

24 Expansion/Extension/New Chapters

24.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Greek Expansion Policy is to establish guidelines for the addition of general fraternities and sororities on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus. At times it may be necessary to add new Greek chapters for the purpose of encouraging positive growth in the Greek community.

24.2 Starting a New Greek Organization/Interest Group

1. University Recognized Student Organization status is limited to inter/nationally affiliated Greek organizations due to issues of liability, supervision and support.
2. In arriving at a final decision to expand, the university, through Student Activities, will consult with the appropriate Greek governing council or chapters to determine their position(s) on the addition of a new Greek organization to the governing body or Greek community.
3. All Greek letter social organizations are advised through Student Activities. For initial review and advice, please consult the Greek Advisor. Expansion will be granted at the discretion of the appropriate Greek governing council and the Greek Advisor. It is understood that any group will become affiliated with the appropriate Greek governing council.
4. The Greek Advisor will meet with the group, gather information, and forward information on to the appropriate Greek governing council for review by their appropriate Expansion Committee.
5. Information will be reviewed by the Greek Advisor, the respective council, and the appointed Expansion Committee to determine viability of expansion.
6. Groups will not be recognized unless all procedures for starting a new organization are followed. "Campus crashing" will not be tolerated.
7. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi official recognition may be delayed, withheld, or revoked if the affiliated inter/national organization delays, withholds, or revokes its recognition or if the group fails to comply with standards agreed upon by the appropriate governing council.

24.2.1 *Methods of Expansion*

For all general Greek organizations, expansion can occur in one of the following methods:

- i. The Greek community and/or the University decides that expansion is desired, and the University invites inter/national Greek organizations to participate in the Greek expansion process; or
- ii. A group of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi students request to establish a chapter (new or previously recognized) of a inter/national Greek organization.

24.3 Procedures for Expansion

24.3.1 *Sorority Expansion for National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) Sororities*

Sorority expansion shall occur through a process as approved by the Panhellenic Council and Student Activities and shall follow the NPC guidelines.

24.3.2 *Sorority Expansion for other Inter/National Sororities*

Expansion for non-NPC affiliated sororities shall occur through the procedures outlined in this document.

24.2.3 Fraternity/Sorority Expansion for National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO) Chapters

Expansion for NALFO chapters shall occur through the procedures outlined in this document and shall be consistent with the procedures of NALFO.

24.3.4 Fraternity/Sorority Expansion for National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Chapters

Expansion for NPHC chapters can occur either: 1) through receiving a formal petition for recognition by a group of currently enrolled Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi students, or 2) through reviewing, from a committee setup by the Greek Advisor, a formal petition for re-recognition by a chapter formerly granted University Recognition status.

24.3.5 Fraternity Expansion for North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) and other Inter/National Fraternities

Fraternity expansion shall occur through the procedures outlined in this document and shall be consistent with the procedures of the NIC.

24.4 Expansion Committee

24.4.1 Purpose

The Expansion Committee shall deal with all matters pertaining to the expansion of the Greek community. All action in the areas of expansion must be approved and sanctioned by this committee.

24.4.2 Membership

1. Groups seeking an opportunity for expansion that currently do not have a governing council at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi shall meet with the Greek Advisor prior to a committee being formed.
2. The Expansion Committee is a joint Interfraternity Council (IFC)/ National Panhellenic Council (NPC) committee. It shall consist of, but not limited to, the following individuals: IFC President, Panhellenic President.
3. The committee shall have representation from each chapter on campus that is associated with the national governing council (NALFO/NIC/NPC/NPHC) of the chapter expanding to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

The Greek Advisor serves as an ex-officio member of the Committee. All members of the Committee are appointed by the Greek Advisor and or the respectful council receiving the formal petition.

24.4.3 Duties

1. To regularly examine the climate of the Greek community, to determine whether or not expansion is advised and/or appropriate.
2. To determine positive attributes that a new organization may bring.
3. To determine probability of growth for a new Greek organization.
4. To find evidence of the ability to establish a cooperative relationship between the inter/national headquarters, regional advisors, university administration and Greek governing council.
5. Coordinate all expansion activities.
6. To regularly report all committee activities to Student Activities, the Greek advisor, and IFC/NPC/other governing councils.
7. To review the Expansion and Colonization Guidelines.

24.4.4 Procedures for Expansion

1. Determine whether or not there is a need in the Greek and University community for additional Greek chapters.
2. Determine the number of inter/national Greek organizations to be invited to colonize based on need and resources.
3. Contact inter/national Greek organizations to invite them to participate in the expansion process. Provide the inter/national Greek organizations with a history of the University and information about the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Greek community.
4. Collect and review all materials submitted from interested inter/national Greek organizations, and determine which organizations to invite to campus and make formal presentations to the committee, the Greek Community, and University administration.
5. Participate in the formal presentation process when inter/national Greek organizations visit campus.
6. Make recommendations to Student Activities and Student Affairs regarding which national Greek organizations, if any, are to be invited to campus to colonize.

24.4.5 Materials to be provided by the Inter/National Greek Organization:

1. A written request expressing the desire to establish a chapter at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, accompanied by documentation and supporting materials by the inter/national organization. The Expansion Committee reserves the right to not schedule a group for expansion if all aspects of requested materials are not provided. Also, the Expansion Committee reserves the right to waive any of the following aspects of the documentation for any valid reasons.
2. The following materials must be provided to the Expansion Committee, for review and possible invitation to make a presentation. Unless otherwise noted, all of the following must also be included in the expansion presentations (**if applicable*):
 - a. Alumnae/i information
 - i. Total number of alumnae within a sixty mile radius of Corpus Christi and on a national basis;
 - ii. List of alumnae/i who have indicated interest in working with the proposed chapter in an advisory capacity; and
 - iii. The nearest alumni club/organization/graduate chapter.
 - b. A copy of the constitution/bylaws of Inter/National Greek organization,
 - c. A copy of the following inter/national policies and educational program(s):
 - i. Anti-Hazing policy and enforcement guidelines;
 - ii. Sexual Assault Policy and educational program(s);
 - iii. Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy and educational program(s);
 - iv. Scholarship Policies and academic program(s);
 - v. Membership Education Policy and educational program(s);
 - vi. Recruitment/Membership Intake policy and program(s);
 - vii. Leadership Development and officer training program(s); and
 - viii. Other applicable educational programs.
 - d. A copy of the national quarterly magazine,

- e. A report describing the plan for housing, and related housing policy and procedure (if applicable).
- f. Colonization procedure, timeline and standards for chartering a chapter, including the following specific information:
 - i. Minimal expectations of colony for existence and chartering;
 - ii. Expectations of the colony at TAMUCC; and
 - iii. Anticipated timeline for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.
- g. Statistical information on National strength, to include:
 - i. Total number of chapters nationwide and distribution area;
 - ii. Total number of chapters in Texas and Southern Region including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana;
 - iii. Total number of colonizations during the past five (5) years, including where, number chartered, number failed (reasons behind closures);
 - iv. Total number of initiated members;
 - v. Total number of colonizations anticipated this year and where, including timeline for founding each;
 - vi. The number of chapters lost during the last three (3) years, including where, when, and why;
 - vii. Average size of chapters; and
 - viii. Percentage of new members initiated nationwide.
- h. Information on Inter/National support and assistance, to include:
 - i. Number of traveling consultants, description of program, and commitment for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi;
 - ii. Advisor program, specific to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi;
 - iii. Nearest region/province or other support person (paid or volunteer);
 - iv. Description of inter/national staff assistance to colonies and established chapters (i.e., while a colony, after chartering, etc.);
 - v. Description of conventions, leadership schools, or programs available to colony members; and
- i. A summary of the organizational structure of the fraternity at the chapter and inter/national levels;
- j. Local purposes and goals, including a description of how these goals were formulated, including:
 - i. Short term goals (while still a colony/new group);
 - ii. Goals for within two years of chartering; and
 - iii. Long term goals, within five to ten years.
- k. If a group is returning to campus from a closure or from disciplinary action, describe the following:
 - i. Reasons why the chapter left campus, and when;
 - ii. How the group plans to avoid this from happening again; and
 - iii. How the group has cleared up any debts or circumstances still left incomplete from when previously on campus (if applicable).

24.4.6 Expansion Criteria

Consideration for expansion will be based upon the following criteria:

1. Fair consideration for all groups, including smaller organizations as well as those representing diverse populations;
2. Consistency with the educational mission of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; and
3. Evaluation of the material submitted and determination of the ability of the national Greek organization to successfully implement their stated plan for colonization.

24.4.7 Additional Information

1. It is recommended that organizations wishing to re-establish a colony/chapter at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus wait at least six (6) full semesters (fall/spring) before entering the expansion process with the Expansion Committee.
2. Presentations will be made to the IFC /NPC/other governing council or chapters at special meetings called by the respective council president or Greek Advisor.
3. Evaluations from all presentation panel members and the information submitted by the inter/national organizations, will be the information used to make the decision as to which fraternities will be given an invitation to colonize/proceed with the Greek-letter organization recognition process.
4. Three possible recommendations of the panel members are as follows: 1) no invitation should be extended at this time, with specific reasons as to why and when another presentation should be made, 2) more information is needed before a final decision may be made, or 3) an invitation to colonize/proceed with Greek-letter organization recognition should be extended to a specific fraternity.
5. Upon approval of the Director of the Student Activities, all parties will be notified.
6. After receiving approval, the inter/national organization will be extended an invitation to colonize. If a local interest group/colony/chapter already exists, the group may proceed with the Greek-letter organization recognition process. This process is coordinated by the Student Activities Office.
7. After receiving recognition, the colony/chapter can possibly receive Associate Member status in IFC/NPC/other governing council and are subject to, but not limited to, the Colony Requirements section of this document.
8. The Director of University Center and Student Activities with the Dean of Students reserves the right to require specific conditions to be met in order to proceed with/maintain Greek-letter organization recognition.
9. The Expansion Committee reserves the right to request additional materials/documentation in order to recommend, invite, and schedule a group for expansion presentations.
10. Each organization entering into the expansion process is strongly encouraged to adopt and support alcohol free housing when considering and explaining housing options. If a group does not support and adopt alcohol free housing, they must prepare and present a comprehensive analysis of this decision during the expansion presentations.

24.5 Colonization Procedures

1. When forming an interest group, per recommendation from the Greek Advisor and the respective council, the constitution will be reviewed by Student Activities for content. If revisions are needed, the group will make the necessary changes and resubmit the constitution for review.
2. The National fraternity must consult with the Expansion Committee and the Greek Advisor regarding all colonization plans and procedures.

3. The Expansion Committee and Greek Advisor will specify to the National fraternity guidelines for beginning and completing colonization.
4. The Expansion Committee and the Greek Advisor will help provide any necessary service and information to the National fraternity regarding colonization, University, Greek and IFC/NPC/other governing council guidelines, policies, procedures, and rules.

24.6 Colony/New Chapter Requirements

- 1 If necessary, the Expansion Committee, IFC/NPC/other governing council or the University can waive any of the following requirements.
- 2 The colony is responsible for adhering to all requirements as outlined in the *RSO Handbook*, *Greek Handbook*, and *the Greek Values Code*.
- 3 Representatives of the colony must attend all IFC/NPC/other governing council meetings as an Associate Member and are encouraged to participate in all Greek community activities.
- 4 The colony shall maintain an active Advisory Committee, consisting of at least four alumni or volunteers, with one being designated as the chapter advisor. The Advisory Committee shall be trained by the National fraternity. The chapter advisor needs to attend all meetings scheduled for advisors by Student Activities and Greek Life, IFC/NPC/other governing council, or the University. In addition, the advisor is expected to hold regular meetings with the Greek Advisor.
- 5 During the colony period, the colony shall develop programming in the following areas, with records of these provided as requested by the Greek Advisor:
 - a. Fraternity Education
 - b. Recruitment/Membership Intake
 - c. Scholarship
 - d. Officer Training and Transition
 - e. Financial Responsibilities
 - f. Alumni Relations
 - g. Social Programming (to include substance abuse and risk management education)
 - h. Community Service
 - i. Sexual Assault and Harassment
 - j. New Member Education and Hazing
 - k. Local IFC/NPC/other governing council involvement
 - l. Human Dignity
 - m. Other activities as outlined by the fraternity and the University
- 6 The colony shall have a national representative visit at least once each semester for as long as the colony exists. This representative shall meet with the Greek Advisor each semester or visit.
- 7 The officers of the colony shall be responsible for keeping all records within Student Activities current and complete each semester.
- 8 The colony must file with Student Activities a current certificate of insurance verifying liability and social host insurance coverage at the required amount.
- 9 Failure to meet any of the above requirements within one year of colonization shall result in a review by the Director of University Center and Student Activities, Expansion

Committee, IFC/NPC/other governing council Executive Officers, and the Greek Advisor to determine status of recognition.

24.7 Follow-Up Review Presentation

1. One full year following the expansion presentations, or immediately following chartering (which ever comes later), the fraternity must prepare a follow-up review presentation. This will be coordinated with the Greek Advisor.
2. The purpose of this presentation is to allow the fraternity to demonstrate their progress since their last presentation and since receiving their charter.
3. This presentation should include, but it is not limited to the following aspects:
 - a. Membership statistics within the most recent two semesters (recruitment/intake numbers, chapter membership numbers, academic information, etc.);
 - b. How the fraternity has developed and implemented programming in the following areas:
 - i. Fraternity Education
 - ii. Recruitment/Membership Intake
 - iii. Scholarship
 - iv. Officer Training and Transition
 - v. Financial Responsibilities
 - vi. Alumni Relations
 - vii. Social Programming (to include substance abuse and risk management education)
 - viii. Community Service
 - ix. Sexual Assault and Harassment
 - x. New Member Education and Hazing
 - xi. Local IFC/NPC/MGC council involvement
 - xii. Human Dignity
 - xiii. Other activities as outlined by the fraternity and the University
 - c. Goals of the fraternity, and how successfully/unsuccessfully they met previous goals;
 - d. Description of the change within the fraternity since the expansion presentation; and
 - e. The short and long term goals of the fraternity currently.
4. This presentation will be given to Student Activities, Dean of Students, the Expansion Committee and IFC/NPC/other governing council.

24.8 IFC/NPC/MGC governing council Full Membership

1. As soon as the colony has: 1) fulfilled the above requirements, 2) has received its charter from the National organization, and 3) has made the required follow-up review presentation, the organization may petition its respective Council for Full Membership status.
2. The Expansion Committee, in conjunction with the Greek Advisor, shall prepare a report and make a recommendation to the respective governing body prior to the vote.
3. Organizations who are invited to campus through the Formal Expansion Process will be granted Full Membership status immediately upon their receipt of their charter. Those organizations who are invited to campus following the guidelines in 24.3.
4. The IFC/NPC/other governing council may waive the chartering requirement to grant Full Membership status to a group if so desired.