UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA—LINCOLN

GREEK PREVIEW

A PLACE 2015 FOR YOU

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WHY CHOOSE GREEK LIFE?

**We are a Community**
With 47 chapters and over 3800 members, we’re confident that no matter your interests, there is a place for you.

**We are Smart**
On average, the all-freshman and fraternity grade point average consistently exceeds the all-women’s, men’s and campus averages.

**We are Diverse**
Fraternities and sororities represent the rich diversity of the campus population.

**We are Responsible**
Members who make commitments to themselves and their chapters prove to be among the most well respected students.

**We are Volunteers**
Greek organizations are recognized for their philanthropic work.

**We are Leaders**
Greek women and men are involved in campus activities, are often the most visible campus leaders, and the most enthusiastic at University events.

When should I join?
There are opportunities for students to join many of our Greek-letter organizations immediately. Our IFC fraternities, especially those with living units, begin recruiting students in mid-May. Freshmen women are required to live in a University residence hall, but may join a chapter during Panhellenic Association fall recruitment which occurs the week before classes begin. Most students pledges Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Association fraternities and sororities will join before taking their first class.

The Multicultural Greek chapters have a process that differs from the ones used by the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Association. You may be considered for membership once you have established a college grade point average of 2.5 or higher. The opportunity to learn more about membership within the Multicultural Greek groups begins with Greek Preview. Once you’re on campus, attend activities and programs like Meet the Greeks and Huskers Don’t Hate, as well as activities and programs sponsored by individual chapters. Requisites for membership vary by organization, but all require students to have a minimum college GPA of 2.5 or higher. Rather than standardized recruitment dates, open recruitment periods are scheduled each semester. Each individual chapter may determine the dates that work best for their chapter’s recruitment providing the dates are within the open recruitment period.

**How will being Greek affect my grades?**
Some students worry that the extra social events and responsibilities of being in a fraternity or sorority will interfere with their time for academics. Being Greek is a time commitment, but one of the core values of Greek life is academic excellence. Our chapters recognize the importance of a quality education and take pride in making it a priority. Our members consistent record for out performing non-Greek students demonstrates to the campus and larger community that they remember why they’re here and what is most important.

**Is there a minimum GPA to be eligible for membership?**
Some organizations allow students to join before establishing a college grade point average. Current UNL or transfer students must have a 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average. Individual chapters may set a minimum GPA higher than UNL’s minimum requirement.

**Not all chapters have living units.**
Where do their members live?
Members in chapters without living units may utilize on-campus University Housing or live off-campus. Chapters facilitate their business meetings as well as activities and programs on and around campus.

How do I apply for recruitment or express interest before arriving at UNL?
Once you are admitted to the University, we encourage you to visit the UNL Greek webpage. Each governing council has a tab where you can get additional information. To apply or express interest, visit [www.unl.edu/greek/join_us.shtml](http://www.unl.edu/greek/join_us.shtml). If you have not yet been admitted to UNL, visit the admissions webpage at [admissions.unl.edu/apply/apply-now](http://admissions.unl.edu/apply/apply-now).

Please note: Registration for Panhellenic fall recruitment opens on May 15 and will close on July 15. No late applications will be accepted after July 15. A fee of $80 is payble on-line at the time of application.

GENERAL Q & A
Interfraternity Council (IFC)

Brotherhood is bringing together a large, diverse group of young men in daily living, scholastics, athletics, social functions and community service. From the moment you join, you will begin to experience what brotherhood is all about. Fraternities have a long and prosperous history on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. UNL fraternities consistently receive recognition and awards from their national headquarters in the areas of leadership, philanthropy and scholarship.

Year-Round Recruitment

• Fraternity recruitment begins in March with Greek Preview
• Chapters will be hosting events before and after the spring football game
• Students coming to Lincoln for New Student Enrollment should take time at the end of the day to meet chapter representatives and tour Greek living units. Consider scheduling your NSE Day on June 6 or 9, 2015 to participate in our overnight Greek Getaway recruitment weekend on June 7 and 8.
• For information about IFC recruitment visit: unl.edu/greek.

Multicultural Greek Council (MGC)

The member organizations of the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) work to diversify the skills of their members. Joining an MGC chapter will further your understanding of the cultures represented in our community. These organizations represent diverse backgrounds, cultures and histories. However, all are committed to the shared fraternal values of leadership, scholarship, service and personal development. The MGC also works to create an inclusive environment at UNL through its program and service initiatives. If you share similar interests and values, consider joining one of our historically Latino/a or Asian based organizations.

Open Recruitment Periods Occur Each Semester

• At least second semester freshman status
• Minimum college GPA of 2.5 or higher
• Other requirements vary by organization (i.e. service hours, community involvement, campus leadership)

CHAPTERS

LEADERS

Interfraternity Council Chapters

Acacia
Alpha Gamma Nu
Alpha Gamma Rho
Alpha Gamma Sigma
Alpha Tau Omega
Beta Sigma Psi
Beta Theta Pi
Chi Phi
Delta Tau Delta
Delta Upsilon
Kappa Sigma
Kappa Delta Theta
Phi Delta Phi
Phi Gamma Delta
Phi Kappa Psi
Pi Kappa Alpha
Pi Kappa Phi
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Sigma Chi
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Tau Kappa Epsilon
Theta Chi
Theta Xi

National Pan-Hellenic Chapters

Delta Sigma Theta
Iota Phi Theta
Kappa Alpha Psi
Omega Psi Phi
Zeta Phi Beta

Panhelleanic Association Chapters

Alpha Chi Omega
Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Phi
Alpha Xi Delta
Chi Omega
Delta Delta Delta
Delta Gamma
Gamma Phi Beta
Kappa Alpha Theta
Kappa Delta
Kappa Delta Phi
Pi Beta Phi
Pi Beta Phi
Theta Phi Alpha

Multicultural Greek Chapters

Lambda Theta Nu
Sigma Lambda Beta
Sigma Lambda Gamma
Sigma Phi Zeta

* Denotes sorority chapter
National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)
The National Pan-Hellenic Council serves as the governing and programming board for the historically Black Greek-lettered organizations. These organizations serve as advocates for underrepresented groups in the Lincoln community and emphasize scholarship, service, leadership, and collectivism. Although our organizations are historically Black, our membership is diverse and our commitment to cultural awareness is unparalleled. The NPHC is designed to assure that our member organizations cooperatively work together while maintaining distinct chapter identities. National Pan-Hellenic chapters at UNL have a rich history that dates all the way back to 1916.

Open Recruitment Periods Each Semester
• At least sophomore status
• Minimum college GPA of 2.5 or higher
• Other requirements vary by organization (i.e. service hours, community involvement, campus leadership)

Panhellenic Association (PHA)
Sorority life or sisterhood means striving to be a leader academically, philanthropically and socially. Panhellenic women at UNL consistently achieve a higher all-sorority GPA than the all-female GPA because they are surrounded by academic mentors and built-in study partners. From the moment you join a chapter, you will reap the benefits of membership as your chapter serves as the building blocks for creating a sense of community on the UNL campus. No matter which way you go, you can't go wrong in the Panhellenic community.

Fall Recruitment
• Sorority recruitment is structured as a week of activities, usually the week before the fall semester begins.
• Participants looks for organizations that match their personal values.
• Mutual selection process—At the end of each day, potential new members will priority rank the chapters they would most like to see again. Likewise, chapters will issue invitations to the potential new members they are most interested in seeing return the next day.

Continuous Open Bidding/Recruitment
• An opportunity for chapters that do not reach quota during primary recruitment to reach total and/or quota.
• Casual and less structured
• Not every sorority participates
• Does not operate on a set schedule
• Must complete an application or have participated in formal recruitment
Making the Grade

The Greek community’s main focus is academic achievement. The University proudly recognizes that the all-sorority and all-fraternity GPA is consistently above the UNL all-women’s and all-men’s GPA. National and local scholarships are offered by most chapters to those members with high GPAs and excellent service to the chapter.

Greek Affairs also awards over $10,000 in scholarships annually to members of our community who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement as well as contributions to the Greek and campus community.

Each chapter has a coordinated study program which includes designated study times when members study individually or in small groups. You’ll be surrounded by academic mentors who may have taken the same classes and can help you study. All chapters have a minimum GPA for members to either initiate or remain in good standing.

New members benefit from advice from upper class members, from time management to how to prepare for a test in a specific class.

True story: A freshman new member of a UNL sorority entered her very first class at Nebraska and saw a classmate wearing the same bid day shirt that she was wearing. She immediately felt at home in class and on campus. They studied together all semester and even registered for spring classes together so they would know a familiar face.

Academic success is a keystone to the collegiate experience. On-campus academic resources include free one-on-one academic coaching, academic success workshops, free tutoring through Study Stops, and robust resources located in Love Library. UNL is committed to providing resources that give you a competitive edge in and out of the classroom.

Leading the Way

Another core element of fraternity and sorority life is the promotion of leadership opportunities. The Greek community is the ideal place for student leaders to gain experience. Developing strong leadership skills, providing opportunities to practice these new skills and recognition for achievements are a major part of the Greek experience at UNL.

Greek life connects you with a vast array of opportunities that fit your interests and abilities, including academics, finance, philanthropy, music and more. Greek chapters are self-governing, allowing leaders to play an essential role in their chapter. In addition to leadership opportunities within the chapter, Greeks have the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the governing councils as well as Greek Ambassadors and Order of Omega.

Membership in a Greek chapter is a lifelong commitment. Greek membership is an opportunity to be connected to potential leadership roles in the future. Greek life at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln is here to create current and future world leaders. Will you help lead our community?
Service activities are a way for members of the Greek community to give back to the University, the Lincoln community, and national philanthropic efforts. As a member of a Greek organization you will have the opportunity, through structured community service programs, to make a difference in the lives of those in need. Each year, students from Nebraska’s Greek community raise money and awareness for several different local and national agencies.

Our Greek community teams up and provides sponsorship as well as hundreds of volunteers for The Big Event. Volunteers give back to the campus, Lincoln and surrounding communities through one large day of service-oriented activities. This is an opportunity for Greeks to do something good for the community and build meaningful relationships and friendships while working alongside fellow Greeks.

**Annual Philanthropies**

- Aid to the Blind
- ALS Association
- ALS In The Heartland
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Cancer Society
- Arthritis Research Foundation
- Autism Speaks
- Boys & Girls Club of America
- Bryan LGH Heart Institute
- Campfire USA
- CEDARS
- Child Advocacy Center
- Children's Miracle Network
- Circle of Sisterhood
- Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA)
- CureSearch for Children's Cancer
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Feeding America
- Friendship Home
- Girls on the Run
- Global Service Initiative
- Lincoln Food Bank
- Literacy Foundation
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Nebraska Association of Blind Students
- Prevent Child Abuse America
- PUSH America
- Redeem the Shadows
- Ronald McDonald House
- Service for Sight
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Team Jack
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Voices of Hope
- Wounded Warrior Foundation

**Service Initiatives**

- Adopt-a-School
- After School Programs
- Back Pack Program
- Boys and Girls Club
- Campbell Elementary School
- CEDARS Youth Services
- Center for People in Need
- Champions Are Readers (CAR)
- Commission for the Blind
- El Centro De Las Americas
- F Street Community Center
- Girl Scouts of America
- Girls on the Run
- Golden Warriors
- Greeks Going Global
- Humane Society
- Kids Against Hunger
- Kooser Elementary School
- Lighthouse After School Program
- Lincoln Children's Museum
- Malone Community Center
- McPhee Elementary School
- Merrill Hall
- People's City Mission
- Ronald McDonald House
- Sumner Place Rehabilitation Center
- Tabitha Meals on Wheels
- Teammates
- The Cat House
- TOP Soccer
The Greek community will provide you with a valuable, smaller network of support. Chapter membership spans first-year students through graduating seniors, helping foster a degree of friendship that will grow during your college experience and last a lifetime.

Membership in a Greek organization offers many opportunities to develop your leadership potential. Greek organizations not only provide training in the principles of leadership, they provide the "real world" experiences where these principles can be tested. Weekly chapter meetings provide an opportunity for all members to be actively involved in the decision-making processes.

Greek life on campus will keep your social calendar active. Social activities such as step and stroll exhibitions, ice cream socials and game nights help foster inter-chapter relations. Chapter sponsored dances and formals are a chance to see your friends looking their best. Homecoming and Greek Weekend help broaden your horizons as an incoming Greek. Chapters are placed in groups for various events and activities providing an opportunity to expand your social network.

Lincoln is home to many alumni/alumnae, as are many university faculty and staff. Making and keeping these ties after graduation maintains a connection to your fraternity or sorority for a lifetime.

Fraternities and sororities work hard to have fun safely. All of our risk management policies are set up to ensure the safety of Greek students at UNL. We provide programming, information and communication links that focus on prevention and education for all chapter members. No alcohol or smoking are allowed in Greek chapter houses. Greek students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the University Code of Conduct at all chapter functions.

Alphabet

A  Alpha (al-fah)  Z  Zeta (ze-ta)
B  Beta (bay-tah)  H  Eta (ay-tah)
Γ  Gamma (gam-ah)  Θ  Theta (thay-tah)
Δ  Delta (del-tah)  Ι  Iota (eye-o-ta)
E  Epsilon (ep-si-lon)  Κ  Kappa (kap-ah)
Λ  Lambda (lamb-da)  Λ  Lambda (lamb-da)
Μ  Mu (mu)  Ξ  Xi (zi or se)
Ν  Nu (nu)  Ο  Omicron (om-i-ron)
Ο  Omicron (om-i-ron)  Π  Pi (pie)
Ρ  Rho (row)  Σ  Sigma (sig-mah)
Σ  Sigma (sig-mah)  Τ  Tau (taw)
Τ  Tau (taw)  Υ  Upsilon (oop-si-lon)
Φ  Phi (fie or fee)  Ψ  Psi (sigh)
Ψ  Psi (sigh)  Ω  Omega
Ω  Omega
Commonly Used Terms

Active: A college undergraduate who has been initiated into fraternity or sorority membership and is active at the collegiate level.

Alumni/Alumnae: Initiated fraternity or sorority members who have graduated from college.

Bid (card): A formal invitation to join a particular fraternity or sorority.

Bid Day: The day immediately following Panhellenic formal recruitment where chapters extend their invitation for membership to potential new members.

Chapter: A local group of the larger international organization.

Continuous Open Bidding (COB): An informal process that Panhellenic Association chapters use to recruit new members outside the designated formal recruitment period to reach quota and/or Panhellenic total. The continuous open bidding process is less formal and not all chapters are eligible to participate.

Crossing: A term used by MGC and NPHC groups to indicate that a new member has initiated and become a member of the group.

Fraternity: A local group of the larger international organization.

House: The physical residence where the local chapter of a fraternity or sorority resides. Note: Not all fraternities and sororities have houses.

Informational: A forum for individuals interested in seeking more information about a particular MGC or NPHC chapter.

Initiation: The formal ceremony that marks the beginning of active membership.

Interfraternity Council (IFC): The governing body for men’s fraternities that are associated with the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC).

Intramurals: Athletic activities in which members from different chapters compete and participate in sporting events.

Legacy: The brother or sister, son or daughter, or grandson or granddaughter of a fraternity or sorority member. While being a legacy does not mean automatic membership into that chapter, it is looked upon favorably.

Line: Individuals participating in the MGC or NPHC new member education process.

Multicultural Greek Council: The governing and programming board for the multicultural Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities at UNL. National affiliations include: National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NAFLO), National Asian and Pacific Islanders Panhellenic Association (NAPPA), and NRC.

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC): The governing and programming board for the historically African American Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities.

New Member: A member of a fraternity or sorority who has not been initiated.

New Member Education: A period of learning about fraternity and sorority life prior to initiation. The length of the period varies by chapter.

New Member Presentation: The “coming out” ceremony for those involved in the new member program with an NPHC or MGC organization.

Panhellenic Association: The governing and programming board for sororities at UNL that are associated with the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC).

Panhellenic Total: The allowable Panhellenic Association chapter size on campus, as determined by the council, including new and active members. Chapters that fall under total may be allowed to participate in continuous open bidding until they reach total.

Philanthropy: A charitable fund-raiser or service project sponsored by a fraternity or sorority.

Potential New Member: A college woman who is seeking membership in a Panhellenic Association chapter.

Preferencing “preffing”: During the last day of Panhellenic Association recruitment, a potential new member determines which particular sorority she wants to join. For sorority membership recruitment, the potential new member lists up to three sororities in her order of preference.

Quota: The specified number of potential new members to which each Panhellenic sorority may extend a bid during formal recruitment.

Recruitment: The process organizations use to recruit new members.

Recruitment Guide (Rho Gamma): A Panhellenic sorority member who has disaffiliated herself from her chapter during Panhellenic membership recruitment. She is specially trained to help potential new members and answer any questions they may have about sorority membership.

Ritual: The traditional beliefs and oaths of a sorority or fraternity usually used in reference to the ceremonies of initiation as well as weekly chapter meetings. These traditions do not include any forms of hazing, because hazing weakens the bonds of brotherhood/sisterhood, and undermines the common experience of the fraternity or sorority.

Recruitment Chair: The person from each chapter who is in charge of their chapter’s recruitment functions.

Social: When two organizations, usually a sorority and fraternity, but can also be two sororities or two fraternities, get together to do a planned activity.

House: The physical residence where the local chapter of a fraternity or sorority resides. Note: Not all fraternities and sororities have houses.
WHAT TO EXPECT AS A NEW MEMBER

New Member Education

Time Commitment
On average, you should expect to contribute a few hours per week for chapter meetings and mandatory activities. Every chapter facilitates a new member education program that generally includes weekly meetings. You will learn the history of your national organization and local chapter, develop leadership and time management skills and forge new friendships. Together, as a new member class, you mature toward initiation. There are objectives you must accomplish, but nothing should make you feel uncomfortable.

Leadership and Involvement
Fraternities and sororities encourage members to participate in many different activities. Our members are involved in nearly all of the more than 400 recognized student organizations on campus. Student government, Freshman Campus Leadership Associates (FCLA) and emerging leaders provide great opportunities for first-year students to become involved.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska (ASUN) is the governing body for UNL students. There are hundreds of opportunities to get involved within ASUN. With committees that range from planning Homecoming to serving on the Student Court, you’re guaranteed to find something of interest.

Leadership and involvement

Greek Housing

Many of Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Association chapters maintain their own privately owned and operated living units adjacent to campus. Over 2000 students live in fraternity and sorority chapter houses. First-year men have the opportunity to live in a fraternity chapter house, provided it is one of our 16 chapters that have been granted University-approved housing status. Generally, sorority housing is available for women during their second year of membership. In both cases, membership often exceeds those that can live-in the chapter house with an average capacity for sororities at 62 and fraternities at 65.

The costs to live in a Greek chapter house are very comparable to that of living in a residence hall. Each chapter establishes its own room and board rates based upon rent, food service, and membership dues. We encourage you to ask questions during recruitment. Chapters should be able to provide you with a specific cost breakdown.

Given the benefits provided, membership is a bargain. However, given the costs in planning their personal budgets. Membership dues vary from chapter to chapter. The cost of living in a UNL Greek chapter house is less expensive than the residence halls. You get a great experience for a great value.

The cost of membership dues has earned Fraternal life the reputation of being elitist, or “for the affluent only”. In reality, the stereotype of the spoiled rich kid simply isn’t true. The demographics of Fraternal membership are similar to that of other university students. Many members hold a part-time job, collect student loans, and pay their dues by installments.

Value
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**Q & A**

**Why are my friends in PHA sororities not returning my calls?**

We’re sure they still like you, but during the week of Panhellenic Recruitment there is no communication with sorority women except during scheduled recruitment events. It’s illegal for a member or chapter to contact you while you’re a potential new member. This is necessary for the recruitment process to remain fair and run smoothly.

**What do I wear during PHA Sorority Recruitment?**

Sorority recruitment may seem long and hard, the attire during Fall Formal Recruitment begins casual and gets progressively dressier. More specific information on Sorority Fall Formal Recruitment will be mailed during the summer.

**What is a recommendation?**

A recommendation is an introduction and brief description of a young man or woman interested in joining a Greek organization, written by a chapter’s alumnus or alumnae who has first-hand knowledge of the potential new member. It is the responsibility of the chapter to secure recommendations for potential members. Having a recommendation can be beneficial for a potential member but does not guarantee an invitation to join that chapter.

**What do I wear during IFC Fraternity Recruitment?**

Fraternity recruitment is very casual. What you wear will depend on the activity you’ve been invited to attend. A pool party means swimsuit, sunscreen and flip flops. A BBQ = shorts and a shirt. If you have questions, the chapter recruitment chair can tell you what’s appropriate.

I have already submitted my housing contract, but I want to go through IFC Fraternity Recruitment. **What do I do now?**

Fraternities usually have room for incoming new members. If you pledge a house with room for you to move in right away, be sure to cancel your contract. The chapter may credit you for some or all of your forfeited deposit.

**What if I join and it’s not the right fit? Can I leave?**

New members may decide to leave an organization at any point prior to initiation and still be eligible to join another group on campus. While members may also choose to disaffiliate after initiation, at this point they would be unable to join another fraternity or sorority. It is important to use the recruitment period to get to know about the groups so you are certain about your decision and your fit in the group. The new member education process will also provide you with an opportunity to make sure you are ready to make a life-long commitment to the organization.

**Are fraternities and sororities primarily social in nature?**

There is a social aspect to the Greek community, but these “social” events include educational programs/workshops, community service events, cultural events, intramural sports, family weekends, Homecoming, Greek Weekend, and dinner exchanges. Greek communities across the nation have adopted risk management policies that help students create safe environments for their members to socialize.

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**BALANCE**

It is unique when students from diverse backgrounds can find common ground to work together through membership. Whether in the classroom, intramural athletics, house projects, or university competitions, members are always willing to help each other reach a common goal. Chapter diversity allows every member to be themselves, and it gives every member a chance to learn from someone a little different from themselves.

**QUESTIONS?**

Visit [www.unl.edu/greek](http://www.unl.edu/greek) or call 402-472-2582 and ask for Linda Schwartzkopf, Director of Greek Affairs, or Luke Bretscher, Coordinator for Fraternity Life.

**JOIN US**

To apply or express interest go to [www.unl.edu/greek/join_us.shtml](http://www.unl.edu/greek/join_us.shtml)