

Spring 2021 Sorority and Fraternity Life Event and Meeting Expectations and Social Moratorium

Due to the significant risk associated with the global Coronavirus pandemic, the student leaders within the Sorority and Fraternity Community at Cornell, in partnership with the sorority and fraternity alumni councils, have agreed to a social event moratorium for the spring 2021 academic semester. The health and safety of both the Cornell and Ithaca communities is our first priority. Our members will work diligently over the next semester to safeguard the health and well-being of all students in the sorority and fraternity community as well as all members of both the Cornell and Ithaca communities.

Furthermore, all Cornell students have signed the [Behavioral Compact](#), which sets forth our behavioral expectations for Cornell students joining us in Ithaca for the 2020-2021 academic year in order to minimize transmission of COVID-19 and protect those most vulnerable to the virus. Pursuant to the Compact, all Cornell students agreed to comply with all enhanced social and event management policies, rules and requirements adopted by the University, including required registration of and approval for all University-sponsored in-person events.

This spring 2021 Sorority and Fraternity Life Event and Meeting Expectations and Social Moratorium, agreed upon by the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council (MGFC), Panhellenic Council (PHC), and the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life (OSFL), is therefore effective immediately and will remain in place until May 31, 2021. This moratorium is fully incorporated into the existing [Risk Management and Social Event Policy](#). In case of conflict, the provisions of the Sorority and Fraternity Life Event and Meeting Expectations and Social Moratorium shall control and take precedence over that policy.

All recognized sororities and fraternities, therefore, acknowledge and agree to adhere to the following Sorority & Fraternity Event and Meeting Expectations and Social Moratorium and the supplemental health and safety responsibilities the university or public health authorities may establish:

1. All “events”, as defined below, are strictly prohibited.

Regardless of location, whether on or off campus and with or without alcohol, an event is an “event” if any of the following occur: a) It can be associated with a specific chapter (or chapters) by a reasonable outside observer. b) Chapter members took part in the coordination of the event for the benefit of the chapter and/or other members, new members, or potential new members of the chapter. C) The event is sponsored, publicized, financed, and/or endorsed by the chapter.

The only exceptions are:

- a. Registered alcohol free events, of less than 10 people (or the number Cornell designates), which comply with the [Campus Activities Student Organization Social, Event and Meeting Requirements](#) and the [Cornell Behavior Compact](#). The spring 2021 start date for in person activities will be determined at a later date with recommendations from public health and safety experts.
- b. Whether the chapter facility is on or off campus, student members 21 years of age or older, are permitted to drink alcohol at their residence if permitted by the national/local organization and in accordance with all laws. Additionally, hard alcohol is not permitted in residential chapter facilities.

2. Participation in alcohol free chapter events and activities will focus on virtual engagement as much as possible and, when not virtual, chapters will comply with face coverings, physical distancing, and good hygiene protocols adopted by the [University](#).
3. After a start date, determined by recommendations of public health and safety experts later in the spring 2021 semester, if a chapter chooses to host an in person, alcohol free event on or off campus, such as chapter meetings and brotherhood/sisterhood events, the event must be registered using the Student Organization Event Registration Process via [Campus Groups](#) to comply with the Cornell behavioral compact. Please visit the Campus Activities [website](#) for more information about the registration process. 10 people is currently the maximum size for all meetings and events (including sponsoring group members). Note that the maximum number of attendees may change based on university or public health policies.
 - a. All alcohol-free events must comply the university's [Coronavirus Guidelines for Meetings and Events](#).
 - b. Regular chapter operations involving only members, such as living together in a house or eating meals with housemates, do not need to be registered, however, the chapter is responsible for knowing who is present for contact tracing purposes, and the chapter may not exceed the University designated number (10, subject to change) for any chapter operations other than residing in the house.
 - c. Sororities and fraternities are required to devise strategies to create smaller groups for meals and meetings, for example, eating in shifts and takeout options for out of house members. Guests (non-members) may **not** be invited to the house and are not part of chapter operations.

Violations of the Sorority & Fraternity Event and Meeting Expectations and Social Moratorium will be handled expeditiously by the [Judicial Process for Sororities & Fraternities](#). Credible reports will be resolved by an informal resolution, [Greek Judicial Board](#) hearing, or [Sorority & Fraternity Organization Misconduct Board](#) procedure.

Severe, pervasive and/or repeated violations of these requirements may result in the sorority or fraternity being placed on Interim Suspension, which means all actions must cease pending investigation. In addition, individual violations of the [Cornell Student Behavioral Compact](#) that are brought to the attention of the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life will be referred to the Campus Compact Compliance Team (CCCT) and may result in further referral to the Office of the Judicial Administrator (OJA).

These requirements may be altered, updated, and/or added throughout the course of the spring 2021 semester as university and public health guidance may change.

Implemented December 14, 2020

Edited December 14, 2020