A Student’s Guide to Greek Life at Marquette University

SHARE.

BELONG.

INTERACT.
You are about to enter the most exciting and challenging years of your life. As a Marquette student you are given the opportunity to become involved in many activities – we encourage you to become involved in Greek Life.

Sorority and Fraternity Life provides excellent opportunities for college students to find a home away from home, develop leadership skills, enhance academics, and create a foundation for the future. Greek Life is often the catalyst that leads its members to become part of the top leadership organizations on campus including MUSG, Honor Societies, Orientation Team members and Resident Assistants.

Each chapter also gives its members hands-on experience in leading committees, managing budgets, interacting with faculty and administrators, organizing and facilitating educational programs, and participating in community service projects.

Greek organizations offer members the tools to help them succeed in their future. Many of the friends made in Greek organizations will surpass the college years and last a lifetime.

The Office of Student Development wants to make sure you know the benefits of joining a fraternity or sorority. This collection of 15 organizations, with nearly 600 students, is commonly referred to as the Greek community. Chances are there is a fraternity or sorority that is right for you.
What will I get out of Greek Life that I would not get out of any other college organization?

Coming to college is one of the major life changes that you will go through. Joining a fraternity or sorority chapter will help make the transition easier. Developing life long friendships with the members in the chapters helps make the campus seem smaller. For many members, these chapters become a home away from home. In addition to the brotherhood/sisterhood, every chapter is dedicated to enhancing leadership, scholarship, and philanthropy/community service.

How will joining fraternity or sorority benefit me after college?

The lifelong friendships you will make by being a member of a fraternity or sorority chapter will last into post-college years. Greek students have national networks for their member to use for careers and job re-locations. Membership in a chapter can be a life long experience that is an investment in your future. Wherever you end up after college, chances are you will be able to find an alumni chapter or members from your fraternity or sorority in the area.
Will my academics be comprised if I join a Greek chapter?

Academic achievement is a number one priority for students in fraternities and sororities. When students join a Greek–letter organization they become part of a larger group of students who value their academic goals at Marquette University. Every fraternity and sorority has a scholarship officer who initiates programs within the chapter to encourage high academic achievement. The scholarship officers of each chapter provide various resources for members, such as, tutoring, education programs, and awards and recognition.

What kind of community service and philanthropies do Greek organizations participate in?

One of the most gratifying aspects of Greek life at Marquette University is the sense of satisfaction and pride which comes with involvement in community service. Fundraising events of many kinds are organized each year by fraternities and sororities in order to benefit worthwhile charities. Such projects help build moral character through the realization of needs of people who are less fortunate. Each year, individual chapters participate in community service projects, ranging from walking to find a cure for breast cancer, to volunteering at local hospitals, to make children who have been diagnosed with cancer, a princess for the day, to food and clothing drives, and winterizing the homes of the elderly. Helping others will undoubtly be one of the most rewarding experiences a student in a fraternity or sorority will have in college.
How much does it cost to be a member in a fraternity or sorority?

The Greek experience is an investment in your future. The leadership skills, the academic assistance and the friendships will benefit you beyond your college days. Joining a fraternity or sorority does carry a financial commitment. Each chapter is self-supporting through the dues paid by their members. Membership dues go to services that directly support the betterment of the chapter and the national organization. To assist members, chapters may offer various scholarships and grants.

How time consuming is joining a fraternity or sorority?

The amount of time involved in joining a fraternity or sorority will vary from chapter to chapter. For first year students, the second semester will be the most time intensive period for you, as this is the time that the members will go through the chapter's education period. The time spent in this program will give you the opportunity to develop leadership and time management skills, learn about the history of the organization, develop friendships with others in their new member class, as well as the rest of the chapter, and allow you to become involved with other organizations. After initiation into the chapter, expectations will vary. Each chapter has weekly chapter meetings and other mandatory events (community service events, study hours and initiation) throughout the year, but they are planned well in advance. In addition to the weekly meeting, the more you put into the chapter the more you will get out of being a member!
Are fraternities and sororities primarily social in nature?

There is a social aspect to the Greek community, but these “social” events include education programs/workshops, community service events, intramural sports, Parent Weekend, and dinner exchanges in addition to parties and socials. Today’s Greek communities across the nation have adopted a stringent approach to socializing, thereby creating safer, more beneficial environments for their members.

What is the Hazing Policy?

Physical and mental hazing is banned by Marquette University, as well as by the national organizations, and by the laws of the State of Wisconsin. Marquette University’s groups recognize that hazing has no place in their organizations and have eliminated it. Marquette University does not tolerate any form of hazing whether intentional or unintentional and works with alumni and chapter members in an effort to provide members with a positive and rewarding Greek experience. Most “pledge” or new member periods are a fun way to learn the history of the chapter and national organizations, and a great way to make new friends.
What is my role as a parent?

Take time to find out more about the Greek community at Marquette University. Ask questions about what the organizations can offer your child and allow your son or daughter to make the best decisions for themselves. Once your child has made the decision to join a fraternity or sorority make sure to be supportive of their decision and to ask questions about their fraternal experience. There will also be opportunities for you to come to Marquette for Parent’s Weekend and many other things.

What is deferred recruitment?

The University has a deferred recruitment policy that does not allow first year students to join a fraternity or sorority until their second semester. This allows new students time to adjust socially and academically before making a commitment to join a Greek organization. In the beginning of the Spring semester fraternities and sororities at Marquette will host a wide array of recruitment events. The sororities offer a formalized recruitment process the second week of the Spring semester that is planned for minimal interference with class schedules. The fraternities host recruitment events at their chapter houses and off campus.

How do I join a fraternity or sorority at Marquette?

You will receive information about recruitment/intake in the mail. During orientation, there will be a Greek Life Information Session for any students to attend. There will be recruitment events during the Fall semester and any first year students who are interested in joining a fraternity or sorority are encouraged to attend the recruitment events, even though they cannot received a bid to join the organization.
Where can I go to learn more?

Contact the Office of Student Development
(414) 288-7205
www.marquette.edu/osp

National Greek Websites

National Panhellenic Conference: www.npcwomen.org
National Pan-Hellenic Council: www.nphc.org
North American Interfraternity Conference: www.nicindy.org
National Association of Latino Fraternal Organization: www.nalfo.org

Did you know?

• All but two United States Presidents since 1825 have been Greek.
• 85% of United States Supreme Court Justices since 1880 have been Greek.
• 71% of the men and women in Who’s Who in America have been Greek.
• 76% of United States Congress men have been Greek.
• 85% of all Fortune 500 Executives have been Greek.
• 63% of United States President’s Cabinet Members since 1900 have been Greek.
• Greek students rate their college life happier than other collegians.
• Greeks are more involved in campus activities and community groups after college.
• Greeks are more likely to graduate than other collegians.

http://www.mu.edu/osd/greek