Interfraternity Council Social Event Suspension Quick Guide

In effect through May 31, 2027

SUMMARY: IFC fraternities may continue chapter operations. Parties and social events at fraternity houses are suspended for the remainder of the 2026–27 academic year. Normal chapter operations, including Chapter meetings, brotherhood events, new member activities, philanthropy/service events and family/alumni programming can continue, but must be substance-free. Every member is responsible for understanding and following the restrictions.

1. What you need to do now

- **Tell every member.** Make sure brothers, new members, and anyone organizing chapter activities understand the restrictions. Do not use another organization's name, registration, or venue to circumvent the suspension.
- **Check before organizing an event.** If you are unsure whether a gathering is permitted, contact Sorority and Fraternity Life (SFL) by email at sfl@cornell.edu before making plans. Do not assume an event is allowed simply because it is informal or alcohol-free.
- **Understand** what a social event is and therefore needs to be registered.
- **Cancel prohibited events.** Cancel any party or social event planned at your fraternity house that would normally require registration under Cornell's Social Event Policy.
- **Know the consequences.** A prohibited in-house party or social event will result in an immediate emergency suspension, with the matter referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS). Individual students are also subject to referral for Code violations.

2. What is allowed vs. not allowed?

Allowed	Not Allowed
Chapter meetings and rituals: Normal chapter operations may continue and must remain substance-free.	**Parties or social events in fraternity houses**: These events will not be permitted for the remainder of the 2026-2027 academic year.
Brotherhood events and member-only meals: Must be limited to chapter members and substance-free.	**IFC events hosted at another organization's house:** Hosting an event at another organization's house to circumvent the suspension violates the mandate and will result in an emergency suspension. (Ghost-hosting not allowed)
New-member activities: New-member activities are permitted and must be substance-free, as per policy.	**Events hosted by another organization at an IFC house:** Do not lend your chapter house to another organization to host an event at your house to circumvent the suspension. This violates the mandate and will result in an emergency suspension.

Allowed	Not Allowed
Philanthropy and service events: Philanthropy and service events are permitted and must be substance-free. SFL registration is required and city permits may be required.	
Parent/family programming and alumni gatherings: Parent/family programming and alumni gatherings are permitted and must be substance-free. SFL registration is required and city permits may be required.	
Social events at third-party venues hosted by Panhellenic or MGFC Chapters: All Social Event Policies must be followed. IFC members are allowed to attend these events.	
Social events at third-party venues hosted by IFC Chapters: Social events at third party venues hosted by IFC Chapters are allowed once enhanced safety measures have been finalized by SFL.	

The University recognizes that students will continue to gather and socialize in personal residences. While the University does not control events in personal residences, we encourage students to register any activity at their personal residence per the social event policies. We also strongly encourage students to approach such gatherings with the same attention to safety and care for one another that are expected across our community.

3. What happens if a chapter violates the suspension?

- Immediate emergency suspension for an IFC fraternity holding a prohibited in-house party or social event.
- Referral to OSCCS for review under Cornell's Student Code of Conduct and applicable procedures.
- Potential organizational on-going sanctions, up to and including suspension or dismissal.
- Another fraternity, Greek, and/or student organization may also be referred to OSCCS if it knowingly helps an IFC organization circumvent these directives.

4. What comes next?

This suspension is an opportunity to pursue meaningful and lasting changes to Cornell's social environment amidst the important conversations about campus safety and sexual assault. During this period, the University will lead the assessment of fraternity and broader campus social life and consider whether and how they can safely continue.

The university is in the process of planning additional University- or student-sponsored events that will provide additional social outlets. We also look forward to working with students to plan and execute these events, and to do the broader work of determining the safest model for campus social life.

5. If someone needs emergency help

Call 911 or Cornell emergency services immediately. Do not delay seeking help because you are worried about disciplinary consequences. Cornell's Good Samaritan Protocol remains in effect for medical emergencies, including alcohol or other substance intoxication, suspected overdose, serious injury, and other safety concerns.

Cornell Public Safety Communications: 607-255-1111

Rave Guardian App is part of Cornell University's emergency mass notification services. This app, free to the campus community, can enhance one's personal safety on and off campus by turning your smartphone into a personal safety device.

Important: The suspension runs through **May 31, 2027**. Cornell will evaluate whether in-house social events can resume after that date.