

June 27, 2016

Students:

As you may know, the USC Campus Activities and Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development departments provide support, guidance and resources to student organizations to ensure all students have access to the USC experience. To ensure the safety and well-being of students and in consultation with Risk Management and Legal Counsel, updates were recently made to the student organization recognition process and classification.

Effective fall 2016, all student organizations must complete USC's Campus Activities recognition process in order to be an officially recognized student organization (RSO). Recognition status runs for one academic year (August 1-July 31). Campus Activities will place all RSO's into four main departments of oversight:

1. Campus Activities.
2. Office of Religious Life (ORL). Religious organizations seeking recognition must complete the guidelines outlined on the Office of Religious Life website prior to receiving university recognition.
3. USC Recreational Sports/Recreation Club Council (RCC). Club sports seeking RCC recognition must adhere to the guidelines established by USC Recreational Sports.
4. Office of Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development (FSLD). Moving forward, fraternities and sororities will be recognized as those organizations that:
 - Allow single gender status for fraternities and sororities as protected under Title IX;
 - Ensure the presence of an inter/national organization for which the collegiate organization (local chapter) is legally recognized and insured;
 - Are governed under national branches and local structures of Panhellenic Council, Inter-fraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Asian Greek Council; and
 - Can provide incorporation status - federal or state - at the national or local level.

Through this transition, we recognize many professional fraternities will be affected. These organizations can begin the University Recognition process as a Registered Student Organization (RSO) for the 2016-2017 academic year directly with Campus Activities. The Campus Activities staff will help guide each organization through this process. All RSO's will have the ability to reserve meeting rooms, access banking services at the USC credit Union, use the university name, logo, or other trademarks, and have the ability to apply for university funding. **However, only organizations recognized by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development may conduct recruitment, pledging, and have new member processes.**

The 2016-2017 University Recognition period for RSO's will be from August 22nd-September 30th. Please review the University Recognition requirements on the Campus Activities website: <http://campusactivities.usc.edu/organizations/recognition/>.



In the meantime, you can reach the Campus Activities team by phone at (213) 740-5693 or visit them in Steven and Kathryn Sample Hall (SKS) 410. Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development is available at (213) 821-1639 or in Ronald Tutor Campus Center (TCC) 330.

We look forward to working with you as we transition your organization(s) into this process.



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