Greek Life Accreditation Program: Ball State University
Office of Greek Life (OGL), Interfraternity Council (IFC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), & Panhellenic Association (PHA).

What is the Accreditation Program?
The Ball State University Accreditation Program is the process of reviewing chapters for the attainment of minimum expectations as well as chapter-focused outcomes. The purpose is to ensure chapters are relevant to their inter/national organization, governing council, and Ball State University. All chapters are required to take part in the annual review.

How does my chapter develop an accreditation plan?
• Chapters can make their experience their own as long as it supports the mission of their organization and reinforces the chapter’s relevancy and fraternal values.
• Each year, chapters will set outcomes for the upcoming year (one academic year) and record action taken to achieve the outcomes from the previous year.
• Chapters will review their own inter/national organization’s mission and demonstrate that they are achieving outcomes in relation to their mission.
• Chapters should consider the mission of their inter/national organizations as they relate to the areas of accreditation when demonstrating their achievement of outcomes.

What are the Areas of Accreditation?
1. Academic Achievement
   • Implementation of programs related to scholastic endeavors
     • Including, but not limited to:
       ▪ Providing resources to underachieving members
       ▪ Acknowledgement of achieving members
       ▪ Implementation of academic goals and expectations
     • Minimum Expectations
       ▪ Chapters must maintain a 2.5-chapter semester grade point average. In the instance a 2.5-chapter grade point average is not met, the chapter must develop a plan to obtain a 2.5-chapter grade point average the following semester.

2. Intake & Chapter Promotion
   • Intake of new members and retention of new membership through sustainable and safe intake practices
     • Including, but not limited to:
       ▪ Intake training/certifications
       ▪ Activities and events that promote the chapter on campus
       ▪ Informational or interest meetings

3. Community Outreach and Philanthropic Endeavors
   • Commitment and participation in service, volunteerism, and philanthropic endeavors
     • Including, but not limited to:
       ▪ Chapter and council
       ▪ Service to the Muncie or other communities (not on campus)
       ▪ Awareness and donations for philanthropic causes/organizations
       ▪ Fundraising for chapter/philanthropy
4. Risk Reduction
   o Implementation, education, management, and reduction of high risk behavior
   o **Including, but not limited to:**
     - Hazing
     - Alcohol abuse
     - Sexual assault/misconduct
     - Drug use
     - Mental wellness
     - Eating disorders
     - All other FIPG related behaviors
   o **Minimum Expectations**
     - Chapters must participate in Greek Peer Advocate trainings to their entire membership.
     - 40 plus member organizations/chapters will need to complete 4 per calendar year.
     - 39 or less member organizations/chapter will need to complete 2 per calendar year.
     - Chapters should not have any major judicial violations for the previous year.
     - **Including, but not limited to:**
       - Sexual assault/misconduct
       - Hazing
       - Drugs
       - Continuous mismanagement of alcohol

5. Membership Development
   o Education and development of active and new members
   o **Including, but not limited to:**
     - New member education
     - Ritual education
     - Campus leadership and involvement
     - Personal and professional development
     - Diversity/Inclusion initiatives
   o **Minimum Expectations**
     - Chapters must individually track their chapter attendance at Fall & Spring Greek Academies.
     - Chapters must have a representative present at the Leadership Summit, hosted in January of each year

6. Chapter Operations
   o Information regarding chapter logistics
   o **Including, but not limited to:**
     - Management of property
     - Chapter finances
     - Development of chapter structure and organization
     - Officer transition
     - Policies and procedures
   o **Minimum Expectations**
     - Chapters must offer the timely payment of dues or develop a payment plan with appropriate council.
• Chapters must ensure their chapter members track their on campus involvements through BennyLink.
• Chapters must submit all essential documents in accordance with the Office of Greek Life/governing council policies for effective and efficient information management.
• Chapters must maintain recognition as an official Ball State University student organization including updating chapter’s BennyLink page with events, roster, and chapter information.
• Chapters must have an active faculty advisor and primary advisor.
• Chapters must participate in the Accreditation Program.

7. Relationships
   • Cultivation of partnerships with various constituents and audiences
   • Including, but not limited to:
     ▪ Public relations
     ▪ Alumni
     ▪ Interfraternal organizations
     ▪ Student organizations
     ▪ Inter/National Headquarters
     ▪ Faculty/staff
     ▪ Parents
   • Minimum Expectations

   • Chapters must attend appropriate council meetings, this includes attendance at council meetings in accordance with governing council’s constitution/bylaws and all events deemed “mandatory” by the governing council and announced at least two weeks in advance of event.
   • Chapters must demonstrate a connection with their (inter)national organization.

How will my chapter’s accreditation plan be evaluated and reviewed?

• The areas of accreditation are based on the chapter’s ability to demonstrate relevance to their mission.
• Each chapter will submit and present an accreditation plan annually prior to Thanksgiving Break to the Accreditation Committee.
• The Accreditation Committee will evaluate achievement of chapter outcomes as defined in the chapter’s one-year accreditation plan.

Scoring Section

• Chapters will be given a mark of Outstanding, Meets, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, or Unacceptable in each of the Areas of Accreditation by the Accreditation Committee.
• A chapter’s score is based on the percentage of goals achieved in each of the areas of accreditation
  ▪ Outstanding – Above 100.1%
  ▪ Meets: 80% – 100%
  ▪ Satisfactory: 60% – 79.999%
  ▪ Needs Improvement: 35% – 59.999%
  ▪ Unacceptable: 0% – 34.999%
• Regardless of the mark a chapter receives, all chapters will receive feedback as appropriate from the advising Office of Greek Life staff person. Feedback will consider remarks of the Accreditation Committee and be formatted to share with the chapter. Such items include: areas for potential growth, tips for better presentation of the proposal, and areas in which the chapter is performing at the highest level.
What happens if my chapter is unaccredited?

- Underperforming chapters will improve chapter outcomes in the deficient area(s) with guidance from the Assistant or Director of Greek Life.
- Chapters must show signs of improvement to achieve accreditation.
- Improvement is defined as utilizing your plan from last year to show current improvement as it relates to your accreditation this year.
- Chapters underperforming for greater than one year without signs of progress will be further reviewed, and the Accreditation Committee may recommend these chapters’ recognition be revoked.

What is the timeline for the Accreditation Program?

- **January/February**: Chapters will formulate and review their plan with advisors and past leadership and begin implementing their chapter accreditation plan
- **January – November**: Chapters are encouraged to meet with their accreditation advisor regularly and continue to work towards chapter outcomes outlined in their accreditation plan
- **November**: Chapters will prepare and present their accreditation plans to the Accreditation Committee.

Who will evaluate my chapter?

- Accreditation Committee
  - This committee will include the Director and Assistant Director of Greek Life to review all chapters’ documentation.
  - Each chapter will have two additional committee members who review and score their presentation and documentation. This will include one at large student representative and one alumni representative that is a member of an organization within that council. Alumni representatives need not be alumni of the Ball State chapters specifically. In total four committee members will evaluate each chapter.

When are chapters recognized for their achievement?

- Exemplary chapters in relation to accreditation will be recognized at the Grand Chapter Awards Ceremony held in February.
- The Outstanding Chapter award for each council is determined based on the chapters’ accreditation score. The chapter with the highest score receives this award.