# FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

## PURPOSE

The purpose for an Accountability System for Fraternity and Sorority Life at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is to encourage student-driven accountability and increase organization adherence to University requirements. This system is designed to ensure the active participation of our chapters in community initiatives, promote the growth and success of chapters, create a high-quality member experience, and to demonstrate the value of Greek-letter organizations to the UWM campus community.

## STRIKE SYSTEM

Strikes are tracked on an academic-year basis and will be automatically reset on June 1st every year. One (1) strike will be given per violation for failure to attend required events and programs or complete required paperwork submissions by the indicated deadline.

Accrual of strikes will result in the following actions:

- **Three strikes:** 2-week loss of good standing and notification to headquarters
- **Five strikes:** 4-week loss of good standing and notification to headquarters
- **Eight strikes:** Loss of good standing until an Organization Review is completed with Student Involvement staff and notification to headquarters

The dates for required events, documentation submission deadlines, and any additional Accountability System expectations will be distributed in advance of the start of each fall and spring semester. Requirements may vary between fall and spring semesters.

## GOOD STANDING VS. NOT IN GOOD STANDING

In order to maintain normal operation throughout the year, organizations must maintain good standing with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and with Student Involvement. When an organization is no longer considered "in good standing" due to an accrual of strikes under the Accountability System, organizations will be notified of any disciplinary sanctions. Potential sanctions that may be given include but are not limited to:

- restriction of use of facilities or organization resources
- required educational programs/processes
- freeze of spending on registered student organization accounts
- meeting with a university official to revise processes/procedures
- suspension/loss of registered student organization status

Loss of good standing has different parameters than conduct-related disciplinary suspensions (e.g. hazing, alcohol violations, Dean of Students investigation, inter/national headquarters-imposed sanction). Organizations considered not in good standing with the University are allowed to maintain minimal chapter operations. Disciplinary sanctions as a result of loss of good standing will be determined based on the nature of the violations of the Accountability system.

Suspected violations of the outlined parameters should be reported to the Coordinator for Greek Life and Leadership. Any reports will be investigated, and outcomes may result in additional disciplinary action.

## COMMUNICATION & NOTIFICATIONS

Upon receipt of an Accountability System strike, organizations will receive the following via UWM email:

- A letter detailing the violation and/or strikes received
- Details for required follow-up
- A copy of the Accountability System

Chapter advisors (or equivalent) will be CC'ed on all Accountability System-related communications. Organizations may appeal a strike within seven (7) days of email notification by contacting the Director of Student Involvement in writing (email or hard copy). Failure to check UWM email does not extend the appeal deadline. Appeals will be considered by the Director or their designee.

In support of transparency within the fraternity/sorority community at UWM, organization standing with the University will be made available upon request. It is the responsibility of the organization in violation of the Accountability System to notify their council and any organizations they may partner with of their current organization standing. University officials may also make this notification at their discretion. This standard of community transparency also applies to conduct-related disciplinary action (and any resulting suspension or sanctions) in the interest of student and organization safety.

Organization standing will also be shared with inter/national headquarters staff at the time a violation has occurred, in alignment with best practice. This standard also applies to conduct-related investigations, disciplinary action, and any resulting suspension or sanctions.

## GRACE PERIOD

Requirements related to paperwork and documentation submissions are eligible for a three (3) day grace period in which chapters can submit and not receive a strike under the Accountability System.

There is no grace period for required programming and meeting attendance. Required attendees for certain programs (e.g. chapter presidents for Presidents Gatherings) are permitted to send a proxy participant if they are unable to attend due to an academic class conflict. Academic conflicts will be verified by the Coordinator for Greek Life and Leadership. All other absences from required events and programming will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may result in a strike.

## ACCOUNTABILITY FOR UWM STAFF

In the interest of promoting mutual accountability, the Coordinator for Greek Life and Leadership and the Fraternity and Sorority Life graduate assistant(s) agree to timely communication of requirements and chapter compliance each semester. The semester calendar of requirements will be distributed to chapter and council leaders no less than one month prior to the start of the academic term and will include all requirements for the semester.

Any additional requirements will be developed with student input, as well as the input of campus and community partners.

**FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**

**Approval of Accountability System:**

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| Interfraternity Council President | 10/27/19<br>Date |
| Multicultural Greek Council President | 10/16/19<br>Date |
| *NOT ACTIVE 2019*<br>National Pan-Hellenic Council President | Date |
| Panhellenic Council President | 10/7/19<br>Date |
| Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. President | 9/27/19<br>Date |
| Coordinator for Greek Life & Leadership | 10/27/19<br>Date |