



Policies & Procedures Manual

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Greek Life at Rhode Island College is committed to the high standards of scholarship, brotherhood, sisterhood, leadership, and service to the campus and community. Recognized Greek Organizations, Recognized Interest Groups, colonies, and chapters will be held responsible for upholding these standards and will be required to follow the policies and procedures established by the College. (Local organizations that are not recognized by the College are not subject to these policies and procedures, but are subject to applicable College policies and Codes of Conduct.)

Recognition information, procedures, and guidance can be obtained through the Office of Student Activities located in the Student Union. The Dean of Students and/or Greek Life Advisor reserves the right to revoke College recognition if a fraternity or sorority fails to comply with any of these policies and procedures .

1.2 MISSION STATEMENTS

1.2.1 Rhode Island College

As a leading regional public college, Rhode Island College personalizes higher education of the finest quality for undergraduate and graduate students. We offer vibrant programs in arts and sciences, business and professional disciplines within a supportive, respectful and diverse community. Dedicated faculty engage students in learning, research, and career attainment, and our innovative curricula and co-curricula foster intellectual curiosity and prepare an educated citizenry for responsible leadership.

1.2.2 Student Success Division

The Division of Student Success facilitates the academic success, personal growth and well-being of all students. The Division of Student Success recruits, enrolls, transitions and connects students to the college and to their future, building communities that foster progress toward degree completion and deep affinity to Rhode Island College.

1.2.3 Greek Life Mission

Greek Life at Rhode Island College is dedicated to enhancing student development and the overall collegiate experience of its fraternity, sorority, and society members. Organizations and members are assisted in achieving success in academics, leadership, community service and philanthropy, personal growth, and brotherhood/sisterhood/siblinghood bonds. The overall Greek Life mission is to complement the mission of Rhode Island College in collaboration with other departments, advisors, and international offices.

2. GREEK COUNCILS

2.1 NATIONAL COUNCILS OF FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2.1.1 National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, Inc. (NALFO)

The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, Inc. was established in 1998 to promote the advancement of Latino/a fraternities and sororities. Today NALFO networks with 16 member Latino/a fraternities and sororities that are bound by a shared commitment to fraternal unity and the values that Latino/a fraternal life entails. The purpose of NALFO is to promote and foster positive interfraternal relations, communication, and development of all Latino/a fraternal organizations through mutual respect, leadership, honesty, professionalism and education. <http://www.nalfo.org/>

2.1.2 National Panhellenic Conference (NPC)

The National Panhellenic Conference provides support and guidance for its 26 member inter/national sororities/women's fraternities and serves as the national voice on contemporary issues of sorority life. Founded in 1902, NPC is one of the oldest and largest women's membership organizations representing more than 4 million women at 655 college/university campuses and 4,500 local alumnae chapters in the U.S. and Canada. Each year, NPC-affiliated collegians and alumnae donate more than \$5 million to worthy causes, provide \$2.8 million in scholarships to women and volunteer 500,000 hours in their communities.

<https://www.npcwomen.org>

2.1.3 National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHC)

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated is currently composed of nine International Greek letter Sororities and Fraternities. NPHC promotes interaction through forums, meetings and other mediums for the exchange of information and engages in cooperative programming and initiatives through various activities and functions. The stated purpose and mission of the organization in 1930 was "Unanimity of thought and action as far as possible in the conduct of Greek letter collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider problems of mutual interest to its member organizations." Early in 1937, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois and became known as "The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated."

<http://www.nphcq.org/>

2.1.4 North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC)

Founded in 1909, the North-American Interfraternity Conference is the trade association representing 66 International and National Men's Fraternities. The NIC serves to advocate the needs of its member fraternities through enrichment of the fraternity experience; advancement and growth of the fraternity community; and enhancement of the educational mission of the host institutions. The NIC is also committed to enhancing the benefits of fraternity membership through its relationship with Interfraternity Councils. Today, the NIC has 75 member organizations with approximately 5,500 chapters located on 800+ campuses in the United States and Canada with approximately 350,000 undergraduate

members. The NIC is led by a Board of Directors comprised of nine volunteers from member fraternities. The headquarters and professional staff are located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

<http://www.nicindy.org/>

2.1.5 National Multicultural Greek Council (NMCG)

The National Multicultural Greek Council is an umbrella council for a coalition of Multicultural Greek-letter organizations (MGLOs) established in 1998. The purpose of NMGC is to provide a forum that allows for the free exchange of ideas, programs, and services between its constituent fraternities and sororities; to promote the awareness of multicultural diversity within collegiate institutions, their surrounding communities, and the greater community-at-large, and to support and promote the works of its member organizations.

<http://nationalmgc.org/>

2.2 Presidents' Meetings

All Recognized Greek Organizations' presidents are required to attend **Presidents' Meetings** as scheduled throughout the semester. Other representatives from the organizations may attend if necessary. The Greek Life Advisor will oversee these meetings which bring together members of all recognized organizations to discuss Greek-wide initiatives and planning. This is not a separate student organization from the councils, therefore no officers are selected. Presidents must attend every meeting and if they are unable to attend for any reason, must send another executive board member from their organization in their place.

When New Greek organizations are recognized by the College, they must begin to attend Presidents' Meetings regardless of status.

2.3 Governing Boards At Rhode Island College

Greek organizations are categorized based on the national council to which their national organization belongs (NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO, and NMGC). This model is replicated at the college level with governing boards developed based on the organizations represented on campus. The boards are comprised of elected members from each group of organizations and provide leadership, programming, and regulations for their member organizations.

3. ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION & REQUIREMENTS

Recognized Greek Organizations must have group requirements and standards to be considered active on RIC's campus and through national recognition. This includes a roster size determining how many individuals are active within an organization each semester, academic requirements with minimum GPAs for organizations based on national and Chapter Standards, and the lists of Rights And Responsibilities for Chapters and the College.

3.1 Types Of Recognition

Any social Greek organization with a selective membership process must obtain College recognition through the Student Activities Office in the Student Union to use campus facilities and function on the campus. This recognition is conditional and exists at the authorization of the Dean of Students and/or the Greek Life Advisor. There are two types of recognition on Rhode Island College's campus for Greek organizations:

1. Recognized Greek Organization
2. Recognized Interest Group

A current list of Recognized Greek Organizations may be found on RIC's Greek Life website: <http://www.ric.edu/student-activities/Pages/SA-Greek-Life.aspx>

3.1.1 Recognized Greek Organization

This is an organization that has been granted all rights, privileges, obligations, and appropriate use of College resources as a fraternity or sorority. These organizations must be affiliated with and recognized by a national organization.

3.1.2 Recognized Interest Group

This is a temporary status, during which time a newly-formed group of interested potential members, group of transferred members of an organization, or a re-establishing chapter must attempt to meet the requirements for Recognized Greek Organization status. To achieve this status, the group must submit the appropriate paperwork to the Office of Student Activities and meet membership requirements as outlined in **Section 3.6: Expansion Policy** below. Exceptions or extensions may be granted by the Office of Student Activities.

3.2 Rhode Island College Greek Life Relationship Statement

The earliest record of a social Greek-lettered organization at Rhode Island College is from 1927. Since then, there have been years with a number of these organizations recognized on campus, and years where none have been present. The college made a re-commitment to Greek Life in *Vision 2015: Rhode Island College Strategic Plan for 2010-2015* and began the current iteration of the program in fall 2011.

In a continued effort to move Greek Life forward, the *Rhode Island College Greek Relationship Statement* was adopted. This document was created based on input from fraternity and sorority leaders and advisors during the 2014-2015 academic year and similar documents from other institutions. This document outlines the rights and responsibilities of both the chapters and the college.

3.2.1 Chapter Rights and Responsibilities

Fraternity and sorority chapters and colonies have the following rights and responsibilities:

- To provide a positive, ethical, and safe experience for their potential, new, and active members that upholds high academic standards.
- To select their own members based on chapter and national standards while following non-discriminatory practices.
- To be self-governing organizations with the assistance of the Greek, faculty/staff, and alumni advisors.
- To use the college's name in association with the organization and its activities.
- To register their organization annually.
- To provide documentation as requested, including but not limited to: rosters, anti-hazing agreements, grade waivers, intake forms, **advisor contact information**, etc.
- **To provide a copy of their insurance policy annually, reflecting a minimum of \$1,000,000 in general liability coverage and with Rhode Island College listed as additional insured.**
- To actively participate in their respective governing council, if available.
- To participate in programs hosted by Greek Life and their respective governing council.
- To participate in philanthropic and service events in the community.
- To support other chapters and their members by upholding the spirit of Greek Unity.
- To carry their own liability insurance.
- To uphold the policies and procedures outlined in the *Student Handbook*; the *Greek Life Policies & Procedures Manual*; the appropriate governing council constitution and bylaws; and individual national and chapter bylaws.

3.2.2 College Rights and Responsibilities

Rhode Island College has the following rights and responsibilities:

- To take actions that will foster the organization providing a positive, ethical, and safe experience for potential, new, and active members that upholds high academic standards.
- To employ a staff person whose responsibility includes general advising and oversight of chapters and governing councils.
- To provide leadership development and educational opportunities for Greek members.
- To meet with chapter and council presidents on a mutually determined basis.

- To support and promote Greek life at the college.
- To provide the services and resources available to all student organizations recognized by the Office of Student Activities.
- To inform members about policy changes, and allow participation in the policy creation process when possible and appropriate.
- To maintain membership and GPA records.
- To facilitate partnerships between chapters/councils and other campus offices and external agencies.
- To maintain a transparent partnership with chapters' headquarters staffs.

3.3 Roster Size

For recognition at Rhode Island College, each fraternity and sorority must maintain a minimum of one active member at all times **or** the minimum requirement from their inter/national organization.

Should an organization's membership fall below the roster minimum, the national organization or their approved representatives will have two semesters to recruit and educate active members. The Office of Student Activities will work with the inter/national designee or regional representative to complete new member education. It is the responsibility of the inter/national or regional representatives to initiate, plan, and conduct all aspects of the New Member Education program. Failure to do so will result in a loss of college recognition.

3.4 Academic Requirements

Recognized Greek Organizations with a cumulative GPA below 2.50 will be placed on academic probation with the Office of Student Activities. During that time, the Scholarship Chair (or similar position) and President of the Organization will work directly with the Greek Life Advisor to create and implement an academic plan for the organization. The organization will have a designated time (typically no more than 2 semesters) to bring the cumulative GPA to a 2.50 or above, during which time the organization will be on academic probation. Failure to do so will result in the organization's loss of college recognition except in extraordinary circumstances. If the inter/national organization has higher academic requirements or regulations on active status, the organization must follow the higher of the two for GPA and rules on active status.

The Greek Life Advisor will calculate the organization's cumulative GPA based on active members' GPA information and determine the status of the organization for the following semester. Organizations may contact the Greek Life Advisor ahead of time to put together a plan if they feel their group is in jeopardy of being on academic probation for a semester. Academic probation could include a loss of rights and increased responsibilities and requirements. This is determined on a case-to-case basis by the Greek Advisor, Student Union/Student Activities staff, and the Dean of Students.

3.5 Failure To Comply

If a Recognized Greek Organization, or Recognized Interest Group fails to comply with the Active Member Requirements, Academic Requirements, and/or the Rights & Responsibilities listed, the Office of Student Activities may put the group on probation which could lead to loss of recognition by the College. The terms of the probation will be decided on an individual basis dependent upon the violation.

3.6 EXPANSION POLICY

Rhode Island College has recognized the importance of Greek organizations to its campus. However, the College also acknowledges many organizations have a process before coming onto a college/university. Organizations should be aware that there is a process that new organizations must follow to expand. Unless a different process is outlined in a respective council, the process is:

1. Fill out an expansion application, found on the Greek Life website: <http://www.ric.edu/student-activities/Pages/SA-Greek-Life.aspx>
2. The application is reviewed by a committee comprised of one representative from each recognized Greek organization and the Greek Life Advisor (*ex-officio*). The committee decides by simple majority whether or not to move forward with the expansion process. This decision will be based on the content of the application and the number of other organizations currently expanding or seeking expansion opportunities at RIC. Organizations that are denied and invitation have the right to submit an appeal to the Dean of Students in writing within two weeks of the committee's decision.
3. If invited, the organization hosts an open presentation on campus.
4. The same committee makes a recommendation to the appropriate college staff and administration about the potential organization's recognition based on the organization's application and presentation content, its compliance with our policies, current and anticipation headquarters and alumni support, and potential viability as a member of the RIC Greek Community.
5. The appropriate college staff and administration make a final decision about the organization's recognition and, if approved, will work with the organization on a mutually-agreed-upon expansion timeline.

Effective Fall 2019, any newly recognized organization that has not inducted new members within three semesters will lose their recognition. This timeline may be extended by the Office of Student Activities in writing. Organizations that lose recognition through this process may appeal to the Dean of Students in writing within two weeks of being given notice that they will lose recognition.

Visit the RIC Greek Life website to obtain the *National Expansion Application* or the *Greek Life Interest Group Application*. Visit the RIC Greek Life website to obtain the forms: <http://www.ric.edu/student-activities/Pages/SA-Greek-Life.aspx>

3.7 Statement On Unrecognized Or Banned Organizations

Recognized Greek Organizations have oversight from the college and are provided specific training on policies and practices to encourage a positive and safe experience. Students are

encouraged to only affiliate with those Greek-letter organizations that are recognized by the College. Further, Greek Organizations are encouraged to not co-sponsor events with unrecognized or banned organizations.

4. INDIVIDUAL MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

4.1 Fundamental Obligations Of Membership In A Fraternity Or Sorority:

- I will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity.
- I will respect the dignity of all persons; therefore, I will not physically, mentally, psychologically, or sexually abuse or haze any human being.
- I will protect the health and safety of human beings.
- I will respect my property and the property of others; therefore, I will neither abuse nor tolerate the abuse of property.
- I will meet my financial obligations in a timely manner.
- I will neither abuse nor support the use of illegal drugs.
- I will neither abuse nor support the abuse of alcohol.
- I will know and understand the ideals expressed in my ritual and incorporate them into my daily life.
- I will challenge all my fraternity/sorority members to abide by these obligations and will confront those who violate them.

4.2 Academic Requirements

To be an active member of a fraternity or sorority, a student must meet some preliminary expectations. Consistent with the mission of Rhode Island College, Student Success Division, and Greek Life, a student's first priority must be academic success. While a co-curricular experience is a rich and essential component of a student's educational experience at college, it is a privilege to participate in a fraternity or sorority. These expectations for membership are also consistent with the individual organization's expectations.

All members give permission to the Office of Student Activities to verify their cumulative and semester GPAs **prior to accepting a bid** via signatures on the online *Greek Life Interest Form*, the *Greek Potential New Member Academic Release Form*, and/or through Panhellenic Recruitment registration. Chapter averages will be compared to the all-students' GPA, and all-men's or all-women's GPA, and shared with regional or inter/national offices, as requested.

All fraternity/sorority members must:

- Be matriculating students at RIC.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0* to remain active within the organization
 - Fraternity/sorority members who fall below a 2.0 cumulative GPA will be considered on academically inactive status by the Office of Student Activities. This means a member may continue to be placed on the chapter roster, however, they cannot participate in campus wide fraternity/sorority events.
- Have a semester GPA at or above a 2.0
 - If a chapter member falls below a 2.0 for a semester, but their cumulative GPA is higher than a 2.0, they may remain active in the organization but must attend

- study hours weekly & follow an academic program designed by their individual organization.
- If the semester GPA is less than a 2.0 two semesters in a row, members will be considered on academically inactive status by the Office of Student Activities and must follow the restrictions outlined above.
 - Following the college's Academic Probation policy, all officers must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA

*Some organizations have higher GPA requirements. Listed above are the College minimum standards. If higher, individuals must follow their respective organization's requirements.

5. NEW MEMBER GUIDELINES

5.1 New Member Requirements

Below are the college's requirements for all new members. Some organizations may have stricter GPA or class standing requirements to join.

- Must be a matriculating student at RIC.
- Must meet the requirements as outlined by each individual organization.
- Must have a high school or college cumulative GPA of at least 2.25 (based on a 4.0 scale)*
- Must sign the *Greek Life Interest Form*, the *Greek Potential New Member Academic Release Form*, or register for Panhellenic Formal Recruitment.
- If this is their first semester at Rhode Island College, they must also submit their most recent transcript from high school (first-year students) or their last college (transfer students) to the Office of Student Activities.
- **Grades must be verified by the Office of Student Activities prior to a bid being distributed.** The Greek Life Advisor will communicate with the chapters which of the students interested in joining meets the GPA requirements.

* This GPA requirement may be temporarily waived under a grace period for students who are registered with the Disability Services Center with a documented disability that could impact their GPA. Cases will be considered on an individual basis and will require a letter from the Disability Services Center verifying this request. Please contact the Disability Services Center for more information (<http://www.ric.edu/disabilityservices>).

5.2 New Member Education Guidelines

New Member Education is a pre-scheduled and pre-approved program through which students become active members of a fraternity or sorority. The process of choosing to join a particular organization is that of mutual selection. Eligible students are encouraged to learn as much as they can about each organization before they chose one to join.

5.3 New Member Education Permissible Activities

The following list offers examples of new member education activities which are permitted:

- **Instruction in the History and Philosophy of the Organization**
 - The role of Greek organizations in higher education, relationship of chapters to national or regional groups, financial responsibilities, scholarship, alumni relations, chapter management, brotherhood/sisterhood, group behavior/communications, leadership and life skills, and respect for self and others.
- **Community Service Programs**
 - Funding-raising events for non-profit organizations & charities, academic tutorials or study groups, volunteer mentorship of underclassmen, youths and children, etc.

- **Cultural Programs**
 - Sponsorship of speakers, workshops or seminars or social events to promote respect for others, social justice, and diversity.
- **Social Programs and Recreational Activities**
 - Dances, athletic/non-athletic games, parties and other forms of social events that promote a sense of friendship and group camaraderie, and which are conducted in a responsible manner.
- **Meetings**
 - Periodic required business meetings of the new member class, where attendance at such meetings is a reasonable requirement and does not interfere with class, study, or sleep time, and is intended to promote group development, accomplishment of legitimate projects, and teach group leadership and organizational skills.
- **Conduct & Common Sense.**
 - Respect for the College and our community is essential. Opportunities for building relationships between students and the community are encouraged. Students are required to conduct themselves responsibly. No new member activity or intake education instruction should disturb the quality of life in residence and dining halls or the quality of education in academic or administrative buildings.
 - Common Sense should prevail. If in doubt about an activity, consult with the Dean of Students, Greek Life Advisor, or the Office of Student Activities.

6. CHAPTER EVENTS

An event may be deemed as a Greek event if any of the following criteria are proven:

1. Event is paid for by the organization with organization funds.
2. Event is endorsed by the organization.
3. The governing boards have knowledge of the event.
4. At least 50% of the organization's membership is in attendance.
5. The average RIC student would associate the event with the Greek organization in question.

Events which occur on campus should be shared with the Greek Life Advisor. These events do not need approval from the Greek Life Advisor, but should be included in the organization's semester calendar. Examples of events on campus include:

1. Community Service
2. New Member Activities
3. Chapter Meetings
4. Recruitment / Rush Activities
5. Philanthropic / Charity Fundraisers
6. Co-sponsored activities with other student organizations

Any event with alcohol present must:

1. Be registered by submitting a Student Activities **Rhode Island College Off-Campus Events Registration Form** and **Third Party Vendor Contract** at least 10 business days in advance of the event, and an **Off-Campus Event with Alcohol Guest List** at least one business day in advance of the event.
2. Alcoholic beverages must be provided and sold on a per-drink basis by a licensed and insured third-party vendor (e.g. restaurant, bar, caterer, etc.)
3. Alcoholic beverages must not be purchased with chapter/organizational funds or funds pooled by members or guests (e.g. admission fees, cover fees, "slush funds," collecting funds electronically through apps)
4. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor, or in any way participate in, an activity or event with another group or entity that purchases or provides alcohol.
5. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor an event with a bar, event promoter or alcohol distributor; however, a chapter/organization may rent a bar, restaurant, or other licensed and insured third-party vendor to host a chapter/organization event.
6. Attendance by non-members at any event where alcohol is present must be by invitation only, and the chapter/organization must utilize a guest list using the **Off-Campus Event with Alcohol Guest List**. Attendance at events with alcohol is limited to a 3:1 maximum guest-to-member ratio and must not exceed local fire or building code capacity of the chapter/organizational premises or host venue. "Members" must be active undergraduate members in attendance. Inactive

members and alumni may attend as guests. **Required use of the Guest List may be waived by the Office of Student Activities in writing prior to the event.**

7. Any event or activity related to the new member joining process (e.g., recruitment, intake, rush, etc.) must be substance free. No alcohol or drugs may be present if the event or activity is related to new member activities, meetings, or initiation into an organization, including but not limited to “bid night,” “big/little” events or activities, “family” events or activities and any ritual or ceremony.
8. The chapter/organization, members or guests must not permit, encourage, coerce, glorify or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.

These policies are based on the NIC Alcohol and Drug Guidelines

7. ADVISOR INFORMATION

7.1 Greek Life Advisor

The Greek Life Advisor is the appointed staff member at Rhode Island College who oversees social Greek organizations.

7.2 Faculty/Staff Advisor

Every student organization at Rhode Island College is required to have a faculty or staff advisor, whose function is to serve as a mentor, guide, and support to the group. It is important that the organization's leadership meet with the advisor to discuss the organization's goals, plans, and activities. The below list is a general outline of the responsibilities of both the advisor and student organization leadership, which will help to clarify each individual's duties.

7.2.1 Advisor Responsibilities

- Meet with the organization at least two (2) times per semester & participate in meetings.
- Serve as a resource for individual members and organizations and assist with the compliance of the College's handbook as well as *Greek Life Policies & Procedures Manual*.
- Ensure the organization is focusing on their academics.
- Confirm the chapter is working to fulfill the chapter's requirements to remain in good standing with RIC and inter/national headquarters.
- Assist with goal development.
- Refer students to College and external resources.
- Attend organization events.
- Help to mediate conflicts between group members.
- Serve as a positive role model and motivator.
- Mentor students as they develop into mature and engaged members of the RIC community.
- Attend workshops sponsored by the Office of Student Activities, and Student Community Government, Inc.

7.3 Useful Advisor Resources

- Dunkel, N. W. & Schuh, J. H. (1998). *Advising student groups and organizations*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass
 - *Student Activities has a copy of this book which can be loaned to interested student organization advisors.
- Giacalone, M. D. (2017). Advisor as leader? Using adaptive leadership as a framework for student organization advising. *Journal of Student Affairs*, 26, 41-47.
- Kane, C., Fick, B., Fields, A., Krieglstein, T., & Caufield, S. (Eds.). (2015). *Beyond meetings: Lessons and successes in advising student organizations*. Publisher: Student Affairs Collective.

8. POLICY VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

The Office of Student Activities and/or the College may be presented with information in which a chapter's perceived non-compliance with college policies is suggested or asserted. The Office of Student Activities and/or the College may respond to this information in a number of ways, including, but not limited to, an informal inquiry process, a judicial hearing, and/or legal action.

8.1 Informal Inquiry Process

An informal inquiry process is a tool that enables the College to determine the accuracy of the information received and whether a situation warrants further investigation. This informal process may also allow the College to dispense with unfounded complaints or accusations or effectively address minor infractions.

During the course of an informal inquiry, a representative from the division of Student Affairs may ask to speak with various members of the campus community, including, but not limited to, current and/or prospective members of the fraternity/sorority community. The purpose of such meetings shall be to seek information relevant to the subject matter of the inquiry. Students are required to cooperate with the inquiry. Appropriate documentation of the inquiry will be kept in the chapter's file in the Office of Student Activities. At all times, the College reserves the right to proceed with a formal investigation of the matter.

8.2 Formal Investigation Process

In the event a chapter is found to have violated a council, office, and/or college policy, the chapter may be subject to a formal investigation through the appropriate council's judicial procedure and/or the college's investigation process.

8.2.1 Council Policy Violations

Any council policy infraction will be adjudicated through the council's outlined judicial procedure.

8.2.2 Office Policy Violations

Violations of policies found in this document or other documents produced by the Office of Student Activities related to student organizations may be adjudicated by the appropriate council. Depending on the severity of the violation, the college may also investigate. In the case of a college investigation, the council's judicial board may also investigate the violation through their judicial procedure and submit a recommendation to the college prior to the completion of the college's investigation. The college's process for investigating violations of the Student Conduct Code can be found in the *Student Handbook* (<http://www.ric.edu/studentlife/Pages/handbook.aspx>).

8.2.3 College Policy Violations

Violations of the college policy will be investigated through the process outlined in the *Student Handbook* (<http://www.ric.edu/studentlife/Pages/handbook.aspx>). The council's

judicial board may also investigate the violation through their judicial procedure and submit a recommendation to the college prior to the completion of the college's investigation.

The College reserves the right to initiate investigations independently from and prior to council investigations, including but not limited to in instances when the potential violation is severe and/or contains sensitive information.

8.2.4 Notification of Sanctions and Appeals

A chapter's sanctions will be outlined in a formal letter. A copy will be kept in the chapter's files in the Office of Student Activities.

A chapter may appeal their sanction through the process outlined in the council's judicial procedures and/or the *Student Handbook*

(<http://www.ric.edu/studentlife/Pages/handbook.aspx>).

8.3 REGIONAL AND INTER/NATIONAL ORGANIZATION SANCTIONS

Office of Student Activities and/or the College will communicate changes in a chapter's disciplinary status with fraternity and sorority regional and inter/national governing boards via documentation copied to the chapter's president. Additionally, a chapter's change in status with the regional and inter/national governing council should be shared with the Office of Student Activities and/or the College.

If the chapter has disciplinary sanctions required or applied by the regional and inter/national board due to their own judicial sanctioning or charges, Office of Student Activities/Greek Life Office and/or the College may assist in enforcing such sanctions on campus. This is to ensure the chapter will receive the consistent and necessary support to ensure their growth and progress.

9. ANTI-HAZING POLICIES

9.1 STATE OF RHODE ISLAND HAZING LAW

“Hazing,’ as used in this chapter, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or other substance, or any brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student or any other person, or which subjects the student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.” R.I.G.L. 11-21-1(b).

9.2 Penalty For Hazing –Criminal Offenses

“Any organizer of, or participant in, an activity constituting **hazing** as defined in subsection (b) of this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or punished by imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than one year, or both.” R.I.G.L. 11-21-1(a).

9.3 Rhode Island College Anti-Hazing Policy

Hazing means any conduct or method of initiation, into any student organization that willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any person. This conduct shall include, but not be limited to, whipping, beating or branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or any other substance, extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation, degrading or humiliating activities or public stunts, quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or the like, the wearing of publicly, apparel which is conspicuous and/or actions that are likely to adversely affect the physical/mental health or safety of any person.

10. RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE ALCOHOL POLICY

From the Rhode Island College Student Handbook: Alcohol is prohibited in all Rhode Island College residence halls and surrounding areas.

Purpose: Recognize, supplement, and support the laws of the State of Rhode Island, the policies of Rhode Island College, and the goals of the Office of Residential Life & Housing.

Statement:

1. The laws of the State of Rhode Island will be upheld.
2. In accordance with the educational philosophy of Rhode Island College and to maintain an environment conducive to reasonable study and living conditions, the following Residential Life & Housing regulations are stated and will be upheld:
 - A. Alcoholic beverages and related paraphernalia are prohibited in the residence halls. No persons will be permitted to store, consume, or possess alcoholic beverages in the residence halls and surrounding areas. This includes common areas (main lounges, laundry rooms, study lounges, etc.), suites, rooms, lawns, courtyards, parking lots, stairs, and elevators.
 - B. This policy also includes empty alcohol beverage containers that are found anywhere in the residence halls or surrounding areas. Any containers that are found will be disposed of, including those that the resident may consider decorative in nature. Since a staff member cannot be sure whether empty containers are decorative or not, all alcohol containers that are found will result in an alcohol documentation for the resident(s).
 - C. This policy also pertains to open containers, including cups, open bottles, and cans. These items will be confiscated and disposed of by a Residential Life & Housing staff member and the incident will be documented.

Medical Amnesty (Good Samaritan) Policy

The health and safety of every student at the Rhode Island College is of utmost importance. Rhode Island College prioritizes the health and safety of the campus community. The College recognizes that in situations where students or their guests on campus face potentially dangerous medical emergencies due to alcohol consumption or drug use, fear of sanctions under the Alcohol and Drug Policies outlined in the Student Conduct Code may deter them from seeking necessary, life--saving medical attention. The Medical Amnesty policy seeks to encourage students to immediately seek assistance for themselves or others when dangerously intoxicated or impaired. A bystander acting in good faith, or a reporting individual acting in good faith, will not be subject to Rhode Island College's code of conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the incident of violation. More information about this policy can be found in the *Student Conduct Code*.