



## **Revised Collegiate Fraternity Standards FAQ**

Find your answers, organized by topic, to frequently asked questions about our Fraternity Standards.

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## OVERVIEW

### **What is the purpose of the Fraternity Standards?**

The Fraternity Standards for collegiate chapters are intended to identify chapter expectations that align with Article II and serve as a guiding tool for evaluating chapter success. Performance related to these standards will determine chapter status, support and awards.

### **How does this impact my chapter?**

Performance related to these standards will determine chapter status, support and awards. Chapters will be formally evaluated annually, with informal rolling evaluations and checkpoints to be conducted throughout the year to allow chapter officers an opportunity to intentionally design their goals and action plans while also working to do good.

### **What does it mean if I meet/don't meet standards?**

Each collegiate chapter has a responsibility to uphold Article II and, therefore, a responsibility to ensure your programming, operations, and practices reflect the unique values of Delta Gamma and our members. Chapters that meet Fraternity Standards can show they are operating in alignment with Article II.

Chapters with areas of concern will be supported through Delta Gamma's elevated status program with individualized support for chapters on elevated status. Each chapter's experience on elevated status will be unique and fully customized to the needs of the chapter. The intent of our chapter status model is to re-align the chapter's operations and trends to a path that meets the expectations outlined in our Fraternity Standards.

### **What is changing? Are there new things we are being asked to do and/or things we should no longer be doing/that are no longer required?**

The changes are a simplification of the Fraternity Standards and an attempt to make the standards more quantifiable. The process for how each chapter should be working to align with Article II and our Fraternity Standards is not changing. When analyzing which Standards your chapter is meeting versus which you can improve upon, the items to consider will be different than before. For a high level comparison of the new Standards to the prior Standards, see the revised Fraternity Standard's cover letter.

### **Where will I see these changes?**

Most areas of the Fraternity rely upon the Standards to evaluate and measure the success of our chapters. All those areas – such as Collegiate Development Consultant (CDC) reports, the Patricia Peterson Danielson (PPD) award, status evaluations/status letters and seating at Convention – will be updated to reflect the revised Fraternity Standards.

### **How does this impact my chapter's functions and programming?**

The Fraternity Standards should be reviewed with the chapter management team (CMT) on a regular basis to ensure you are meeting expectations. It can also help your chapter create goals based on areas of improvement identified within the Standards. Please see the Resources section of the FAQ to find some specific resources available to help you use the revised Standards.

### **My chapter is not meeting one or more standards, where do I go to get ideas to better help meet the Standards I am responsible for?**

All Delta Gamma materials, such as officer-specific handbooks, are updated to reflect the revised Standards. The Collegiate Chapter Officer Manual, officer-specific handbooks (i.e. Recruitment Confidential, Foundation Focus: Collegiate Edition, Event Guidelines), and policies, describe processes and procedures you should be following, which will help you meet our Fraternity Standards.

Additionally, the Collegiate Officer Newsletter as well as communication from Executive Offices and your regional team provide important deadlines related to some of these Standards as part of each officer's responsibilities. If you are looking for more specific ideas for your chapter, reaching out to your advisers or regional team members can help clarify as well.

## TIMING

### **How/when does this impact Convention seating?**

Because the Collegiate Fraternity Standards have been updated, there will also be updates to the requirements for Convention credentialing. These new requirements will not go into effect until Convention 2026. For our upcoming Convention in 2024, credentialing requirements will remain unchanged.

### **What is the timeline/cycle of measuring?**

Because numerous processes within the Fraternity use the Standards to evaluate and measure the success of our chapters, various documents and processes will be updated and rolled out using the revised Standards. Specifically, Collegiate Development Consultant (CDC) reports starting with visits in January 2024 will be updated to reflect the revised Fraternity Standards. The Patricia Peterson Danielson (PPD) award will be updated to reflect the revised Standards for the upcoming award cycle; i.e., the PPD covering the December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024 evaluation period. The Collegiate Chapter Evaluations will follow this PPD timeline. Thus, the annual evaluations done in fall 2024 will be updated to align with the revised Standards. For chapters currently on an elevated status (i.e. poor standing or support status), please see the FAQ below.

### **When does this go into effect?**

We will begin using the revised Fraternity Standards to evaluate chapters and their alignment with Article II in January 2024. Collegiate presidents will learn more about these Standards at Presidents Academy on January 6, 2024 and collegiate tools and resources will be updated to reflect the changes in the Standards by January 2024.

### **How will Convention awards work? Will those be different now?**

The timing of Convention credentialing and the PPD are discussed in other FAQs; however, there are many different types of awards given at Convention. Because these revised Standards do not go into effect until January 2024 and Convention awards typically cover at least one year before Convention (and sometimes both years since the prior Convention), the revised Standards will not impact the criteria for Convention awards in 2024. If specific award criteria is changed to align with the revised Fraternity Standards prior to our 2026 Convention, those changes will be communicated as they occur.

## HOW DOES THIS IMPACT MY ROLE AS...

### **A collegiate officer?**

In a broader sense, you should understand and be aware of the updated Fraternity Standards and the areas your office supports directly. Your general understanding of the Fraternity Standards will help guide your actions in your position. Specifically, manuals related to your role, evaluations of areas you oversee, programming related to your role, etc. will all be updated to match the revised Fraternity Standards. The CMT Planning Tool is a great resource to ensure your chapter is meeting the Standards specifically related to your role.

### **A collegiate adviser?**

Your role as an adviser is to help the officer you advise perform the responsibilities related to the office they hold. Please see the FAQ above regarding how this impacts a collegiate officer. Your main function of coaching/guiding/mentoring the collegians you advise has not changed, but you should understand how the Fraternity Standards have changed to help your officer serve their role to the best of their abilities.

## STATUS CHAPTERS

### **If my chapter is currently on status, what do these Standards mean?**

All collegiate chapters will be evaluated using the updated Fraternity standards beginning in January 2024, including chapters currently on an elevated status under the previous set of standards. Those chapters will be evaluated using both the new standards as well as progress made on the action plan developed as a result of the previous elevated status.

## RESOURCES

### **What resources are available to me and my chapter to help me meet these Standards?**

We have created several resources to help all volunteers and collegiate members learn more about the revised Fraternity Standards. In addition to reading through the Fraternity Standards themselves, which are available in the Delta Gamma library, there is a cover letter explaining the changes that have been made. We will also have available a quick guide to the Standards, education at President's Academy and Collegiate Leadership Collective, and a new module in The Pursuit on the Fraternity Standards. The CMT Planning Tool is also a great way to plan ahead and ensure you are meeting all the Standards.

## MY QUESTION WASN'T ANSWERED

Do you have a question that wasn't answered here? Please reach out to your collegiate development specialist (CDS) at Executive Offices for more specific questions about the revised Collegiate Fraternity Standards.