ARTICLE IX – EXPANSION POLICY

Section 1. Purpose
The aim of any expansion effort should be to provide all students with the opportunity to join a fraternity or sorority with the focus on improving both the GW NPHC and University community.

Section 2. Interested Member Organization(s)
Member organizations seeking to start a chapter, or re-establish a chapter, at The George Washington University must first express formal interest to the President and Advisor via email.

Section 3. Application
Interested member organizations will be required to complete an expansion application which includes a report of the following information:

A. Letter of Intent
B. A current list of the organization’s International Executive Board (name, email, phone)
C. National Constitution and By-Laws
D. Reference/Recommendation Letter from the organization’s International President, or a member of the International Executive Board
E. Information on traditional events (including name, purpose, description, funding, and target audience)
F. International cumulative GPA and cumulative GPA of chapters located within DC, Maryland, Virginia
G. Risk Management Policies and Procedures including:
   i. Anti-hazing Policy
   ii. Alcohol and other Drugs policies
   iii. Internal conduct/judicial board policies and procedures
   iv. Proof of liability insurance
H. List of references including:
   i. Local Chapter Advisor (name, email, phone)
   ii. Local Chapter Advisory Board (name, email, phone)
   iii. A list of additional alumni support in the area (name, email, phone)
I. Sample Constitution/Bylaws and sample chapter budget

Section 4. Application Review
A. The President, in collaboration with the GW NPHC Advisor, will review all expansion application materials, reference check the applicant, and notify the Executive Board of the application’s existence at the next Executive Board meeting.
B. The Executive Board will determine whether the Council is open to expansion based on, but not limited to university climate, the current status of individual organizations and the council as a whole.
C. The Council will not be open to expansion if:
   i. Two or more chapters are currently classified under dormant status (defined below)
   ii. Two or more chapters are not in good standing for any reason (e.g. academic probation, financial, no members, etc.)
D. The above criteria will ultimately be decided at the Executive Board’s discretion.
E. Should the Executive Board determine the Council is not open to expansion, the President will send a formal letter to Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) of the rationale.
F. A letter will then be issued on GW NPHC’s behalf, by FSL staff, to the interested organization.

Section 5. Presentation
A. Should the Executive Board determine the Council is open for expansion, the interest group will be notified via letter, by the President, and be asked to proceed to the next step of the expansion application, present to the GW NPHC general body
B. The interest group will present to the GW NPHC general body at the next meeting and must include/address the following:
   i. History of the organization
   ii. Purpose and goals of the organization
   iii. International cumulative GPA and cumulative GPA of chapters located within DC, Maryland, Virginia
   iv. Organization’s main source of funding
   v. Information on local chapters and local alumni
   vi. Who will be assisting the intake process?
   vii. Tentative calendar of events to be hosted during the first academic year
   viii. What the organization will bring to GW NPHC that is unique and currently not present at the university?
C. The General Body must then vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote for approval of the interested organization.
D. If the interested organization is approved, they will be granted one (1) full academic year (beginning the following semester), known as a Probationary Period, to initiate their first line at the George Washington University.
   i. A letter will be sent by FSL staff outlining the provisions and approval by Council/recognition by University.
E. After approval and recognition by the University, the member organization is assumed to be in good standing as long as the organization meets the standards of its International Organization, the policies, regulations and procedures of the University, Fraternity & Sorority Life, the GW NPHC, and federal, state and local laws.

Section 6. Requirements of Approved Organization
A. The approved organization must abide by the following rules and fulfill the requirements stated below:
   i. Programming may occur during the semester of application.
   ii. Intake may not begin until the semester after approval.
   iii. The approved organization must complete the following per semester:
      a. Co-sponsor 1 event with any current GW NPHC organization
      b. Attend 3 other events hosted by GW NPHC organizations. One of which must be a community service related event.
B. If an approved organization fails to initiate a line within the “Probationary Period “, they must reapply for expansion.
Section 7. Dormant Status
A. All fraternities and sororities are expected to maintain membership with currently enrolled GWU students.
B. Organizations will have status changed to “dormant” if they:
   i. Do not have any active members enrolled at GW.
   ii. Should a member organization lack GW student membership
   iii. For city-wide chapters this means the member organization must have one member on the GWU campus to avoid dormant status.
C. A dormant organization will remain recognized by the GW NPHC for up two (2) semesters, pending consistent communication with the Council.
D. After two (2) semesters, the organization will have its status changed to not in good standing.
E. Member organizations who have had its status changed to not in good standing must go through the application process stated in this Policy to re-obtain GW NPHC membership.
F. The member organization may not host or co-sponsor any Late Night Events during dormant status.