



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

## INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

### **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 occurs in August (fall recruitment) and February (spring recruitment). There is also an informal bidding process in which fraternities can extend bids to prospective members at any time. Fraternities will hold events ranging anywhere from dinners to golf outings and white-water rafting trips throughout the year. 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 to accept a bid. 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, one will meet members from every chapter, tour houses, and build relationships with chapter members.

### **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 get to know prospective members. Chapters must abide by The Mississippi State Student Code of Conduct at all recruitment events.

### **What is a recommendation letter?**

A letter of recommendation is a form filled out by an alumnus of a fraternity on behalf of a potential new member. The recommendation letter generally speaks about your character and verifies accomplishments, grades, and involvement. 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 alum. 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. Ultimately, the individual potential new member's personality, character, resume, grades, etc., are the main determining factors for membership selection.



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

## INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

### **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 an excellent opportunity to meet fellow MSU students and build relationships.

### **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](http://www.greeks.msstate.edu)

Facebook: Mississippi State University Fraternity & Sorority Life

Twitter: @msstateifc

Instagram: msstateifc

### **How do I register for recruitment?**

Registration for recruitment opens June 1st and closes the day recruitment begins. You may register at [www.greeks.msstate.edu](http://www.greeks.msstate.edu). Any student that accepts an informal bid to a fraternity must still register and pay the bid acceptance fee.

### **Is there a fee for recruitment?**

There is no fee to participate in the formal or informal recruitment process.

### **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 Rob Hendren, Director of Recruitment, at 662-325-3917 or [ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu).

### **Do grades matter?**

Each fraternity has a grade point average requirement specific to the organization. Typically, the average to extend a bid is a 2.275-grade point average.

Academic performance is a standard within the fraternity community; therefore, grades are a significant factor in the membership selection process. However, academics are only one of those factors.



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

## INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

### How much time does a fraternity take?

Every chapter has a required weekly 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?

Mississippi State University requires you to live in the residence halls your freshman year. Each fraternity has its 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' website at <https://msstatedining.campusdish.com> to change your meal plan. Your meal plan will not change unless you complete the Meal Plan Change form.

### How much does it cost to be in a fraternity?

Our chapters range anywhere from \$400-\$2,500 per semester. The cost of each fraternity varies from chapter to chapter. Fraternity dues 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](http://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?

Each chapter will have a table set up at the Organization Fair during Orientations 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.

### 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

Rob Hendren, Director of Recruitment | [ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:ifcrecruitment@saffairs.msstate.edu)

John Michael VanHorn, Associate Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life | [jvanhorn@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:jvanhorn@saffairs.msstate.edu)