

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

FAMILY FAQs



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TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: How will being a part of a fraternity or sorority benefit my student?

A: Joining a fraternity or sorority can help enhance your student's personal and professional development. Areas where students see the most growth include: study skills, time management, supportive relationships, leadership positions, and opportunities for involvement. Fraternities and Sororities also have an active alumni network that can assist your student in making important professional connections.

Q: What about hazing?

A: The State of Missouri, Truman State University, as well as all governing councils and individual chapters, have strict anti-hazing policies. Any chapter that violates these anti-hazing policies are held accountable by the University for their behavior and are subject to disciplinary actions.

Q: How will being in a fraternity or sorority impact my student's grades?

A: All fraternities and sororities recognize the importance of academic excellence and prioritize each member's role as a student above all of their other activities on campus. All chapters have GPA requirements, and most incorporate the use of study hours/groups to help their members stay focused on their coursework. Several organizations have scholarships that are available at both the national and local level to reward academic success. Additionally, each semester Union & Involvement Services publishes an academic report which highlights the academic standings of our chapters.

Q: Will my student have to live in a fraternity/sorority house?

A: There are several housing options for students to explore. Many of the IFC Chapters have houses located around Kirksville. These properties are privately owned and operated. None of the Panhellenic or NPHC chapters have official houses.

Each Panhellenic chapter has a designated space in Blanton-Nason-Brewer (BNB) which is managed by Residence Life. In addition to members living in close proximity, each chapter has a chapter room to utilize. While most organizations do not require living in an official house or in BNB, chapters prioritize filling these spaces. Potential members should check with individual chapters about housing requirements.

Q: How much will it cost?

A: Dues range from chapter to chapter. The first semester (New Member season) is often the most expensive as one-time fees are frequently included in first semester dues. Specific financial information, including opportunities for scholarships and/or payment plans, is provided to students going through the recruitment and intake processes so they can have that information while deciding what organization they would like to join.

Q: If my student is considering joining a fraternity or sorority, what are some helpful tips for me to know?

1. Talk about values - All fraternities and sororities are values based organizations. These are the foundations for their operations and what members strive to uphold. As a potential member, individuals will need to determine where their values can be supported and enhanced.

2. Ask questions - We encourage families to talk about academic needs, time commitments, finances, philanthropic work and opportunities for leadership. Many students are caught up in the excitement of going through recruitment and forget to ask the core questions. Your thoughts often help them make better, more informed decisions.

3. Be supportive - Each student needs to explore and determine what personal and professional network is going to work best for them. Ultimately, our goal is that your student is connected in an organization where they can learn, grow and thrive.

4. Inquire how you can be involved - This is a team journey, inquire of your student opportunities for family involvement. Many chapters host family events where members can share their fraternity/sorority experience with the ones they love.

Q: I have questions or concerns. Who can I contact?

A: For any questions and/or concerns, please contact Union & Involvement Services by phone at (660) 785-4222 or via email at fsl@truman.edu.

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