Virginia Commonwealth University
Fraternity & Sorority Life
Expansion Guidelines

Virginia Commonwealth University is open for expansion when there is mutual agreement between the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life and the respective social Greek-lettered fraternity/sorority organization. All social Greek-lettered fraternity/sorority organizations at Virginia Commonwealth University must affiliate with one of the four existing councils: Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, College Panhellenic Council, and Multicultural Greek Council.

Virginia Commonwealth University does not recognize interest groups of Greek organizations on campus. All alumni support for re-chartering or chartering new chapters must go through their national board. All recognized chapters must be chartered at VCU and the chapter membership must be exclusive to students of Virginia Commonwealth University. “Metro,” “city-wide,” or “area chapters” are prohibited. Violation of this guideline will result in the organization going through the Fraternity and Sorority judicial process and could result in the organization’s suspension or expulsion. Organizations operating “underground” without permission from the University will not be considered for expansion for at least four years after the underground group ceases to exist.

Purpose
The purpose of the Fraternity and Sorority Expansion Committee is to approve and sanction all matters pertaining to expansion of the VCU fraternity and sorority community. The committee is comprised of five members: the Interfraternity Council President, Panhellenic Council President, National Pan-Hellenic Council President, Multicultural Greek Council President. In the event that a Council President is unable to serve, a student within the respective council will be elected by the council to fill the position. Additionally, the committee will be run by a Chair, who will be a staff member from the Division of Student Affairs and will serve a term of one academic year.

Request for Proposal and Timeline
1. The Expansion Committee will send out the Expansion Guidelines to any organizations that have expressed interested in establishing a chapter at VCU. Each academic year, the Expansion Committee will send out materials about the expansion process at Virginia Commonwealth University. To receive this information for the upcoming academic year, the inter/national organization must contact VCU prior to September 1st of that year. Any requests after September 1st will be grouped in the next academic year.

2. Once the materials are received, the interested parties will have sixty (60) calendar days to submit their formal responses and any supporting materials to the Expansion Committee. The committee will review the materials after the deadline. All portions of the documents will be carefully considered and supplementary materials may be reviewed at the committee’s discretion.

3. The Expansion Committee will develop recommendations for the Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, as well as the Director of the University Student Commons and Activities. Recommended actions may include, but are not limited to, extending invitations to one or more organizations to come to campus to formally present proposals to the Expansion Committee. The Expansion Committee shall host no more than four on-campus presentations from
inter/national organizations in any academic year. All organizations will receive notification by January 15th as to what the Expansion Committee has recommended.

4. Selected Organizations will be invited to campus to present in March of the academic year. Following any presentations, the Expansion Committee will provide the Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, as well as the Director of the University Student Commons and Activities with a final recommendation.

Below you will find a sample schedule for presentations:
8:00 am - 9:00 am: Breakfast meeting with FSL staff and Expansion Committee
9:15 am – 10:00 am: Presentation and Q&A with FSL Chapter and Council Leaders
10:00am - 10:30 am: Meeting with Director of the University Student Commons
10:45a - 12:15 pm: Wrap Up with Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

5. If the Expansion Committee chooses to reject an organization’s proposal, that organization must wait two calendar years from the date of the Expansion Committee’s vote to restart the expansion consideration process.

6. If the Expansion Committee chooses to accept an organization’s proposal, the Expansion Committee will provide Colony Requirements and Provisional Privileges to the organization. Depending on the needs of the respective council, the Expansion Committee will recommend an earliest date that the organization can begin colonization efforts.