

# Common Terms in Greek Life

## Active (Member)

A generic term for somebody who has been initiated or crossed into a chapter.

## Advisor

An alumna or alumnus who establishes and maintains a close advisory relationship with a chapter and serves as a teacher, counselor, and friend.

## Alumni or Alumnae

Member of a fraternity or sorority who has graduated.

## “All Members”

A newsletter sent out twice a month to all members of the community, containing office updates and opportunities around campus.

## Badge/Pin

Worn by an initiated fraternity or sorority member, unique to each organization.

## “Big” Brother/Sister

An older member assigned to assist a new member or associate member. Seen as a mentor/guide for the member.

## Bid

A formal invitation to join a fraternity or sorority.

## Call

A vocal sound (sometimes high-pitched) used by members of cultural-based and USFC/NPHC fraternities and sororities to acknowledge one another.

## Chapter Designation

The collegiate group of a local, national, or international fraternity or sorority.

## **Chapter**

A meeting to discuss fraternity or sorority business.

## **Chapter Dues**

All chapters are required to pay FSP dues and council dues.

## **Individual Dues**

Members must pay dues to their organization.

## **Expansion or Extension**

The process of starting a new chapter at a campus.

## **FSP Weekly**

A weekly publication sent to Presidents and Advisors with office and campus updates.

## **Greek Jewish Society (GJS)**

A partnership program with Hillel available for all current Greek members who identify as Jewish.

## **Greek Standards Board (GSB)**

A board that handles all chapter judicial issues that do not involve harm to an individual.

## **Hazing**

Any act performed by a member of any organization that is likely to cause harm or danger, cause public embarrassment or shame, compromise a person's dignity, cause the person to be the object of ridicule, cause psychological harm, or is illegal.

## **House Corp. or Corp. Board**

A legal entity holding title to or leasing any real property for a chapter's living or meeting purposes.

## **House Director**

A person hired to live in the chapter house and supervise the chapter members and maintain the property.

## **Interfraternity Council**

Governing body for IFC fraternities. There are 10 council officers.

## **Initiation or Crossing**

The ceremony new members/Neos go through to become active members.

## **Intake**

The process by which USFC or NPHC organizations take in new members.

## **Inter/National Organization / HQ / EO**

A common way to refer to the larger fraternity or sorority with a chapter on a college campus.

## **Legacy**

A student whose mother, father, brother, sister or grandparent was a member of a particular Greek organization.

## **“Little” Brother or Sister**

The counterpart to “Big.”

## **Line**

Group of members of an organization who joined and were initiated at the same time in a USFC/NPHC organization.

## **National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)**

Both local and national coordinating body for historically African-American fraternities or sororities.

## **New Member / Neophyte / Associate Member**

Someone who is in the process of joining a fraternity or sorority.

## **New Member Class**

Group of members of an organization who joined and were initiated at the same time in the organization.

## **New Member Presents / Probate / Neophyte Showcase**

An entertaining show where newly initiated USFC/NPHC members introduce themselves to the community and share what they learned during the intake process.

## **North-American Interfraternity Council (NIC)**

The national trade organization of 75 men’s fraternities in North America and the umbrella organization for the IFC.

## **National Panhellenic Conference (NPC)**

The national group of 26 women’s sororities in North America and the Umbrella Organization for the PHC.

## **Order of Omega (OoO)**

Greek Honorary for members with high academic achievements.

### **Philanthropy Advisory Board (PAB)**

The board responsible for registering all fraternity/sorority philanthropic events, as well as enforcing philanthropy policies.

### **Panhellenic Council (PHC)**

Governing Body for 12 NPC groups and 1 non-NPC groups. There are 10 council officers.

### **Philanthropy Event**

A charity or fundraiser that the fraternity or sorority supports. Can be national, local or both. Often called a "philo."

### **Potential New Member (PNM) / Aspirant**

A term used for a student who has shown interest in fraternity or sorority recruitment, or who has registered for the formal recruitment process. Aspirant is common among USFC/NPHC organizations.

### **Presidents Forum**

Monthly meeting where Presidents and council executive leaders come together to get/give updates, and engage in professional development or a similar activity.

### **Pyrophyte**

A member of an USFC/NPHC organization who has been in the organization long enough to initiate a new line of members.

### **Recruitment Counselor (RC)**

An upper-class member of a fraternity or sorority, chosen and trained to assist PNMs with recruitment.

### **Ritual**

A ceremonial event unique to each organization that plays out the ideals and principles of that organization.

### **Rosters**

Each chapter has a roster. This is a list of their membership. To be added, students must complete the New Member Affiliation Form (it is also the FERPA release).

### **Staff Meeting**

A meeting is held each week (Tuesday's at 10:30 am). All staff and graduate interns are expected to be in attendance. Any need to miss staff meeting should be discussed with your supervisor in advance.

### **Triple S (Step, Stroll & Salute)**

USFC event in the fall where chapters showcase their unique steps, strolls, and salutes and compete. All members of the community can attend.

### **United Sorority & Fraternity Council (USFC)**

Governing body for the USFC chapters, there are 6 executive board members. Chapters that are part of NPHC are governed by USFC

### **University Recognition**

To gain access to campus use and be a true "Arizona Greek Alum" you must be a member of a chapter with "university recognition". Chapters only get university recognition by following all university/national policies.

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