

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

FAMILY FAQs



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

A: All Fraternity and Sorority Life organizations recognize the importance of academic excellence and prioritize each member's role as a student above all of their other activities on campus. For the past several years, the Fraternity and Sorority community has had a higher overall GPA than the All-Truman community. Further, all chapters have GPA requirements and most incorporate the use of study hours/groups to help their members stay focused on their coursework. Additionally, several organizations have scholarships that are available at both the national and local level to reward academic success. For specific chapter GPA information, check out the Fraternity and Sorority Life grade report. This document is released every semester and can be found on the Fraternity and Sorority Life website under the "Our Organizations" tab.

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: 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 much will it cost?

A: Dues range from organization to organization. The first semester is often the most expensive as one-time fees are frequently included in first semester dues. This information 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. Average council prices per semester are:

- IFC New Member dues range from \$225—\$500, with an average of \$400
- IFC Active Member dues range from \$350—\$600, averaging \$450
- Panhellenic New Member dues range from \$400—\$650, with an average of \$460
- Panhellenic Active Member dues range from \$300—\$680, averaging \$350
- NPHC dues vary per chapter and can be requested

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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