



INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

Fraternity Recruitment Frequently Asked Questions

What is a fraternity?

A Greek letter organization characterized by a ritual, badge and strong ties to friendship and moral principles. Fraternities help develop their members personally, socially, and professionally for life after college.

What is fraternity recruitment?

Fraternity recruitment, previously known as “rush”, is the process of fraternities seeking new members. Fraternity recruitment at Mississippi State takes place at the beginning of the fall semester (fall recruitment) and February (spring recruitment). There is also an informal bidding process in which fraternities are able to extend bids to prospective members at any time. Throughout the year fraternities will hold events ranging anywhere from dinners to golf outings and white-water rafting trips. During this time potential new members have the opportunity to meet members of individual chapters. This process can potentially allow one to receive a bid from a fraternity. Outside of the formal process, an informal bid allows one to sign with a chapter without going through the formal recruitment process. Please note, all potential new members must register for recruitment in order to sign an informal bid or go through the formal recruitment process. If you receive an informal bid from a fraternity but are not sure it’s the right fit for you, no problem! During formal recruitment, students are to meet members from every chapter, tour houses, and build relationships with chapter members.

What is a recommendation letter?

A letter of recommendation is a form filled out by alumnus of a fraternity on behalf of a potential new member. The recommendation letter generally speaks about your character and verifies accomplishments, grades, and activities you are involved in. The alumnus should refer to the national website of his affiliation for more information on these forms as they vary. Letters of recommendation are completely optional and are not required for you to participate in the recruitment process. Recommendation letters generally need to be received by the chapters no later than August 1st.

What is a legacy?

A legacy is typically a brother, son, or grandson of a fraternity alumnus. However, each chapter has different requirements for considering a potential new member a legacy.

Am I guaranteed a bid if I am a legacy?

No, no one is ever guaranteed a bid to a fraternity. Each fraternity has different policies regarding legacies. Ultimately, it is the individual potential new member's personality, character, resume, grades, etc. that are the main determining factors for membership selection.

Should I attend summer recruitment events?

You are not required to attend summer recruitment events. These events are opportunities provided by the individual chapter to help reach out to prospective members. Chapters must abide by The Mississippi State Student Code of Conduct at summer recruitment events.

If I go through recruitment, do I have to join a fraternity?

Although most students who participate in recruitment at MSU do join a fraternity it is not required. The formal recruitment process is a great opportunity to meet fellow MSU students and build relationships with others.

How do I register for recruitment?

Registration for recruitment begins June 1st and ends the day recruitment begins. You may register at www.greeks.msstate.edu. Any student that accepts an informal bid to a fraternity must still register and pay the processing fee in order to be eligible to accept a bid to join a fraternity.

Is there a fee for recruitment?

There is no fee to participate in the formal recruitment process. There is a \$75.00 processing fee to accept a bid to a chapter.

How do I know that my registration is complete?

After you register online you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email please contact Matthew Roberson, Director of Recruitment, at 662-325-3917 or at ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu

Do grades matter?

A 2.75 GPA is required to register and participate in the formal recruitment process at Mississippi State University. However, each fraternity has a grade point average requirement specific to their organization standards. Typically, the average to extend a membership invitation is a 2.75 grade point average. Academic performance is a standard within the fraternity community; therefore grade point averages are a significant factor in the membership selection process. However, academics are only one of those factors.

What is fraternity life like after recruitment?

How much time does a fraternity take?

Every chapter has a required weekly chapter meeting where you will receive information on chapter events. Weekly academic hours, brotherhood activities, community service projects, and social events are also potential time commitments.

Do I have to live in the fraternity house?

You are required by Mississippi State University to live in a residence hall your freshman year. Each fraternity has their own policy regarding living in the chapter house. Most chapters at MSU require members to live in the house for one academic year.

Can I eat at the fraternity house once I join?

Yes. If you join a fraternity that offers a meal plan, Mississippi State allows you to change from the Unlimited Meal Plan to the Greek Meal Plan. The Greek Meal Plan is less expensive than other meal plans because you will also be paying for a meal plan within your chapter. Once you join a fraternity, visit Dining Services located next to Subway to change your meal plan or visit www.dining.msstate.edu. Your meal plan will not change unless you contact Dining Services to change it.

How much does it cost to be in a fraternity?

Our chapters range anywhere from \$600-\$2,000 per semester. The cost of each fraternity varies from chapter to chapter. Fraternity dues go to pay for a range of things such as meals, national dues and fees, leadership schools, retreats, maintenance of the chapter house, yearly insurance, etc. The reason for the ranging costs associated with each chapter is that some chapter bills have a meal plan, new member fee, etc. included in the bill, while others may charge you separately or allow you to decide if you want to participate in that aspect of the fraternity. In other words, some chapters require you to purchase their meal plan, which would be included in your bill, while others allow you to decide if you want to eat meals at the fraternity house.

Please visit www.greeks.msstate.edu for the most up to date and detailed information on fee structures for each chapter.

I'm visiting Mississippi State this summer. Can I tour the houses?

Chapters will participate in Organization Fairs during the summer and will be happy to answer questions you have regarding recruitment. Typically, fraternity houses are closed during the summer, so tours are not available. You will receive a tour of each house during the first few days of formal recruitment.

Is Mississippi State IFC on social media?

Yes! Following/adding us on the following social media outlets is one of the best ways to stay informed about MSU. We will constantly post updates to information regarding recruitment and Greek events throughout the year. If you are looking for a way to learn more about our chapters or Fraternity & Sorority Life in general be sure to take a look at our social media accounts.

Website: www.greeks.msstate.edu

Facebook: Mississippi State University Fraternity & Sorority Life

Twitter: @msstateifc

Instagram: msstateifc

What if I have more questions, whom should I ask?

We are happy to answer any questions you may have! You may contact the following people regarding recruitment questions:

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life

(662) 325-3917

Matthew Roberson, Director of Recruitment ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu

John Michael VanHorn, Associate Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life jvanhorn@saffairs.msstate.edu