

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

GUIDEBOOK

FALL 2023



Fraternity & Sorority Life
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



TO OUR FELLOW BUFFS

Recognized fraternities and sororities provide students with a unique experience that is unlike any other that you would find during your time at CU Boulder. These values-based organizations promote leadership, service, philanthropy and academic achievement in an environment where members find a place to belong, engage and build each other up. When executed successfully, the fraternal experience is truly transformational because it provides members with leadership experience, service opportunities, a support network, and a place to learn, grow and socialize.

Fraternities and sororities have been an integral part of the CU Boulder experience for more than 140 years—bringing strong tradition, personal development and community to thousands of students each year. The impact goes far beyond CU, with Greek students combining to donate hundreds of thousands of dollars and community service hours in their pursuit to better themselves and their community. For many, the choice to join a fraternity or sorority is one of the most impactful decisions they make in college.

The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life strives to offer a dynamic experience that is impact-driven and values-based, with the simple goal of building better people for our future. Fraternity & Sorority Life sponsors major campus traditions like Homecoming and Greek Week, and offers educational and leadership workshops, presentations and trainings to build skills for students to succeed in life. Our community is constantly looking ahead to build upon its successes and aspires to continue to positively impact the university, first as Buffs, and second as members of the rich tradition of Fraternity & Sorority Life at CU Boulder. As you explore our community through this guidebook, we hope that you find ways to enhance your experience at CU Boulder and make the most of this unique opportunity that will last you a lifetime.

Sko Buffs and Sko Greek!
Fraternity & Sorority Life Staff

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FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE
SNAPSHOT

3,400 MEMBERS

550	85	2,800
CU Interfraternity Council	Multicultural Greek Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council	College Panhellenic Council

Philanthropic Impact

CU Interfraternity Council: \$38,000 donated to unique causes and charities
College Panhellenic Council: \$290,000 donated to unique causes and charities

Academic GPAs

3.33	3.02	2.89
College Panhellenic Council	CU Interfraternity Council	Multicultural Greek Council



Fraternity & Sorority Life Values

At CU Boulder, our fraternities and sororities all share commitments to create environments where our values are put into action to support student success.

- Belonging
- Diversity, equity and inclusion
- Intellectual growth
- Social responsibility
- Well-being

Campus Culture Survey

Based on the 2021 Campus Culture Survey results, students participating in a fraternity or sorority generally report a higher sense of belonging than those who are not in a fraternity or sorority.

- 85% of student survey participants who are current members in a fraternity or sorority either agree or strongly agree that they made friends at CU Boulder compared to 66% who are not members and have no plans to join.
- 74% of student survey participants who are current members in a fraternity or sorority either agree or strongly agree to be a proud student at CU Boulder compared to 60% who are not members and have no plans to join.
- 69% of students survey participants who are current members in a fraternity or sorority either agree or strongly agree they have a sense of community at CU Boulder compared to 45% who are not members and have no plans to join.



Governing Councils: CU INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL | IFC

The CU Boulder Interfraternity Council is the official governing board of the university-affiliated fraternities. These members are held to a high standard by collectively building a supportive community of great men. The IFC includes 10 active organizations and continues to grow. All organizations strive for positive interfraternal relations, brotherhood, scholarship and service.



Beta Theta Pi (Beta)
"To Develop Principled Men into a Family for Life"
Nationally Founded:
1839, Miami University in Oxford, OH
Established at CU:
1900, refounded in 2018
Chapter Philanthropy:
The Blue Bench



Delta Chi (D-Chi)
"Leges"
Nationally Founded:
1890, Cornell University
Established at CU:
Fall 2021
Chapter Philanthropy:
V Foundation for Cancer Research



Delta Sigma Phi (Delta Sig)
"Better Men, Better Lives"
Nationally Founded:
1899, City College of New York
Established at CU:
1924
Chapter Philanthropy:
American Red Cross



Delta Tau Delta (Delt)
"Committed to Lives of Excellence"
Nationally Founded:
1858, Bethany College
Established at CU:
1883, refounded in 2022
Chapter Philanthropy:
JDRF



Delta Upsilon (DU)
"Justice, Our Foundation"
Nationally Founded:
1834, Williams College
Established at CU:
2019
Chapter Philanthropy:
Global Service Initiative



Phi Delta Theta (Phi Delt)
"One man is no man"
Nationally Founded:
1884, Miami University in Oxford, Ohio
Established at CU:
2017
Chapter Philanthropy:
Live Like Lou Foundation for ALS Research



Phi Kappa Sigma (Phi Kapp)
"Stellis Aequus Durando"
Nationally Founded:
1850, University of Pennsylvania
Established at CU:
2022
Chapter Philanthropy:
V Foundation for Cancer Research



Sigma Alpha Mu (Sammy)
"True manhood, democracy and humanity"
Nationally Founded:
1909, College of the City of New York
Established at CU:
2020
Chapter Philanthropy:
Alzheimer's Association



Sigma Chi (Sig Chi)
"In hoc signo vinces"
Nationally Founded:
1855, Miami University in Oxford, Ohio
Established at CU:
2018
Chapter Philanthropy:
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and Huntsman Cancer Institute



Sigma Tau Gamma (Sig Tau)
"A path of principles"
Nationally Founded:
1920, University of Central Missouri
Established at CU:
2018
Chapter Philanthropy:
Special Olympics

University affiliation process

Fraternity & Sorority Life's affiliation process helps ensure that students are joining university recognized organizations that offer safe fraternity experiences, provide well-established programs and resources, and are officially connected to the university. Affiliated fraternities are organizations where students can find a sense of belonging, have fun at social events and make lifelong friendships. The 10 affiliated fraternities have all signed Recognized Social Greek Organizations (RSGO) agreements that include provisions to follow all university policies. The agreements also outline certain conditions aimed to increase safety, accountability and student success. Fraternities in the Boulder area that have not signed a RSGO agreement are not affiliated with or recognized by CU Boulder. Learn more about the affiliation process: colorado.edu/greeks/cuifc-university-affiliation



Governing Councils: MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL | MGC

Our Multicultural Greek organizations provide students with exciting opportunities to develop sisterhood/brotherhood, leadership skills, cultural awareness and solid academic scholarship, and to participate in service to the community.

The purpose of the MGC is to assist diverse sororities and fraternities to achieve their noble purposes, to enrich Greek life on campus, to act as a liaison between our member organizations and university administration by establishing communicative network for all culturally diverse sororities and fraternities, and to promote unity among our organizations and the college community.



Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.
"Leading with Integrity, United through Service"
Nationally Founded:
 April 6, 1987 at Texas Tech University
Established at CU:
 2022
Chapter Philanthropy:
 American Cancer Society



Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, Inc.
"Excellence Through Brotherhood"
Nationally Founded:
 February 20, 1994 at Binghamton University
Established at CU:
 December 06, 2009



Pi Lambda Chi Latina Sorority, Inc.
"Preserving Latina Culture"
Nationally Founded:
 March 5, 1994, at the University of Colorado Boulder
Chapter Philanthropy:
 MAIA Impact



Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc.
"Opportunity for wisdom, wisdom for culture"
Nationally Founded:
 April 4, 1986, at University of Iowa, Iowa City
Established at CU:
 April 14, 1991



Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.
"Culture is pride, pride is success"
Nationally Founded:
 April 9, 1990, at University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
Established at CU:
 July 20, 2006



Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority, Inc.
"Lead from the Front"
Nationally Founded:
 March 23, 1994 at the University of Albany, State University of New York
Established at CU:
 April 24, 2004
Chapter Philanthropy:
 Combating Violence Against Women



Tau Psi Omega Fraternity, Inc.
"A brotherhood 4 life"
Nationally Founded:
 September 14, 1996, at Arizona State University
Established at CU:
 May 13, 2016



Governing Councils: NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL | NPHC

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is composed of the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities, commonly referred to as NPHC or Divine Nine. It was organized in May 1930 at Howard University in Washington D.C. The stated purpose of the organization is: “Unanimity of thought and action, as far as possible, in the conduct of Greek letter collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider problems of mutual interest to its member organizations.”

History of the Divine Nine:

Each of the nine NPHC organizations evolved during a period when African Americans were being denied essential rights and privileges afforded to others. Racial isolation on predominantly white institution campuses and social barriers of class on all campuses created a need for African Americans to align themselves with other individuals sharing common goals and ideals.

With the realization of such a need, the African American (Black) Greek-lettered organization movement took on the personae of a haven and outlet, which could foster brotherhood and sisterhood in the pursuit to bring about social change through the development of social programs that would create positive change for Black people and the country. Today, the need remains the same.



Alpha Phi Alpha (Alphas)
“First of all, Servants of all, We Shall Transcend All”

Nationally Founded:
December 4, 1906, Cornell University
Chapter:
Alpha Iota

Chapter Philanthropy:
Alpha Phi Alpha Education Foundation



Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)
“Be Culture and By Merit”

Nationally Founded:
January 15, 1908, Howard University
Chapter:
Alpha Kappa

Chapter Philanthropy:
The Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation



Kappa Alpha Psi (Kappas)
“Achievement In Every Field of Human Endeavor”

Nationally Founded:
January 5, 1911, Indiana University
Bloomington
Chapter:
Omicron Zeta

Chapter Philanthropy:
The Kappa Alpha Psi Foundation



Omega Psi Phi (Omegas)
“Friendship is Essential to the Soul”

Nationally Founded:
November 17, 1911, Howard University
Chapter:
Chi Psi

Chapter Philanthropy:
Internationally Mandated Programs



Delta Sigma Theta (Deltas)
“Intelligence is the Torch of Wisdom”

Nationally Founded:
January 13, 1913, Howard University
Chapter:
Zeta Pi

Chapter Philanthropy:
An extensive array of public service initiatives



Phi Beta Sigma (Sigmas)
“Culture for Service and Service for Humanity”

Nationally Founded:
January 9, 1914, Howard University
Chapter:
Delta Delta Sigma

Chapter Philanthropy:
March of Dimes



Zeta Phi Beta (Zetas)
“A Community-Conscious, Action-Oriented Organization”

Nationally Founded:
January 16, 1920, Howard University
Chapter:
Tau Alpha

Chapter Philanthropy:
March of Dimes



Sigma Gamma Rho (SGRhos)
“Greater Service, Greater Progress”

Nationally Founded:
November 12, 1922, Butler University
Chapter:
Beta Rho Sigma

Chapter Philanthropy:
G.O.L.D.E.N. Charitable Foundation



Iota Phi Theta (Iotas)
“Building a Tradition, Not Resting Upon One!”

Nationally Founded:
September 19, 1963, Morgan State University
Chapter:
Alpha Beta Omega

Chapter Philanthropy:
Iota Youth Alliance

NPHC Member Organizations at CU Boulder:

The following NPHC organizations are currently recognized on our campus and are able to recruit CU Boulder students through provisional status. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is the first NPHC organization to officially register with the university as a Registered Student Greek Organization (RSGO). The others below all have provisional status on campus.

- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Governing Councils: COLLEGE PANHELLENIC COUNCIL | PANHELLENIC

Membership in a Panhellenic sorority provides students with an opportunity for personal growth and individual achievement. The College Panhellenic Council consists of nine National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) sororities and two associate sororities at CU Boulder.

The many activities in which our sorority members can become involved in caters to a wide variety of women and their interests. Activities include community service, family weekends, philanthropy events, Homecoming, study tables, intramural teams, Greek Week, leadership seminars, date dashes and events with other fraternities and sororities. The Panhellenic and individual chapters also sponsor educational programs on current and relevant topics like campus safety and financial wellness. There is always something to do and always a place for each student.



**Alpha Chi Omega
(Alpha Chi)**
*"Together let us seek the heights" and
"Real. Strong. Women."*
Nationally Founded:
DePauw University in 1885
Established at CU:
1907
Philanthropy:
Partners and Prevention



**Alpha Phi
(A Phi)**
"Union hand-in-hand"
Nationally Founded:
Syracuse University in 1872
Established at CU:
1912
Philanthropy:
Alpha Phi Foundation



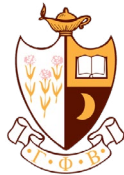
**Chi Omega
(Chi O)**
"Sisters on purpose"
Nationally Founded:
University of Arkansas in 1895
Established at CU:
1906
Philanthropy:
Make-a-Wish Foundation



**Delta Delta Delta
(TriDelta)**
"Let us steadfastly love one another"
Nationally Founded:
Boston University in 1888
Established at CU:
1910
Philanthropy:
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



**Delta Gamma
(DG)**
"Do good"
Nationally Founded:
Oxford, Miss. in 1873
Established at CU:
1886
Philanthropy:
Service for Sight



**Gamma Phi Beta
(G-Phi)**
"Founded upon a rock"
Nationally Founded:
Syracuse University in 1874
Established at CU:
1954
Philanthropy:
Girls on the Run



**Kappa Alpha Theta
(Theta)**
"Leading women"
Nationally Founded:
DePauw University in 1870
Established at CU:
1921
Philanthropy:
Court Appointed Special Advocates
(CASA)



**Kappa Kappa Gamma
(Kappa)**
"Dream boldly, live fully"
Nationally Founded:
Monmouth College in 1870
Established at CU:
1901
Philanthropy:
Reading is Fundamental



**Pi Beta Phi
(Pi Phi)**
"Friends and leaders for life"
Nationally Founded:
Monmouth College in 1867
Established at CU:
1884
Chapter Philanthropy:
Read>Lead>Achieve



**Phi Sigma Rho
(Women in Engineering)**
"Together we build the future"
Nationally Founded:
Purdue University in 1984
Established at CU:
2017
Chapter Philanthropy:
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society



**Sigma Alpha Epsilon Pi
(Jewish Interest Sorority)**
"Spirit, strength, sisterhood"
Nationally Founded:
UC Davis in 1998
Established at CU:
2016
Chapter Philanthropy:
American Jewish World Service



RECRUITMENT & INTAKE INFORMATION

Joining a fraternity or sorority is a great way for students to meet new friends, explore their interests and develop professional skills. Fraternity and sorority life has deep roots at CU Boulder, going as far back as 1884. With close to 30 fraternity and sorority organizations, there are various options to find your home.

Each organization is housed in one of the university's four fraternity and sorority councils, all of which have their own joining processes. Recruitment and intake are both terms used to describe the joining process, with intake being used specifically by culturally-based organizations to bring in new members.

Recruitment and intake processes take place at various times of year, and can be either council or chapter coordinated, depending on the organization and the time of year. The primary recruitment process for most organizations takes place in the fall semester, however there are opportunities to join in the spring as well.

Please note that there are minimum GPA requirements in order to join an organization. Each chapter has their own minimum requirements to join and maintain membership that varies by council and chapter. Potential members are encouraged to do their research or ask questions during the recruitment process regarding minimum requirements.

CU Interfraternity Council

Fraternity recruitment takes place in both the fall and spring semesters, with the larger recruitment occurring in the fall. Chapters will host a series of open houses, giving potential new members the opportunity to visit and get to know each one. Following open houses, chapters will host invite only events referred to as preference rounds. Fraternity recruitment ends with bid day, when all chapters will join together on campus to distribute invitations to join.

Multicultural Greek Council

The process to join a culturally-based organization differs for each organization and may take place at various times of year.

Students interested in joining a culturally-based organization are encouraged to research organizations, and attend interest meetings and information sessions for the chapters they are interested in. These chapter-hosted events will provide more information regarding joining and the new member process.

Prospective members can also visit chapters at various council and university events, including Meet the Greeks, MGC Open House, CUnity Fest and the Involvement Fair. Students interested in a multicultural organization can connect with chapters at these tabling events to learn more about their individual intake processes.

College Panhellenic Council

Formal sorority recruitment takes place in the fall semester, allowing potential members the opportunity to get to know each chapter. At the end of each round, chapters will select the potential members they would like to invite back, and potential members will have the chance to prioritize which organizations they would like to visit again. This mutual selection process allows both chapter and potential members to find their best fit.

Panhellenic recruitment consists of four rounds held over four days, culminating in bid day. Recruitment typically takes place over Labor Day weekend.



College Panhellenic Council Cont.

Informal recruitment

Following formal recruitment in the fall, and again in the beginning of the spring semester, a few chapters will continue to recruit if space is available. Chapters will not decide if they participate in informal recruitment in the fall until after formal recruitment, and in the spring until a few days into the semester.

Associate chapter recruitment

College Panhellenic Council is home to associate chapters—special interest groups whose national organizations do not belong to the National Panhellenic Council. These chapters offer the same benefits as the other Panhellenic chapters at CU. They participate in Greek Week, Homecoming and all other Panhellenic-sponsored events, while providing an opportunity to join a close-knit sisterhood.

Associate chapters host their own recruitment processes and can be contacted directly for recruitment opportunities.

Click here register for fraternity and sorority recruitment or learn how to join a culturally-based organization.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CU Interfraternity Council

Fee Type	Range
New members	\$400-\$1,200
Active member	\$400-\$1,000

Multicultural Greek Council

Fee Type	Range
New members	\$50-\$425
Active member	\$65-\$275

National Pan-Hellenic Council

Fee Type	Range
New members	\$950-\$2,500
Active member	\$50-\$300

College Panhellenic Council

Fee Type	Range
New members (Fall)	\$1,031.50-\$1,965
New members (Spring)	\$830-\$1,774
Annual member (Live in)	\$8,938-\$15,960
Annual member (Live out)	\$1,828-\$3,000



HAZING POLICY

All university-recognized fraternal organizations shall prohibit any form of hazing in all programs and activities throughout all stages of the membership experience. Chapter leaders, in cooperation with university stakeholders and their respective (inter)national organizations, should educate all active and new members about the importance of anti-hazing prevention.

Fraternity & Sorority Life recognizes that hazing is a societal problem and prevention requires a multifaceted approach rooted in public health and education. CU Boulder is committed to elevating the fraternal experience by engaging students and other stakeholders in hazing prevention. Hazing has no place in the fraternity and sorority experience and members will be held accountable to the Student Code of Conduct and the Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution.

Hazing is defined as:

Any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the health, safety or welfare of an individual for the purpose of initiation, participation, admission into or affiliation with any organization at the university. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any abuse of a mental or physical nature, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drugs or substances, or any forced physical activity that could adversely affect the health or safety of the individual. Hazing also includes any activity that would subject the individual to embarrassment or humiliation, the willingness of the participant in such activity notwithstanding.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

The fraternal movement is one that starts as an undergraduate experience that evolves over a lifetime. Councils and chapters are led by students, and we believe the leaders from the fraternity and sorority community will determine innovative and action-oriented ways to engage our members and hold them accountable. Fraternity & Sorority Life is committed to working actively with student leaders to ensure emphasis is placed on diversity, equity and inclusion in our community.

Fraternity & Sorority Life staff prioritizes the following:

- Continuing to work with the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC), individual councils and chapters to address reports of racism and the hurtful impact on our community.
- Working with each council to identify steps to create a more equitable and accessible recruitment process that includes, but is not limited to, marketing membership opportunities in underrepresented spaces, encouraging chapters to reduce dues and/or provide assistance to members who may not be able to afford the experience, and ensure potential new members have access to technology for virtual recruitment purposes.
- Facilitating dialogues between chapter presidents and council leaders to identify meaningful educational opportunities to help members explore ways to gain knowledge on existing privileges and support brothers and sisters who are negatively affected, either directly or indirectly, by racism.
- Creating a guide to help councils, chapters and members understand the systems in place to make policy and programmatic changes in their respective councils in a way encourages leadership to set norms and expectations that are consistent with values that foster inclusivity.
- Gathering resources from key campus and community stakeholders that can be educational resources for chapters and members.



TERMINOLOGY

Active: An initiated, dues-paying member who is enrolled in the university and is an active participant in chapter and community activities. Also referred to as collegian/collegiate.

Advisor: A volunteer (alumni or friend) for a chapter who serves as a resource for student leaders and is a liaison between alumni and collegiate members.

Alumnus/Alumna/Alumnx: An initiated member of an organization who has graduated from college and is no longer an active undergraduate member (plural forms: Alumni/Alumnae/Alumnx)

Badge: An insignia of membership worn by initiated members. Also known as a pin.

Bid: A formal invitation to join a fraternity or sorority and begin the new member process.

Big: Nickname for big sister/brother/sibling, which is a mentor assigned to a new member. Many organizations have special names for these pairings.

Call: A yell used most commonly by National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and culturally-based chapters. Used to identify and greet brothers and sisters. Non-members are not permitted to use the call.

Chapter: The name applied to the local organization of a (inter)national fraternity or sorority.

Chartering: When an establishing chapter receives official recognition from its (inter)national organization to have a chapter on campus.

College Panhellenic (CPH): The governing body of the nine National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) sororities and two associate chapters at CU Boulder.

Crossing: Initiation from pledge to new members, often utilized in culturally based Greek-lettered organizations.

Continuous Open Bidding/Continuous Open Recruitment (COB/COR): An opportunity for chapters that do not reach total during primary recruitment to bid to total. The continuous open bidding process is less formal, and not all chapters will participate in continuous open bidding. COB/COR is also the blanket term for recruitment that occurs outside of the Primary Recruitment Period.

Council: The governing or collaborative body of a number of chapters with a shared historical purpose or founding. Member organizations are held accountable to council policies.

Culturally Based Organizations: Fraternities and sororities that include the celebration or appreciation of a particular culture or affinity group. Also known as culturally-based fraternal organizations (CFBOs).

Dues: The monetary costs of membership in a fraternity or sorority. These fees are used to cover the costs of operation, formal events, social activities, and other events, depending on the organization.

Establishment: A new organization that is awaiting official recognition from their national to have a chapter on a campus.

Expansion/Extension: This process is used by (inter)national organizations to establish a new chapter of their organization at a university. This process is unique to each council.

Founders' Day: An event celebrated by chapters to highlight the founding of their organization and celebrate its history. It is not necessarily held on the day the organization was founded. Some chapters celebrate both a local and (inter)national founding date.

Fraternity: A national or international undergraduate affiliation of men with similar values and goals usually, but not always, titled by greek letters. Often fraternities have tightly held secrets known only to their brothers.

Governing Council: Also known as an umbrella council, generally supports and acts as a voice for organizations within it, including being the official sponsored student organization as liaison between the university and the members of the member organizations.

The Office for Fraternity & Sorority Life advises CU Boulder's governing councils directly; CU Interfraternity Council (IFC), Multicultural Greek Council (MGC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and College Panhellenic (CPH).

Head Quarters: The (inter)national office and administrative arm of a fraternal organization.

Informational: A recruitment event for culturally-based organizations.

Informal Recruitment: An opportunity for potential new members to join a fraternity or sorority. This process is not organized by each council and not all chapters participate in this process.

Initiate: An individual who has recently become an active member of an organization.

Initiation: The traditional ritual or formal ceremony which marks the transition to full membership of an organization. Most initiation ceremonies are secret and only open to chapter members and their alumni.

Intake: The process through which most culturally-based organizations select and educate members. Generally, intake is more private than recruitment and can include an application and an interview process, followed by an educational program done at the regional level conducted by alumni, then an initiation (generally known as "crossing").

Interest Group/Provisional Chapter/Chartering Chapter/Establishing Chapter:

An approved student organization working toward recognition as a chartered chapter of a fraternal organization. A group working in coordination with both the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and an (inter)national organization.

Interfraternity Council (IFC): The CU Boulder based “chapter” of the North-American Interfraternity Conference and governing body of the university-recognized fraternities. Also known as the CU IFC.

Legacy: A potential new member who has family members that were/are a part of a fraternal organization. Being a legacy does not guarantee admission into a chapter. Relationships that determine legacy vary by organization.

Line: New member class of an NPHC and some MGC organizations.

Line Brother/Sister: Someone who is going through the same intake process for the same organization.

Little: Nickname for little sister/brother/sibling who is a new member mentored by an older member of their organization.

Multicultural Greek Council (MGC): The governing body of the culturally based sororities and fraternities at CU Boulder.

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC): The governing body of the nine traditionally African American fraternities and sororities, also known as the “Divine Nine.”

Neophyte: New member of NPHC and some MGC organizations. Also called a Neo.

Neophyte Presentation: A formal presentation of a new line to campus once new members have been initiated.

New Member Period: The period of time prior to initiation when a new member learns about chapter values and expectations, and develops relationships within that organization. This time frame lasts from accepting a bid until Initiation. Formerly called pledge period (and still called this in some fraternities).

New Member/Associate Member: A new member of an organization who has committed to joining the organization, is in some stage of the new member process.

Philanthropy: Charitable events to support a specific cause or non-profit organization.

Prophyte: Term used to refer to an older member in a NPHC and some MGC organizations.

Potential New Member (PNM): This is someone who is not a part of a chapter in any aspect and is currently in the rush/recruitment process.

Open House: A recruitment event where potential new members can go to meet members of a chapter either at a formal chapter facility or a common place where members reside/socialize.

Pre-Bid: An unofficial invitation to join a fraternity before the bid day.

Preference Night: An invitation-only event typically at the end of the recruitment process where potential new members and chapters are making their final decisions. This event is usually more formal and often showcases a ritual or ceremony.

Primary Recruitment (Panhellenic): Designated period in the fall when potential new members and Panhellenic sororities get to know each other through a week of structured events. Formal recruitment is a mutual selection process, which means that both the potential members and the individual sororities are making choices.

Recruitment: The process where sororities and fraternities select new members. Potential new members have the opportunity to interact with all participating organizations and learn more about fraternity/sorority life.

Recruitment Counselor (Rho Gamma): An active Panhellenic sorority woman who has chosen to serve as recruitment counselor to assist and counsel potential new members during the primary recruitment process.

Rush: A term formerly used to describe a recruitment process. Now called recruitment.

Sister/Brother/Sibling: A term used by active and alumni members when referring to each other.

Sisterhood/Brotherhood/Siblinghood: The common term for the bond between members of the same fraternal organization.

Stepping: A historically Black tradition characterized by synchronized hand/foot movements, along with singing, dancing, chanting and acting.

Strolling: A coordinated dance done by members of cultural Greek organizations.





Fraternity & Sorority Life

University Memorial Center (UMC)
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303-492-7172
FSL@colorado.edu

colorado.edu/greeks