

Resolved to Educate

Total

Total is the allowable chapter size including both new and initiated members. Total provides opportunities for Panhellenic community growth, parity among the chapters and allows the maximum number of women to participate in the sorority experience.

If a chapter has met total, it is no longer eligible to invite new members to join until either:

1. The chapter is below total.
2. It is the primary membership recruitment period.
3. The chapter pledges to quota from the primary recruitment period.

If at any time during the academic year, a chapter falls below total, the chapter is eligible to recruit new members through continuous open bidding (COB) to reach total. COB begins once total is set in primary and non-primary recruitment terms.

How is total determined and set?

In the spring of 2023, the NPC Council of Delegates representing all 26 inter/national member organizations, passed a resolution that pilots a total method setting team to determine and set total for College Panhellenics for the spring of 2024, fall of 2024 and spring of 2025. Each College Panhellenic is assigned a specialist to set total for each term.

When is total set?

For the primary recruitment term

- For fully and partially structured recruitment campuses, total will be set by the total specialist after bid matching but before bid distribution.
- For continuous recruitment campuses, total will be set before the first day of the academic term.

For the non-primary recruitment term

- Total will be set within the first 24 hours of the start of the academic term.

What is the role of the College Panhellenic with total?

Total is determined and set by the total specialist. However, a College Panhellenic must communicate with chapters about total so all chapters can invite women into sorority membership through COB if they have available spaces.

What NPC policies will a total specialist leverage to determine and set total?

Options in Determining Total (2009, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023) – POLICY

Total for a College Panhellenic community is set using one of the following methods:

1. Average or median chapter size (whichever is larger).
2. Midpoint between median and largest chapter size.
3. Largest chapter size (LCS).
4. LCS plus up to 20 women.

When a campus experiences greater than a 2% decrease in the open house pool over the previous year, total must be set at midpoint or higher.

For College Panhellenics with only two chapters: when selecting a method among the four options, total will be set at the number yielded by the calculation or 40, whichever is higher.

For College Panhellenics with facilities: if half or more of all chapters are not meeting facility obligations, total will be set using method 4. All chapters—whether or not they have a facility—will be included when determining what percentage of chapters are not meeting their facility obligation. Total will automatically be reset to LCS plus one unless this policy requires a total setting method that will set total at a higher number. Facility obligation shall be defined as the revenue from chapter membership necessary to support facility expenses. Each NPC inter/national organization will report to NPC on behalf of its local chapters, by June 30 of each year, whether its chapters are meeting their facility obligations.

Adjusting Total (2013, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2023) – POLICY

A College Panhellenic should evaluate total every term. In the academic term that primary recruitment is held, total is determined and announced following bid matching and before the start of bid distribution.

In the academic term(s) in which primary recruitment does not take place, the revised total must be determined and then announced within 24 hours of the start of the academic term. For fall primary recruiting campuses, total cannot be set to less than 95% of the total that resulted from the adjustment in the most recent academic term in which primary recruitment was held.

The following NPC policies further clarify how to count members in the chapter:

- Calculating Total (1955, 2009, 2015) – POLICY
- Chapter Membership Roll (1955, 2018) – POLICY
- Graduating Seniors in Chapter Total (2002) – POLICY
- New Member (1981) – POLICY
- Transfer Member (1977) – POLICY
- Vacancies (1978) – POLICY

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