



# JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY RELATIONSHIP STATEMENT FOR RECOGNIZED SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

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### **Introduction:**

The relationship between the University and the social and professional fraternal community at Johns Hopkins University is mutually beneficial. Social and professional fraternal organizations enhance the quality of life for students by increasing the range of opportunities for meaningful participation leading to personal growth and development. Thus, in the spirit of cooperation and in an effort to strengthen Fraternity and Sorority Life at Johns Hopkins University, individual chapters, along with the University, hereby agree to affirm the values of brotherhood/sisterhood, scholarship, leadership, service, alumni relations, financial management, involvement, education, health/wellness, and individual growth and development. This document reflects the expectations of both the social and professional fraternal organizations and the University to assure a quality relationship exists.

### **Recognition:**

Recognition of social and professional fraternal organizations is solely at the discretion of Johns Hopkins University.

University-recognized fraternities and sororities are affiliated with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) through their respective governing councils. The three governing councils are as follows: Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Association

at Johns Hopkins (PAJH), and Intercultural Greek Council (IGC). Local chapters may not exist at Johns Hopkins University unless they belong to one of the three governing councils or report directly to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

**Eligibility:**

Students interested in joining a social and professional fraternal organization must be a fully matriculated (full-time credit load) undergraduate student who possess a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement. No graduate students may participate, as a roster member, with the chapter.

**Responsibilities of Johns Hopkins University:**

1. Johns Hopkins University supports the right of assembly for all members of the university community. Students are, therefore, free to organize and assemble provided that they abide by local, state, and federal law.
2. Johns Hopkins University's Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will offer leadership training workshops and educational seminars to support chapter excellence and the personal development of fraternity/sorority members.
3. Provide training and support for chapter advisors and faculty advisors to advise, assist, and encourage chapter success.
4. Social and professional fraternal organization(s) academic reports shall be obtained through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. They can be requested 3 - 4 weeks after grades are submitted by faculty to the registrar's office. Only the president, scholarship chair, national office, or advisor may request this report.
5. Equitably apply and maintain standards for all fraternity and sorority chapters at the University; and, require fair and consistent adherence to all University policies and conduct codes.
6. Maintain an Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life administered by staff that is experienced and dedicated to progress, leadership development, and the overall growth and enhancement of fraternities and sororities on campus.

7. Advise, encourage, and empower the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, and Intercultural Greek Councils in their efforts to provide leadership and oversight to the overall fraternal community.
8. Facilitate an annual recognition of all chapters on campus.
9. Provide access and permit usage of campus facilities for social and professional fraternal organizations in good standing. (Note: The University has a mission to maintain a safe, productive academic and co-curricular environment, and is within its rights to restrict the use of University facilities to those groups compromising that mission.)

**Responsibilities of social and professional fraternal organizations:**

*Fraternal organizations, by virtue of alumni support, foundations, and professional staff, are able to exist without the support or recognition of the university. In order to take advantage of the university's benefits and facilities, however, chapters must be a positive contributor to the university community. Johns Hopkins University has no obligation to a private organization to allow access to its facilities or services. In order to access those facilities or services chapters must adhere to the following:*

1. The university recognizes that social and professional fraternal organizations employ selectivity in recruiting new members. The university further recognizes that some social and professional fraternal organization memberships are grounded in a particular cultural, religious, or historical heritage. Mindful of these legacies, the university encourages social and professional fraternal organizations to abide by the Johns Hopkins University non-discrimination policy, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, political affiliation, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, veteran status, and pregnancy.
2. Social and professional fraternal organizations shall adhere to all university and local governing council policies and guidelines, as well as the policies of their respective inter/national organizations.

3. Each social and professional fraternal organization is required to have at least one active chapter advisor and one advisor from the faculty or professional staff at Johns Hopkins University.
4. Each social and professional fraternal organization is required to submit proof of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) of social liability insurance. Johns Hopkins University must be named on the document. Chapter liability insurance coverage must include not less than \$1,000,000 in coverage per occurrence, and include coverage for Host Liquor Liability and Sexual Misconduct and Molestation.
5. Each social and professional fraternal organization is required to submit a current roster every semester with local addresses of its membership.
6. Governing council and chapter officers must be full-time, degree-seeking candidates at Johns Hopkins University with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5.
7. The new member process can be no longer than six (6) weeks in the fall or spring. The six (6) week new member process does not include the following: Fall Break, Thanksgiving Break, or Spring Break. This means if the new member process is scheduled to occur during any of the aforementioned breaks in class attendance for students, those breaks **will not** count against the total new member process. (i.e. New member process can be seven (7) weeks as spring break and Thanksgiving break do not count towards the new member program timeline)
8. Recognized social and professional fraternal organizations shall have no fewer than five (5) active (enrolled undergraduate) members. A chapter's failure to meet this requirement will result in the loss of university recognition. If a chapter falls below 5 members they will have one (1) year recruit up to and over 5 members.
9. Each social and professional fraternal organization shall submit the Congruence Assessment Program (CAP) at the end of every academic term (deadlines will be communicated by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life).
10. New members must attend all bid day/night ceremony speeches and educational programs sponsored by Fraternity & Sorority Life.

11. Alcohol events as part of membership recruitment and education are strictly prohibited. Chapters may not require nor encourage a prospective member to consume alcohol as a prerequisite for membership.
12. The university prohibits the organization or sponsorship by a social and professional fraternal organization for any student auxiliary group which does not offer full membership in the parent organization. An auxiliary group (also "sweetheart" or "little brother/sister" group) is an unofficial, unsanctioned partner organization to a fraternity or sorority, usually for members of the opposite sex. Any organization choosing to organize or sponsor an auxiliary group will be held responsible for the actions of the group despite any claim or proclamation to the contrary made by the chapter or the national organization. Social and professional fraternal organizations are granted single-sex membership by law. By organizing a subsidiary group, the organization is, in effect, saying it wants the opposite sex involved in the organization without having to grant full membership rights to the auxiliary members. This jeopardizes the organizations' Title IX exemption (United States Supreme Court ruling in *Roberts v. United States Jaycees*) from the University's sex discrimination policy because the chapter cannot claim to be a single-sex organization when members of the opposite sex are involved with the group in an organized manner. As a result, the parent organization is responsible for the actions of the subsidiary group, even if the national office of the chapter has a policy which does not recognize subsidiary groups.

\*\*Violations of these standards will be referred to the university's Dean of Student Life Office to be processed as a Student Conduct Code infraction.

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## DISCLAIMER

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), chapter president of \_\_\_\_\_  
(organization), have read the Relationship Statement for social and professional

fraternal Organizations at Johns Hopkins University and understand that the failure to adhere to these standards may result in disciplinary action.

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Chapter President

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Date