

**CONSTITUTION OF  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL**

**POLICY ON FRATERNITY EXPANSION**

**SECTION I - PHILOSOPHY**

- A. To ensure an orderly growth of the Interfraternity Council and the Fraternity and Sorority Life System at Texas A&M University (TAMU).
- B. To ensure that all groups chosen to expand at TAMU are committed to providing all necessary programs and services.

**SECTION II- DEFINITIONS**

- A. Fraternity is defined as group of men joined together by common interests recognized and chartered by a national fraternity.
- B. A colony is defined as a group of men chosen by a national fraternity working to obtain a charter from that national fraternity. The group is under the direct supervision and jurisdiction of this national fraternity.
- C. A chapter is defined as a group of men holding a charter from a national fraternity.
- D. A general fraternity is an organization that is recognized by IFC and chartered by the US Government, holding the appropriate tax status and exempted under Title IX.

**SECTION III - PROCESS OF EXPANSION**

- A. Any group seeking recognition as a colony must first reside on the Affiliate Council and meet all expectations of Affiliate Council members for at least one academic year prior to petition for admittance to the IFC
- B. Any group seeking admittance to the Affiliate Council must first petition IFC and be voted onto the Affiliate Council by 2/3 present vote.
- C. Any group seeking admittance to the Affiliate Council must present a portfolio, incident reports, and other pertinent information to be considered when presenting
  - 1. Upon portfolio reception, any incidents unbecoming of a Fraternity man, investigation and guilt of Student Activity violations, or any University Judicial Review sessions have been held against a Chapter seeking admittance to the Affiliate Council in the past 12 months, the Chapter will not be able to apply and must wait 12 months before reapplying from the date of original application
    - a. The IFC Executive council can review and overturn this clause for any extenuating circumstances
- D. Any group seeking admittance to the Affiliate Council shall be allowed to apply once every 12 months from the previous application date

- E. All meetings of the Interfraternity Senate that include new chapter admissions, shall take place without recess or adjournment, and have 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of chapter representation from chapters currently in good standing with the IFC in attendance.
- F. The group will have exactly thirty (30) minutes to present to the IFC.
- G. After the presentation, there will be a question period directed towards the group presenting lasting no longer than four (4) minutes. After this period, the group will leave the floor and the IFC will have exactly four (4) minutes to debate.
- H. All voting shall be conducted by secret ballot assembled, distributed, and collected by the IFC Parliamentarian.
- I. Immediately following the completion of open-discussion, the Parliamentarian shall distribute the secret ballots.
- J. The Parliamentarian and IFC Advisor shall count the votes and announce whether or not the group was voted in to the IFC.
  
- K. The member of the Affiliate Council must send a letter of interest to the IFC President and the IFC Advisor for recognition as an IFC Colony. The letter will be forwarded to the Vice President for Interfraternal Relations,
- L. The Vice President of Interfraternal Relations will meet with the leadership of the potential new organization, verify their eligibility for consideration as a new IFC colony, and determine a date for the organization to present their case to the IFC.
- M. A score with in the “Accomplished” range on the Chapter Portfolio Rubric, as scored by the IFC Senate and a 2/3 present vote of the IFC is required to accept a new colony.
- N. Any judicial incidents, conduct unbecoming of a Fraternity/Aggie, and investigation incidences/findings deemed appropriate in the past calendar year will result in an automatic 30-point deduction.

#### **SECTION IV - COLONY REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Upon recognition, the colony will enter a probationary period of two years, or until chartered (whichever comes first), in which it will be subject to the following guidelines:
  - 1. The colony must hold bimonthly meetings with the IFC advisor.
  - 2. The colony must attend at least two meetings during the semester with the IFC Executive Council to update them on the progress and future course of action for the colony.
  - 3. The colony must attend all general meetings of the IFC.
  - 4. The colony must meet the financial obligations associated with the Interfraternity Council.
  - 5. The colony must be presented at the annual IFC retreat.
  - 6. The colony must participate in Bid House.
  - 7. The colony must meet and abide by all of the rules and regulations of the IFC and Texas A&M University.
- B. After all of the above requirements have been met, it will take a 2/3 present vote of the IFC again for a chapter to become a member of the Council.

- C. The colony will obtain all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC By-Laws, except that it cannot hold any of the nine elected positions.
- D. At the end of the probationary period, the IFC will vote on whether to extend the probationary period and for how long. Final approval will come from the Assistant Director in Fraternity and Sorority Life.