



DELTA TAU DELTA

**INTERFRATERNITY
COUNCILS**

WHAT ARE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCILS

INTERFRATERNITY COUNCILS® (IFC) form where two or more NIC member fraternities exist on a campus. The IFC should serve to unite the fraternities on campus and advance their common interests. By looking at the IFC's reason for being, and what it does, fraternity leaders can make the IFC's mission its focus.

An Interfraternity Council is a functional, democratic council with three distinct branches: an executive board that sets the agenda and executes community action; a judicial board that holds member chapters accountable to the community's standards and rules; and a legislative body that votes on proposals and discusses community issues. The executive board should be elected annually, and executive officers should hold topic-specific roles (like VP Recruitment and VP Member Education) with specific goals that help advance the community. The representative body, sometimes called the Interfraternity Congress, the general body, or the legislature, should be made up of representatives from all of the fraternity chapters on a campus. The judicial board, or standards board, is composed of representatives from member fraternities in the community.

The IFC should operate independently from the university and practice self-governance. The IFC can be assisted by the IFC Advisor, a professional who helps the IFC perform its duties. The IFC should support the educational mission of the institution, promote fraternity on campus, and create an environment where fraternities can succeed. IFCs are centered on Advocacy, Collaboration, Education and Accountability.

ADVOCACY

In its role as advocate and promoter of the fraternal experience, the IFC should:

- Promote the fraternal experience using media, advertising, forums and outreach
- Advocate for university policies that allow for fraternities to succeed (open expansion and open recruitment)
- Create frameworks for a cooperative fraternity community
- Market the positive deeds of member fraternities
- Represent the fraternity community in the larger university community
- Advocate for the proper representation of fraternities as values-based organizations
- Support growth and expansion in the fraternity community

COLLABORATION

As a collection of fraternal organizations, the IFC exists to:

- Foster collaboration between member organizations
- Demonstrate the shared values of the fraternity community
- Work with other councils or student groups to grow fraternity and community on campus
- Advertise the value of the fraternity community as whole to prospective members
- Plan council-wide events involving all member fraternities
- Address community issues by producing a collective vision or focus

EDUCATION

The IFC will demonstrate its commitment to leadership and member development in programs that:

- Educate new members and initiated members about the standards and values of the local fraternity community
- Bring officers from member fraternities together to discuss specific topic areas (risk management; scholarship; recruitment; etc.)
- Enrich the community by bringing speakers, discussions and presentations to campus
- Provide base-level education on key community issues for fraternity men across campus
- Educate member fraternities and their members on national best practices, NIC Standards, FIPG and university policies affecting organizations
- Support the educational mission of the institution

ACCOUNTABILITY

As the governing body for campus fraternities, the IFC aims to:

- Establish standards and a code of conduct for member fraternities
- Hold member fraternities responsible to the community's standards through fair judicial processes
- Offer productive, educational sanctions to members who fail to live up to the community's standards
- Support the NIC Standards
- Hold regular meetings of the executive council and general council to advance the interests, standards and aims of the fraternity community
- Elect officers each year who will help advance fraternity
- Maintain, update and publish effective policies for governance

The campus IFC exists because fraternity men share values, and by working together to accomplish their shared goals, the fraternity community can improve. When the community comes together to hold itself accountable, tells its story and works to better its members, the entire university community benefits. It is the goal of the NIC to help your IFC excel in each of these areas.

For more information on how we can be of support to your campus or for additional resources, please contact our Coordinators of IFC Services at (317) 872-1112 or ifc@nicindy.org.

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CONCLUSION

Delta Tau Delta is proud of you and your sincere desire to improve your chapter. As a leader of the chapter, your success will be determined by your actions, words and thoughts. The Fraternity expects you to work diligently to build a positive experience for yourself and your brothers. Please take these final thoughts with you as you begin what will be a great year for you and your chapter:

COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS:

It will be vital for you to communicate with your brothers and your peer officers. Many of the goals you will set will require you to work with other individuals. If you continue to focus on improving your communication skills throughout your officer term, you will not only be a more effective officer, but you will also be better prepared to lead in the future.

RESOURCES ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO YOU:

There will always be someone willing to help you as you encounter obstacles. This person may be a chapter advisor, a campus advisor, a chapter consultant, an older member of the chapter or even a student in the campus community. It is important to realize all of these people want you to be successful. Please include and utilize these people as often as you can.

THE FRATERNITY WANTS YOU TO ASK QUESTIONS:

This manual will not cover every concern you encounter and each obstacle is different. If you have a question, please do not hesitate to contact any the resources previously mentioned or to the Central Office. The Fraternity wants you to have all of the information you need to be successful.

“AS YOU ADVANCE, REMEMBER OTHERS FOLLOW”:

This concept is so important as a leader. In order for the chapter to be successful for a long period of time, you must recognize your responsibility to be a role model and mentor for members of the chapter. By teaching and encouraging other members to achieve, the chapter will achieve. Do not lose sight that you joined because of the men around you; you should feel a special responsibility to do your best for and with these men.

USE THE VALUES OF DELTA TAU DELTA TO GUIDE YOUR DECISIONS:

Truth, Courage, Faith and Power should be ever present in your decision making as a member of Delta Tau Delta. These values are not exclusive to the *Ritual* of the Fraternity, but they should be embodied in your everyday work as an officer of the chapter to motivate, encourage and lead your brothers.

THE FRATERNITY KNOWS YOU WILL DO MUCH TO BETTER THE CHAPTER AND DELTA TAU DELTA THANKS YOU FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORT AND YOUR STEADFAST COMMITMENT. THE FRATERNITY WISHES YOU NOTHING BUT SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS AS YOU LEAD YOUR CHAPTER TO EXCELLENCE.