IFC Fraternity Recruitment Frequently Asked Questions

What is fraternity recruitment?

Fraternity recruitment, previously known as “rush,” is the process of fraternities seeking new members. Recruitment is a mutual selection process by which members of a fraternity chapter decide which men they would most like to join their fraternity. At the same time, the prospective member is deciding which fraternity most interests him.

When is recruitment?

Recruitment Dates: Thursday, August 19t – Tuesday, August 24
Recruitment will begin with a mandatory convocation on August 19, followed mandatory pre-recruitment education.

What is the Interfraternity Council (IFC)?

The IFC is the governing body of all 17 member fraternities at Louisiana State University.

Am I required to register for recruitment?

All men who wish to join a fraternity must register online. The earlier you register the better. Please visit the Greek Life website lsu.edu/greeks to find the registration link. If registration is not yet open, please check back.

When can I register for recruitment?

IFC fraternity recruitment registration opens on June 1 and will close on Friday, August 6, at 4:30 p.m.

How do I register for recruitment?

You can register online at lsu.edu/greeks.

To get started, you will need the following items:

- A laptop or desktop should be used when registering.
- Your resume. (You are not required to attach your resume to the application - information from your resume is typed into the respective fields on the application.)
- Most recent head shot photograph (i.e., senior picture).
- Credit/Debit card for your payment method of $35
- Please know it will take 30-45 minutes to complete the registration form. In addition, you are only allowed to register once. If there are duplicate registration forms from the same person, IFC reserves the right to use the first registration form completed within the system. Please make sure your information is correct when registering.
Does it cost to register for IFC recruitment?

IFC Fraternity Recruitment begins on Thursday, August 19 with mandatory Pre-Recruitment Education and concludes with Bid Day on Tuesday, August 24.

How do I decide what chapter to join?

Each person looks for different attributes in a fraternity. Each of our chapter’s focus on one or more of the following: academics, campus involvement, leadership, athletics and/or friendship. The choice is up to you, so look carefully at all the chapters and evaluate which one best meets your needs and interests.

On AVERAGE, how much does it cost to join a fraternity?

Average semester fraternity costs:
$1,100 Non-resident without meals
$1,800 Non-resident with meals
$2,800 Live-in member with meals

One-time expenses include new member fee and initiation. They range from $250–$350, while the initiation fee ranges from $200–$250.

* NOTE: All figures are averages. Some fraternities may cost less while some may cost more. You may find it financially advantageous to join a fraternity, as some groups charge less for a meal plan and housing than other options around campus.

What is a Recruitment Advisor (Rho Alpha)?

A Rho Alpha is a current member of a fraternity at LSU. As a potential new member, you will be assigned to a Rho Alpha group at the beginning of recruitment. There will be at least two Rho Alphas who will serve as leaders for your group. Your Rho Alpha can also help with any questions or concerns that you may have during the recruitment process. Rho Alpha’s are present to help and guide you, not recruit you.
May I eat meals in the Fraternity house once I am a member?

On-campus students who join a fraternity may alter their LSU Dining meal plan to eat meals in their chapter house if they offer a meal plan. Each new member is responsible for completing the meal alteration link provided by LSU Dining to the fraternity chapters in the first few days of school. The information will be provided to the new member by chapter leadership. New members should not be required to purchase a chapter meal plan.

Why is there a difference in cost from fraternity to fraternity?

The costs of fraternity fees vary from chapter to chapter. Chapter fees are utilized to help maintain the chapter house, pay yearly insurance costs, pay for national fees and services, assist with philanthropy/community service projects, assist with social and recruitment events, go toward academic scholarships, and pay for alumni functions and newsletters. In addition, some fraternity fees include meal plans.

How should a potential new member act?

Rule number one is to be yourself! You want to know what the fraternity is like and they want to get to know you.

Before I join, what do I need to know?

Joining a fraternity comes with certain responsibilities. Make sure you know all the financial obligations that are required. Furthermore, you should understand all aspects of membership required for initiation into the fraternity. If the fraternity does not offer this information, **ASK**.

How can I increase my chances of getting an invitation to join?

1. Look at as many fraternities as you can and select the ones with which you feel most comfortable, maximize your options.
2. Be positive. Do not criticize other chapters or potential new members.
3. Get to know other students. Don’t necessarily count on joining the same fraternity as your friends.
4. Ask your Rho Alpha to help you if you have any questions or concerns.
5. Register online as soon as possible to let the fraternities know you are interested.

What is an early bid?

An early bid is a bid given out by a fraternity to a potential new member before the week of formal recruitment begins (between June and August). The extension of early bids by fraternities to potential new members before formal recruitment, including those extended during the summer, shall be valid **only** if given by the President or Recruitment Chairman.
What if I am offered a bid before formal recruitment?

The IFC strongly recommends participating in the formal recruitment process. Formal recruitment is a chance to meet and interact with each fraternity. This also provides an opportunity to create relationships in multiple organizations. Fraternities may extend early bids during the summer; however, we encourage students to know their options by taking advantage of the opportunity to explore all IFC fraternities during the formal process.

What is Pre-Recruitment Education?

Pre-Recruitment Education is for any student wishing to join a fraternity. It takes place before the first round of recruitment. The purpose of Pre-Recruitment Education to prepare all potential new members with the information they need to be a successful member of the LSU Greek community.

Is Pre-Recruitment Education required?

Yes, attendance at all Pre-Recruitment Education sessions is mandatory for any student wishing to join a fraternity. Exceptions will be made for students with conflicting academic or university commitments.

I accepted an early bid over the summer, am I still expected to attend Pre-Recruitment Education?

Yes, for you to participate in recruitment events as a new member of your chapter, you must attend all Pre-Recruitment Education sessions.

Do I have to join a fraternity in the fall semester?

Most men join fraternities in the fall. Not every fraternity takes a new member class in the spring semester, though some chapters do.

What is a letter of recommendation?

A letter of recommendation is a component of sorority recruitment. You do not need recommendation letters to participate in IFC recruitment.

How long will it take to be initiated?

Depending on the fraternity, initiation could take place as early as 72 hours following your invitation to join. All fraternities at LSU must initiate new members 8 weeks after the new member process begins. This is a great question to ask the active members as you meet them during recruitment.
How can I find out about a fraternity’s standing with the university and conduct history?

It is important to do your research and have accurate information before making the decision to join a fraternity. LSU is committed to being transparent by sharing information regarding organizational conduct. The status of Greek organizations is provided on our website at https://lsu.edu/greeks/scorecard/index.php.

How can I learn about a fraternity’s accomplishments?

Information related to academics, community service, philanthropy, and awards is available on our website at lsu.edu/greeks. We also encourage you to visit individual chapter websites and social media accounts.

Are there rules I am expected to follow?

Yes, as a potential new member, you are expected to uphold the tenants of the LSU Commitment to Community. You are accountable to the LSU Code of Conduct and rules of the Interfraternity Council. You should read, review, and follow the LSU Hazing Policy, Drug Policy, Alcohol Policy, Sexual Misconduct Policy, and the 2021 IFC Recruitment Rules.

Is alcohol allowed?

No, the consumption of alcohol and possession/use of illegal substances is prohibited during any recruitment activity (summer, fall, and spring). A violation of these rules and expectations will result in removal from the recruitment process.

Where can I find answers to questions not provided here?

We are committed to supporting you and addressing any questions or concerns you may have. For additional assistance, visit us online at lsu.edu/greeks and connect with us on social media (@LSUIFC).

You are also encouraged to review the Greek Tiger publication sent directly to your inbox over the summer. If you would like to connect with a member of our term, our contact information is below.

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