Logistical Recruitment Rules
UC Merced Formal Fraternity Recruitment
Spring 2014

It is the understanding that these are the rules to be followed for Formal Recruitment at UC Merced. Organizations are responsible for educating individual members on all recruitment rules and procedures.

A. Potential New Member
1. Definition
   i. Prior to Bid Day a Potential New Member (PNM) is defined as any full-time undergraduate student who is not a member of a fraternity, but has registered for the formal recruitment process.

2. Eligibility
   i. Students must be registered for formal recruitment online through the Fraternity Sorority Council (FSC) in order to join a Greek Letter Organization. This registration will be coordinated through a UC Merced Intelform.
   ii. One must be a full-time, undergraduate student with a cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 2.5, based on at least 12 earned college or university credit hours and be in good standing with the University to be eligible for membership.
      1. The GPA and credit hours can be from any college or university, but must be earned post high school graduation.
      2. Proficiency or examination credits do not qualify.
   iii. Students must not currently be affiliated with any fraternity or sorority or have been previously initiated by any fraternity or sorority in order to be eligible to join.

B. Recruitment Events
1. No recruitment events may occur outside of the fraternity recruitment schedule as defined by the FSC and Office of Student Life.
2. Any event sponsored or co-sponsored by a fraternity that takes place between the first day of classes of the semester and Bid Day where PNMs are present may be considered a recruitment event.
3. Only students registered for recruitment through the FSC may participate in recruitment events. Informational sessions hosted by the FSC are not included in this rule.
4. Fraternity recruitment events will be defined as the scheduled events from the first day of fraternity recruitment through Bid Day. Organizations that do not follow the guidelines on these days may be subject to judicial consequences.

C. Formal Recruitment Period
1. The formal recruitment period will be designated beginning on Sunday (January 26\textsuperscript{th}, 2014) and will continue through Friday (January 31\textsuperscript{st}, 2014) ending with Bid Day on Saturday (February 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2014).
   i. No fraternity may sponsor or co-sponsor an event before this period unless approved by FSC. All events during fraternity recruitment must be approved by FSC.
2. Denigrating, insulting or impugning other Greek Letter Organizations in any form of communication (written, verbal or electronic), is strictly prohibited year round. Organizations that do not follow this rule will face judicial consequences through the University Administrative Review (UAR) process.
3. No PNM may be invited to on or off-campus fraternity events during the formal recruitment period. Fraternity events are defined as any event sponsored or co-sponsored by a fraternity. The only exception is the FSC monitored official fraternity and recruitment events.
4. The final day of the formal recruitment period (February 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2014) will be called “Bid Day.”
   i. From the first day of the formal recruitment period to Bid Day is considered “Silence” and no potential new members or active members may communicate with each other. Exceptions are granted to in-class contact only, which must be limited to academic discussion only.
   ii. This media may be used for casual contact only but not for recruitment, for discussions of fraternities, social events hosted by a chapter, recruitment methods or other PNMs.
   iii. The lists of each fraternity new member class will be provided to them at the end of Bid Day. Fraternity recruitment is complete when every bid has been handed out on Bid Day.
5. There is to be no alcohol or illicit drugs present at any recruitment event or any Bid Day activities. Any reports of a fraternity (or fraternities) providing alcohol or illicit drugs at any recruitment event, on Bid Day, or at all during the fraternity recruitment dates will be submitted directly to UAR.

D. Formal Recruitment Event Parameters

1. Information Night times and rooms will be scheduled through FSC and assigned to the fraternities in a lottery process. The recruitment schedule will designate all time and a final copy will be provided to all fraternities by the close of the fall semester prior to fraternity recruitment.

2. On the days following Information Night, fraternities are required to reserve their own rooms/space. A detailed agenda describing all events, locations, times, and details must be submitted to the FSC by October 14, 2013 (rough draft) and November 25th, 2013 (final draft).
   i. All agendas are accepted on a first-come first-serve basis. If there are significant periods of overlap between fraternity events as deemed by FSC, FSC has the right to require a fraternity organization to change the time of the event(s).
   ii. All fraternity recruitment events must occur on campus, unless approved by FSC.

3. All individuals (actives, alumni and PNMs) present at a recruitment event shall not be under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal substances. Any member who appears impaired will be asked to leave the event and may face judicial consequences through UAR.

4. Members and new members of the host fraternity at UC Merced, alumni members of the host fraternity, and all registered PNMs may attend any recruitment event.
   i. No members of other Greek Letter Organizations or outside entertainment may attend any event.
   ii. All events are single-sex events.
   iii. The host fraternity may have a maximum of 10 outside chapter members at a time. In including outside members, the host fraternity takes all responsibility for all actions, behaviors, and conduct of said visiting members.
5. Only water, soft drinks, or energy drinks may be served at events. Light snacks may be served only by organizations that have completed the Food Handling Training. No alcohol is ever permitted at a recruitment event.
   i. All costs/donations of food/drink will be counted towards each respective fraternity’s allotted formal recruitment budget.
   ii. Food and drink must be consumed in the room/reserved space where it was supplied to potential new members. No food or drink is allowed outside of the fraternity’s designated room/reserved space.

6. Fraternities are not permitted to provide PNMs with gifts or party favors. Any new item a PNM exits an event with will be considered a gift.

7. Fraternities may provide informational pamphlets with information pertaining to their respective organization (i.e., no comparisons between fraternities, degrading other fraternities, etc.).
   i. Pamphlets must be submitted to FSC by January 21st, 2014 for review.
   ii. Pending an estimate number of total PNMs, fraternities must provide that number of copies of the pamphlet to FSC for distribution to PNMs by Rho Alphas at the end of Informational Night.

E. Fraternity Recruitment Event Logistics
1. Information Day (January 26th, 2014)
   i. All fraternities will host four twenty-five minute events in an assigned location during the exact times specified on the schedule provided by FSC.
   ii. Information Night is an opportunity to allow the fraternities to provide information about their fraternity to PNMs. Fraternities will emphasize their fraternity’s (1) philanthropy, (2) academics, (3) social events, (4) leadership opportunities, and (5) values.
      1. Attendance to all fraternity rooms is mandatory for all PNMs.

2. Fraternity Formal Recruitment Days (January 26th-31st, 2013)
   i. All events held on these days must be held on campus, and must be open to all PNMs registered for formal recruitment.
ii. Fraternities will each be allotted a total of ten hours that they may use to host events. Fraternity recruitment events may be broken up into multiple events across the five days following Informational Night, but the combined duration of a fraternity’s recruitment events may not exceed the fifteen hours limit.

1. Individual recruitment events may not exceed three hours in duration.

iii. All recruitment events must occur between 10:00am and 10:00pm.

iv. Bid lists are due to FSC on January 31st by midnight.

F. Bids

1. A formal bid is an official invitation to join a fraternity, which is distinguished by the offer a formal letter (bid card) delivered by a designated Rho Alpha on behalf of the fraternity. The bid distribution process will also be facilitated by the FSC Executive VPs, President, FSC Advisor and FSL Intern.

2. No bid may be delivered formally or informally prior to Bid Day.

3. A student must be registered for recruitment in order to receive a bid.

4. Neither chapters nor chapter members are allowed to extend a bid or make allusions to extending a bid to PNMs. Any member or member organization that alludes to the promise of a bid will face judicial consequences.

5. PNMs may be offered multiple bids (one possible from each fraternity). On Bid Day, PNMs must select one offered bid to accept.

6. If a PNM declines all offered bids, then that PNM cannot go through any informal or formal recruitment process for one semester.

G. Finances

1. Registration Fees

i. The FSC will collect a $5 registration fee from every student registering to cover the costs of facilities/custodial assistance and the ICS Recruitment System.

ii. Students who elect to “drop” recruitment at any point are not eligible for reimbursement.
iii. Students who do not accept their bids are not eligible for reimbursement.
iv. Students who complete the entire process and do not receive a bid will receive a full $5 reimbursement.

2. Recruitment Event Fines
i. Events that end late will be assessed a fine of $10 per minute.
ii. If an event begins late, no fine will be assessed, but the organization will lose those minutes from the event and the event must maintain the same end time.

3. Bid List Fines
i. If a chapter returns a bid list late, there will be a fine of $10 per minute.

4. Recruitment Funding
i. Fraternities are expected to fund their own recruitment expenses including facilities, food and drinks, decorations, etc.
   1. Donations may also be accepted, but will be counted towards each respective fraternity’s formal recruitment budget.
ii. No fraternity may spend more than an amount designated by a vote of the fraternities, including the value of any gifts from advisors, alumni, or community partners per year on formal recruitment.
   Receipts will be collected by the Executive Vice Presidents to verify expenses.
iii. Recruitment Chairs must bring receipts prior to events to be checked by Rho Alpha at start of event.
   1. Rho Alphas are authorized to make discretionary decisions regarding the event details and potential budget violations following consultation with the FSC EVP of Fraternities, President and/or Advisor.

H. Sanctions
1. Any person involved in recruitment, including members, Rho Alphas, FSC and PNMs are honor bound to report any violation of the rules described in this document in writing to the EVP of Fraternities or FSC Advisor utilizing the supplementary documents and procedure.
2. Fines may only be assessed for measurable violations as described in this document. All fine money may only be used to cover recruitment expenses as approved by the FSC Advisor in collaboration with the VP of Administration.
3. The FSC Advisor will hear all violations of the rules through mediation or the UAR.
4. Individual(s) or chapter(s) filing a grievance(s) should submit that to the Fraternity & Sorority Life staff (Coordinator or Intern).
5. Chapters will be allowed to continue in the recruitment process while a trial is pending.
6. Sanctions may not restrict a chapter from recruiting new members and should aim to fit the violation committed and be educational in nature when possible.
7. No penalty may exceed the duration of one academic year.