

**Social Fraternity Logistical Recruitment Rules**  
**University of California, Merced**  
**Fall 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 formal 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 formal recruitment.
2. Eligibility
  - i. Students must be registered for formal 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 is highly encouraged, but not required, to attend an informational session that will take place on September 10th 2018.
  - 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 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 must
      - 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. Informal Recruitment Period**

1. Formal 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 formal recruitment period will be designated as the first day of the Spring Semester through Bid Day.
3. No chapter may host or co-sponsor any open event outside of formal recruitment during both Join FSL Week and Formal Recruitment.
4. Dry period will begin: Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, and will end on bid day. During this time, 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 formal 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 Monday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 of Fall 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. Formal 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. Informal 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. This includes a room to hold the event, as well as an additional room assignment for technical support, storage, etc. when needed.
  - ii. A date will be set by Fraternity and Sorority Life as to when final schedules are due to allow for room reservation requests to be submitted.
2. The recruitment schedule will designate all times and a final copy will be provided to all fraternities by the close of the fall semester prior to formal recruitment.
- 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.
3. 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.
4. Only Members, new members, alumni members of the host fraternity, and PNMs may attend any recruitment event set by the respective fraternity. No members of other Greek Letter Organizations or outside entertainment may attend any event with the exception of disaffiliate FSC leadership, FSL Staff, and Rho Alphas.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Any social fraternity has the opportunity to receive a cat-card scanner from the OSL office, to use for their organization's recruitment events, during any day of recruitment week, if needed.

#### **E. Formal Event Logistics**

1. Rooms
  - i. Organizations are responsible for reporting problems with their assigned event room upon arrival to the Executive Vice President of Fraternities. They are also 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.

*Social Fraternity Recruitment Specific Information:*

2. Info Day

- i. All fraternities will participate in a short panel throughout the day, and provide PNMs 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 Formal 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

- i. Bid day is ***the only day that is considered*** “Silence” and no potential new members or active members may communicate with each other.
  - a.) Silence Period will commence the Sunday of Bid Day and will last only until Sunday day Noon.

- b.) During Silence Period no active members from any Fraternity shall participate in any form of “dirty rushing.”
- c.) Participating in any form of “dirty rushing” during this period shall result in sanctions listed in section F.
- d.) If a potential new member inquires information about a specific organization, the active member shall remain unbiased; the PNM also has the opportunity to consult the EVP of Fraternities, FSC President, Rho Alphas, and the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life for better clarification.

#### H. “Dirty Rushing”

- a) No Fraternity shall slander the name of another Fraternity by talking bad about other organizations to Potential New Members.
- b) 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).
- c) 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.
- d) No Fraternity shall pressure Potential New Members to join their organization.
- e) Fraternities are only allowed to contact PNMs in regard one of their events coming up or about the vent been move to a new location.
  - 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 in regards to of an event coming up or a change of location.

#### H. Finances

1. Registration Fees
  - i. The FSC will collect no fees for participation in recruitment.
2. Recruitment Event Fines
  - ii. Events that end late may be assessed a fine of \$15 flat rate, after a 15 min grace period.
  - iii. 5 minutes after the grace period (15 min after the party is over) there will be a \$1 fine per minute late.
  - iv. 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
  - v. If a chapter returns a bid list late, there will be a fine of \$15 plus the X amount of minutes after being 10 minutes late.
4. Recruitment Funding
  - vi. Fraternities are expected to fund their own recruitment expenses including: facilities, food and soft drinks, decorations, etc.
  - vii. 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.

#### **I. Recruitment Exemptions**

- a. All recognized colonies and chapters are expected to participate in Formal Recruitment with exceptions granted only by the Coordinator of Fraternity and Fraternity Life. Fall recruitment participation is at the discretion of the chapter.
  - i. If exemption is granted, those chapters are still expected to follow all of the rules and guidelines within this document and any additional to be set forth by the Recruitment Committee.
  - ii. If a chapter is granted exemption from formal recruitment on points one and two in this section, they are allowed to extend bids during the specified time under the direction of the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

#### **J. Tabling**

- i. Any Social Fraternity has the opportunity to table the week prior to recruitment week.
- ii. Any Social Fraternity also has the opportunity to table during the week of recruitment.
  - a. Fraternities must register for tabling 3 days prior to their event through Catlife.
  - b. Failure to register within 7 days, Fraternities will not be allowed to table.
  - c. Potential New Members are allowed to register for recruitment during both tabling schedules.
  - d. 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.