



# Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

Founded June 28, 1920

## P O L I C I E S

Revised by the 48th House of Delegates  
June 30, 2018 | Phoenix, Arizona

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## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

*Enacted by the 38<sup>th</sup> House of Delegates, August 1, 1998*

Pursuant to Law 7, Collegiate Chapters, Section 6:

- RESOLVED that to be eligible for nomination or election to an elective office of a collegiate chapter or Associate chapter, a member of the Fraternity must have achieved an accumulative grade point average equal to or greater than 2.25 on a 4.00 scale (or an equivalent score on an alternate scales,) or, failing this test, shall have achieved an accumulative grade point average equal to or greater than 2.00 on a 4.00 scale and scored in his most recently completed academic term, a grade point average equal to or greater than 2.50 on a 4.00 scale (or an equivalent score on an alternate scale,); and further,
- RESOLVED that elected officers of a chapter or Associate chapter of the Fraternity shall maintain academic eligibility according to the aforesaid criteria during the entire term of their office, and further,
- RESOLVED that an elected officer who fails to maintain academic eligibility shall be removed from office within seven days of the receipt of evidence that he is no longer eligible and a new officer elected to complete his term.

And, pursuant to Law 15, Collegiate Member Discipline, Section 1:

- RESOLVED that all chapters shall administer a program of academic remediation prescribed by the Fraternity in its publication, Scholarship Manual, and further,
- RESOLVED that collegiate members failing to achieve in any term (semester or quarter) the minimum academic standard as defined by the Laws of the Fraternity shall be placed on Academic Probation and be required to participate in the Fraternity's academic remediation programs, and further,
- RESOLVED that collegiate members failing to achieve the minimum academic standard as defined by the Laws of the Fraternity for a second consecutive term shall be placed on Academic Suspension for one term (semester or quarter) and further,
- RESOLVED that Academic Suspension is defined as the loss of Fraternity membership privileges, including the right to hold any elective or appointed office or to participate in any meeting or event of the Fraternity, including the Fraternity's participation in college or university organized events such as intramural sports, provided however, that a suspended member may participate in the Fraternity's academic remediation program, and further,
- RESOLVED that the collegiate members failing to achieve the minimum academic standard to qualify for graduation for a third consecutive term may be expelled from membership in the Fraternity.

## **ANNUAL FEE FORM 990 REQUIREMENT**

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, September 23, 2016*

Under Article 6 of the Constitution of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., and Law 6A and Law 6B of the Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., which establishes the authority of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity.

- WHEREAS The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires that all tax-exempt entities file Form 990 annually, which includes chapters, provisional chapters, alumni associations, alumni chapters, and other affiliated groups of Sigma Tau Gamma, and,
- WHEREAS Not complying with this annual requirement will cause the chapter or affiliate group's tax-exempt status to be revoked by the IRS which could have an effect on the tax-exempt status of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. and the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation, Inc., and,
- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. has a duty to protect the interests of itself; its chapters and other affiliated groups that may be exposed to financial liability as the result of a failure to execute and file the Form 990 as required by law, and,
- WHEREAS Exercising prudent governance, the Board of Directors has established an annual Form 990 Fee to be assessed to all chapters, provisional chapters, recognized alumni associations, recognized alumni chapters, or other affiliated groups which will be applied towards the costs of preparation and submission of the Form 990 to the IRS on behalf of the above named entities, and,
- WHEREAS Chapters, provisional chapters, recognized alumni associations, recognized alumni chapters, or other affiliated groups can face additional fines and penalties for failing not to supply the information needed in time to file or for providing no information at all by the established deadline, be it, therefore,
- RESOLVED That all chapters, provisional chapters, recognized alumni associations, recognized alumni chapters, or other affiliated groups of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity are required to pay the annual Form 990 Fee to Headquarters and to file Form 990 via the process outlined by Headquarters no later than the required due date as it may be properly extended.

## **AUTHORIZED AGENT**

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, November 2, 1996*

RESOLVED that the Executive Vice President (or his authorized designee) of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., a Missouri non-profit corporation often referred to as the "national" Fraternity, is the only party authorized by the Board of Directors of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., to execute contracts on behalf of the Fraternity with any third party; and further,

RESOLVED that individual student members, alumni members, collegiate chapters, alumni associations or alumni chapters of the Fraternity are not authorized to enter into or execute any contractual agreement on behalf of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., with any third party.

## CHAPTER HOUSING STANDARDS

*Enacted by the 38<sup>th</sup> House of Delegates, August 1, 1998*

RESOLVED that the real property used by collegiate chapters for residential or lodge purposes (generally referred to as "Chapter House,") should be purchased by the chapter's alumni association or housing corporation, incorporated and currently registered in the state in which the collegiate chapter is domiciled, and further,

RESOLVED that the alumni association or housing corporation is charged with the responsibility to administer the real property occupied by the collegiate chapter in full compliance with all laws, (federal, state, and local) and to insure the property for the protection of the Fraternity adequately, its members and guests.

## **EXPELLED MEMBER REINSTATEMENT POLICY**

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, December 5, 2000*

Pursuant to Article 6, Board of Directors, Section 1. of the Constitution of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., the Board of Directors does hereby adopt this resolution of policy, which shall set the procedures by which a former member who has been expelled by the Fraternity may have his membership reinstated.

WHEREAS Law 15, Discipline, and the Due Process Procedures Policy Statement set a procedure by which a member may be expelled for cause, and,

WHEREAS the Board of Directors has, from time to time, received petitions for the reinstatement of an expelled member, and,

WHEREAS the Board of Directors does desire to give consideration to such petitions that fulfill the need of compassion for the expelled member while maintaining the integrity of the membership standards of the Fraternity, now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED that whereas Law 15, Discipline, and the Due Process Procedures Policy Statement give no guidance in such matters, the Board of Directors, in the interest of fairness and consistency, does hereby set this procedure:

A petition to reinstate an expelled member must be submitted in writing to the Executive Vice President of the Fraternity at the Headquarters Office, together with an application fee equal to the Fraternity's associate membership fee at the time of the petition. The application fee will not be refundable, regardless of the ruling of the Board of Directors on the petition. In cases of multiple petitions by a single individual, each petition will require a separate application fee.

The petition must be signed and dated by the individual seeking reinstatement and by the 1) chapter president and chapter advisor in the case of students, 2) chapter alumni association president in the case of alumni or former students.

The petition will clearly state how the expelled member has redressed the violation(s) that caused him to be expelled, and shall have attached evidence of same. (For example, a receipt for the payment of past due accounts, testimony, sworn affidavits, or other documentary evidence).

Upon receipt of the petition, the Executive Vice President will investigate the facts of the petition. Such investigation will include, to the extent possible, testimony, sworn affidavits, or other documentary evidence from the chapter Standards Board board, chapter officers, and appellate Standards Board board members serving at the time of the original violation that was the cause of the expulsion. The Executive Vice President will submit a written report of his findings to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors, by a simple majority vote, will render a decision to accept or not accept the petition for reinstatement at its first meeting following the receipt of the report of the Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President will notify the petitioner of the results in writing.

## HAZING AND PRE-INITIATION ACTIVITIES

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, November 20, 1988*

- WHEREAS in Sigma Tau Gamma, true fraternalism is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for duly constituted authority, and loyalty to the Principles of the Fraternity; and,
- WHEREAS the unauthorized introduction of pre-initiation activities and hazing is destructive to true fraternalism; therefore, be it,
- RESOLVED that Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity reaffirms its commitment to the ideals upon which it was founded and its opposition to destructive behavior, and further,
- RESOLVED that each chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity be admonished to initiate new members with strict adherence to the Ceremony of Initiation as prescribed in the Ritual Manual of the Fraternity, and further,
- RESOLVED that no chapter shall conduct any pre-initiation activities or modify the prescribed ritual of the Fraternity in any manner, and further,
- RESOLVED that no chapter or member of the Fraternity, whether a college member or alumnus, shall engage in the practice of hazing, as defined by the Code of Conduct of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, and further,
- RESOLVED that violation of this policy will be cause for the expulsion of guilty individuals from the Fraternity or the suspension of the charter and closing of guilty chapter or both, and further,
- RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all chapter presidents and chapter advisors and that these officers of the Fraternity be charged with communicating the contents of this resolution with the members of their respective chapters.



## POSITION STATEMENT ON INCLUSIVENESS

Enacted by the Board of Directors, April 25, 2015

- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma is the Fraternity that seeks to promote the high ideals of *Manhood, Brotherhood, and Citizenship* and all of its functions and actions are expected to represent this as listed in our Purpose Statement; and,
- WHEREAS Our Code of Conduct implies that no member, chapter, or Associate chapter shall permit discrimination in membership selection, initiation, chapter operations, or other activities of the Fraternity based on any individual's ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, physical ability, national origin, age, family status, or cultural background; and,
- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma's principles, as expressed through our ceremonies, constitution, and policies, each express the concept of inclusiveness and respect for all persons; and,
- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is an organization based on mutual respect, trust, and honesty where an environment of acceptance and brotherhood exists within the walls of the Fraternity; and,
- WHEREAS The value of such inclusiveness has never been greater given the rich diversity of our campuses and communities. Where inclusiveness is not about diversity for the sake of political correctness, but where inclusiveness is a values-based choice, a decision made because it is the right decision to make based on who we say we are as a brotherhood of men.

### THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity declares that our members have the opportunity to grow into better men by interacting with a diversity of Fraternity brothers, that our Brotherhood is richer and stronger by having a diversity of membership, and that our members are better citizens when they embrace and celebrate diversity in their college and community.

### BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, both at the local and national level, is actively working to promote inclusiveness in our membership and will oppose all acts of harassment, and discrimination; and so,

### BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

By the House of Delegates of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity that it is the continuing position of our Fraternity that membership privileges are open to any qualified man of character without consideration of ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, physical ability, national origin, age, family status, or cultural background.

## INSURANCE STANDARDS

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, August 4, 2011*

Pursuant to Article 6 of the Constitution of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., and Law 13 of the Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., which establishes the authority of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity.

- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity believes that it has a responsibility to protect the interests of its leaders, both volunteer and professional, on the college chapter, alumni association and general fraternity levels when they may be exposed to financial liability as the result of the responsible execution of their duties as officers of the Fraternity, and,
- WHEREAS Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity established an insurance standards policy on August 11, 2000, to assure its future of service to college men seeking a fraternal experience based upon the Principles of Value, Learning, Leadership, Excellence, Benefit, and Integrity, and,
- WHEREAS Exercising prudent governance, the Board of Directors has revisited the insurance standards policy and concluded that a revised policy is in the best interest of all chapters and members, now, therefore, be it,
- RESOLVED That the insurance standards policy enacted August 11, 2000, is hereby rescinded and replaced with this policy, and further,
- RESOLVED That all college chapters and Associate chapters of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity are required to participate in a certain policy of General Liability Insurance sponsored by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. that shows each college chapter as a named insured, and which provides for One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) per occurrence coverage, and further,
- RESOLVED That if a chapter seeks to obtain its own liability insurance coverage it may petition the Board of Directors for permission to do so, provided that it indemnify Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. against any loss and produce an additional insured certificate covering Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. with a minimum \$1 Million Dollars per occurrence (\$1 Million Dollars Aggregate per year) policy limit with a deductible no greater than \$2,500 per occurrence, that includes general liability, non-owned and hired auto liability, and host liquor liability, and that has no exclusions for hazing, sexual abuse, assault and battery, athletic participation, communicable diseases, punitive damages, or discrimination.

## **MEMBER SAFETY POLICIES**

*Revised, November 11, 2005*

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

All college chapters are responsible for annually instructing their members and associate members about this risk management policy.

#### **Alcohol and Drugs**

1. The possession, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises, during an official Fraternity event, or in any situation or setting sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of your state, county, and city.
2. The sale of alcohol, by any chapter is prohibited. This prohibition includes any action that is a functional substitute for the sale of alcohol such as: charging for admission to parties, passing the hat, selling empty cups, or selling drink tickets.
3. Alcoholic beverages may not be purchased with chapter funds. Nor, may the purchase of alcoholic beverages be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of or on behalf of the chapter.
4. Chapter events may not involve the use of bulk quantities of alcohol, kegs of beer or any common source container of alcohol. All alcoholic beverages consumed at chapter functions must be purchased and brought by the individuals attending the function or through a cash bar operated by a licensed establishment where the function is held. Any legal use of alcohol should not involve unlimited quantities, the encouragement of rapid consumption, drinking games, or the direct or indirect pressuring of any person to consume alcohol.
5. No chapter shall sponsor open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access and without specific invitation, where alcohol is present.
6. All recruitment activities shall be dry; that is without the use of alcoholic beverages.
7. No alcohol may be present at any associate (non-initiated) member activity.
8. No chapter may co-sponsor, co-promote or co-finance an event with a bar, tavern, distributor of alcohol, charitable organization, or student organization where alcohol is sold, given away or otherwise provided.
9. The possession, sale and/or use of any illegal drug or controlled substance at any Sigma Tau Gamma house or Fraternity sponsored event is prohibited.

### **HAZING**

No chapter, Associate chapter, collegiate member or alumni member may conduct or condone hazing. Hazing activities are defined as: "Any activity taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities; wearing apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, engaging in stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, and any other activities that are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law."

### **SEXUAL ABUSE**

The Fraternity does not condone any form of sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This includes any actions that are demeaning to any person including but not limited to date rape, gang rape or verbal or written harassment.

**FIRE AND SAFETY**

1. No chapter may be housed in or use the services of a structure that does not meet minimum fire and safety requirements of local civil authorities.
2. Only licensed firearms may be stored on fraternity property. Firearms storage must comply with all local and state laws and must be secured in a locked case or with a locked trigger guard. Ammunition must be stored separately from any firearm.

## **WOMEN'S AUXILIARY GROUPS**

*Enacted by the 33<sup>rd</sup> House of Delegates, August 6, 1998*

- WHEREAS we the Brotherhood of Sigma Tau Gamma realize that a quality fraternity experience should be one of brotherhood; and,
- WHEREAS our 68-year tradition of all-male membership is vulnerable when sister organizations (i.e. little sisters, little roses, white roses, Sig Tau groupies, etc. from now on referred to as an auxiliary group(s)) are in existence or endorsed by the National Fraternity or Local Chapters thereof; and,
- WHEREAS the continued endorsement of these auxiliary groups creates a competition for members with our Greek partners (sororities); and,
- WHEREAS the existence of these auxiliary groups often creates misdirected priorities and mismanagement of Sigma Tau Gamma chapter missions and goals, as well as the successful completion of the objectives and missions of the National Fraternity; therefore, be it,
- RESOLVED that Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc. through its volunteer officer program and professional staff prohibit any programming for or participation by women's auxiliaries at its national, regional, or state meetings, except as guests at social functions; and further,
- RESOLVED that the national office of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., discontinue sale of jewelry intended to signify membership in chapter women's auxiliary groups; provided, however that White Rose Sweetheart Badges will continue to be made available for the recognition of official chapter, regional, and national White Rose Queens and for presentation as gifts by the members to their wives and women friends; and further,
- RESOLVED that the ownership of sweetheart badges does not represent any form of membership in Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., or include membership privileges of any kind; and further,
- RESOLVED that Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., prohibits the existence of chapter-sponsored women's auxiliaries.

## **VOLUNTEER SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY**

*Enacted by the Board of Directors, October 20, 2002*

- WHEREAS in Sigma Tau Gamma, true fraternalism is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for duly constituted authority, and loyalty to the Principles of the Fraternity; and,
- WHEREAS if alumni members, serving in an official capacity with the Fraternity or one of its affiliated alumni associations or chapters, were to consort with collegiate members in a manner that would serve to compromise the Fraternity's perceived commitment to the Principles it would be destructive to Sigma Tau Gamma fraternalism; therefore, be it,
- RESOLVED that an alumni officer may not meet one-on-one with a collegiate member behind closed doors, and further,
- RESOLVED that an alumni officer may not share hotel or other sleeping accommodations with a collegiate member or members, other than family members; and further,
- RESOLVED that an alumni officer may not purchase or provide alcoholic beverages for any collegiate member, regardless of his age, other than in a public establishment; and further,
- RESOLVED that an alumni officer may not accept the offer of an alcoholic beverage furnished by a collegiate member, regardless of his age, other than in a public establishment; and further,
- RESOLVED that alumni officers shall use the highest level of good judgment when consuming alcoholic beverages in the presence of collegiate members of any age, understanding that their behavior serves as a model of responsible brotherhood; and further,
- RESOLVED that while understanding that an alumni officer cannot control the behaviors of collegiate members, alumni officers shall support with their words and behavior the Risk Management Policy of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc.; and further,
- RESOLVED that any alumni officer who violates this policy shall be subject to the disciplinary process of the Fraternity as described in Law 8 A, Collegiate and Alumni Member Discipline.

## **HARD ALCOHOL POLICY**

*Enacted by the House of Delegates, June 29, 2018*

Proposed Resolution 2 – Elimination of the use of Hard Alcohol during Fraternity Events or within Fraternity facilities

The Constitution, Laws, and Resolutions Committee hereby recommends that the following Resolution be adopted by the Fraternity:

WHEREAS in Sigma Tau Gamma, true fraternalism is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for duly constituted authority, and loyalty to the Principles of the Fraternity; and,

WHEREAS the excessive and/or unsupervised use of hard alcohol poses a risk to the health and welfare of collegiate members of the Fraternity and their guests; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED that as of September 1, 2019, hard alcohol is prohibited from any and all Chapter events and facilities, unless served by a licensed third-party vendor; and further,

RESOLVED that “hard alcohol” be defined as an alcoholic beverage with an alcohol by volume (“ABV”) above 15% (30 proof).

## SCHEDULE OF FEES

*Approved by the House of Delegates, June 29, 2018*

Pursuant to Law 5, Membership Fees, of the Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc., the House of Delegates, assembled in the 47th Session, June 29, 2018, in Phoenix, Arizona, does hereby set or amended this schedule of dues and fees.

COLLEGIATE Applicable Dates	Membership Fees		Semester Dues	Summer Conference Fee
	Associate	Initiation		
July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018	\$50	\$270	\$115	\$450
July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019	\$50	\$275	\$120	\$475
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020	\$50	\$280	\$120	\$475
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021	\$50	\$285	\$125	\$500
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022	\$50	\$290	\$125	\$500
July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023	\$50	\$295	\$130	\$525
July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024	\$50	\$300	\$130	\$525

*The Summer Conference Fee is paid each semester (twice per year) and accumulates to provide a fund for support of collegiate member participation in the annual summer conference.*

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Applicable Dates	Association Dues		Member Safety Fee	Initiation Fee
	New	Renewal		
July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018	\$250	\$100	\$375	\$270
July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019	\$250	\$100	\$375	\$275
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020	\$250	\$100	\$375	\$280
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021	\$250	\$100	\$350	\$285
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022	\$250	\$100	\$350	\$290
July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023	\$250	\$100	\$325	\$295
July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024	\$250	\$100	\$325	\$300

Alumni Member Safety Fee: With payment of the fee, the alumni association will be included in the Fraternity's General Liability Coverage.