

WSU GREEK PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE

Accreditation Program



The Center for
Fraternity & Sorority Life

2020

WSU Greek Pillars of Excellence Accreditation Program

Why Accreditation Matters

The Washington State University believes that the fraternity and sorority experience can and should be an educationally enriching and socially meaningful one that contributes to the overall sense of community on campus. While many fraternities and sororities at WSU provide this experience to their members, it is essential to develop benchmarks and expectations to ensure that all members have the opportunity to enhance their collegiate experience through fraternal membership. This will help us achieve our vision that “fraternities and sororities will be the most trusted educational organizations on the campus in the development of men’s and women’s values, leadership, relationship and citizenship”.

To this end, the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life has designed the Greek Pillars of Excellence Accreditation program to improve the management and quality of fraternity and sorority chapters at the Washington State University. This program will allow chapters to complete a *self-evaluation* of the previous year and show the chapter where growth is needed. The accreditation program will allow the University to recognize those organizations that achieve excellence. The six areas of accreditation criteria within this program are intended to help chapters understand basic expectations and identify areas of strength and weakness. The program is designed to assess chapters’ success in these six areas and provide both recognition and accountability.

Points Breakdown

Category	Category Percentage	Points Available
Grades	27%	490
Intellectual Development	9%	155
Membership Advancement	11%	195
Global Citizenship	19%	350
Leadership Development	13%	230
Positive Relationships	12%	225
Chapter Management	9%	160
Bonus		100
Total (including bonus points available)	100%	1905

Ranking Levels

<u>Gold Chapter:</u>	Excellent: Well Above Expectations, 90-100% of applicable points
<u>Silver Chapter:</u>	Good: Above Expectations, 80-89.9% of applicable points
<u>Bronze Chapter:</u>	Fair: Meets Expectations, 70-79.9% of applicable points
<u>In Need of Improvement:</u>	Poor: Does not meet expectations, below 70% of applicable points

Chapters “In Need of Improvement” must meet with CFSL staff on a regular basis for the following calendar year for additional goal setting and progress reports. It is the desire of the university that all organizations will be successful and remains an active part of our university life. The CFSL will continue to work with that organization’s representation to assist in any way possible.

Due Dates

- **October 18 by 5pm:** The final fully completed binder is due by October 18th by 5pm.

Arête Awards

Greek Pillar of Excellence Chapter

Awards

- Outstanding Intellectual Development (Scholastic Development)
- Outstanding Membership Advancement (Values Integration)
- Outstanding Global Citizenship
- Outstanding Leadership Development (Leadership Development)
- Outstanding Positive Relationship Building (Greek Unity)
- Outstanding Chapter Management
- Outstanding Social Justice Efforts
- Outstanding Citizenship (Citizenship)
- Outstanding Philanthropic Efforts (Philanthropy)
- Outstanding Event and Risk Management (Risk Management)
- Outstanding Public Relations
- Bronze Level Chapters
- Silver Level Chapters
- Gold Level Chapters
- Outstanding Chapter of the Year

Individual Awards

- Outstanding Executive Board Members
- Anita J. Cory Outstanding Delegate
- Outstanding Chapter Advisor
- Outstanding Faculty Member
- Outstanding Community Builder
- Outstanding New Member
- Outstanding Chapter President
- Outstanding Chapter Scholar
- Outstanding Council Officer
- Greek of the Year

WSU Greek Pillars of Excellence FAQs

GENERAL

What are the Greek Pillars of Excellence?

The Greek Pillars of Excellence is an accreditation program similar to your inter/national accreditation program. Each of the six categories represents a specific value of the Greek community here at WSU. All of the individual areas under each category are items that you may already perform. Each individual chapter will submit the Greek Pillars of Excellence packet answering the specific questions and submit the required supplemental material. The Greek Pillars of Excellence are a *self-evaluation*.

Are we required to participate in all listed activities or have every requirement as included in the Greek Pillars of Excellence?

No. Each of the criteria as set forth in the Greek Pillars of Excellence are recommended practices for chapters. Most of the activities and requirements are the minimum that most organizations already require. Your chapter already performs these tasks on a daily basis. These criteria are values congruent with each of our organizations. Some organizations will attempt to do everything while others may be content with their normal chapter operations. The Greek Pillars of Excellence criteria were determined by CFSL staff and peer institutions on what we believe a stellar fraternity or sorority would operate as. You can choose what you want to do. If you choose to do one particular item, you get the points for that particular criterion. The entire purpose of the Greek Pillars of Excellence is to provide each fraternity and sorority a venue to showcase their organizations' successes.

When do the Greek Pillars of Excellence take place?

The Greek Pillars of Excellence assessment period starts on October 16, 2019 and will end on October 15, 2020. There will be specific categories where data from the previous fall semester will be utilized (e.g. Fall chapter GPA, Fall community service hours, etc.).

How many points are possible?

There are a total of 1905 points possible for each chapter to amass. It is up to each individual chapter on how many points you earn. If there are particular categories that your organization have documentation or bylaws prohibiting your from doing, your organizations total will be reduced.

JUDGING

Will my organization be ranked against peers?

Each individual organization will be assigned one of the four categories as detailed in the Greek Pillars of Excellence packet. Chapters who receive one of the top three categories will receive an award for their exemplary work. The Greek Pillars of Excellence are a *self-evaluation*. Your organization will not be compared to another organization. You will be provided the opportunity to showcase your organization's successes, which will be the only criteria the judges will look at.

Will my organization be judged on criteria that my national organization prohibits?

Each individual chapter will be judged on their own individual merit. As such, there is opportunity to take into account a specific organization's overall policies and procedures. You will not be penalized for the unique organization that you are.

For example, your national organization prohibits you from having two recruitment classes per year. The total possible points you could receive for new member GPA is 20 points per semester. The maximum amount of points for the entire Greek Pillars of Excellence you would be eligible to receive would then be reduced by 20 points.

ORIGINAL TOTAL MAXIMUM POINTS: 1905
MINUS NEW MEMBER GPA INELIGIBLE FOR: 20
TOTAL POSSIBLE NEW MAXIMUM POINTS: 1885

Each organization will have varying levels of maximum points based on what their organization can specifically do.

What if my organization receives the "in need of improvement" designation?

The CFSL will continue to work with that organization's representation to assist in any way possible. This should be viewed as a positive. This is not a penalty.

How can my Chapter win Chapter of the Year?

For chapters to receive chapter of the year, they must receive the highest number of points in comparison to their peers, as well as have been an active participant in hallmark events throughout the year (eg: Greek Leadership Camp).

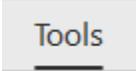
Can I use duplicate answers?

Yes! It is important to "work smarter, not harder". As such, if you notice that what you do in one category would apply to another, please use that as your answer!

How do I Do GPOE:

1. Review the Excel Document “Greek Pillars of Excellence 2020”
Each item in that document is numbered:

#	Focus
9	Chapter has an internal standards process and utilizes it to hold itself accountable. Chapter publicizes the standards, policies and procedures to all active members.
9.1	Yes
	No

2. For each item please produce appropriate documentation and save it as a PDF
 - a. If you are uploading multiple pages (for example 3 pages of bylaws) please be sure to highlight the section of the document and comment the item number that the highlighted section is in response to.
3. Open Adobe Acrobat on your computer, and combine documents into a single binder:
 - a. To do that, open Acrobat, and select Tools at the top of the screen

 - b. Then select “Combine Files” to create a single PDF with all of your documentation.
4. Upload your PDF and your completed Excel Document to your chapter folder
 - a. To obtain access to your Chapter folder please contact your Greek Leadership Assistant:
 - i. IFC – Andrew Thomas Andrew.b.thomas@wsu.edu OR IFC – Zach Thornton Zachary.thornton@wsu.edu
 - ii. PAN – Hailey Palm Hailey.Palm@wsu.edu
 - iii. MGC & NPHC – Jasmine.m.contreras@wsu.edu
5. Win lots of awards!

How do I compile my binder?

Each question throughout GPOE is numbered. Please attach appropriate evidence in a PDF binder (instructions above), numbering each document in GPOE matching those numbers to questions. In the case where you are submitting bylaws or other broad documentation, please highlight the portion of your evidence that you feel identifies your organization meets each criteria and label it with the question it is referring to (i.e. 3.4, 5.6, etc.).

For the excel document, simply enter an “X” or the number for each question. The total points earned will add up automatically.

Upload the completed excel file to your folder so that we can input the Grade section. The grade section will be completed during the review of your binder after you submit it.

When is it all due?

October 18th, 2020 by 5:00pm

Your chapter can submit your binder early for a draft initial review by your CFSL advisor. They will review your binder and provide feedback on how you can better explain or provide evidence for the various sections. The final fully completed binder is due on October 18th by 5pm.