Greek Life at Ball State

Office of Greek Life
Mission

The Ball State University fraternity and sorority community provides a premier student development experience dedicated to a lifetime of excellence.

Values

Accountability • Diversity • Education
Integrity • Mutual Respect
Personal Development • Relationships
Leadership Opportunities

- Participate in Greek Academies, which are educational and leadership opportunity facilitated by the councils. We host four in a school year: New Member, Emerging Leader, Professional, and Officer Greek Academies.
- Serve as an executive board member on one of the three community councils comprised of member chapters/organizations.
- Join one of the three Greek honor societies: Fraternal Values Society, Order of Omega, or Rho Lambda.
## Interfraternity Council

**Organizations:** 13 fraternities

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) is a self-governing body representing member fraternities at Ball State. IFC consists of nine executive council members, a voting representative from each fraternity, and the chapter president from each fraternity.

### Who is eligible?
Men can join as early as the beginning of their freshman year. Only Ball State students are eligible to join an IFC fraternity, and each fraternity has additional requirements set by their national organizations. You must have a 2.7 GPA to join.

### How do I join?
While each IFC organization conducts their own recruitment events, schedule, and selection process, interested individuals should download the GreekLink application onto their phone. The bids are distributed and accepted through this app. If you are interested in joining, contact the IFC Vice President of Recruitment.

### Is there an IFC formal recruitment process?
No. The IFC does not organize a formal recruitment process for students interested in fraternity membership. However, each chapter participates in the Fall Activity Fair and will host its own recruitment events.

### Chapters at Ball State

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### FAQ

- **What is the Interfraternity Council?**
  The Interfraternity Council (IFC) is a self-governing body representing member fraternities at Ball State. IFC consists of nine executive council members, a voting representative from each fraternity, and the chapter president from each fraternity.

- **Are there any additional requirements for joining a fraternity?**
  Each fraternity has additional requirements set by their national organizations. You must have a 2.7 GPA to join.

- **How can I join a fraternity?**
  While each IFC organization conducts their own recruitment events, schedule, and selection process, interested individuals should download the GreekLink application onto their phone. The bids are distributed and accepted through this app. If you are interested in joining, contact the IFC Vice President of Recruitment.

- **Is there a formal recruitment process for joining a fraternity?**
  No. The IFC does not organize a formal recruitment process for students interested in fraternity membership. However, each chapter participates in the Fall Activity Fair and will host its own recruitment events.

- **What are the chapters at Ball State?**
  There are 13 fraternities at Ball State, including Alpha Tau Omega, Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Chi, Delta Tau Delta, Phi Kappa Psi, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Sigma Kappa, Sigma Nu, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Phi Delta Theta, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Phi Delta Theta.

- **What are the mottoes of these fraternities?**
  The mottoes vary, but examples include America’s Leadership Development Fraternity for Alpha Tau Omega, Friendship, the Sweetest Influence for Phi Gamma Delta, and In This Sign You Shall Conquer for Sigma Chi.

- **What are the philanthropies associated with these fraternities?**
  Philanthropies include the Alpha Tau Omega Foundation, United Service Organizations, The Red Cross, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Special Olympics, and the Ability Experience.

- **Who is eligible to join a fraternity?**
  Men can join as early as the beginning of their freshman year. Only Ball State students are eligible to join an IFC fraternity, and each fraternity has additional requirements set by their national organizations. You must have a 2.7 GPA to join.

- **What is the Fall Activity Fair?**
  The Fall Activity Fair is an event where each fraternity at Ball State hosts their own recruitment events. Students interested in joining a fraternity can download the GreekLink application and participate in the bid process through this app.
National Pan-Hellenic Council
Organizations: 7 (4 fraternities and 3 sororities)

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is a self-governing body that represents the nationally recognized historically African-American fraternities and sororities known as the Divine 9. Ball State is home to seven of the nine national organizations. Ball State NPHC is focused on contributing to the political, economic, spiritual, social, intellectual, moral welfare, and multicultural life on campus and within the community.

Chapters at Ball State

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. (ΑΦΑ)
Motto: First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All
Philanthropy: Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters
apa1906.net

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. (ΑΚΑ)
Motto: By Merit and By Culture
Philanthropy: Africare, American Heart Association, National Alliance on Mental Health
aka1908.com

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. (ΚΑΨ)
Motto: Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor
Philanthropy: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
kappaalphapsi1911.com

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. (ΩΨΦ)
Motto: Friendship is essential to the soul
Philanthropy: Habitat for Humanity, Assault on Literacy
www.oppf.org

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. (ΦΒΣ)
Motto: Culture For Service, Service For Humanity
Philanthropy: March of Dimes
phibetasigma1914.org

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. (ΖΦΒ)
Motto: A Community Conscious, Action Oriented Organization
Philanthropy: March of Dimes, American Cancer Society
zphib1920.org

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. (ΣΓΡ)
Motto: Greater Service, Greater Progress
Philanthropy: Girl Scouts of the USA, March for Babies
sgrho1922.org

FAQ

How do I join?
NPHC chapters require a 2.5 Ball State GPA. Each organization hosts events and activities that encourage participation in the community. Attending an organization’s sponsored events and ensuring you have leadership and community service experience is the best way to show interest in that organization.

What are the requirements to join?
All NPHC organizations have set requirements for those wanting to pursue membership. For example, many of the organizations require a Ball State GPA, involvement on campus, recommendation letter(s), and community service. Specific requirements are available from the chapter or national website.

What are the benefits?
The NPHC experience focuses on leadership, academics, community service, and involvement within the African-American community. Becoming involved in a NPHC organization allows you to make a large campus smaller, connect with the community, and celebrate shared values.
The Panhellenic Association (PHA) is a self-governing body that represents the member women's fraternities and sororities at Ball State. The PHA consists of nine executive council members and a voting delegate from each chapter. Our members give back to both the Ball State and Muncie communities. The PHA has adopted its own philanthropy, Circle of Sisterhood—striving to uplift girls and women from poverty and oppression through education.

Panhellenic women not only aim for excellence in their communities but also in the classroom, working to provide educational resources and programs to assist students in their coursework. That high value on academics and service is supported by lifetime friendships and connections.

How do I join?
Panhellenic formal recruitment is a structured process. Throughout the week, by a process of mutual selection, both chapters and potential new members narrow their choices. At Ball State, a majority of women obtain membership through this process; however, qualifying chapters may also offer opportunities to join throughout the year. One chapter, Gamma Rho Lambda, is affiliated with Panhellenic Association, they participate in the first round of formal recruitment, followed by individual recruitment events.

Who can register for PHA recruitment?
A woman is eligible to participate in recruitment and join a sorority if she is enrolled and has been granted full-time status. Academic recommendations for recruitment include having at least a 2.8 GPA; however, each PHA organization has specific eligibility requirements.

Registration begins June 1.
To learn more about recruitment, visit bsu.edu/campuslife/greeklife.
Terms and Definitions

**Badge/Pin**
The pin, worn on the chest, designates an initiated member of a certain fraternity or sorority.

**Bid**
A formal invitation to join a fraternity or sorority.

**Big Brother/Sister**
An older initiated member of your fraternity or sorority who serves as a mentor to a younger member, providing guidance and advice.

**Call/Chant**
A vocal sound (sometimes high-pitched) used by members of culturally based fraternities and sororities to identify their presence.

**Chapter**
A local organization of the larger national or international organization, designated by Greek letters.

**Crossed**
The actual date of initiation into a culturally based fraternity or sorority.

**Graduate Chapter**
A local chapter of a NPHC fraternity or sorority whose members have received their undergraduate degree. These chapters usually oversee and advise the local undergraduate chapter of their organization.

**Initiation**
The formal ritual ceremony that brings new members into full membership of a fraternity or sorority. Through initiation, members learn and pledge themselves to the ideals of the fraternity or sorority.

**Legacy**
A woman whose mother, sister, or in some cases, grandmother is an initiated member of a sorority. A man whose father, brother, or in some cases, grandfather is an initiated member of a fraternity. Legacy stipulations differ from each fraternity and sorority.

**Line Sisters (LS) or Line Brothers (LB)**
Individuals who are members of the same membership intake class and organization.

**Membership Intake**
The term NPHC organizations use when they bring new members into their organizations. During membership intake, individuals learn information related to an NPHC fraternity or sorority. Each NPHC group determines when they will conduct intake, and thus no two NPHC groups will conduct intake together.

**Neophyte (Neo)**
Newly initiated member of a NPHC organization.

**Neophyte Presentation**
A public presentation where NPHC organizations present their new member to the campus community.

**Pi Chi (Recruitment Counselor)**
A Panhellenic sorority member who has disassociated from her sorority during Formal Recruitment to assist potential new members through the formal recruitment process.

**Stepping**
A series of complex, synchronous and precise rhythmic movements performed to songs, stomp, or chants and created by organization members. Typically performed by culturally based Greek letter organizations.

**Strolling**
Performed by culturally based fraternities and sororities, a stroll is usually performed in unison to a song with precise and synchronized movements, possibly in a line. It may also be referred to as a party walk or strut.

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**Fast Facts**
The community is pleased to have four honor societies on campus, responsible for recognizing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and commitment to fraternity and sorority values: Fraternal Values Society, Order of Omega, and Rho Lambda.

During the spring 2017 semester, the Ball State Greek Life community GPA has been above the all campus GPA for 25 consecutive semesters in a row.

During the 2016 year, 35,749 hours of hands-on community service hours were completed by fraternity and sorority members.

During the 2016 year, $269,405 was raised for charities by the Greek community.

The total service hours and philanthropic dollars raised in the year 2016 are record breaking numbers for our community.

Total Greek community membership reached 2,335 members during the spring 2017 semester, which makes up 16.9% of the campus population.

Our Interfraternity, National Pan-Hellenic, and Panhellenic councils are award winning, as the community is continually recognized by the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values.

The community is continually educated on topics related to risk prevention. Chapters follow the Ball State Greek Life Risk Management policies, as well as FIPG guidelines to host safe events.

In addition, Ball State University and the Greek community have a zero tolerance policy for hazing.

Since the fall 2016 semester, the Greek Peer Advocate program, focused on sexual assault prevention and bystander intervention, trained over 130 students, and implemented a student leadership team model.