

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LATINO FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

SHARED STANDARDS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Established in March 1998, the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, Inc. traces its roots back to several movements to empower Latino fraternities and sororities. For many years, Latino Greeks lacked basic information about their peers. As organizations expanded into different states and the Internet made information more readily available, Latino fraternity and sorority leaders worked to form a coalition. Starting in 1997, these leaders organized a series of meetings around the country to set the groundwork for what would become NALFO. At the 1998 Boston Conference NALFO took a major step forward by ratifying its constitution and bylaws. In 1999, the Board of Directors incorporated NALFO in Connecticut.

The heart of the organization is a sense of family that serves as a nationwide support system for all Latino fraternity and sorority members. NALFO allows members of all Latino fraternal organizations to come together as a family to voice issues of common concern and pool our resources for maximum benefit. In January 2001, NALFO again made history when it merged with a national Latino Greek council, Concilio Nacional de Hermandades Latinas (CNHL), to form the only national umbrella organization for historically Latino fraternities and sororities. As a result, the NALFO family currently includes 19 organizations from across the United States.

In an effort to assist institutions of higher learning across the nation and abroad in understanding the beginnings and function of historically Latino fraternities and sororities, and the standards governing these organizations, and in a further effort to continue to address issues of mutual concern, focusing on five essential and shared areas, to the NALFO and member organizations (Alpha Pi Sigma Sorority, Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc., Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority, Inc., Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc., Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc., Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc., Lambda Pi Upsilon Sorority, Latinas Poderosas Unidas, Inc., Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc., Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc., Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Señoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority, Inc., Corazones Unidos Siempre Chi Upsilon Sigma National Latin Sorority, Inc., Omega Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Psi Lambda-National, Inc., Gamma Zeta Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity, Inc., La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc., Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc.), these standards have been drafted.

EXPECTATIONS FOR NALFO UNDERGRADUATE COUNCILS

1. Continued promotion of academic excellence
 - A. Maintain grade point averages (GPAs) above the minimum GPA requirement to be an Active member of the chapter and organization as defined by the college or university, if standards are higher than said affiliate organization.
 - B. Maintain graduation rates equal to or which exceed the all men's or women's rates, respectively, on a given campus.
 - C. Develop scholarship programs that challenge members and potential members to achieve academically, provide scholastic support, and recognize both improvement and excellence in academic performance.
2. Demonstration of the values of NALFO, affiliate organizations, and host institutions.
 - A. Integrate the stated values and mission of NALFO, affiliate organizations, and the institution into all aspects of the organization and membership.
 - B. Develop and implement a local Judicial Council Committee to hold members accountable to the entire Greek-lettered community, as well as to the student code of conduct at the institution.
 - C. Sponsor monthly leadership programs which promote personal development and encourage implementation of best business practices.
 - D. Develop standards which discourage both the misuse of alcohol and the use of illegal drugs and which exact penalties.
3. Development of leadership skills.
 - A. Provide members with opportunities for leadership development workshops and programs, through NALFO, affiliate organizations, and other programs sponsored by outside organizations.
 - B. Encourage affiliate chapter members to seek leadership roles in other campus organizations.
4. Development of positive supportive relationships.
 - A. Comply with all hazing and mandated policies of the state, college/university, NALFO, and affiliate organizations.
 - B. Create programs that enhance the Greek-letter community and student body and thereby contribute to a positive relationship with the community at large.
 - C. Demonstrate a genuine concern for all mankind.

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- D. Seek an appropriately credentialed Graduate chapter and/or Faculty/Staff advisor(s) to serve as advisors to affiliate chapters and the local NALFO
5. Develop citizenship through community service and outreach.
- A. Develop effective service projects and community outreach programs on an on-going basis.
 - B. Establish and maintain community service initiatives, while encouraging the participation of all members.
 - C. Participate in campus Greek-lettered and non-Greek governing councils, as well as non-Greek organizations and events.
 - D. Establish a positive and productive campus presence.

EXPECTATIONS FOR HOST INSTITUTIONS

As the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations strives to collaborate with host institutions of our councils and affiliate chapters, the NALFO expects the following from those respective institutions:

1. Proper Advisement for Councils and Affiliate Chapters
 - A. Encourage and provide incentives for faculty and staff to become involved as faculty advisors to the NALFO council and affiliate chapters.
 - B. Provide a full-time staff member as the advisor to the NALFO council. If not a member of one of the NALFO affiliate organizations, that individual must be educated and credentialed on the operations and procedures of NPHC to be an effective advisor.
2. Leadership Development
 - A. Provide a leadership class for all new members each term.
 - B. Provide and/or help identify and acquire funding to ensure Council attendance at NALFO national and regional conventions and conferences and other NALFO sponsored leadership training programs.
3. Council Support
 - A. Support and assist NALFO in establishing councils where there are two or more affiliate organizations at the institution.

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- B. Encourage expansion logical to the campus' population.
- C. Provide individual chapter, Greek system, and campus demographic information to council/chapters as requested.
- D. Assist Council in meeting national and regional mandates, guidelines, and other requirements, including the payment of annual dues, submission of year-end report, attendance at national and regional meetings, and adherence to all national, regional, and local governing documents.
- E. Provide an impartial judicial process with the opportunity for appeal.

4. Accountability

- A. Provide the following data to NALFO Headquarters (at least once per year):
 - i. Campus, all men's/women's Greek system, and chapter GPAs by semester/quarter
 - ii. Total number of men/women who began the Membership Intake Process in all chapters in an academic year
 - iii. Total number of men/women initiated into all chapters in an academic year
 - iv. Percentage of fraternity/sorority men/women compared to total number of all men/women on campus
 - v. Total number and name of chapters closed/opened in an academic year
 - vi. Status of the NALFO Council (e.g., inactive or active)
 - vii. Total number of full-time Greek Life professionals on campus.
 - viii. Graduation rates of undergraduates on campus

- B. Communicate with national and regional offices of the NALFO or affiliate organization upon receiving a reason of concern. When the issue or concern is a council issue, contact the NALFO Regional Vice-Chair. If the issue involves (a) chapter(s) and warrants some type of action, please contact that/those respective affiliate equivalent (graduate chapter advisor, regional office, or Inter/national Headquarters).

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