

Policy Approval/Review Form

This form is used for the approval, amendment, removal or review of a Gordon State College policy. Once authorized with the President's Signature, the policy will be posted to the Gordon State Website. This approval form will be filed in the Office of the President with Cabinet minutes noting approval.

Policy Title *	Fraternity and Sorority Chartering Policy
Department/Organization	Student Affairs
Policy Editor	Dr. Joanne Ardovini
Request Type	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended/Edited <input type="checkbox"/> Removed <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed Only <input type="checkbox"/>

OBJECTIVE (Briefly state your purpose.)

Gordon State College is elated that your organization has an interest in chartering a Greek-letter fraternity or sorority on our campus. GSC wants to ensure that this process is orderly and consistent for all interested parties which includes but is not limited to substantial evidence of the ability of the proposed organization to meet and maintain expectations and to conduct itself in a manner consistent with principles and policies at GSC.

RESOURCES AND CONSULTATION (Briefly describe the resources (i.e. website, link) used in developing, amending, removing, or reviewing the policy. Include names of other individuals who assisted with this change.)

1. Chapter's Constitution & Bylaws
2. Campus Advisor Agreement Form
3. List of the National organization's initiatives and programs
4. National organization's policy/stance on hazing

COMMUNICATION PLAN (Identify how information about how the policy will be communicated to the college as well as training plans if applicable.)

Published in the Student Handbook and on the GSC Website, Students Services page.

Authorizations

Chair/Dean/or Supervisor Signature and Date: J. Ardovini, Ph.D. Digitally signed by J. Ardovini, Ph.D. Date: 2023.09.27 16:37:14 -04'00'

Cabinet Sponsor (VP) Signature and Date: J. Ardovini, Ph.D. Digitally signed by J. Ardovini, Ph.D. Date: 2023.09.27 16:37:27 -04'00'

President Signature and Date: Donald Green Digitally signed by Donald Green Date: 2023.09.28 18:54:43 -04'00'

***Policy Template must be submitted with this form.**

Fraternity and Sorority Chartering Policy

Criteria and Instructions for Establishing a Greek-Letter Organization

Establishing a Registered and Recognized Fraternity and Sorority

Gordon State College is elated that your organization has an interest in chartering a Greek-letter fraternity or sorority on our campus. We recognize that Greek Life can have a positive influence on student engagement and success. With this in mind, we want to ensure that this process is orderly and consistent for all interested parties which includes but is not limited to substantial evidence of the ability of the proposed organization to meet and maintain expectations and to conduct itself in a manner consistent with principles and policies of the Division of Student Affairs and Gordon State College.

Contact Information:

- A. State Leadership (name, phone number, email, role in the organization, role outside of the organization [professional title as applicable])
- B. Chapter Advisor (name, phone number, email, role in organization, role outside of the organization [professional title as applicable])

Documentation:

1. Chapter's Constitution & Bylaws
2. Campus Advisor Agreement Form
3. List of the National organization's initiatives and programs
4. National organization's policy/stance on hazing
 - a. Initiatives in place to prevent and respond to hazing incidents
5. List of proposed activities and/or events for the semester (and/or year if known)
6. National organization's GPA requirements for membership
7. # of Alumni in the state, # of Alumni in a 50-mile radius (no names or contact information needed)
8. List of any GSC students who have expressed interest.

Membership Requirements:

Fraternities and sororities desiring to be recognized and registered at Gordon State College meet the criteria necessary for their success and the health of the College community, the following standards and procedures have been established:

1. The establishing organization must be actively affiliated with a national council at the time of applying (Example: NPHC, NPC, IFC, NIC, NMGC, NAPA, NALFO, etc.).
2. The establishing organization must operate a national headquarters at the time of applying that must show proof of fifteen (15) consecutive years of business operations and have undergraduate chartered chapters at fifteen (15) or more colleges and universities at the time of application.
3. The organization must have policies that are congruent with the fraternity and sorority policies of Gordon State College.

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Approved by Cabinet – September 2023

4. The organization must be able to send professional staff or elected volunteers to campus to conduct the **Key Components** of the new chapter's creation (see Instructions for Newly Recognized Chapters below).
5. The organization must be able to assemble, train and support a chapter advisory team prior to the induction of the first new member class upon expansion approval.
6. The organization must show proof of General Liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage with a minimum of \$1,000,000 in Combined Single Limit. The General Liability insurance policy must name "Gordon State College" as an additional insured and the certificate must state that the insurance coverage is primary over other collectible insurance.

Instructions for Newly Recognized Chapters:

1. Newly registered fraternities and sororities will be given one (1) academic year to *initiate* a minimum of three (3) currently enrolled, full-time eligible undergraduate students as members.
 - a. Current active, initiated, undergraduate members of the establishing organization enrolled in Gordon State College are not counted toward the 3-initiate requirement.
 - b. Graduated students and GSC alumni are not counted toward the 3-initiate requirement.
2. If seeking to charter, organizations will be given two (2) academic years to receive a charter from the national organization. Chapters that fail to meet this standard may appeal for additional time (no more than one additional semester). Guidelines for submitting an appeal will be provided by Student Affairs, if necessary. **Failure to charter after two academic years will result in a loss of college registration for a *minimum* of two years.**
3. Fraternity/Sorority staff or national volunteers are required to visit the Gordon State College campus to conduct the following **Key Components** of the chapter's colonization/start-up/chartering process:
 - a. Initiation/Chartering ceremony
 - b. Recruitment Events
 - c. Interview & selection of the initial new member class.
 - d. Ceremony to start the new member process
 - e. New Member retreat
 - f. New Member education meetings
 - g. The Expansion Coordinator and Chapter Advisors will participate in regularly scheduled check-in meetings with Student Affairs staff.
4. All chapters are required to work with a chapter advisor/advisory board that is appointed *and trained by the national organization*.
5. All chapters are required to keep their funds in a bank, credit union or national bill management system. Each chapter is required to pay all university bills (generally related to programming such as catering, security, etc.) on time and in full.
6. Each chapter must submit all required forms as directed by Student Affairs.
7. Each chapter is required to achieve at least a chapter cumulative 2.5 GPA each semester. Each New Member class is required to achieve at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA.
8. Each chapter shall be required to carry insurance coverage as is deemed necessary by Gordon State College. Updated insurance certificates must be submitted as directed by Student Affairs on an annual basis. All chapters are required to name "Gordon State College" as an additional

insured and the certificate must state that the insurance coverage is primary over other collectible insurance.

9. All registered fraternities and sororities must have at least three (3) fully enrolled undergraduate members (initiates/new members) by the end of the first academic year.
10. Each chapter president must update their membership roster as directed by Student Affairs. Membership updates take place at least twice per semester. Once the roster update is completed, no changes will be made (specifically regarding the chapter's fall/spring grade report).
11. Each chapter is required to participate in all meetings, workshops, seminars, and programs as deemed mandatory by Student Affairs.
12. Each chapter and its members must comply with all Gordon State College and Student Affairs rules, regulations, and policies as they apply to registered fraternities and sororities and recognized student organizations.

Due Dates:

All materials are due prior to the start of the academic term for which the organization wishes to be known on campus (August 15th for fall term, and January 1st for spring term).

Upon submission, these materials will be reviewed by Student Affairs, and a recommendation to charter will be made to the Provost/Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs. A final decision on the charter status will be issued via a signed letter by the Provost/Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

Max Gruver Act Compliance

On May 9th, 2021, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp passed into law the "Max Gruver Act" which amends the state's hazing laws found in OCGA 16-5-61. This new law requires a webpage dedicated to the public disclosure of (1) administrative adjudication of hazing (internal institutional investigations and hearings) and (2) hazing related convictions (external criminal convictions) to include at minimum:

1. The name of any school organization involved;
2. The date(s) on which the hazing occurred;
3. A description of the hazing related findings (administrative or criminal) and sanctions.

In compliance with Max Gruver Act, GSC will provide updated information that will be maintained for at least five years following final adjudication or conviction for any fraternities and sororities in violation.

Fraternity and Sorority Policy Acknowledgement Form

We acknowledge that we have received and reviewed the following Gordon State College fraternity/sorority policies:

- Academic
- Code of Student Conduct
- Chapter Viability Requirements
- Anti-hazing
- Insurance

We further acknowledge that we have reviewed these policies with the officially appointed regional officers, chapter advisors and chapter officers and have incorporated this information into our training.

We agree to instruct our collegiate chapter members to abide by each of these policies.

Fraternity or Sorority Name and Chapter

Inter/National Officer Full Name (Please Print)

Inter/National Officer (Please Sign)

Date

Regional Officer Full Name (Please Print)

Regional Officer (Please Sign)

Date

Chapter Advisor Full Name (Please Print)

Chapter Advisor (Please Sign)

Date

ADDENDUM

Policy against Hazing

Philosophy

The fraternity and sorority life community believes that true brotherhood and sisterhood is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for duly constituted authority, and commitment to the objectives of higher education. Furthermore, students engaging in hazing activities may subject themselves to criminal penalties. Therefore, a fraternity or sorority program which includes hazing is contrary and detrimental to the purpose of Gordon State College, the education and personal development of its students, and thus, has no place within the College and fraternity and sorority life community.

Definition

Hazing is defined as any action or situation which includes any mental or physical requirement, request or obligation placed upon any person (new member, associate member, member, affiliate, guest, etc.) which could cause discomfort, pain, fright, disgrace, injury or which is personally degrading, or which violates any federal, state, local statute or GSC policy. Any activity described in this definition upon which the initiation, or admission into, or affiliation with, or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditional, shall be presumed to be "forced" activity.

1. No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another.
2. No student or advisor shall knowingly permit the hazing of another.
3. No student or advisor shall fail to report hazing.
4. The negligence or consent of the student/participant or any assumption or risk by the student/participant is not a defense to any action brought pursuant to this policy.

Enforcement of the definition shall include, but not be limited to, the following actions and activities which are explicitly prohibited include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Forcing, requiring or endorsing new members/associate members to drink alcohol or any other substance and/or providing such alcohol or other substance;
2. The unauthorized or illegal use of alcohol in any form or quantity during any new member activity;
3. Calisthenics (sit-ups, push-ups and runs);
4. Branding and tattooing;
5. Pushing, shoving, punching, whipping, beating, tackling or any other physical abuse;
6. Unauthorized line-ups of any nature;
7. Throwing anything (garbage, water, paint, etc.) at an individual;
8. Any form of paddling, physical abuse, psychological abuse, deception or shocks;
9. Requiring individuals to walk or march in formation of any kind;
10. Publicly wearing apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste (uniforms, head apparel, boots/shoes, etc.);
11. Not permitting individuals to speak for extended periods of time and/or forced exclusion from social contact;

Created by L. Stackhouse – July 2023

Approved by Cabinet – September 2023

12. Preventing any person from practicing personal hygiene;
13. Any activity which interferes with an individual's scholastic pursuits (class attendance, preparation, study time, etc.)
14. Forced consumption of food or other substances;
15. Theft, defacement, or destruction of private or public property
16. Conducting unauthorized scavenger hunts, treasure hunts, quests, road trips, paddle hunts, big brother/little brother hunts, big sister/little sister hunts;
17. Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, public displays or greetings;
18. Servitude of any nature (food runs, personal errands, academic work, etc.);
19. Permitting less than six consecutive hours of sleep each night;
20. Conducting a new member related activity between the hours of 12AM and 7AM or awakening individuals during these hours;
21. Nudity or exposure to the elements at any time;
22. Yelling, screaming or calling individuals demeaning names;
23. Engaging in unauthorized activities which involve compelling an individual or group of individuals to remain at a certain location or transporting anyone anywhere, within or outside the city of Barnesville (road trips, kidnaps, sneaks, drops, etc.);
24. Assigning or endorsing "pranks" (stealing composites, trophies, mascots, etc.)
25. Conducting activities which do not allow adequate time for study during pre-initiation or initiation periods;
26. Conducting activities designed to deceive or convince new members that he/she will not be initiated or will be hurt;
27. Carrying of any items (paddles, bricks, rocks, pocket change, dog collars, signature books, etc.)
28. Forcing, requiring, or endorsing new members/associate members to violate any Gordon State College, Student Affairs, national/international policy or any local, state or federal law.

Implementation

1. The student officers, primarily the president and new member educator, are responsible for informing members (new members, associate members, affiliates, guests, etc.) of this policy. It is highly encouraged that each organization have the president read this policy at the first meeting of the organization each semester and by the new member educator at the first new member/associate member meeting of the semester.
2. Any allegations that a chapter has engaged in hazing activities will result in an investigation of the matter by the Dean of Students. All new member/associate member activities will be suspended during and pending the outcome of the investigation.
3. In all cases of alleged violations of this policy, alumni and national/international headquarters of the organization will be notified. Individuals involved in alleged acts of hazing and/or individual officers who knew of, or should have known of, these activities may also face charges pursuant to the GSC Student Code of Conduct.

New Member Presentation

It is understood that new member presentations are an integral part of the cultural and multicultural fraternity and sorority experience. Gordon State College recognizes that the continued participation in this tradition can have significant impact on the creation of community and sense of pride within the organizations who traditionally participate. Despite the generally positive nature of this practice, some issues related to hazing have been associated with these presentations and their rehearsal processes. To provide guidance that will enable the successful and positive continuation of the tradition of new member presentations, Student Affairs has established the following guidelines:

Guidelines

The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs must approve all requests for new member presentations. All organizations seeking to host new member presentations must submit written approval from a national or regional representative allowing the activity to take place.

- New member presentations and the costs associated with them are the responsibility of the host/sponsoring chapter.
- New member presentations must comply with and abide by all Student Affairs and College policies and procedures, including the Student Code of Conduct, as well as local, state, and federal laws.
- New member presentations may not be scheduled to begin after 9:30 p.m. and must start within 15 minutes of advertised time.
- New member presentations cannot last longer than 2 hours.
- The Chapter Advisor and/or their designee must attend their respective chapter's new member presentations.
- Participation in the new member presentation must be truly optional for participating new members. Any pressure or coercion to participate in the show will not be permitted.
 - Rehearsals for the show must be held at reasonable hours and be positive in nature. Forced calisthenics and physical demands outside of what is considered reasonable for practicing of the dance/step is not permitted.
- No hazing, as defined by the group's national organization, Gordon State College, and the State of Georgia, may occur prior to, during, or after the show.
- At no time should animals, children or non-members be included in the new member presentation.
- It is the chapter's responsibility to notify visiting members and alumni of all Student Affairs and GSC policies and procedures.

Strictly Prohibited Actions/Items (Please note that this list is not intended to be exhaustive")

1. Gas masks, oxygen masks, or ski masks
2. Nudity or partial nudity
3. Profanity (to include greetings, chants or music being played)
4. Bare feet, shaved heads, and body brandings
5. Physical abuse. This includes, but is not limited to slapping, punching, pushing, poking, caning, etc.

6. Vulgar language or gestures
7. Disrespecting any other fraternity or sorority
8. Condemning a person's sexual orientation
9. Referencing hazing or other illegal activities
10. Alcoholic beverages and illegal substances
11. Bricks, paddles, bats, etc.
12. Flames, fireworks, smoke, and pyrotechnics
13. Body armor, bullet-proof vests, and other military or police tactical equipment

Violations

Any chapter that violates these guidelines is subject to penalties including, but not limited to, being responsible for any additional financial costs (security, staffing, etc.) associated with the new member presentation and may be subject to immediate suspension.

Chapter Advisor Agreement Form

I certify that _____ is the advisor to _____
(Print Advisor Name) (Print Club Name)

and that said advisor has been informed of the provisions of the organization’s constitution concerning advisors and that the membership thereof agrees to the relationship between the advisor and the group.

Note: An advisor to a Gordon State College recognized student organization must be a full-time employee of Gordon State College. Organizations may choose to have co-advisors and in such case a Campus Advisor Agreement Form is required of both advisors.

Provisions:

- A. The advisor will assist the students in the group with their own development as individuals and the development of the group as an institution. The advisor will serve as an ethical counselor to the group and inform members of GSC policy that may apply to their activities or decisions.
- B. The senior student officeholder of each organization or club will certify in writing the name of that group’s advisor. This certification shall include a statement that the advisor has been informed of the provisions of the organization’s constitution concerning advisors and that the advisor and the members of the group agree to the relationship between them. A new certification will be made each time the group is granted a status or a renewal of that status, or at least once an academic year.
- C. In addition to the provisions stated in the organization’s constitution, the advisor also promises to remain active in the club by frequently attending meetings, serving as a potential chaperone for events and meeting with the executive members as needed.

Additional responsibilities as outlined by the organization (Please add below):

Advisor Signature

Fraternity/Sorority President Signature

Advisor Printed Name

Fraternity/Sorority President Printed Name

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20__ at Gordon State College.

Please return this completed form to the Gordon State College Student Life Office, Student Activity and Recreation Center.

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