

NPC Position Statement on Membership Selection

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The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) is one of the world's largest organizations advocating for the sorority experience, representing 26 inter/national women's-only sororities and more than 350,000 undergraduate sorority women. NPC supports the individual rights of its 26 member organizations to select their own members.

NPC does not dictate or determine prospective membership policies. NPC member sororities are women's-only organizations. The freedom of association afforded to citizens by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides women protection to join together in these values-based organizations. Additionally, the U.S. Congress has recognized the right to remain women's-only by providing in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 that the membership practices of social fraternities and sororities are excepted from the prohibition contained in Title IX against discrimination on the basis of sex in participation in educational programs or related activities (20 USC 1681) and in exempting "bona fide private membership clubs" from the general prohibition against sex discrimination in employment practice (26 USC 501(c)).

While NPC and our member organizations safeguard our experience expressly for women, NPC condemns all forms of discrimination and is committed to welcoming all women, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, religious beliefs, socioeconomic status, body type, sexual orientation and abilities, within the Panhellenic sisterhood. We pledge to create equitable and accessible opportunities for all women to participate as members and leaders within this community. Additionally, NPC is committed to engaging in discussion with and delivering education to Panhellenic women regarding ongoing work related to providing these opportunities.

While NPC does not dictate nor determine membership policies of its member organizations, we encourage each organization to foster a culture where diversity is valued and the contributions of women of all backgrounds are celebrated. Each member organization must follow its own membership selection policies, procedures and all applicable state and federal laws that pertain to single-sex organizations.

