

Panhellenic Community Standards

Sonoma State University



Sonoma State University Panhellenic Council has created a document of community standards to ensure that the Panhellenic community upholds the expectations of the National Panhellenic Council. These community standards are meant to protect all Panhellenic women and serve as a reminder of behavioral expectations.

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Panhellenic Creed

We, as undergraduate members of women's fraternities stand for good scholarship, for guarding of good health, for maintenance of fine standards, and for serving to the best of our ability our college community. Cooperation for further fraternity life in harmony with its best possibilities is the ideal shall guide our fraternity activities.

We, as fraternity women stand for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service through mutual respect and helpfulness is the tenet by which we strive to live.

General Panhellenic Statements

- I. Accountability
 - A. Panhellenic honors the individual chapter processes that seek to hold members accountable.
 - B. It is the expectation that chapters have and utilize individual standards procedures.
 - 1) It is the expectation that all chapters and their members adhere to Panhellenic judicial procedure.
- II. Behavioral Expectations
 - A. As members of a large Panhellenic community, we encourage and promote Greek unity at the SSU campus.
 - B. There should be absolutely no negative speaking or interacting about any Panhellenic chapters or individual members within those chapters.
 - C. We expect all members of the Panhellenic community to treat one another with equal respect, and if members fail to do so, they will face mediation with the Panhellenic Council.
 - D. Respect of all Greek organizations.
 - E. Respect of other student organizations/greater Sonoma State University student body
- III. Community Leaders
 - A. The leaders of the community are encouraged to constantly remind their chapters to adhere to the Panhellenic bylaws and promote a positive image for Greek life.
 - B. Chapter Presidents should feel comfortable to discuss any issues with another chapter by speaking with the other President.
 - C. Leaders should strive to provide a good example for their chapter members and encourage Greek unity.
 - D. It is entrusted with the Presidents that they will speak with their chapters regarding any negative interactions with another chapter, and handle the situation as best fit according to their chapter national bylaws.
- IV. Promotion of Safe Environments
 - A. The Sonoma State Panhellenic denounces any actions that may hinder the ability of any student to succeed at Sonoma State and any actions that may physically, emotionally, or mentally harm any student. These include but are not limited to:
 - 1) Unsafe consumption of alcohol and other drugs
 - 2) All forms of hazing
 - 3) All forms of sexual violence

- 4) All forms of academic dishonesty
- 5) All forms of bullying/harassment
- 6) All forms of violence

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Resolutions & Statements

I. Academic Success

- A. It is the expectation that all chapters create and implement scholastic programs with the intent of supporting and encouraging academic achievement among members.
- B. The Panhellenic Scholarship Chair will create programming that serves to support individual chapter programs and recognize those individuals within the community with high academic achievement.
- C. Chapters should strive to be above the all-women's average GPA at Sonoma State University

II. Philanthropy

A. Definition:

- 1) Philanthropy: a cause in which organizations raise money to support
 - 2) Community service: hands on volunteer work
 - 3) Events (philanthropy): events hosted by chapters with the intent of raising money for chosen philanthropy
- B. Philanthropy events are meant to raise awareness for a charity and should be based on good sportsmanship and attitude.
 - C. We encourage all chapters to attend one another's philanthropy events and support each organization's charity.
 - D. Throughout the philanthropy event, chapter members of the hosting organization are encouraged to educate participants and attendees of the non-profit organization that the event is supporting.
 - E. Philanthropy events should entice the community to participate, but will be closely monitored if the event includes physical competition. In this case, we encourage chapter members to bear in mind that the event is for a good cause, and to participate in a civil manner.
 - F. Participants, guests and the host organization members should all be sober throughout the duration of the event.

III. Programming

The Sonoma State Panhellenic recognizes the programming and educational efforts of individual chapters. Chapters should include the following programs:

A. Chapter

- 1) New members: it is the expectation that all chapters host new member education that is in alignment with national standards. New member education should not be excessive, nor infringe on the new members ability to succeed academically at Sonoma State.
- 2) Active members: it is the expectation that education should not stop after a member is initiated. Chapters should provide education on an ongoing basis.
 - a. Officers: it is the expectation that all officers will be transitioned into new positions to ensure continuity of chapter success. If officers are elected in a cycle inconsistent with Panhellenic-sponsored trainings, chapters should follow their national guidelines for officer trainings.
 - b. Record keeping: chapters will submit list of education programs annually to the Panhellenic board for record keeping.

B. Panhellenic

The Panhellenic Executive Board will implement the following programs on a yearly basis. Additional programming will be created if it serves to better the entire community.

- 1) Recruitment
 - a. Formal recruitment: the Sonoma State formal recruitment period will occur during the Fall semester of each academic year.
 - i. Spring education session: each Spring semester, Panhellenic will host a recruitment workshop for all active members who will be participating in the upcoming recruitment period. The program will cover recruitment rules, the mutual selection process, behavior expectations, and the Panhellenic judicial procedures.
- 2) New Member Education (New Member Summit)
 - a. Each Fall semester, Panhellenic will host a program for all new members of Panhellenic sororities. Panhellenic will work with the Interfraternity Council to provide joint programming if appropriate.

- b. Topics will include: alcohol awareness, hazing, academic success, behavioral expectations, sexual assault/Title IX education, etc.
 - i. It is the expectation that those women who join Panhellenic organizations during the spring semester will attend the following New Member Summit.

3) Officer Roundtables

- a. Each Spring semester, Panhellenic, in conjunction with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Multicultural Greek Council (MGC), and the Center for Student Leadership, Involvement & Service (CSLIS), will host trainings for new chapter officers.
- b. Topics will include: campus procedures, event planning, risk management, academic success, CSLIS organization expectations, council organization expectations, sexual assault/Title IX education, etc.
 - i. Officers in attendance should include, but are not limited to: President, Vice President, Risk Management, Standards/Judicial, Treasurer, Social/Event Planner, Philanthropy, Academic/Scholarship, New Member Educator, Chapter Education
 - Chapter attendance: attendance at Panhellenic events is mandatory. Panhellenic will strive to announce events at least one month prior (longer preferred). The current board will decide attendance minimums based on timeline, chapter size, program topic and location of program.

IV. Social Events

- A. The Sonoma State Panhellenic promotes activities that encourage positive social interaction with multiple organizations. Activities should not be limited to formals, but include community service, or activities that allow members to interact in a positive, sober environment.
- B. Social host responsibilities: it is the expectation that all Panhellenic organizations create, implement and educate their members on risk management procedures. These procedures should include social host

responsibilities, or the ways in which organization members are accountable during social events.

- 1.) Mixers are defined as any social interaction between two organizations (not limited to Greek organizations). Panhellenic does not recognize mixers as being official or unofficial.
- 2.) Formals/cocktails are defined as a social event hosted by a single organization at a third party venue. Chapters are expected to follow national risk management/social host guidelines before, during and after such events.
- 3.) Date contracts: Panhellenic encourages the creation and use of date contracts during all formals and cocktails. Date contracts should emphasize the responsibility of both the member and their date to abide by chapter, venue and University expectations.
- 4.) Panhellenic encourages the participation and creation of programming with the general student body and greater Rohnert Park/Cotati community.

C. Social Media

Panhellenic recognizes the value of social media to connect members and promote Greek life, Greek unity, and the Panhellenic Creed. Panhellenic encourages members to use social media in a positive way to uphold to the Panhellenic Creed.

- 1.) No Panhellenic member shall post any disparaging/negative remarks about any Greek Councils, chapters or any individual members on any social media site.
- 2.) No Panhellenic member shall post anything that conflicts with any of the NPC Unanimous Agreements, Panhellenic Bylaws or Recruitment Rules.
- 3.) No Panhellenic member that is under the age of 21 shall post pictures with or consuming alcoholic beverages on any social media site.
- 4.) No Panhellenic member shall post pictures with or consuming any illegal substances on any social media site.
- 5.) No Panhellenic member shall advertise, mention or encourage underage alcohol consumption on any social media site.
- 6.) No Panhellenic member shall advertise, mention or encourage the use of any illegal substances on any social media site.

We recognize social media standards of certain chapters may be more defined than what is outlined here. It is expected that members uphold their chapter's bylaws while simultaneously following the Panhellenic Community Standards.

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