



## University of Cincinnati Fraternity and Sorority Life Terminology

**365-Day Recruitment:** Refers to IFC fraternity recruitment process of recruiting new members year round.

**Active:** An initiated fraternity or sorority member who is affiliated with a campus chapter.

**Advisor:** An alumni member who serves as a resource for the active chapter and liaison between the alumni and collegiate members.

**Alumnae:** A graduated member of a Women's sorority/fraternity (Plural is alumnae).

**Alumnus:** A graduated member of a Men's fraternity (plural is alumni).

**Badge:** The badge of an initiated member is received during the initiation ceremony and is worn in a designated location.

**Bid:** Formal initiation for membership from a Greek-letter organization.

**Bid Day:** The last day of formal recruitment for CPH Sororities where potential members receive their bids to join a sorority.

**Big Brother/Sister:** An initiated member of a fraternity or sorority who serves as a mentor to a new member, guiding them through their new member program or initiation.

**Brother:** A term used by fraternity members to refer to one another.

**Call:** A vocal sound used by members of fraternity members to refer to one another.

**Chapter:** A term used to describe the collegiate group of a fraternity or sorority.

**Chapter House:** Central location for all chapter operations for fraternities and sororities. The Chapter House is the living space for many members of the fraternity or sorority and will often have their chapter letters posted on the house.

**Charter:** Permission from the national organization to have a chapter at a University.

**College Panhellenic Council (CPH):** CPH is the governing body for all sororities affiliated with the National Panhellenic Council (NPC).

**Colony:** A new organization that is awaiting official recognition from their national organization to have a chapter at a University.

**Crest:** Insignia used to represent each fraternity and sorority. Also referred to as coat of arms or shield.

**Crossed:** The actual date of initiation into a cultural Greek organization.

**Dues:** Monthly or semesterly costs of being in a fraternity or sorority

**Formal Recruitment:** Scheduled 2-week process for Panhellenic New Member Recruitment that occurs every fall.

**Founders Day:** Annual event for every fraternity and sorority celebrating the day of their founding and their alumni.

**Greeks:** A casual term used to describe members affiliated with Greek-lettered organization.

**Greek Week:** An annual celebration of Greek Life through a series of community wide philanthropy events team building competitive events and team building competitive events.

**Informal Recruitment:** Term used for all fraternity recruitment and occurs twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. CPH sororities may elect to participate in informal recruitment during the fall and spring semester if they are not at campus total after formal recruitment.

**Initiation:** A traditional, secret ceremony that brings new members into full Greek membership.

**Intake:** The educational process that one goes through in order to become an NPHC or multicultural chapter member.

**InterFraternity Council (IFC):** IFC is the governing body of all fraternities associated with the National InterFraternity Council (NIC).

**Legacy:** A potential member whose grandparent, parent, brother or sister is a member of a fraternity or sorority.

**Letters:** Refers to the Greek letters representing each Greek organization.

**Line:** The members of a cultural Greek organization new member's class.

**National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC):** NPHC is the governing body for all sororities and fraternity affiliated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).

**New Member:** A member who has accepted a bid from a fraternity or sorority, prior to Initiation.

**Neophyte:** New member of an NPHC organization. Also called a Neo.

**Order of Omega:** A national honor society that serves to recognize outstanding leadership in fraternity and sorority systems on college and university campuses.

**Phi Rho Chi:** A local honor society for fraternity men that exemplify excellence in leadership and recruitment not just for their own fraternity but the whole of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

**Philanthropy:** A community service and/or fund-raising project sponsored by a chapter.

**Potential Member:** An individual interested in becoming a member of a fraternity or sorority.

**New Member Presentation:** A showcase by the new members of an NPHC organization to signify the completion of their new member process.

**Quota:** The maximum number of new members that each CPH chapter can have at the end of formal recruitment.

**Rho Gamma:** A representative from a sorority that aids female potential members in the CPH formal recruitment process.

**Rho Lambda:** A national honor society for sorority women who have exhibited the highest qualities of leadership and service to their Greek Community and their sorority by promoting the values of the Greek Community throughout their years of sorority affiliation.

**Showcase Week:** Term used for the official week of scheduled recruitment events for IFC fraternities.

**Sister:** A term used by sorority members to refer to one another.

**Stepping:** An elaborate performance involving dance, marching and the traditional culture of an organization.

**Stroll:** A line dance done by members of a cultural Greek Organizations.

**Total:** The maximum number of members each CPH chapter is allowed to have.