2011-12 Fraternity & Sorority Housing Policies

Fraternity and sorority chapters are grounded in the philosophy of living ideals, the daily practice of personal embodiment, in attitude and behavior, of the founding values of the chapter, and the cyclical passing down of chapter foundations and ideals from active members to new members over time as brothers or sisters. Chapters are expected to self-manage the chapter and chapter members at a heightened level.

Fraternity and sorority chapters at IWU that choose a residential focus are expected to abide by the below residency requirements. The following information represents only the residency requirements as established by Illinois Wesleyan University. It is the responsibility of each member to know and abide by any additional residency requirements established by the individual chapters. In the event that a conflict in residency requirements exists, the University's policy will supersede that of the individual chapter however a chapter may establish additional residency requirements.

For a complete copy of the University-Owned Fraternity House Policies, please visit the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life website. Policies for privately-owned chapter facilities are available through the local Housing Corporations for those organizations.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CHAPTER'S RESIDING IN UNIVERSITY-OWNED CHAPTER HOUSES

No student initiated into a fraternity or sorority may move into a chapter house without having completed one academic year and/or without having a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or higher.

Students will sign a housing contract that covers the entire academic year.

Upperclass students with two semesters of residence hall living who maintain a membership in a fraternity or sorority that is housed in a University-Owned facility are expected to live in their fraternity or sorority chapter houses and board in the fraternity or sorority house dining rooms, where available. The University understands that there may be some instances when students are not able to reside in a chapter facility. In the event that, these instances leave vacancies in the capacity for the chapter house, it is the responsibility of the chapter to fill these spaces in order to reach the expected capacity rate. In cases where a chapter membership is beyond the facility capacity and a facility fills to 100% capacity with members, the Offices of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Residential Life will assist in providing residence hall housing for the remaining members, as space allows.

Each fraternity house must maintain 100% of its standard capacity rate for the academic year to avoid financial penalty. The fraternity will be assessed $1,000 for each empty bed below 100% of the standard occupancy rate for the year in the form of an under-capacity fee in an effort to help make up for lost revenue to the University. The rate of the under-capacity fee is determined by dividing the total yearly occupancy penalty by two and then equally distributing that amount to all members and new members enrolled on campus. The rate is determined at the beginning of each semester to reflect recruitment, retention, and/or graduation rates. IWU will work with chapters in their advance planning to find alternatives to under-occupancy situations, such as the re-assignment

of the chapter to a facility whose capacity numbers more closely align with the chapter's expected membership/occupancy level.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CHAPTER'S RESIDING IN PRIVATELY-OWNED CHAPTER HOUSES

No student initiated into a fraternity or sorority may move into a chapter house without having lived in University housing for 2 semesters with the exception of students transferring into IWU from other institutions of higher learning and/or without having a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or higher. For those students whose cumulative GPA falls below a 2.000 and are currently living in a privately owned chapter house, it shall be at the discretion of each Housing Corps Board to determine continued eligibility to remain in house.

Students residing in University-owned housing will sign a housing contract that covers the entire academic year. As a result, chapter members living in University-owned housing will be unable to change their residence to a non-University-owner facility until their contract has expired. In the event that a student is not currently enrolled at IWU or participates in off-campus study or study abroad opportunities, the student will be released for the semester in question. All other releases from University housing contracts will be on a case by case basis and should be submitted to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life for final approval by the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Privately-owned chapter houses are expected to be filled with upperclass students who have met their four semester residency requirements to the University. The Offices of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Residential Life may approve a limited number of sophomore students (students with two semesters of residence hall living with the exception of students transferring into IWU from other institutions of higher learning) to reside in Privately-Owned chapter houses. In order to assist in filling the chapter facilities, the University will release a number of students that have not met their four semester residency requirement that is no higher than 50% of the current facility capacity. Requests for special exceptions to this policy may be made by the dates set for midterm each semester. It is the responsibility of the individual fraternity or sorority to develop an internal system for determining which members will be expected to either reside in house or remain in University Housing.

For those members remaining in University Housing or in the event that an "overflow" location is needed by a chapter to house all of their members, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Residential Life will work together to find group housing options in current University Housing. Chapter members signing University-housing contracts will not be released at semester to move into a chapter house even if replacements are provided. Additionally, chapter members residing in a University-owned facility are expected to board in the University campus dining facilities for all meals. Group Housing requests are due to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life by February 15 each year.

MOVING OFF-CAMPUS

Members who have four semesters of University-approved (Residence Hall or Chapter House) housing history are eligible to apply to live off-campus. Married students, students with medical or mental health conditions that cannot be accommodated in University-approved housing, or students living with their parents and commuting to campus may also apply for off-campus housing. In any of these cases, permission must be obtained through the Offices of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Residence Life by completing the appropriate form(s). Further documentation may be required for some claims. The submission of an off-campus housing application is not a guarantee of approval. Students should wait for written approval from the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life before signing any leases or rental agreements for off-campus housing.

Students who fail to submit the form by the published deadlines will be subject to a $200 late charge. Students currently living off campus can either submit an online request or email with updated address and phone number by the established deadline to avoid the $200 late charge.