



Greek Weekend Programming and Best Practices

Hosting an interfraternal event like Greek Weekend or all-Greek activities can promote good community relationships and provide a space to complete large-scale projects or programs. A carefully planned program can be the basis for year-long cooperation among Greek-letter organizations, the college/university campus and the community.

Best Practices

Before you begin planning, there are a few best practices to consider. This will help the success of your program as well as stick to the purpose of the event.

- NPC recommends fraternity and sorority communities hold these celebrations on a single weekend versus staging a time-consuming "Greek Week."
- All members of the campus fraternal community should be encouraged to participate.
- Greek Weekend should highlight responsible citizenship and the cooperation of sorority and fraternity members with one another.
- It should always be a positive program, providing education about the values, purposes and ideals of fraternities and sororities. Competitions and activities that appear frivolous do not further these objectives.
- Identify a working committee (which can be separate from the College Panhellenic) to accomplish this work. It should not be the sole responsibility of the College Panhellenic to plan Greek Weekend activities.

Work Together to Identify a Working Committee

A Greek Weekend working committee should be composed of members from different chapters and councils. An appointed or elected leader should chair this work. The working committee should also:

- Be appointed four to six months in advance.
- Work with all fraternity/sorority councils to coordinate activities.
- Set a budget. Keep expenses moderate to avoid burdening the chapters and giving an impression of extravagance to the campus and community.
- Have any subgroups draft detailed plans and submit them to the leaders of the committee.
- Invite any off-campus participants and speakers at least three months in advance. Determine topics early. Send reminders a month ahead of time.
- Work with the appropriate campus administrators, community officials, and local press to inform them of the plans, and to request support and suggestions.
- Reserve all meeting spaces as soon as plans have been approved.
- Send information and the program to guest participants and chapters several weeks in advance.



- Meet frequently (weekly during the month preceding Greek Weekend) with the fraternity/sorority advisor or other campus designee.
- If community projects are to be conducted, select a realistic number of projects based on the resources available. Appoint a liaison to interact with each organization for which work is being done. Obtain needed tools and supplies. Supervise the actual work to see if the commitment has been fulfilled.
- Plan discussion sessions or workshops to facilitate a free exchange of ideas. A fraternity/sorority leader might give a short talk preceding the discussion and also serve as a resource person. Leaders should lead rather than direct. Prepare an agenda to guide participants. Discussions and workshops should tie in with the program theme.
- If social functions such as receptions or a banquet are part of the program, they should not be the principal event of Greek Weekend.
- After Greek Weekend, send appreciation letters to the administration, faculty, residents and guests who helped plan or participated in the programs.
- Have all subgroups conduct a careful evaluation of the programs to submit in writing to the committee.

Suggested Discussion Topics and Activities for Greek Weekend

A Greek Weekend schedule should allow time for conversations between all fraternity and sorority councils and steer away from too many frivolous activities.

Note: Please review the College Panhellenic insurance coverage provided by MJ Insurance prior to determining activities for Greek Weekend. For example, dangerous activities such as bounce houses, eating competitions or blood drives are not covered. Please review [MJ Insurance's position paper](#) on other risky behaviors to be aware of.

If your College Panhellenic Association is seeking additional insurance coverage or a certificate of insurance for Greek Weekend events, please work with [MJ Insurance](#) to do so, well in advance of the event.

Suggested discussion topics include:

- Fraternal values, including high scholastic standards
- Importance of ritual
- Relationships among fraternities, sororities and the college or university
- Importance of positive public relations
- Fraternities/sororities' role in creating school spirit and exercising leadership

Suggested activities for Greek Weekend:



- A new member workshop
- Open houses
- An academic excellence banquet
- A Greek Weekend banquet
- Panel discussions
- Alumni programs
- All-fraternity/sorority assembly with a guest speaker
- Recognition of outstanding sorority and fraternity members
- Recognition of community members, faculty and alumni for outstanding contributions to fraternity/sorority organizations
- Service projects and philanthropy events