumni/Alumna - Indicates initiated members of Fraternity & Sorority organizations who have graduated from a four-year college/university or are given alumni status from their respective inter/national organization

Bid - An invitation to become a member of a fraternity or sorority. Under the model of deferred recruitment, bids may not be given to students who have completed less than 12 units of college level coursework.

Calls - A unique vocal expression attributed to an organization.

Chapter - Indicates a Fraternity & Sorority organization that has been given on-campus Fraternity & Sorority student organization recognition by the university and full chapter status by the regional or inter/national organization.

Chapter Advisor - This individual is a volunteer from the regional or inter/national organization that serves in a primary advisory role for the organization, upholding regional or inter/national policy and serving as the direct liaison to the regional or inter/national organization.

Continuous Open Bidding (COB) - an informal process of recruitment that some Panhellenic Council chapters will engage in each academic year.

Dean of Students (DOS) - DOS provides general information concerning campus policies, procedures, and\regulations. Students needing assistance with any University matter are invited to initiate resolution through this office. Specific policies regarding grade appeals, student grievances, and student conduct are supported through and administered by this office.

Fraternity - a Greek-letter sisterhood, siblinghood, or brotherhood.

Greek - the name applied to affiliated sorority and fraternity members.

Greek Leadership Council (GLC) - composed of executive board officers and chapter delegates representing each fraternity or sorority organization at CSUSM. This council will act as a governing board, promoting open communication, positive group relations, and will set a vision for the future of Greek Life at CSUSM.

Hand Sign - the symbol or gesture made with the hands to signify an organization.

Interfraternity Council (IFC) - composed of executive board officers and chapter delegates representing each social fraternity at CSUSM. This council will act as a governing board, promoting open communication, positive group relations, and organize recruitment events for respective organizations

Initiation - A formal ceremony in which an individual becomes a full member of a fraternity or sorority

Legacy - a prospective member whose grandparents, mother/father, or sister/brother is an alumni of a sorority/fraternity.

Membership Intake Process - Process by which fraternities and sororities bring new students into their organization through meetings and learning about the organization

Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) - composed of executive board officers and chapter delegates representing each multicultural fraternity and sorority at CSUSM. This council will act as a governing board, promoting open communication, positive group relations, and organizing recruitment events for respective organizations. Currently, organizations that fall under NPHC, NAPA, and NALFO participate as members on MGC.

Terms to Know

National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, Inc. (NALFO) - The umbrella council for Latino/a Greek-Letter Organizations.

National Asian Pacific Islander American (APIDA) Panhellenic Association (NAPA) - The umbrella council for Asian Pacific Islander Greek-Letter Organizations.

National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC) - The umbrella council for a coalition of Multicultural Greek Letter organizations (MGLOs).

National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) - The umbrella organization for 26 national/international women's fraternities/sororities. NPC chapter delegates to the GLC will also serve as the College Panhellenic Delegates. College Panhellenic Council (CPC) is the campus governing council for NPC women's inter/national organizations. The CPC will be organized such that it acts as a sub-committee of the Greek Leadership Council (GLC).

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) - The coordinating body for nine historically African-American Greek-letter fraternities and sororities.

New Member - A prospective member from the time the member accepts a bid to affiliate until the time the member is initiated.

New Member Education/Intake - Process by which fraternities and sororities bring new students into their organization through meetings and learning about the organization. This process will be reviewed annually by the respective Chapter Advisor.

North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) - The trade association representing numerous inter/national men's fraternities.

Panhellenic Council (PC) - composed of executive board officers and chapter delegates representing each social sorority at CSUSM. This council will act as a governing board, promoting open communication, positive group relations, and organizing recruitment events for respective organizations.

Philanthropy - A charitable fundraiser sponsored by a fraternity or sorority.

Potential New Member (PNM) - Any CSUSM student who meets the eligibility criteria for a Greek-letter organization and is interested in becoming a member.

Recruitment - A program of membership selection by fraternities/sororities. During this process, there is an exchange of information about the organization with potential new members. CSUSM will operate on a model of deferred recruitment whereby formal recruitment is scheduled during the spring semester and informal recruitment is scheduled during the fall semester.

Soror - A term used to refer to one's sorority sister.

Sorority - A Greek-lettered siblinghood or sisterhood.

Strolling - Organization members move together in a line expressing pride for their organization. In this line, members may express their pride through use of their organization's call, sign, ritual /custom dances, etc.

Student Leadership & Involvement Center (SLIC) - Center within the USU that provides support to the governing councils and chapters on campus (USU 3600)

Resources

Anti-Hazing -

https://www.csusm.edu/slic/resources/hazing/resources.html



Student Health and Counseling Services -

https://www.csusm.edu/shcs/index.html

SHCS offers quality healthcare provided by a multidisciplinary team of medical and mental health professionals and support staff who are trained to assist students with their health and wellness related needs.



Title IX -

https://www.csusm.edu/title9/index.html

Title IX protects all people regardless of their gender or gender identity from sex discrimination, which includes sexual harassment and sexual misconduct.



Dean of Students -

https://www.csusm.edu/dos/index.html

The Dean of Students Office serves as an advocate and a centralized resource for connecting students with appropriate services across campus and in the community



University Police Department -

https://www.csusm.edu/police/index.html

For non-emergencies or to make a criminal police report call (760) 750-4567.




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