

# **Expansion & Colonization Policy for New Organizations of the Interfraternity Council Kennesaw State University**

## Philosophy

Kennesaw State University is committed to the development of fair processes, policies, and guidelines for colonization and re-colonization of chapters of inter/national sororities and fraternities. Inter/national social fraternities seeking to establish a colony or re-colonize at Kennesaw State University should read these policies and guidelines thoroughly and adhere to all procedures outlined herein. The institution is committed to providing clear, consistent, and timely communication with all parties interested in establishing a colony on campus.

The Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life will work collaboratively with the member fraternities of the Interfraternity Council and additional university partners to implement the policies and procedures outlined herein.

Inter/national social fraternities that prohibit or discriminate in membership based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability will not be permitted to colonize. Priority consideration will be given to inter/national social fraternities that effectively demonstrate a commitment to addressing issues of concern, including but not limited to diversity & inclusion, hazing, alcohol/drug use and abuse, mental health, and sexual assault/violence through chapter programming and services.

## Purpose

The purpose of the policies and procedures outlined herein is to determine, insofar as possible, that inter/national sororities and fraternities requesting recognition at Kennesaw State University demonstrate promise of becoming successful and positively contributing to the KSU fraternity and sorority community. Kennesaw State University reserves the right to accept, approve, or reject any social fraternity seeking recognition and/or colonization at KSU.

## Statement on Open Expansion

Kennesaw State University's model for controlled expansion respects the North-American Interfraternity Conference's (NIC) position on open expansion, while maintaining campus based authority over the process to ensure success for all parties involved.

## Article I. Expansion Procedure

Section I. The Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life will determine and authorize all actions related to colonization, re-colonization, or expansion in collaboration with the Interfraternity Council and university partners.

- A. When determining if there is need for a new organization to be added to the Interfraternity Council, the Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life will examine the following criteria:

- a. Number of active chapters/colonies
  - b. Number of new and active members in each chapter/colony
  - c. Average chapter size
  - d. Campus enrollment
  - e. Results of previous expansion initiatives
  - f. Resources and support available by the Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life to assist new organizations
  - g. Readiness of the Interfraternity Council
- B. As a result, the Department of the Fraternity & Sorority Life will make the decision as to when the community is open for expansion; however, the Interfraternity Council will be a part of the decision making process as to which organization is ultimately selected.

Section II. When the need for a new organization(s) has been determined, the Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life will establish an Expansion Committee.

- A. The Expansion Committee will be comprised of the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, the Assistant Dean of Students for Student Life, or designee; faculty member; IFC Advisor; President of IFC; [four](#) members of the IFC ([must be an president, IFC delegate, or member of the IFC executive board](#)), an elected officer from each of the following councils: College Panhellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Multicultural Greek Council; and additional critical stakeholders if necessary.
- B. The Expansion Committee will be responsible for reviewing all applications submitted by inter/national organizations.
- C. The Expansion Committee will determine the timeframe of the expansion process.

Section III. The Expansion Committee will work with the NIC to contact organizations interested in expansion.

- A. Colonization procedures and information about Kennesaw State University will be shared with all interested organizations. Such information will include: statistics related to enrollment, membership, recruitment, and scholarship, housing opportunities, department structure and programs, council structure and programs, and general information regarding the institution.
- B. Each interested organization must submit a proposal that responds to the information requested below:
  - a. Inter/National Organization Information
    - i. National organization's name
    - ii. Name, title, and contact information of inter/national office staff responsible for supporting colonization process
    - iii. Organization structure
      - 1. Staffing structure
      - 2. Budget and finance information
    - iv. Number of chapters/colonies and locations
    - v. Names and locations of chapters near Kennesaw State University within 100 miles.

- vi. National website
  - vii. Mission/goal statement of the organization
  - viii. Inter/national convention, leadership programs, regional meetings, trainings, calendar and expectations of the chapter for participation in such events.
  - ix. Information on scholarship, service, and philanthropy programs/projects
  - x. Copies of organization constitution, bylaws, and other rules and policies of the organization.
  - xi. Organizational statement on risk management, including hazing, alcohol, sexual assault, mental health, etc.
  - xii. Copies of literature and publications of the organization.
  - xiii. Requirements for membership.
  - xiv. Inter/national policies and procedures regarding housing of collegiate chapters.
  - xv. Copy of organization insurance policy with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.
  - xvi. For organizations seeking to return to campus – reason for leaving campus, when, and what measures are in place to ensure a more ideal outcome.
- b. Alumni Information
- i. Alumni interest in establishing a chapter (number of area alumni, number interested in assisting the colony/chapter, number of undergraduate, graduate, or faculty/staff members at Kennesaw State University.
  - ii. Training program(s) for chapter advisors, housing corporation members, and other volunteers assisting the colony/chapter.
  - iii. Policy regarding alumni initiation (if applicable).
- c. Summary of Colonization Plan
- i. Target membership of colony at KSU
  - ii. Financial assistance the inter/national office and area alumni are prepared to provide the colony/chapter.
  - iii. New member education program/curriculum, including: goals, objectives, length of program, supervision of program.
  - iv. Resources and materials available to colony/chapter from the inter/national organization.
  - v. Inter/national on-site support and supervision for the new colony.
  - vi. Scholarship programming and requirements expected of the colony/chapter.
  - vii. Explanation of national and colony/chapter dues.
  - viii. Training and transition programming for new officers.
  - ix. Membership qualifications, recruitment policies, and techniques.
  - x. Expectations for colony/chapter philanthropy and community service programs.
  - xi. Policies and procedures for accountability and disciplining of colonies/chapters.

- xii. Membership development programs expected of the colony/chapter, including hazing, alcohol, drugs, sexual assault/ harassment, diversity and inclusion, leadership development, academic skills.
- xiii. Number of successful and unsuccessful colonization in the last five years. A brief explanation of unsuccessful colonization attempts.
- xiv. Contact information of the FSA for the last five expansions.

Section IV. After receipt of proposals, the Expansion Committee will review, select, and invite organizations to campus for visitation and formal presentations. Careful consideration will be given to organizations previously affiliated with Kennesaw State University.

A. Presentations will be made to the Interfraternity Council, Expansion Committee, members of the Greek Community, faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Effort will be made to assure that the same individuals attend all presentations, if applicable, so that evaluation data is comparable.

- a. Each IFC chapter is urged to have at least their IFC delegate and/or president attend each presentation.
- b. Individuals attending the presentations will be provided an evaluation form to complete which will be submitted to the expansion committee for review during the decision process.

B. During the campus visit an opportunity to tour housing facilities and discuss housing plans with appropriate University officials will be provided.

C. Following the conclusion of all presentations, a vote will be completed at the IFC General Body meeting to provide a recommendation representing the collective thoughts of the IFC chapters regarding the organization who should be invited to expand.

D. The Expansion Committee will analyze the evaluations provided from individuals who attend the presentations, the recommendation by the IFC General Body, and any additional information provided by the organizations and develop recommendations to submit to the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

- a. A two-thirds vote of the members of the Expansion Committee must support any recommendation.
  - b. The Expansion Committee retains the option to recommend that:
    - i. No invitation should be extended to any organization;
    - ii. An invitation to colonize should be extended to a specific organization or organizations;
    - iii. Additional organizations should be invited to campus to visit and present;
    - iv. And/or invitations to colonize should be extended to specific organizations in a stacked format.
- E. The Vice President for Student Affairs and the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life will make the final decision regarding the recommendation of the Expansion Committee.
- a. All parties will be notified of the outcome.
  - b. Upon acceptance by the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life to grant an organization(s) the opportunity to expand,

an invitation and preferred timeline for colonization will be sent to each organization.

- F. Upon arrival at Kennesaw State University, the invited organization must petition to the IFC General Body to achieve associate member status by a two-thirds vote.

## Article II. Colonization Process

Section I. The Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life will provide a recognized colony with the same advising and services provided to all affiliated chapters on campus.

Section II. A recognized colony must meet the following requirements:

- A. Comply with all policies and expectations outlined in the IFC Constitution & Bylaws.
- B. The colony president must meet, at least bi-weekly, with the IFC Advisor. Additionally, it is strongly encouraged that the colony president meets with representatives from the IFC Executive Board on a monthly basis.
- C. During the period of colonization, the colony will develop programming to support academic achievement, leadership development, risk reduction, diversity & inclusion, recruitment, officer/transition training, philanthropy, service, and other activities designed to build a strong and viable chapter. Records of these programs shall be submitted to the IFC Advisor.
- D. The colony must maintain an active alumni advisory committee with one member being designated as a chapter advisor and trained by the inter/national organization. The alumni advisory committee is strongly encouraged to maintain consistent communication with the IFC Advisor and Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life Staff.
- E. The colony is strongly encouraged to participate in fraternity and sorority community activities.
- F. The colony must have inter/national organization representatives visit at least once each semester during colonization. The purpose of these visits is to evaluate the progress of the colony and provide suggestions for improvement.
- G. Upon chartering with its inter/national organization, the associate member fraternity shall become a full member of the IFC with all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution & Bylaws.
- H. The colony must charter within 24 months and must file an appeal with the Department of Fraternity & Sorority Life if they cannot complete the colonization process in the required timeline.
- I. The colony must achieve accreditation through the department accreditation in order to be recognized by the department.