

LINFIELD COLLEGE FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE RELATIONSHIP STATEMENT

PREAMBLE

This Statement of Relationship between Linfield College and Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) organizations, which are recognized by the College, has been accepted by all whom were part of creating it as an appropriate beginning for a continuing relationship statement. The integrity of the following statement has set an example for continuing dialogue and is meant to be a living, useful and revisable document. This represents the best effort of all concerned to establish rights and responsibilities of Linfield College and its FSL organizations.

FSL at Linfield College is comprised of local and national chapters who have petitioned the College for recognition and have accepted and met the conditions for recognition. The fraternities and sororities are organized under the jurisdiction of their respective governing bodies, the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Linfield Panhellenic Council (LPC). Fraternities and sororities have been recognized by the College to enhance the quality of student life, contribute to the educational and personal development of students, enhance the extra and co-curricula program of the College, provide structured opportunities for self-governance and serve as a vehicle to involve students in service to the College and the community.

For the purpose of differentiating social clubs from social fraternities or sororities, a student organization is designated a social fraternity or sorority when it is formed for chiefly social purposes; has rites and rituals; has a pledge period prior to initiation; is in direct competition for membership with recognized fraternities or sororities; participates in activities common to the FSL social system; designates itself as a fraternity or sorority; is organized under the jurisdiction of its respective governing body; and fits the criteria established by the Department of Education. Linfield College will not recognize any organization, which discriminates on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, physical handicap or other disabling conditions.

The Director of College Activities and FSL is the primary College agent for the administration of the FSL system at Linfield College. Within the jurisdiction of the Dean of Students' office, the Director of College Activities and FSL is responsible for the supervision and evaluation of the performance of the individual fraternities and sororities and their members, the FSL councils, alumni boards and inter/national organizations.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL FRATERNITY/SORORITY

1. The decision to allow establishment of a national fraternity or sorority, or the transition of a local fraternity or sorority into a nationally affiliated group, rests with the College. The decision to accept new establishments (local or national) is part of the institutional evaluation process and should be a joint venture between students and administration.
2. A minimum of 25 prospective group members is required to receive recognition from Linfield College. Each new group is expected to submit a constitution and bylaws for review and approval by the College. It is expected that a new group will also select an individual chapter advisor from outside the student body.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP STATUS CLASSIFICATIONS

1. Only the following individual membership classifications shall be recognized by the FSL Office and the College:
 - A. Active – Has been initiated into the chapter, pays dues to the chapter and the appropriate FSL Council, and otherwise meets all requirements in order to be in good standing with the chapter.
 - B. Pledge or New Member – Has accepted a bid from an FSL chapter but has not yet been initiated.
 - C. Abroad – For either a semester or academic year, as defined by the College.
 - D. Graduated – Earned a degree and no longer attends Linfield.
 - E. Transferred to Nursing Campus – Met their nursing prerequisites and no longer attends the McMinnville campus.
 - F. Leave of Absence – Documented time away from campus, communicated with the College and the Office of Student Affairs.
 - G. Left Linfield – Either transferred or withdrew from the institution.
 - H. Disaffiliated – Has gone through the formal process to be removed from an FSL organization.

2. Each individual membership status should be indicated on the rosters submitted to the FSL Office each semester.
3. Any time there is a membership status change, the FSL Office should be notified within two business days of the change as it is known to the President of the FSL chapter.

ACADEMICS

1. Academics will be considered a priority of all FSL organizations. Each organization will be expected to have a scholarship officer. Some of the possibilities for a scholarship program, which are recommended for each chapter, include study groups, academic advising, learning and study skills programs, and quiet hours and adequate study facilities within the fraternity houses.
2. The FSL Office will collect GPA releases each semester to monitor grades and release individual member grades to chapter leadership. GPA releases will be distributed to each chapter mid-semester and will be based upon chapter membership rosters submitted at the beginning of each semester. Any groups which show averages significantly below the all men's average for fraternities or all women's averages for sororities, according to the standards set by the Linfield College FSL Academic Standards document, will be expected to develop an approved scholarship program. This program will be the responsibility of the chapter, but will utilize the FSL Office and the Office of Learning Support Services.
3. No student will be permitted to join an FSL organization while the student is on academic probation, as determined by the College. This will not affect active members who are subsequently placed on academic probation. Individual chapters may, if they wish, expel from membership and/or residence any student whose continued poor performance is deemed detrimental to the group.

GOVERNING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. All fraternities shall participate as members of the Interfraternity Council (IFC), and supply a chapter delegate to attend regular IFC meetings. All sororities shall participate as members of the Linfield Panhellenic Association, and supply a chapter delegate attend regular Linfield Panhellenic Council meetings. The FSL Office will act as advisors to these governing bodies and will represent the College. These organizations, together with the advisor, will rule upon matters affecting cooperation between groups as well as disciplinary matters involving the groups.
2. On the first day of classes of each semester, and as may be required by the FSL Office, each organization will submit a roster of current members, formatted according to the standards set by the FSL Office. Timeliness and accuracy must be assured so that records and billings and reports are correct. The FSL Office will provide forms and deadlines to group presidents.
3. In the event that the membership of an existing group falls below 20 active members, the group shall appear before the appropriate FSL council and the FSL Office for a chapter review. The purpose of the review will be to help the chapter set realistic goals for attracting new members and becoming a stronger member of the FSL community.
4. For purposes of fulfilling the residency and meal plan requirements, FSL houses will be considered "College Housing" for students not meeting the exemption process. Members of FSL organizations must meet normal housing exemption standards in order to gain off campus status.
5. Each chapter shall use its best efforts to establish and maintain active contact with its local alumni advisors, and to encourage their involvement and cooperation with the chapter. At least annually, or in the event of changes, each chapter will submit to the FSL Office a roster of chapter officers and both alumni advisors as well as housing corporation advisors, as they are constituted.

FINANCES

1. Any FSL chapter with financial obligation to Linfield College will review with the College its current financial situation in order to clarify mutual expectations regarding the indebtedness.

2. FSL groups are expected to practice fiscal responsibility with regards to debts outside of Linfield College.
3. At the discretion of the organizations, the College will provide a collection for all payments of room, board, and misc. fees with 3% of the gross paid to the College for collection. The College will notify each chapter of the billing deadlines and will credit those monies collected to the appropriate accounts.
4. Billing releases, for chapters who bill membership dues or collect housing rent through the College, will be distributed every semester by the Office of Student Affairs, based upon chapter membership rosters submitted at the beginning of the semester. Billing releases are distributed and collected for the following semester; for example, a billing release for the fall of 2019 will be distributed and collected in the spring of 2019.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

1. The IFC and LPC, in conjunction with the individual FSL chapters, shall encourage the continuance of public service activities. Participation in such activities shall serve as a positive indication of FSL chapter achievement.
2. The IFC and LPC will sponsor at least one community service project per semester. In addition, each sorority and fraternity is required to sponsor a minimum of three community service projects each academic year. The FSL Office must be notified of all service events.

HOUSEKEEPING, SAFETY, SANITATION, MAINTENANCE

1. There will be periodic inspections of the premises of each FSL house or chapter room by the Dean of Students or a representative of the Dean of Students' office. Representatives of the chapter and the corporation shall be advised with a minimum of ten days notice and may also participate in the inspections. After a written warning, deficiencies found in such inspections could result in elimination of the house from the College's approved living for purposes of meeting the College Housing residency requirement. Outside of these periodic inspections, however, the College reserves the right of reasonable entry to fraternities and sororities to maintain safety and health standards, and to assure compliance with this statement and other college policies.
2. Each FSL chapter shall maintain minimum standards of housekeeping, safety, sanitation, and maintenance as established from time to time by the College in consultation with the groups. These standards shall be comparable to those for residence halls. In the event said standards are not met, a written warning shall be issued to the president and alumni advisor of the group, stating a reasonable time by which repairs must be made. The group must adhere to any requests for improvement or Linfield will provide them at the group's expense.
3. Each FSL chapter shall be responsible for the general cleanliness of the lawns and other areas adjacent to its house. If, after a written warning, unkempt and unsightly conditions persist, the College may, as a last resort, provide grounds maintenance at the expense of the group.
4. Appropriate standards of fire safety will be uniformly met. Each fraternity and sorority will take part in a formal inspection of the house with the Fire Marshall's office each year and conduct a fire drill each semester.
5. Each FSL chapter shall provide evidence of liability insurance coverage in such amount as determined from time to time by the college.
6. Facilities Services will provide service to the chapter rooms in the same manner as service to residence hall rooms, with requests for work orders given equal priority. Items owned by chapters will be maintained by the chapters.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. COLLEGE REGULATIONS - The administrative regulations as set forth in the Linfield College Catalog and the Student Handbook, and any amendments there to, shall apply at all times to each FSL group and to all members thereof. Each FSL group will take all necessary and appropriate steps to assure compliance with the current alcohol policy.

2. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

a. LEADERSHIP, RECRUITMENT, AND RISK MANAGEMENT TRAINING –

Offered by the FSL Office once per semester and mandatory attendance required for Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents, Treasurers, and Risk Management Officers (although any interested member may attend). Topics include: developing leadership skills, understanding the risks involved in various activities, crisis management, chapters expectations, and more.

b. ALCOHOL AWARENESS, SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION, AND

HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAMMING – The FSL Office will promote and encourage chapter attendance for the variety of events held on campus throughout the year regarding alcohol awareness, sexual assault prevention, and health & wellness. Additionally, the FSL Office requires that chapters attend at least one of each of these types of events per academic year. As proof of event attendance, members should sign in with a chapter officer, who will then provide the sign in sheet to the FSL Office on the business day following the event.

3. HAZING - Linfield College prohibits student organizations and their members from engaging in both individual and group hazing activities. Building off the Oregon State Law regarding hazing, Linfield expands its definition of hazing to include any act that subjects another person to discomfort, ridicule, degradation, abuse, intimidation, harassment, or endangerment of mental or physical health or safety as a condition of association with a group, regardless of one's willingness to participate. An organization's activities should be consistent with the purposes of the organization's constitution, bylaws, standing rules and policies as well as College policy. Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, and policies and regulations of the College.

a. The Oregon State Law on hazing, printed here in its entirety, will be adhered to by all FSL organizations.

1. "A student organization or a member of a student organization commits the offense of hazing if, as a condition or precondition of attaining membership in the organization or of attaining any office or status in the organization, the organization or member intentionally hazes any member, potential member or person pledged to be a member of the organization.
 - a) A student organization that violates subsection (1) of this section commits a Class A violation.
 - b) A member of a student organization who personally violates subsection of this section commits a Class B violation.
2. Consent of the person who is hazed is not a defense in a prosecution under this section.
3. As used in this section:
 - a) Haze means:
 - A. To subject an individual to whipping, beating, striking, branding or electronic shocking, to place a harmful substance on an individuals body or to subject an individual to other similar forms of physical brutality;
 - B. To subject an individual to sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space or other similar activity that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm or adversely affects the physical health or safety of the individual;
 - C. To compel an individual to consume food, liquid, alcohol, controlled substances or other substances that subject the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm or adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual; or
 - D. To induce, cause or require an individual to perform a duty or task that involves the commission of a crime or an act of hazing.
 - b) Member includes volunteers, coaches and faculty advisers of a student organization.
 - c) Student organization means a fraternity, sorority, athletic team or other organization that is organized or operating on a college, university or elementary or secondary school campus for the purpose of providing 6 members an opportunity to participate in student activities of the college, university or elementary or secondary school."

- b. *This is not an exhaustive list, nor does it apply to curricular activities or to athletic teams of or within the college. A fraternity, sorority or their governing bodies that violates this section commits a violation punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 under Oregon law. A member of a fraternity, sorority or their governing bodies, who personally violates this section commits a violation punishable by a fine of not more than \$250, under Oregon law.

4. INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP RESPONSIBILITY - Based on the intent of the people/persons involved, FSL chapters may be held accountable for the actions of individuals affiliated with the group.

5. DEMEANING BEHAVIOR – FSL organizations will prohibit any action, which would purposefully and needlessly degrade any individuals or groups. Such action will result in appropriate corrective measures, as determined by the appropriate FSL council and Linfield College.
6. COLLEGE PROPERTY – FSL groups found to be in possession of items taken from other areas of the college must return the items upon demand, and may be subject to charges and/or disciplinary action.
7. RECRUITMENT - Recruitment guidelines will be established by the Interfraternity Council and the Linfield Panhellenic Council, as they fall in line with NIC and NPC standards and best practices. Recruitment violations will be handled as spelled out in each respective council's bylaws or standing rules.
8. PLEDGE/NEW MEMBER EDUCATION - Following a positive recruitment period, it is expected that chapters will implement a positive pledge/new member education program that will effectively integrate the pledges/new members into the chapter as well as prepare pledges/new members to contribute positively as active members.
9. SOCIAL FUNCTIONS – FSL social functions are to be registered in the Office of College Activities and FSL no less than two weeks preceding the event. If alcohol is to be present, this must be clearly indicated on the registration.
10. NOISE - Social events and their noise will be kept within the house. Noise created by social events is to end at a pre-arranged time, but members must adhere to any request to turn down volume of music or curtail other activities, which disturb neighbors, whether they are McMinnville residents or members of the Linfield community. Chapters are expected to notify their neighbors of potential social functions at least 24 hours in advance of the function.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

1. In the case of violations of this Statement or in other matters that are unique and particular to the FSL community, those involved will have the choice of placing jurisdiction with the College Judicial Board, or with the Dean of Students or a Dean-appointed representative. In all matters of discipline and corrective action, the final and ultimate authority rests with Linfield College.
2. Corrective action includes the following, and may be applied to individuals or chapters:
 - a. WARNING: A written admonition will be issued by the IFC/LPC, by the Office of College Activities and FSL, or by the Dean of Students Office which establishes that an FSL chapter or individual has violated the guidelines and sets forth a more stringent penalty should the violations recur. Warnings may carry sanctions.
 - b. SOCIAL PROBATION: A sanction against an FSL chapter for having violated the General Regulations or any other guidelines, which may be imposed by the IFC/LPC, the Dean of Students Office or a Dean appointed representative, and/or with the Office of College Activities and FSL. The terms of social probation may vary depending upon the severity of the violation. While on social probation a group may not have or sponsor social events in the house or elsewhere. Additionally, groups may not participate in Homecoming events, Greek Week events, IM's, social functions/events, or other group extracurricular activities. In the event of violation of social probation, the group shall receive further sanctions, or may be suspended or expelled, depending upon the severity of such violation. A chapter's social probation status will not affect that chapter's ability to recruit.
 - c. EXPULSION: The final action that may be taken is complete separation of an FSL chapter from the College, in which case the chapter's presence at the College is terminated by communicating with the chapter's inter/national offices or alumni advisors (in the case of the local chapters) and revoking the chapter's charter.
 - d. APPEALS: Any group that wishes to appeal any of the above corrective actions must do so in writing to the Dean of Students Office within five academic days of receiving the official sanction notice.

This statement may be revised or amended as needed by joint action of the FSL councils, the Office of College Activities and FSL, and Linfield College.