
WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY GREEK LIFE EXPANSION APPLICATION

Directions for Completing this Application

Inter/national fraternity and sorority organizations interested in expanding at Western Illinois University must submit the following information for consideration.

1. **A Letter of Interest.** The letter should address the Inter/National organization's interest in establishing a chapter at the university. The letter must be signed by a member of the executive staff of the Inter/National Organization.
2. **Complete the Western Illinois University Greek Life Expansion Questionnaire.** In order for the Greek Life Expansion Committee and the university to receive a good understanding of interested organizations, we are asking that potential candidates provide comprehensive information pertinent to 8 key organizational areas: *1) Alumni/Advisor Strength, 2) Chapter Strength, 3) New Chapter Development, 4) Educational Programming and New Member Education, 5) Academics and Scholarship, 6) Risk Management, 7) Housing and Community Relations, and 8) Philanthropy and Community Service.* Information should be provided and formatted in the order presented above.
3. **Provide pertinent supporting materials (optional).** This can include materials you would like the Greek Life Expansion Committee and University to review, in support of your expansion request

Submission Information

Interest letters, the Western Illinois Greek Life Expansion Questionnaire, and supporting materials should be mailed to:

Western Illinois University
Office of Student Activities – Greek Life
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455

Questions

Questions can be directed to Nick Katz, Assistant Director for Student Activities for Greek Life, (309) 298-3232, NB-Katz@wiu.edu, Office of Student Activities.

THANK YOU FOR YOU TIME AND EFFORTS IN COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

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Please complete and format your responses in the order and format provided below.

1. Alumni Strength

Alumni and advisor support is an essential and important aspect of chapter success. We have found that chapters that have strong alumni and advisor support are more successful than those chapters that do not. Alumni and advisor support will be one of the most important criteria considered for extending an invitation to colonize. *We expect a new chapter to have at least four local/regional alumni who will serve on an alumni advisory board to support chapter development. Please outline your plans for ensuring strong and consistent alumni and advisor involvement with the proposed chapter by addressing the following:*

- a) How many alumni do you have in Western Illinois region? In the state of Illinois?
- b) Do you have alumni chapters in the Western Illinois region or state of Illinois? How often do these chapters meet? How many members are involved?
- c) Is an alumni chapter in support of establishing a chapter at Western Illinois University?
- d) Do you have an alumnus who will be serving as the advisor of the new chapter?
- e) Will there be a consultant(s)/team who will be working with the new chapter? How much time will be committed by this consultant(s)/team and your organization?
- f) Do you have any national or regional volunteer alumnae officers residing in the Western Illinois region or state of Illinois?
- g) If you do not have a large number of alumni volunteering to serve as advisors to a new chapter, how will this be addressed?
- h) Please include a written plan for alumni programming, recruitment, and retention.

2. Chapter Strength

We are interested in the overall strength of your organization on campuses across the country and in Illinois. *Please provide the following information and statistics for the following:*

- a) How many total chapters currently hold charters in your organization nationwide? How many in Illinois? Please list the universities in Illinois which recognize chapters on their campus.
- b) What is the average size of your undergraduate chapters in total membership? In Illinois?
- c) What are the total number of collegiate members and new members initiated during the last three academic years?
- d) Please provide the number and location of chapters that have closed during the last four years and their reasons for closing.

- e) Please tell us about your organization's consultant program, and the number of traveling consultants available.

3. New Chapter Development

We believe the support of a National Headquarters is essential to the successful development and colonization of new chapters. *Please provide the following information regarding colonization efforts, resources, and statistics.*

- a) Describe your colonization process and procedures. What are your organization's requirements for chartering a chapter?
- b) What is the selection criteria used to select colony members? What are the membership requirements and recruitment timelines?
- c) Describe the type of support (financial, personnel, etc.) the National Headquarters will provide the new chapter in its first five years of existence.
- d) Is there a local chapter which will be designated to support the new colony in its development and recruitment efforts? If yes, which established chapter will be involved, and what will be the extent of its participation?
- e) What would be the cost of affiliation for new members of the colony? Include information on pledge fees, initiation fees, etc.
- f) Please list the universities at which your organization has colonized in the past three years. What progress have these colonies made toward becoming a chapter since colonization?
- g) What colonization(s) are you already committed to in the next three years? Please list the universities where affiliation is being sought.
- h) Please provide the number and location of colonies that have closed during the last four years and the reasons for closing.

4. Educational Programming and New Member Education

As a Greek community we place emphasis on the education of new members and the continuing education of those members once they become active in the fraternity. *Please provide information specific to the questions below:*

- a) Please describe your new member education process. What makes your process unique from other organizations?
- b) What programs does your organization mandate or offer to continue the education and leadership development of its active members?
- c) Please provide information that describes your organization's educational programming in the following areas:
 - i. Scholarship – financial support and programmatic information
 - ii. Leadership Development and officer training programs
 - iii. Campus Involvement
 - iv. Diversity Issues
 - v. Health and Wellness – to include alcohol and substance abuse

- vi. Other applicable educational programs

5. Academics and Scholarship

In order to ensure that chapters encourage academic excellence and achievement among their members, the university requires that all chapters earn a term grade point average of 2.600 or higher. ***Please answer the following questions regarding your organization's commitment to academics and how this is encouraged among chapters.***

- a) What percentages of your chapters nationwide maintain a chapter GPA above the all men's GPA on their respective campuses?
- b) What are the academic requirements for new members?
- c) What are your academic requirements for initiation?
- d) Do you have an academic requirement for chapters? If so please describe. What happens to chapters that are achieving below the required academic standards?
- e) Are members of your chapter required to maintain a certain GPA to remain in good standing? If so, what action is taken if a member falls below the basic standard?
- f) Please provide a copy of the chapter's scholarship program that will be implemented at WIU.

6. Risk Management

Risk Management education, coordination and implementation is one of the most important indicators of organizational health for a fraternity. ***Please provide information regarding the organization's risk management policies:***

- a) Attach a copy of your risk management policies to this application.
- b) What are your national organization's policies and definitions regarding hazing?
- c) Provide a copy on the national's policy on alcohol and substance abuse.
- d) How are incidents reviewed and addressed at the chapter and national level? What training is provided for collegiates to run an effective standards board?
- e) Please provide the name of your insurance provider and the minimum requirements each chapter holds.

7. Housing and Community Relations

Fraternity and Sorority housing is privately owned or leased within the City of Macomb. Fraternity and sorority members living at the chapter residence reside next to families and other citizens of the community. ***Please provide information regarding your potential housing plan:***

- a) What are your plans to acquire housing for the new chapter?
- b) Will there be a housing corporation established? How will the corporation officers be selected and trained?

- c) How will the organization comply with City of Macomb ordinances? What efforts will be made to acquire permits and/or zoning requirements required by the City of Macomb for recognition as a Fraternity House?
- d) How will the new chapter contribute to community and neighbor relations?

8. Philanthropy and Community Service

- Please describe the community service program you will institute with a new chapter.
- Please provide information on your organization's national philanthropy.
- What community service requirements will be put in place for the new chapter?

9. Additional Information

Please provide any supporting materials such as publications, statements, etc., your organization would like the Greek Life Expansion Committee or the University to review.