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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Chapter Dues</th>
<th>Individual Dues</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A meeting to discuss fraternity or sorority business.</td>
<td>All chapters are required to pay FSP dues and council dues.</td>
<td>Members must pay dues to their organization.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expansion or Extension</th>
<th>FSP Weekly</th>
<th>Greek Jewish Society (GJS)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The process of starting a new chapter at a campus.</td>
<td>A weekly publication sent to Presidents and Advisors with office and campus updates.</td>
<td>A partnership program with Hillel available for all current Greek members who identify as Jewish.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Greek Standards Board (GSB)</th>
<th>Hazing</th>
<th>House Corp. or Corp. Board</th>
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<tr>
<td>A board that handles all chapter judicial issues that do not involve harm to an individual.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>A legal entity holding title to or leasing any real property for a chapter’s living or meeting purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<th>House Director</th>
<th>Interfraternity Council</th>
<th>Initiation or Crossing</th>
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<tr>
<td>A person hired to live in the chapter house and supervise the chapter members and maintain the property.</td>
<td>Governing body for IFC fraternities. There are 10 council officers.</td>
<td>The ceremony new members/Neos go through to become active members.</td>
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**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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