



Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life

June 2, 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

We are excited that your student is interested in participating in the [Interfraternity Council's](#) (IFC) recruitment process at SMU and look forward to seeing them in this fall. This letter outlines important information about the formal process.

IFC is the governing council of ten fraternity chapters at SMU, many of which are affiliated with the [North-American Interfraternity Conference](#) (NIC). IFC as a collective body stands to promote the fraternal experience through inter-fraternal collaboration, personal and professional development, and the betterment of the community. At SMU, students interested in participating in IFC recruitment must register through the deadlines provided on the website.

For men registered to participate in IFC's recruitment, these dates are important:

Week 1

- Monday, August 25 - IFC Block Party - Dallas Hall Lawn
- Sunday, August 31- Mandatory Recruitment Orientation & Formal House Tours Day 1

Week 2

- Monday, September 1 (Labor Day) - Formal House Tours Day 2 – 10AM-6PM.
- Sunday, September 7 – Mandatory Speaker session- Registration Closes at midnight.

Week 3

- Wednesday, September 10- Invite Only SMU IFC Chapter Events (By invite only)
- Thursday, September 11 – Invite Only SMU IFC Chapter Events (By invite only)
- Friday, September 12 - Invite Only SMU IFC Chapter Events (By invite only)
- *Saturday, September 13 - Bid Day- *Tentative Date

Definitions of Events

Invite Only Events: These are the events that chapters will invite you to.

Orientation and House Tours: Orientation will give you general information (a snapshot) of the IFC community! House tours will give you the ability to visit every single fraternity on campus.

Bid Day: Once the recruitment process concludes, students who receive a bid (invitation) to join the organization will report to the Hughes-Trigg Student Center to accept. As a community we love to do a run home once you found your fraternity!

It is important to note that chapters will choose to host open events during the remainder of any days not listed above from the Block party until the final invite only events. Students are welcome to attend any open events. Please note these are not hosted or planned by the Interfraternity Council at SMU.

Eligibility Requirements

Students interested in joining one of our fraternities or sororities must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Students must be enrolled in at least 12 hours during the semester in which they plan to join, and have completed new student orientation requirements, if applicable.

2. Achieve a 2.0 cumulative GPA, calculated on a 4.0 GPA scale. This can be demonstrated through high school transcripts for incoming first-year students, or through my.SMU or transfer records for upper-class students.
3. Not be placed on conduct probation or higher with the Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards during the semester in which a student plans to join and prior to initiation.
4. Please note that most individual organizations have policies requiring a higher GPA or hour completion for membership. We highly recommend that students review these requirements as they explore the opportunities to join.

Typically, 90% of registered individuals will meet these eligibility requirements. If your student is found to be ineligible, they will receive an email notification from SMU's Fraternity and Sorority Life staff. Upper class students may check their own grades in their [my.SMU](#) portal at any time. Please note that chapters will make decisions based on their own organizational GPA requirements. Most IFC chapters currently require at least a 2.8 GPA. While some may accept grade risks each year, students that fall below these requirements, that process is rare and independent to each organization.

Managing Expectations

The recruitment process can be an exciting time. It can also be disappointing for some. Approximately 530 students participate in the IFC recruitment process at SMU, and about 78% will receive a formal bid to join a chapter at the conclusion of the week. We encourage students to keep an open mind throughout the process. Not every person will be invited back to their first preference, but we hope they choose to continue the process. Keeping an open mind and being willing to explore the brotherhood experience in any of our ten chapters, can lead to a successful recruitment. Approximately 8% of the starting pool – or about 40 students – will continue to receive invitations throughout the week, but for their own reasons choose to withdraw themselves from the process. Our staff will be available to meet one-on-one with these students to help create an involvement plan for the fall semester, discuss future Greek life engagement and help connect them to additional resources on campus.

You can play an important role in offering emotional support and encouragement to your student during this process. Our professional staff in the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office and student advisors will also be available to support and help answer any questions or concerns that students may have. All membership decisions are decided by individual organizations alone. We cannot influence or change membership decisions and will not have information regarding the processes behind these decisions.

While we cannot guarantee that your student will receive a bid or a bid from their preferred organization, there are many other substantive ways they can engage and participate in campus life. SMU has more than 200 [student organizations](#), and we hope that all students participate in as many organizations as possible. Students can meet with many of these organizations at the involvement fair, A Night at the Club, on Wednesday, September 3rd from 6-8PM. Additionally some of our 10 organizations may continue to extend bids during the fall or spring semester.

Student Safety

The safety of our students is our top priority. Hazing is not tolerated and is a violation of Texas law, the [SMU Student Code of Conduct](#), and the inter/national policies for each of our fraternities and sororities. Hazing violations can be reported online through SMU's dedicated [website](#). You can also review the conduct status of student organizations at SMU that has been found responsible for violating the SMU Student Code of Conduct within the last three years on the following [website](#). A note regarding recruitment events- IFC sanctioned recruitment events should be alcohol free and abide by SMU policies, local and state law, and inter/national organization policies. Any event that has alcohol present, or that does not meet the above guidelines, are not sanctioned recruitment

events with IFC at SMU. Students who have concerns regarding an event can reach out to the IFC officers or FSL staff directly.

Resources & More Information

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the resources available on SMU's Fraternity and Sorority Life [website](#), [including the information on the parent and families page](#). Should your student join a fraternity, we will follow up with both of you later in September regarding the new member education process and related information. Our professional staff is here to help answer any questions about the recruitment process, so please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to welcoming your student over the next several weeks, and hope your student has a fun and engaging experience during recruitment week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley Fitzpatrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Fitzpatrick

Director, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
(214) 768-3633 or alfitzpatrick@smu.edu