

Georgia Southern University Greek Life Five Star Chapter Program

PHILOSOPHY

Georgia Southern University welcomes and supports the recognition of national fraternities and sororities as an integral part of the University community. The University sees that the founding principles of these national organizations foster the highest ideals that society would encourage among men and women. The ideals of superior scholarship, community service, philanthropy, brotherhood and sisterhood, and the development of principled leaders are very compatible with Georgia Southern University's expectations and desires for student development. While these organizations do receive the University's support, they are expected to meet certain standards of performance.

PURPOSE

The Five Star Chapter Program has been created to improve the management, success, and image of the fraternity and sorority chapters at Georgia Southern University.

INTENDED USE

The information gathered through this program will be used to:

1. Document chapter performance in all areas.
2. Indicate strengths and opportunities for growth for all organizations.
3. Provide rewards and recognition for outstanding efforts.

DESCRIPTION

The Five Star Chapter Program is a program by which chapters have the opportunity to receive "star standing" in five key areas of chapter management: 1) Scholarship, 2) Philanthropy, 3) Campus Involvement, 4) Educational & Social Programming, and 5) Public Relations. Star Standing in each of the areas is based upon a set of pertinent criteria. In each of the five areas a total of 100 points may be obtained through proper documentation and evidence of the criteria within said area. The Star Standings will be determined by point value as follows:

1. Five Star Chapters - Chapters attaining 90-100% of possible points.
2. Four Star Chapters – Chapters attaining 70-89% of possible points.
3. Three Star Chapters – Chapters attaining 50-69% of possible points.
4. Two Star Chapters – Chapters attaining 30-49% of possible points.
5. One Star Chapters – Chapters attaining 10 – 29% of possible points.

MINIMUM STANDARDS OF OPERATION

In addition to the criteria used to determine Star Standing, all NIC, NPHC, and NPC organizations must meet the following minimum standards of operation:

1. be active in and in good standing with their respective governing council.

2. be recognized in accordance with the University's recognition criteria for student organizations.
3. provide all requested paperwork/reports to the Office of Greek Life by the specified deadlines.

INCENTIVES

The following incentives program has been developed.

Five Star Chapters

1. A reception including college administration honoring those organizations who receive Five Star standing will be hosted by the Office of Greek Life.
2. Plaques recognizing the chapter's Five Star Standing will be awarded at the Greek Awards Banquet.
3. The organization's National Office will receive a letter of recognition as to the chapter's accomplishments.
4. A listing of the Five Star Chapters will be published in the *George Anne*.

Four Star Chapters

1. Plaques recognizing the chapter's Four Star Standing will be awarded at the Greek Awards Banquet.
2. The organization's National Office will receive a letter of recognition as to the chapter's accomplishments.
3. A listing of the Four Star Chapters will be published in the *George Anne*.

Three Star Chapters

1. The organization's National Office will receive a letter of recognition as to the chapter's accomplishments.
2. A listing of the Three Star Chapters will be published in the *George Anne*.

Greek Awards will be awarded to the chapter from each council with the highest total number of points in each category. The chapter from each council with the highest total over-all points will awarded Organization of the Year. In the event of a tie in points, a committee will be called to review the programs of those groups to make determination of who should receive the award.

Scholarship

It is of the utmost importance that Greek Chapters place a strong emphasis on and dedication in the academic success of their individual members and their chapter as a whole. Greek chapters should support the academic mission of Georgia Southern University and provide their members with an environment that is conducive to academic success. The following criterion applies to the scholarship portion of the Five Star Chapter Program:

100 Total Points Possible

Chapter GPA*

40 points: Chapter semester GPA is above the University's all-women's or all-men's average

30 points: Chapter semester GPA is within .10 points of the University's all-women's or all-men's average

20 points: Chapter semester GPA is within .20 points of the University all women's or all men's average

10 points: At least 80% of the chapter members have a GPA above 2.25

*Grades are pulled from the active roster submitted by each chapter at the beginning of the academic term.

Chapter Scholarship Programming/Management

10 points: Chapter has an appointed or elected scholarship officer who is responsible for monitoring chapter members' academic performance and developing special scholarship programs to meet the needs of individual members and the chapter as a whole. * Attach a written description of officer duties and the name of current officer.

15 points: Chapter has established and implemented a chapter scholarship program that includes a statement on chapter standards, resources for chapter members, and an incentive program. * Attach written documentation of scholarship program and its components. Also include a calendar of activities if applicable.

10 points: Chapter has scheduled and held a mandatory scholarship program/event for its entire membership. *Attach documentation of the event.

Interaction with Faculty Advisor

10 points: Chapter has a faculty member advising and mentoring the chapter related to academic achievement. * Attach the name and contact information of the faculty advisor.

15 points: Chapter has successfully programmed one event/activity in which the faculty advisor served as a resource regarding scholarship. * Attach written documentation from the faculty advisor.

Bonus Points

1. 5 points: Chapter hosts additional scholarship program/event.
2. 5 points: Chapter works with a University Office (i.e. Academic Success Center) in planning their scholarship program/event.

Philanthropy

Throughout their history, Greek organizations have placed great importance on serving others. This dedication is apparent in the work fraternities and sororities engage in with their national philanthropies. Georgia Southern University is proud of its students' dedication to serving both the University and outside communities. The following criterion applies to the philanthropy portion of the Five Star Chapter Program:

100 Total Points Possible

Service

50 points: Chapter has implemented one program that benefits a charitable organization. 70% of the chapter's members must participate in the stated event. * Attach documentation of the program and the original sign-in sheet of chapter participants.

25 points: At least 70% of the chapter's members have engaged in at least 5 hours of service in the University or Statesboro community. * Attach documentation which includes member performing service, number of service hours, and organization for which service was provided.

15 points: At least 70% of the chapter's members have participated in another Greek organization's service or philanthropy event. * Attach documentation which includes the original sign-in sheet of members participating in the event, sponsoring organization's name, and event title.

Chapter Management

10 points: Chapter has an appointed or elected philanthropy/community service officer who serves as a liaison between service opportunities and the chapter and who develops regular service programming for the chapter membership. * Provide written documentation of officer duties and the name of current officer.

Bonus Points

1. 5 points: More than 70% of the chapter's members have engaged in at least 5 hours of service in the University or Statesboro community.
2. 5 points: The chapter co-sponsors a service or philanthropy event with another Greek organization.
3. 5 points: The chapter co-sponsors a service or philanthropy event with another non-Greek campus organization.

Campus Involvement

The image of a Greek chapter is formed greatly by its involvement in campus activities. Co-curricular involvement of chapter members such as participation in campus events, campus leadership positions held, and inter-Greek relations are only a few of the ways a chapter may contribute to campus life. The following criterion applies to the campus involvement portion of the Five Start Chapter Program:

100 Total Points Possible

Co-Curricular Activity Involvement

25 points: At least 70% of the chapter's membership is affiliated with campus organizations outside of their chapter and the Greek system and/or involved in para-professional roles such as being a SOAR leader or a Resident Assistant. *Attach a list of chapter members and their respective involvement.

Leadership Development

25 points: At least 25% of the chapter's membership attends each of the educational events sponsored by the Office of Greek Life during the academic year. * Record of Attendance will be provided at each of these events.

20 points: At least 15% of the chapter's membership attends the annual fall leadership conference sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership. * Sign in sheets will be available following the last session of the conference.

20 points: At least 70 % of the chapter's new members attend the New Member Retreat each semester. * Sign in sheets will be available following the last session of the retreat.

Campus Program Participation

10 points: The chapter has appointed IFC, PHA, and NPHC delegates who are in attendance at all IFC, Panhellenic, and NPHC meetings. * Names of delegates should be provided to the council for purposes of verifying attendance.

Bonus Points

1. 5 points: More than 70% of the chapter's membership is affiliated with campus organizations outside their chapter and the Greek system and/or involve in paraprofessional roles.
2. 5 points: More than 25% of the chapter's membership attends each of the educational events sponsored by the Office of Greek Life during the academic year.
3. 5 points: More than 50% of the chapter's membership attends the annual leadership conference sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership.
4. 5 points: More than 70% of the chapter's new members attend the New Member Retreat in the fall semester.
5. 5 points: Chapter representatives, outside of council officers, attend the regional Greek leadership conference.

Educational & Social Programming

Greek organizations offer the opportunity for members to gain leadership and personal development skills through programming. Programming in Greek organizations spans from social activities to leadership seminars. Each program contributes to the chapter's success and individual member's personal growth. The following criterion applies to the educational/social programming portion of the Five Start Chapter Program.

100 Total Points Possible

Educational Programming

40 points: The chapter has developed and implemented (or utilized a national program) for New Member Education which includes leadership training and an emphasis on scholarship, personal growth, standards of conduct, and campus involvement. * Attach written documentation of the program including a calendar.

15 points: The chapter has developed and implemented an alcohol/risk management program for its entire membership (80% of the membership must be present at the program). * Attach documentation of the event and original sign-in sheet of chapter participants.

15 points: The chapter offers one program through another University office (i.e. counseling center, career services, leadership office, RAC, Multi-Cultural Student Center, etc.) to its entire chapter membership (70% of the membership must be present at the program). * Attach documentation of the event and original sign-in sheet of chapter participants.

Social Programming

15 points: Chapter maintains good social standing with the University for the entire academic year.

15 points: Chapter has successfully developed and implemented one or more non-alcoholic social events. * Attach documentation of event.

Bonus Points

1. 5 points: The chapter offers more than one program through another University office to its entire membership.
2. 5 points: The chapter has registered all social events with the Office of Greek Life in a timely manner throughout the entire academic year.

Public Relations

The image that a Greek organization builds for itself is vital to the chapter's success. Strong relationships with faculty, administration, the Statesboro community, and the student body are crucial in maintaining a positive image. The following criterion applies to the public relations portion of the Five Star Chapter Program.

100 Total Points Possible

Campus Relations

20 points: The chapter collaborates with another student organization to co-sponsor a non-alcohol event or speaker, including financial contributions, promotion of the event, attendance by at least 25% of the chapter members at the event, and assisting with on-site management. * Attach documentation of event and original sign-in sheet of chapter participants.

15 points: The chapter is not sanctioned for recruitment infractions, hazing violations, or other dishonorable conduct that is not seen as inter-fraternal.

15 points: The chapter has hosted a program in which Georgia Southern University faculty and staff members have been invited. * Attach documentation of event and a letter of support from a faculty/staff member.

Alumni & Parent Relations

15 points: The chapter sponsors at least two events per year for alumni. * Attach documentation of the event and a letter of support from an alumnus.

15 points: The chapter sponsors at least one event per year for parents. * Attach documentation of the event and a letter of support from a parent.

10 points: The chapter sends at least one newsletter per semester to both alumni and parents. * Attach copies of these newsletters.

Chapter Management

10 points: The chapter has an elected or appointed public relations officer who routinely contacts campus and community constituents regarding chapter events and actively publicizes the chapter's successes. * Attach a description of officer duties and the name of current officer. Include a copy of one publicity piece about the organization.

Bonus Points

1. 5 points: The chapter hosts more than two events per year for alumni
2. 5 points: The chapter hosts more than one event per year for parents.
3. 5 points: The chapter sends more than one newsletter per semester to both alumni and parents.
4. 15 points: The chapter maintains a website linked to the Greek Life web page that is updated at least two times per semester. * Attach documentation of website and updates.