

National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated
SHARED STANDARDS

Statement of Purpose

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) was established on May 10, 1930, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D. C., with the purpose and mission of the organization being “unanimity of thought and action as far as possible in the conduct of Greek-letter collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider problems of mutual interest to its affiliate organizations.” Early in 1937, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois and became known as the “National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated.”

In an effort to assist institutions of higher learning across the nation and abroad in understanding the beginnings and function of historically Black fraternities and sororities, and the standards governing these organizations, and in a further effort to continue to address issues of mutual concern, focusing on five essential and shared areas, to the NPHC and member organizations (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.), these standards have been drafted.

Expectations for NPHC Undergraduate Councils and Affiliate Chapters

1. Continued promotion of academic excellence

- A. Maintain grade point averages (GPAs) above the minimum GPA requirement to be an Active member of the chapter and organization as defined by the college or university, if standards are higher than said affiliate organization.
- B. Maintain graduation rates equal to or which exceed the all men’s or women’s rates, respectively, on a given campus.
- C. Develop scholarship programs that challenge members and potential members to achieve academically, provide scholastic support, and recognize both improvement and excellence in academic performance.

2. Demonstration of the values of NPHC, affiliate organizations, and host institutions.

- A. Integrate the stated values and mission of NPHC, affiliate organizations, and the institution into all aspects of the organization and membership.
- B. Develop and implement a Standards Board to hold members accountable to the entire Greek-lettered community, as well as to the student code of conduct at the institution.

C. Sponsor monthly leadership programs which promote personal development and encourage implementation of best business practices.

D. Develop standards which discourage both the misuse of alcohol and the use of illegal drugs and which exact penalties.

3. Development of leadership skills.

A. Provide members with opportunities for leadership development workshops and programs, through NPHC, affiliate organizations, and other programs sponsored by outside organizations.

B. Encourage affiliate chapter members to seek leadership roles in other campus organizations.

4. Development of positive supportive relationships.

A. Comply with all hazing and mandated policies of the state, college/university, NPHC, and affiliate organizations.

B. Create programs that enhance the Greek-letter community and student body and thereby contribute to a positive relationship with the community at large.

C. Demonstrate a genuine concern for all mankind.

D. Seek an appropriately credentialed Graduate chapter and Faculty/Staff advisor(s) to serve as advisories to affiliate chapters and the local NPHC

5. Develop citizenship through community service and outreach.

A. Develop effective service projects and community outreach programs on an on-going basis.

B. Establish and maintain community service initiatives, while encouraging the participation of all members.

C. Participate in campus Greek-lettered and non-Greek governing councils, as well as non-Greek organizations and events.

D. Establish a positive and productive campus presence.

Expectations for Host Institutions

As the National Pan-Hellenic Council strives to collaborate with host institutions of our councils and affiliate chapters, the NPHC expects the following from those respective institutions:

1. Proper Advisement for Councils and Affiliate Chapters

- A.** Encourage and provide incentives for faculty and staff to become involved as faculty advisors to the NPHC council and affiliate chapters.
- B.** Provide a full-time staff member as the advisor to the NPHC council. If not a member of one of the NPHC affiliate organizations, that individual must be educated and credentialed on the operations and procedures of NPHC to be an effective advisor.

2. Leadership Development

- A.** Provide a leadership class for all new members each term.
- B.** Provide and/or help identify and acquire funding to ensure Council attendance at NPHC national and regional conventions and conferences and other NPHC sponsored leadership training programs.

3. Council Support

- A.** Support and assist NPHC in establishing councils where there are two or more affiliate organizations at the institution.
- B.** Encourage expansion. No NPHC member organization is prohibited from selecting undergraduates for the purpose of establishing a chapter on the campus of the host institution. The host institution's NPHC Council may not deter expansion by withholding membership of NPHC organizations from the local Council.
- C.** Provide individual chapter, Greek system, and campus demographic information to council/chapters as requested.
- D.** Assist Council in meeting national and regional mandates, guidelines, and other requirements, including the payment of annual dues, submission of year-end report, attendance at national and regional meetings, and adherence to all national, regional, and local governing documents.
- E.** Provide an impartial judicial process with the opportunity for appeal.

4. Accountability

A. Provide the following data to NPHC Headquarters (at least once per year):

1. Campus, all men's/women's Greek system, and chapter GPAs by semester/quarter
2. Total number of men/women who began the Membership Intake Process in all chapters in an academic year
3. Total number of men/women initiated into all chapters in an academic year
4. Percentage of fraternity/sorority men/women compared to total number of all men/women on campus
5. Total number and name of chapters closed/opened in an academic year
6. Status of the NPHC Council (e.g., inactive or active)
7. Total number of full-time Greek Life professionals on campus

B. Communicate with national or regional offices of the NPHC or affiliate organization upon receiving a reason of concern. When the issue or concern is a council issue, contact the NPHC Regional Office. If the issue involves (a) chapter(s) and warrants some type of action, please contact that/those respective affiliate equivalent (graduate chapter advisor, regional office, or International Headquarters).