

## Introduction to Greek Life

Preparing to send your student to college can be a nervous and exciting time! Ball State has many opportunities available outside of the classroom to enhance the college experience. As a family member, it is important that you are aware of the benefits and enriching experiences fraternities and sororities can offer.

The Ball State University Greek community is comprised of almost **1200** members belonging to **28** national and international fraternities and sororities. With 90 years of traditions and history, fraternities and sororities have contributed to the personal development and provided a home away from home for Ball State students since 1919.

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## What's Going on in the Ball State Greek Community?

It's an exciting time in the Ball State Greek Community! In 2008, Greek students donated **9,157** hours of community service and **\$72,608** to various charities. Retention statistics also demonstrate fraternity and sorority members are more likely to stay at Ball State and graduate! We're also proud of Greek community's academic success. The Spring 2009 All-Greek Average GPA was **2.968**, ranking above the All-Ball State Average GPA of 2.932. On top of that, we're excited to report two out of the four newly elected Student Government Association officers are members of our Greek community!

Visit [www.bsu.edu/greeklife](http://www.bsu.edu/greeklife)  
for information about how to join  
a fraternity or sorority.

Office of Student Life  
Ball State University  
Muncie, IN 47306-0851

## Parent and Family's Guide to Fraternity and Sorority Life at Ball State University

**BSUGreek**  
**00901**  
90 Years of Distinction  
*... and counting.*

### Ball State University Fraternity and Sorority Life Mission Statement

The Ball State University Greek community develops men and women by fostering academic success; engaging alumni as mentors and resources; creating opportunities for personal, social and leadership development; and forging lifelong friendships.



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765.285.2621  
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***Will there be enough time?*** - - - - -

The time commitments vary from chapter to chapter. New members attend a variety of activities to meet other chapter members, learn about the organization's history and values, and develop leadership skills.

Each chapter has a weekly chapter meeting, fundraising events, community service projects, educational programs and other events that members are expected to attend.

These events are planned in advance to allow members time for studying, involvement in other organizations, work and other activities. Time spent at chapter events ensures he or she is getting the most out of the organization.

***What about my student's academics?*** - - - - -

The Greek community realizes the importance of a quality education so academic excellence is a priority.

All fraternity and sorority members are expected to fulfill their academic potential. Academic standards have been established and resources are available.

In addition, chapters have a faculty advisor or other advisor who focuses on the scholastic achievement of each member. Often chapters organize incentives and awards for members who have excelled academically.



***Should I be concerned about safety?*** - - - - -

Ball State University is dedicated to promoting a safe and healthy campus environment that fosters respect for the dignity and rights of all students.

As such, the university does not tolerate hazing activities. In addition, all fraternities and sororities are expected to uphold all federal, state and local laws and university policies regarding alcohol consumption and use.

For more information on the university hazing policy, visit [www.bsu.edu/greeklife/resources](http://www.bsu.edu/greeklife/resources).

***I was not in a fraternity or sorority, how can I learn more about it?***

The following resource may be helpful:  
**[www.bsu.edu/greeklife/join](http://www.bsu.edu/greeklife/join)**

***Isn't Greek membership expensive?*** - - - - -

Membership in a fraternity or sorority does carry a financial commitment. Each chapter is self-supporting through dues paid by all members each semester. These dues cover insurance, national/international dues and chapter operating expenses.

Financial obligations will vary from chapter to chapter so encourage your student to ask questions during the recruitment or intake process about the financial commitments associated with each chapter.

***"The Greek fraternity has helped my son be more involved with his studies, become more independent, and more mature."***

***-Parent of a BSU Fraternity member***

*We want you to know about how membership in a Ball State fraternity or sorority can benefit your student. These are a few of the questions we often receive. For more frequently asked questions and answers, please visit [www.bsu.edu/greeklife](http://www.bsu.edu/greeklife).*

***Why go Greek? What are the advantages of membership in a Fraternity or Sorority?*** - - - - -

Attending college is a major life change creating a big transition period for many students.

Fraternities and sororities enable students to meet many people through social events, service projects, recruitment and intramural events. Students quickly become connected to the university and tapped into the available resources.

Membership in a fraternity or sorority is a lifelong commitment; relationships created during college last well beyond graduation.