New Member Education and Intake Guidelines

and Anti-Hazing Policy

Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) at New York University is committed to the success of the new member education and intake programs throughout our Greek community. In an effort to encourage development of our fraternity and sorority community, these procedures will require all council member organizations to report their new member education/intake processes to Fraternity and Sorority Life to ensure the safety and well being of our students, fraternities and sororities, local community, and the University.

Each fraternity and sorority conducting membership recruitment or intake will keep the office informed of all activities each semester. The steps outlined below must be completed in addition to the corresponding (inter)national organization’s policies and procedures for the membership recruitment, education, and intake processes.

Members, new members/neophytes, alumni, chapter/campus advisors, and members of graduate chapters are responsible for their actions during the new member/intake process, because their actions may have repercussions on the chapter. Chapters are responsible for communicating Fraternity and Sorority Life procedures and the New York University Anti-Hazing Policy to all members, new members, alumni, advisors, and members of graduate chapters.

Section I - Eligibility

A. All groups must be registered social fraternities/sororities with New York University Fraternity and Sorority Life;

B. all groups must be in good standing with New York University, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and their (inter)national headquarters. Good standing is defined by a fraternity or sorority not having an inactive, suspension, or expulsion status and any ongoing sanctions which prohibits fraternity and sorority functions;

C. all fraternities and sororities must submit a New Member/Intake Program Plan to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life at least three weeks prior to the beginning of any new member education/intake activities. The new member/intake plans are kept confidential and are not shared with other fraternities or sororities;

D. all fraternities and sororities must submit the hazing compliance/recognition form each semester; and

E. at least two representatives of the chapter is required to attend the Risk Management workshop sponsored by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life each semester.
Section II – General Requirements

A. New member education/intake program will support and mirror the New York University mission statement and values;
B. New member education/intake programs will support first and foremost a student’s academic endeavors (i.e. no late nights, excessive programs, and etc.)
C. All new member/intake programs will be alcohol and illegal substance free;
D. Any new member/candidate tests and/or homework will be those which are approved by your (inter)national new member/intake programs;
E. New members/candidates will understand what is expected of them during the new member/intake period and additionally, will be told when their initiation will take place;
F. All active chapters will be educated on New York University’s Anti-Hazing policy and will agree to adhere to it by signing the Recognition Agreement Form;
G. All new member education/intake timelines may only be during the two primary semesters of the academic year (i.e., fall and spring semesters);
H. All new member education/intake timelines may begin at any time as deemed appropriate by the local chapter and national organization and is to be no longer than eight to ten weeks unless approved by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life;
I. All new member education/intake timeliness must conclude, including initiation ceremony and rights by the Reading Day outlined by New York University during that specific semester;
J. Fraternity and Sorority Life will verify each student, student status, and GPA of those going through any intake process prior to any activity through the NYU Fraternity and Sorority Life Formal Intake Notification Form (due at date designated by professional staff) and will coordinate applicable graduate advisor(s); and

K. Because of the importance of scholarship within the fraternity and sorority community, all new member/neophyte events, meetings, and programming must end by the following times:
   i. Sunday – Thursday by 11:00 p.m.
   ii. Friday – Saturday by 11:59 p.m.; and
   iii. Any event or program may exceed the aforementioned time frames upon approval from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Section III – Meetings and Documentation

A. Documentation of the proposed New Member Education/Intake Program must be provided to New York University’s Fraternity and Sorority Life at least 3 weeks prior to any new member education/intake activities or designated date by the campus Greek Life professional; and
B. all chapters participating in new member education/intake activities are required to submit the following forms:

   i. Chapter Anti-Hazing or Recognition Agreement Forms; and
   ii. updated roster information as determined by deadlines.

Section IV – Presentation of New Members/Neophytes (if applicable)

This policy also applies to icebreaker and step show events:

A. All new member/unveiling shows must adhere to the following guidelines:

   i. All participants must be treated with respect during the event and all activities should align with the core values of New York University’s fraternity and sorority community;
   ii. not all groups can conduct a coming out show due to their national policies;
   iii. groups need to confirm with Fraternity and Sorority Life the details of the event at least 2 weeks in advance of the show;
   iv. security or staff must be present for the entire duration of the show;
   v. during the show there will be no disrespecting acts, actions, and verbiage of other fraternity and sorority members or any other peoples; and
   vi. Fraternity and Sorority Life would like to publicize these shows to the campus staff and faculty so that they will be educated about our fraternities and sororities.

Section V – Hazing

A. Chapters are expected to abide the New York State Hazing law as NYU has adopted these as its own:

   i. New York State Penal Law, Chapter 716, Section 1:

      a. 120.16 – Hazing in the first degree: a person is guilty of hazing in the first degree when, in the course of another person’s initiation into or affiliation with any organization, he or she intentionally or recklessly engages in conduct which creates a substantial risk of physical injury to such other person or a third person and thereby cause such injury. Hazing in the first degree is a class A misdemeanor.

      b. 120.17 – Hazing in the second degree: a person is guilty of hazing in the second degree when, in the course of another person’s affiliation with any organization, he or she intentionally or recklessly engages in conduct which creates a substantial risk of physical injury to such other person or third person. Hazing in the second degree is a violation.

B. NYU, in addition by state law, contains the following anti-hazing policy that must be abided:

   i. Any action or activity, regardless of location, intent, or willingness of the participant, which:

      a. Does not contribute to the positive development of a person;
b. Inflicts or causes physical or mental harm or anxieties;

c. Demeans, degrades, disgraces, harasses or ridicules a person;

d. Intentionally or unintentionally endangers a student’s admission to or affiliation with any student organization;

e. Hazing can occur on-campus or off-campus and to both new members/neophytes and active members; and

f. Follow all FIPG policies and standards on anti-hazing which has been adopted as NYU’s own:

   No chapter, colony, student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as

   “Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol, paddling in any form, creation of excessive fatigue, physical and psychological shocks, quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law.”

Section VI – Violations

A. Violations of the new member education/intake procedures may result in a referral to the Office of Community Standards, conduct violations against the chapter and/or individual members, and the loss of registration as a fraternity/sorority at New York University. Loss of recognition will prevent the organization from participating in/hosting any social functions (on or off campus), participating in philanthropies, reserving space on campus, or otherwise functioning as a student organization.

   i. Violations include, but are not limited to:

      a. submission of improper paperwork or the lack of submitting required paperwork;
b. holding new member education programs/intake without adhering to the procedures outlined by New York University’s Fraternity and Sorority Life;

c. hazing: Any violations of the New York University’s Anti-Hazing Policy will result in an immediate referral to the university conduct processes; and

d. any conduct violations against the chapter during new member/intake programs.