

Social Fraternity Logistical Recruitment Rules
University of California, Merced
2017-2018

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

A. Potential New Member

1. Definition

- i. Before recruitment, a potential new member (PNM) is defined as any full-time undergraduate student who is not a member of a social fraternity or sorority.
- ii. During the recruitment period, a potential new member is any student registered for recruitment.

2. Eligibility

- i. Students must be registered for recruitment online through the Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) office in order to join a fraternity or sorority Organization. This registration will be coordinated through a medium established by the FSL office, and announced prior to the registration process opening.
 - a. Registration for Social Fraternity Recruitment will close at 11:59 PM PST on the Friday of the recruitment period.
 - b. No one will be permitted to register after the close of registration.
- ii. In order to maintain eligibility in any recruitment period at UC Merced a PNM must be able to attend one of the mandatory informational sessions that will take place on dates set by FSL in conjunction with FSC and PFC..
 - a. In the event that a PNM cannot attend one of these events due to class, work, varsity athletics, or a family emergency, they must email the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor, Fraternity Sorority Council President, Executive Vice President of Sororities, and the Executive Vice President of Fraternities in order to follow through with the Recruitment Process.
- iii. To participate in recruitment, a PNM 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 academic standing with the University to be eligible for membership.
 - a. The GPA and credit hours can be from any college or university, but must be earned post high school graduation.
 - a. College/university credits taken during high school will be counted if the student has completed enough credits to qualify for junior standing within the university.
 - b. Proficiency or examination credits do not qualify.
- iv. Students must not currently be affiliated with any social fraternity or have been previously initiated by any social fraternity in order to be eligible to join.
- v. Students may not join a social and a professional fraternity during the same semester.

B. Recruitment Period

1. Recruitment will occur on dates designated by the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life in consultation with the FSC Executive Vice Presidents for Recruitment.
2. The recruitment period will be designated as the first day of the Semester through Bid Day.
3. No PNM may be invited to on or off-campus fraternity events during the recruitment period. Fraternity events are defined as any event sponsored or co-sponsored by a fraternity or

events or events sponsored by Fraternity and Sorority Life.

4. No chapter may host or co-sponsor any open event outside of recruitment during both Join FSL Week and Recruitment.
5. Dry period will begin during the “Join FSL Week” period beginning the first day of classes and will end on bid day. All active members shall refrain from consuming alcohol or being present where alcohol is being served.

C. Events

1. No recruitment events may occur outside of the 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 Spring Semester and Bid Day where PNMs are present may be considered a recruitment event.
3. Only students registered for recruitment through Fraternity and Sorority Life may participate in recruitment events. Informational sessions hosted by the FSC are not included in this rule.
4. Recruitment events will be defined as:
 - i. Social Fraternity Recruitment, the scheduled events on Info Night, Fraternity Events throughout the week and Bid Night,
 - ii. Organizations that do not follow the guidelines on these days may be subject to judicial consequences.

D. Recruitment

1. All event times and rooms will be scheduled through Fraternity and Sorority Life and assigned based on availability and a first come first serve basis.
 - i. A scheduled list of the assigned rooms designations will be distributed to each Fraternity at least 2 weeks prior to the first day of recruitment.
 - ii. Rooms cannot be moved or changed after designation has been assigned, unless further notice is given by the EVP of Fraternities.
2. The recruitment schedule will designate all times and a final copy will be provided to all fraternities by the close of the semester prior to recruitment for spring semester. Fall semester recruitment will be coordinated over the summer.
3. An attendance list of all PNMs will be recorded at the beginning of every event and reported to the Chapters through written form at the debriefing meetings following each event.
4. For safety reasons and logistics all individuals (actives, alumni and potential members) present at a recruitment event shall not be under the influence of alcohol and or other controlled substances. Any member who appears impaired will be asked to leave the event and may face judicial consequences.
5. Only Members and new members of the host fraternity or sorority, alumni members of the host fraternity or sorority, and invited potential new members invited to the event may attend any recruitment event. No members of other Greek Letter Organizations or outside entertainment may attend any event, with the exception of disaffiliated FSC leadership, FSL Staff, and Rho Alphas.
6. Only non-alcoholic beverages may be served at events. No alcohol is ever permitted at a recruitment event. Light snacks may be served only by organizations that have completed the Food Handling Training.
7. Fraternities are not permitted to provide potential new members with gifts or party favors. Food and beverage items that are partially consumed will not be considered gifts for fraternity recruitment.

E. Event Logistics

1. Rooms
 - i. Organizations are responsible for reporting problems with their assigned event room

responsible for cleaning up the room and leaving it as they found it.

- a. Organizations that damage rooms or leave rooms that require additional cleaning will be responsible for paying fines to the University office that manages that facility.

2. Info Day

- i. All fraternities will participate in a short panel throughout the day, and provide PNM's with information pertaining with their organization following a short period of socializing.
- ii. Info Day shall focus on the spirit of the organization. Decorations and themes should only be utilized in connection to a basic introduction to the organization.

3. Fraternity Events

- i. All fraternities will host a minimum of 3 events for recruitment week in an assigned location during the exact times specified on the schedule provided by the council.
- ii. No individual or organization may ask a PNM which other event or events he or she will attend that night.

4. Bids/Invitation Distribution

- i. A formal bid is an official invitation to join a fraternity, which is distinguished by the offer of a formal letter (bid card) delivered by a designated Rho Alpha on behalf of the fraternity.
- ii. A student must be registered for recruitment in order to receive a bid.
- iii. Bid Day shall be the only day during Recruitment that bids are to be handed out.
- iv. The FSC and Fraternity and Sorority Life coordinate this day and reserve the right to approve bid cards and Bid Day events hosted by the chapters after bids have been extended.
- v. All bid cards will be submitted to the FSC prior to the beginning of Bid Day activities. All bid cards that one PNM received will be placed in a single envelope and given to the PNM to allow them to select between all the organizations offering bid cards to them.
- vi. All bids must be accepted or rejected by the end of bid day. No exceptions.

F. Sanctions

1. Any person involved in recruitment including members, Rho Alphas, and potential new members are honor bound to report any violation of the rules described in this document in writing to the EVP of Fraternities or the FSC President, and the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life utilizing the supplementary documents and procedure.
2. Fines may only be assessed for measurable violations as described in this document under Section H. All fine money may only be used to cover recruitment expenses as approved by the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life in collaboration with the FSC Vice President Administration.
3. The Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life will hear either by mediation or by formal hearing all violations to the rules.
4. Individual(s) or chapter(s) filing a grievance(s) should submit that to the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
5. Chapters will be allowed to continue in the recruitment process while a hearing is pending.
6. Sanctions may not restrict a chapter from recruiting new members, nor affect quota, and should aim to fit the violation committed and be educational in nature when possible.
7. Judicial consequences will be referred to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Coordinator and the Administrative Review Process.

G. Silence Period

- 1 "The period between the start of the semester and the beginning of the official Silence Period

shall consist of FSL promotional activities; active members and Potential New Members may communicate regarding Social Fraternity recruitment as a whole, but talk of any specific organization shall be prohibited.

- i. This is considered “Join FSL” Period, not Silence Period.
 - ii. Within this period, active members are allowed to communicate to Potential New Members about Fraternities as a whole, not about their individual organizations.
2. Bid day is ***the only day that is considered*** “Silence” and no potential new members or active members may communicate with each other.
- i. Silence Period will commence the Sunday of Bid Day and will last only for this day.
 - ii. During Silence Period no active members from any Fraternity shall participate in any form of “dirty rushing.”
 - iii. Participating in any form of “dirty rushing” during this period shall result in sanctions listed in section IV below.
 - iv. If a potential new member inquires about recruitment, the members must remain unbiased.

H. “Dirty Rushing”

1. No Fraternity shall slander the name of another Fraternity by talking bad about other organizations to Potential New Members.
2. No active member shall send out any form of private communication to Potential New Members during Bid Day. (i.e, messaging them about the different bids they received, messaging them to accept their organization’s bid).
3. No active member within a Fraternity shall offer benefits to any Potential New Member. These include offering executive positions/ roles in the Fraternity for them to join their organization.
4. No Fraternity shall pressure Potential New Members to join their organization.
5. No fraternity shall send out any form of private communication to Potential New Members regarding their own events.
 - i. This includes: mass texting, personal messages (i.e Facebook messenger, Snapchat, Instagram, twitter, emails etc)
 - ii. The only form of direct contact between Fraternities and Potential New Member is through open-public Facebook pages, and on-campus tabling complaint with the previously stated tabling rules, in section I.
 - iii. In the event that an event-room designation for a Fraternity does get moved to a different location, active members will stand outside their first assigned place and redirect any Potential New Members to the new event location. Active members will also be allowed to inform the Potential New Members regarding room change during Tabling. Active members can also share the new location on their public-open Facebook page. Active members are not allowed to direct contact Potential New Members regarding their room change.

I. Finances

1. Registration Fees
 - i. The FSC will collect no fees for participation in recruitment. The only exception will be for registration deposits, which must be returned if a student shows up for the first day of recruitment. These deposits must be approved by the FSC and approved by Fraternity and Sorority Life
 - ii. Students who elect to “drop” recruitment, by not showing up to the first day of recruitment are not eligible to receive their deposits back. The FSL coordinator may offer exceptions to this policy.
2. Bid List Fines
 - i. If a chapter returns a bid list late. there will be a fine of \$15 plus the X amount of

Coordinator for FSL.

3. Recruitment Funding

- i. Fraternities are expected to fund their own recruitment expenses including facilities, food and soft drinks, decorations, etc.
- ii. No fraternity may spend more than the amount designated by a vote of the Recruitment Committee, including the value of any gifts from advisors, alumnae, or community partners per year on recruitment.
 - a. The budget for all organizations may amount to, but cannot exceed \$1,400.
 - b. Receipts will be collected by the Executive Vice President of Fraternities to verify expenses, which must include invoices of any donations for the purposes of recruitment. These receipts are due from all organizations at a date established by the council.
 - c. All in-kind donations must be included in the totally budget at the wholesale price of the product donated. This will apply to all items.

J. Tabling

1. Any Social Fraternity will have the opportunity to table the week before the first day of recruitment.
2. Any Social Fraternity also has the opportunity to table during the week of recruitment.
 - i. Fraternities must register for tabling 7 days prior to their event through Catlife and include it on their recruitment schedule.
 - ii. Failure to register within 7 days, Fraternities will not be allowed to table.
 - iii. Potential New Members are allowed to register for recruitment during both tabling schedules.
 - iv. During recruitment week tabling, active members are allowed to approach Potential New Members and give them unbiased information about recruitment as a whole, active members are also allowed to share their recruitment schedule with the Potential New Members, active members are not allowed to talk bad about another fraternity.