



Chartering Protocol for IFC Fraternities

Greek Affairs works to insure the success of all fraternities and sororities at BGSU and, in particular, new ones. New fraternities and sororities bring vitality to the Greek Community that allows it to grow and develop more fully. As such BGSU supports fully the expansion of new groups on the campus.

The goal of every new group, or colony, is to seek a charter from their national headquarters. Chartering is based strictly on the national organization's guidelines and policies. It is highly recommended that groups work with their advisors and national headquarters to become familiar with what is required in order to receive a charter from the beginning.

This document is intended to assist colonies with this process by providing guidelines and suggestions that directly affect how colonies can work towards chartering. Below are the main areas that colonies should be working on through this process. Greek Affairs stands ready to assist colonies in this exciting endeavor.

Chartering Time-Frame

In order to keep new groups on track towards chartering, groups have two years to fulfill their national fraternity requirements to receive a charter. If the group has not secured a charter from their inter/national headquarters during this time they will be asked to leave the campus, with the option to return at a later date. The intent of this is to move new groups successfully into chartered groups as quickly as possible.

Chartering Guidelines

As a colony or chartering group on campus, there are four basic guidelines that you should strive to meet before applying for a charter (the national requirements for a charter maybe similar, with the national guidelines superseding the guidelines below). These guidelines will help enhance a group's performance post-chartering and provide a sound basis for a newly chartered organization. Some of the guidelines include the following:

- Group membership should be equal to or greater than the IFC group average (available on the Greek report).
- Groups should maintain a GPA that is above the all-undergraduate GPA (available on the Greek report).
- 50% of all members should be involved in a non-Greek letter organization.
- The chapter performs an average of at least 10 hours of community service per member per semester.

Chartering Packets

When applying for a charter from the inter/national headquarters, a colony will typically be asked to submit the following:

- A copy of the Greek Report, possibly going back two years (they are on the web)
- A letter of support from Dr. Ed Whipple, Vice President for Student Affairs (the chapter president will need to meet with Dr. Whipple at least a month prior to needing the letter to secure his support)
- A letter of support from Dr. Ron Binder, Director of Greek Affairs and Associate Director of Residence Life
- A letter of support from the IFC President
- A letter of support from the colony Alumni Board

Chartering Banquet

Once a new group has been informed by their inter/national headquarters that they have been approved for a charter, it is common, but not required, that the group host a chartering banquet to recognize this accomplishment. Groups are encouraged to host this event at a reasonably priced venue that is near BGSU's campus. **And if it at all possible, the banquet should be held on campus.** Some of the individuals typically invited to attend this event include:

- BGSU President
- Vice President for Student Affairs
- Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
- Director of Residence Life
- Director of Greek Affairs and Associate Director of Residence Life
- Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Director of Alumni Affairs
- Prominent members of the chartering organization that work at BGSU
- Greek Council Presidents
- Chapter Alumni
- Advisors (faculty/staff/alumni)
- Headquarters staff
- Other supporters of the group

Staff members of the University and council presidents are usually invited as a courtesy. It is not expected that they pay for this; however, Greek Affairs recognizes the financial limitations of some groups. If a group is unable to waive the cost of these individuals Greek Affairs will cover this cost. Greek Affairs will also work with the new group on the event planning to ensure the event is suitable to commemorating this milestone in a chapter's life.

Housing

Greek Affairs and the Office of Residence Life provide on-campus housing for groups when available. As a colony, groups have the opportunity to apply for housing in the Conklin North residence hall. A meeting room is provided at not cost to the group that may be used as the group wishes. If groups wish to paint or renovate the room, a form is available on the Greek Affairs web site to secure permission to do this. Limited funds are available for such renovations. A requirement that a minimum of eight (8) members must reside on that wing of the hall is required to maintain the meeting room (each wing of the hall holds 16). An allocation process is held periodically when such rooms become available (four such rooms exist in Conklin). Once the group secures the room Greek Affairs arranges for the group's letters to be installed on the outside of the building. Once chartered, groups can apply for a house if there is one available at that time.

Services

In addition to the aforementioned, Greek Affairs provides the following services to colonies:

- Assistance and support from Greek Affairs staff, specifically, one-on-one assistance with one Greek Graduate Assistant assigned to each colony
- Opportunity to apply for housing in the Conklin North residence hall
- Recruitment assistance
- Academic assistance
- Additional services (see the attached Services & Requirements document for a complete list of services provided to Greek groups at BGSU).

Overall BGSU desires colonies to be successful and become chartered groups in the two year time limit. Please let us know how we can assist in making this possible.