

Why join?

LEADERSHIP: The fraternity and sorority system offers a variety of leadership opportunities to prepare students for future careers.

SCHOLARSHIP: Members are encouraged to strive for scholarly excellence through incentive programs, study partners, workshops and study hours, and national recognition.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: The fraternity and sorority community is committed to participating in community service and philanthropic efforts.

NETWORK/SUPPORT: It is important for a student to find a network of friends and allies to provide the support needed to be successful.

UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT: Members may be found in all parts of campus life.

FRIENDSHIP: A bond that transcends time and space—friendships that last a life time.



**OFFICE OF FRATERNITIES AND
SORORITIES
CENTER FOR STUDENT
DEVELOPMENT**

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**Office of
Fraternities and
Sororities**



**THE
FRATERNITY
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EXPERIENCE**



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Why college students should consider the fraternity/sorority experience:

1. A fraternity/sorority enhances the collegiate experience by providing opportunities for members to explore various areas of life.
2. Fraternity/sorority chapters are self-governing entities that provide members with opportunities to develop leadership and interpersonal skills. Members develop skills in communication, conflict resolution, analysis, crisis management, collaboration, and more.
3. Fraternity/sorority members further develop their financial management skills, be it personal finances or chapter finances.
4. Members have the opportunity to incorporate their academic interests into their fraternity/sorority experience: Examples: School of Management – leadership, finances, organizational behaviors, event planning, etc. School of Education – presentations, community service with youth; Health – alcohol, nutrition and diet, wellness, relationships, other health issues; Art/Music – different projects that require these skills
5. Fraternities and sororities encourage their members to participate in other

campus organizations. Members share skills and experiences – both organizations benefit from sharing skills and leadership abilities; promotes collaboration between organizations – good practice for life after graduation

6. Fraternities and sororities provide members with an organized social program: formal, date parties, alumni events, family events, etc.
7. Fraternities and sororities encourage members to do community service. Sometimes this is the chapter or a number of chapters organizing and sponsoring an event, and other times it is the chapter/members participating in an event sponsored by another organization. Many fraternal organizations have relationships with various philanthropic organizations: Big Brothers/Big Sisters, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, etc., or for general causes: assisting youth, AIDS, breast cancer, domestic violence, and many others.
8. Fraternities and sororities are the “catalysts” that help students enjoy campus life. Chapters play a big part in Homecoming events, athletic events, inter-mural sports, and other activities that include the campus community.
9. On a larger campus, fraternities and sororities help members define and develop their community. Members have a group with which they can quickly identify (we were wearing letters long before others were wearing “brand names” and such). Fraternities and sororities help newer members be-

come connected to older members, which creates an opportunity for networking, mentoring, tutoring, etc. It is also a chance to connect with alumni/ae members who have gone on to graduate school or professional careers – a chance for internships, networking, etc. It is rare an individual gets something solely because one is in a fraternity/sorority. However, membership can open the door or provide the opportunity for the member to demonstrate his/her potential.

10. If the fraternity or sorority experience is “done right”, it can be a powerful experience, one that can change the individual for a life time. The experience prepares the member for the challenges of life and provides the network of support that will help the individual for a lifetime.

**University of Massachusetts Amherst
Fraternities and Sororities:
Showing students the way since 1869.**

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