

Fraternity & Sorority Life Recognition Policy

Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) fosters an environment in which fraternities and sororities contribute value to the campus community and make a positive impact on the educational and social experience for MSU Denver/Auraria students. As a department within the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion (CMEI), the Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) team is committed to cultivating the intellectual, social, and leadership development of student members of fraternity and sorority chapters. In this policy, a chapter refers to the student chapter of a fraternity or sorority under the oversight of CMEI: FSL. The term “Fraternal Organization” as used in this Handbook includes the national and international organizations (the “National”) as well as its local chapter at MSU Denver.

Recognition is the formal process by which Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) agrees that a particular social fraternity or sorority may function as a recognized organization on campus, recruit members, and enjoy the benefits associated with being a registered student organization provided by the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion and Metropolitan State University of Denver. Recognition as an MSU Denver Fraternal Organization involves meeting minimum expectations, maintaining chapter operations, and an open-line of communication with the CMEI: Fraternity & Sorority Life Staff, as they are considered an official function of the University.

The purpose of this recognition policy is to ensure that the establishment and operation of fraternities and sororities occurs in a manner conducive to the educational mission of MSU Denver, including carefully developed plans for successful establishment and installation, as well as plans for providing a meaningful and rewarding experience for the students choosing to join a fraternity and sorority community.

- I. Minimum Expectations of and Benefits to Recognized Fraternities and Sororities
 - a. Minimum expectation of recognized fraternities and sororities
 - i. Be a chapter of an inter-national organizations (incorporation, national officers, etc.)
 - ii. Hold a liability insurance policy of a minimum of one million dollars.
 - iii. Participate in the annual MSU Denver fraternity and sorority accreditation program.
 - iv. Adhere to all University policies as they pertain to fraternities and sororities, registered student organizations, and students, in accordance with Federal, State, Local, and University policies and procedures.
 - v. Adhere to the fraternity and sorority community-wide policies, including, but not limited to: risk management policies, membership intake policies and guidelines, and recognition.
 - vi. Participate in the appropriate governing council and follow respective council policies, when applicable. If no council is operating, chapter leaders are expected to attend President’s Meetings.
 - vii. Maintain and update a current roster of all chapter members with the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion that includes full names, student ID numbers, and contact information by the First Friday of each academic semester.
 - viii. All members (initiated and potential) participate in annual Anti-Hazing Prevention Education.
 - ix. Conduct new member education/intake at least once every three semesters.
 - x. Must have a faculty/staff advisor, who completes CMEI Student Org Registration training.
 - xi. Must have an alumni or local chapter advisor.
 - xii. Maintain above a 2.0 Chapter Grade Point Average (Cumulative)

- b. Benefits recognized fraternities and sororities receive
 - i. **Leadership Development** - Leadership development is a cornerstone of what Fraternities and Sororities can offer members. CMEI: FSL staff seek to assist all recognized chapters with the leadership development of individual members, chapters, and councils through the following:
 - 1. Chapter advisement and training from CMEI staff
 - 2. Leadership development opportunities through CMEI
 - 3. Assistance with the creation and/or implementation of academic programs
 - ii. **Resources** – As a recognized chapter, these resources will be made available to chapters to assist in their success.
 - 1. Use of University name when identifying the chapter
 - 2. Inclusion in organizational events and programs (I.e., Involvement Fair(s), Meet the Greeks, council programs, FSL programming, etc.)
 - 3. Ability to apply for CMEI & SG:TSAC supplemental funding
 - 4. Access to the CMEI work space and resource room
 - 5. Promotion of organization's activities and events, if desired
 - iii. **Advocacy** – FSL staff advocate for the FSL community at MSU Denver/Auraria and work with the chapter and council presidents to get specific insights. Advocacy for chapters and councils is done in the following ways.
 - 1. Chapter advocacy by CMEI
 - 2. Promotion on CMEI: FSL social media platforms
 - 3. Eligibility for OSILA & FSL Awards
 - 4. Inclusion in the CMEI/FSL Annual Report
 - 5. Inclusion in marketing materials produced by CMEI or MSU Denver, including the University website
 - iv. **Logistic and Administrative Support** – CMEI recognizes chapters may need assistance for operations, events, and reporting purposes to their inter/national organization. OFSL will assist chapters in these areas and work to connect chapters to appropriate resources.
 - 1. Use of space on campus for meetings, events, tabling, and programs
 - 2. Event planning support
 - 3. Administrative support for chapters (I.e., grade reports, rosters, IHQ reports, etc.)
 - 4. Chapter Mailbox

II. Standing of Chapters

- a. After the recognition is granted by MSU Denver and the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion, the group is assumed to be in good standing. Violations of MSU Denver and the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion policies will be investigated and adjudicated per the MSU Denver Code of Conduct. This does not preclude the inter/national organization from taking independent action on a violation. Outcomes related to the conduct process may result in loss of good standing or loss of recognition. Additional information about the student organization conduct process can be reviewed at length in the MSU Denver Code of Conduct.
- b. Groups are expected to observe the expectations of the Center for Multicultural Engagement and Inclusion as listed previously in this document to remain a recognized organization on campus.
- c. Chapters can fall into any one of four statuses: Good Standing, Non-Compliant Standing, Probationary Standing, Unrecognized and Not Recognized. These statuses are defined below:

- i. Good Standing: Chapters in good standing are following all MSU Denver Fraternity & Sorority Life, Student Involvement, Student Conduct, and MSU Denver requirements, policies and procedures. Chapters must maintain a good standing with their inter/national organization, should a chapter be placed on any other status with their inter/national organization that status will be reflected in OFSL standings.
- ii. Non-Compliant Standing: Chapters in Non-Compliant Standing are temporarily not in compliance with one or more requirements of being in Good Standing. This includes items such as, but not limited too: submitting paperwork, lack of communication with CMEIFSL team, and/or attending meetings or trainings.
- iii. Probationary Standing: Chapters on Probationary Standing are currently on interim measures, a probationary status or have outstanding sanctions with MSU Denver Student Conduct and/or their inter/national organization.
- iv. Unrecognized Chapters: Groups listed here have lost their university recognition and receive no benefits of being a recognized fraternity or sorority or student organization on campus. Unrecognized standing also includes chapters who may have had recognition removed due to suspension or expulsion from the University or Inter-/National headquarters.
- d. These statuses will be on the chapter listing page of the FSL website along with information from the previous semester's End of Semester Report.
- e. Good Standing chapters will have all the privileges of a recognized student organization.
- f. Non-Compliant Standing chapters are not able to host any events until their incomplete or missing items are completed or approved.
- g. Probationary Standing will remain in place so long as the chapter is on interim measures, probationary status, or has outstanding sanctions with MSU Denver Student Conduct. Chapters on this status are to abide by the items outlined in their conduct letters.
- h. Unrecognized and Not Recognized groups are not permitted to utilize campus space or resources, are not able to participate in on-campus programs as an organization (including resources, involvement fair, etc.), receive no advising or support from CMEI: FSL staff, and are not included in any marketing or promotional materials created by MSU Denver.

Any chapter that fails to complete all requirements may be subject to Non-Compliance Standings, Probation, or loss of Recognition and/or Suspension.