

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND GREEK LIFE

Dear Parents,

Since 1776, Greek-letter organizations have been an integral part of the college experience across the nation. Founded under the guiding principles of scholarship, leadership, community service, philanthropic endeavors, and the development of life-long friendships, Greeks at the University of Hartford still practice these fundamental principles in the daily pursuit of their college experience. We introduced Greek Life at the University of Hartford in 1989.

As your son or daughter starts to settle in and develop interests, he or she will have many opportunities to choose from. There are over 100 student organizations at the University of Hartford under the advisement of the Student Government Association. One option your son or daughter may find interesting is joining a fraternity or sorority. As a parent, this decision deserves your input and careful consideration. As the Director of Greek Life, I strongly support the Greek community and see it as a “learning lab of life,” that reinforces the classroom experience. Being a member of a fraternity or sorority gives students opportunities to assume different leadership roles, including chapter officers, programming, recruitment, and money management. They not only make friendships that last a lifetime, but also learn how to work with many diverse people toward a common goal- the development of the chapter and its members.

Last year, 10% of the student population belonged to a Greek organization at the University of Hartford. There are five sororities and seven fraternities, all of national affiliation. Fraternities and sororities at the University of Hartford regulate new member recruitment (or RUSH) and social programming through their self-governing bodies, Interfraternal Council (IFC) and National Panhellenic Conference (Panhel). The Greek Life Advisers and the Director’s office advise these governing bodies and handle all judicial matters. University of Hartford feels strongly that a close partnership with each chapter is important. The Greek Life staff attends IFC and Panhel weekly meetings and meets with the executive boards and chapter presidents on a regular basis.

The first opportunity for your son or daughter to join a Greek organization will be in the spring semester during their freshmen year. Your son or daughter must have achieved a least a 2.5 GPA & 12 credits in order to be eligible to join a Greek organization. Transfer students must have at least 12 credit hours from another accredited college or university. Some chapters have higher GPA requirements to join.

During the recruitment process, eligible students will have the opportunity to become familiar with and get to know the chapter members to see if they would be interested in joining one of the Greek organizations. At the conclusion of the recruitment process, a particular chapter may offer a “bid” (an invitation to join the chapter) to a student. If accepted, the student will become a “potential new member” of that chapter. New member education activities are developed to bring new members closer to each other and the members of the chapter. Learning chapter history, songs, values, and philanthropic activities are all part of the education process. New members can expect to participate in

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meetings, study table (library hours), campus programs, Rape Aggression Defense classes (RAD), community service projects, and other chapter activities and events.

The University of Hartford Greek community does not tolerate hazing of any kind. Any chapter or members found participating in such activities would be held accountable for their actions. Parents of Greeks are strongly encouraged to contact the Greek Life Advisers with any concerns or questions. The new member education process should be a positive experience that, upon completion, has prepared a student to be an active leader in his or her fraternity or sorority.

Below is the official listing of all recognized Greek organizations at the University of Hartford. If your son or daughter informs you that they are joining an organization that is not on this list, please contact me as soon as possible. Joining one of these illegal or un-sanctioned Greek organizations could be very costly to your son or daughter. These organizations are not recognized by the University of Hartford or the national offices. These "underground" chapters do not receive any support from the national offices, for example, liability and risk management insurance coverage, financial management of chapter dues and fees, chapter support and guidance from local or regional chapter advisers. As you and your son or daughter discusses this letter and their participation in a Greek organization, please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at (860) 768-5409 or via email, toanderso@hartford.edu.

Sincerely

Torshia V. Anderson

Torshia V. Anderson
Director of Student Activities & Greek Life
Gengras Student Union, 209B

Recognized Greek Organizations at the University of Hartford

Sororities

Alpha Xi Delta
Delta Gamma
Delta Zeta
Phi Mu
Sigma Delta Tau

Fraternities

Alpha Epsilon Pi
Alpha Sigma Phi
Delta Sigma Phi
Phi Kappa Sigma
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Sigma Nu
Theta Chi

Not affiliated or non recognized Greek organizations:

Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority
Phi Delta Theta Fraternity
Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity
Phi Gamma (Local Sorority)