

The Greek Initiative

Purpose

The purpose of the Greek Initiative is to outline the expectations of Fraternity and Sorority Organizations at UC Merced, create accountability in fulfilling the expectations, and recognize excellence among Chapters. This can be achieved by focusing on the four values of Fraternity and Sorority Life at UC Merced: Friendship, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service.

- **Leadership:** The Leadership opportunities and training within a fraternity or sorority help to prepare its members for the future by developing responsibility and character.
- **Scholarship:** The Scholarship focus and emphasis on academic excellence pushes members to realize their purpose for attending the University – to achieve higher education and to become more knowledgeable of not only scholarly subjects, but also the world around them.
- **Service:** The Service shown to the campus or community through direct service and philanthropic contributions humble members as well as strengthen a sense of accomplishing something for the good of others.
- **Friendship:** The lifelong bonds of Friendship created within a fraternity or sorority help to keep its members unified in achieving a common goal.

Instructions and Tips for Completion

To complete the Greek Initiative, check “yes” in each requirement that has been fulfilled by your Chapter, and check “no” for those that have not been completed by your organization. Provide a description of how your Chapter fulfilled each requirement, making sure you include all relevant information (Date, Time, Location, Event Flyer, or direct us to Cat Life). In addition, be sure to follow any specific instructions within a listed requirement. When completing the Greek Initiative, consider the following tips:

- Keep track of the completion of any parts of The Initiative throughout the semester, even when materials aren't due. Although The Initiative will be submitted in its entirety, portions of the initiative must be completed, recorded and submitted throughout the year.
- The Greek Initiative should **NOT** be completed by a single, designated individual of each organization, and instead be completed and collaborated upon by various members, committees and officers.
- Discuss your organization's progress on The Greek Initiative with the whole chapter regularly, so all members may be knowledgeable about its specifications and purpose.
- If the document says "**Verified by FSL**" you will not have to answer that question since FSL has that information. If it says "**Confirmed by FSL**" you will still need to upload information to confirm with the records on file in Catlife.

Categories of Recognition

1. Standard Chapter

- a. Standard Chapter recognition can be attained by fulfilling the Standard Chapter sections of each Pillar. By achieving this status, you have fulfilled the requirements set forth by the University, Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL), and the Fraternity and Sorority Council (FSC), and other expectations that come with being a Fraternity and Sorority Organization at UC Merced.

2. Blue Chapter

- a. Blue Chapter recognition can be attained by fulfilling all requirements of a Standard Chapter and Blue Chapter in each Pillar. By achieving this status, you have exceeded the expectations and requirements asked of Fraternity and Sorority Organizations, and will be recognized as an excellent chapter on campus.

3. Gold Chapter

- a. Gold Chapter recognition can be attained by fulfilling all requirements of a Standard Chapter, Blue Chapter, and Gold Chapter. By achieving this status, you have achieved the highest form of excellence at UC Merced and will be recognized as a top Fraternity and Sorority Organization on campus (if multiple organizations achieve this Chapter Status, they will all be recognized as top chapters).

Friendship

Standard Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter publishes all Social Event information on Cat Life **(Confirmed by FSL)**
2. Chapter hosts at least one Social Event open to all students
3. Chapter participates with 50% attendance in the following FSC sponsored events
 - i. Greek Week **(Verified by FSL)**
 - ii. Be a Better Greek Week **(Verified by FSL)**
 - iii. Greek Sing **(Verified by FSL)**
4. FSC Delegate attends 90% of all mandatory meetings (General Body Meetings, Committee Meetings, and any other assigned to the Delegate) **(Verified by FSL)**
5. Chapter holds at least one mixer per semester

Blue Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter co-hosts one social event open to all students with another Fraternity or Sorority
2. Chapter hosts one Brotherhood or Sisterhood Retreat
3. Chapter holds one mixer with each Greek Organization (Fraternities hold a mixer with each Sorority and Sororities hold a mixer with each Fraternity)

Gold Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter co-hosts one social event open to all students with a non-Greek RCO
2. Chapter hosts two Brotherhood or Sisterhood Retreats
3. Chapter has 90% attendance at Greek Week, Be a Better Greek, and Greek Sing **(Verified by FSL)**

Scholarship

Standard Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter maintains a cumulative GPA of 2.5 each semester (**Verified by FSL**)
2. Chapter has a scholarship committee facilitated by the Scholarship Chair (or equivalent position)
3. Chapter submits a Scholarship Plan upon the election of new Scholarship Chair (or equivalent position)
4. Scholarship Chair (or equivalent position) attends 90% of FSC VP of Academic Meetings (**Verified by FSL**)
5. Chapter supports FSC sponsored study hours with 50% attendance (**Verified by FSL**)

Blue Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter maintains a cumulative GPA of 2.75 each semester (**Verified by FSL**)
2. Chapter has one member in Order of Omega (**Verified by FSL**)
3. Chapter holds one academic event open to all students

Gold Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.0 each semester (**Verified by FSL**)
2. Chapter has 10% of members on the Dean's List or Chancellor's List (GPA of 3.0 in one semester or two consecutive semesters, respectively) (**Verified by FSL**)
3. Chapter has at least 3 members hold academic internships or research positions through the University

Leadership

Standard Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter submits New Member Education Plan to the FSL Advisor prior to Formal Recruitment (this plan must adhere to all pre-existing regulations set forth by the University) **(Verified by FSL)**
2. Chapter is in good standing with the University and FSC **(Verified by FSL)**
3. Chapter submits an roster of Officers and Active Members to the FSL Advisor and Cat Life prior to the start of each semester **(Verified by FSL)**
4. Chapter President attends 90% of all Presidents' Round Table meetings **(Verified by FSL)**
5. Chapter submits an updated copy of their Bylaws, Constitution, Risk Management Policy and Standards/Judicial Policy to FSL Advisor each year (each semester if the document is amended) **(Verified by FSL)**

Blue Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter has 75% retention of their New Member class **(Verified by FSL)**
2. Chapter President meets once each semester with FSL Advisor to discuss the state and direction of their chapter **(Verified by FSL)**
3. Chapter has one member elected to FSC Executive Board **(Verified by FSL)**

Gold Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter President meets once each month with FSL Advisor to discuss the state and direction of their chapter **(Verified by FSL)**
2. Chapter has 90% retention of their New Member class **(Verified by FSL)**
3. Chapter has 3 members serving as a Resident Assistant, Intern, Student Supervisor, Student Manager, or other official capacity through the University

Service

Standard Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter hosts one philanthropy or service event
2. Chapter service hours average five per member
3. Chapter publishes all service hours and philanthropy events on Cat Life (**Verified by FSL**)
4. Chapter participates in one philanthropy event from another Fraternity or Sorority
5. Chapter makes at least one donation to their (inter)national or local charity

Blue Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter participates in pre-existing campus service events (i.e. Bobcat Attack, Move-In Day, etc.)
2. Chapter service hours average 8 per member
3. Chapter co-hosts a philanthropy or service event with another organization at the University

Gold Chapter Requirements

1. Chapter hosts two philanthropy or service events
2. Chapter service hours average 10 per member
3. Three members are involved in a service group at the University separate from your organization (ex. American Red Cross Club, Alpha Phi Omega, Circle K Club)