

# SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

## OFFICE OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY AFFAIRS

### Fraternity and Sorority Housing Exemption Policy

#### Introduction

There is a shared responsibility between social fraternity and sorority chapters and Syracuse University to support the financial stability of these organizations. It is the responsibility of the chapter to live in their chapter house and to fill all available beds or individual living spaces throughout the academic year. Recognizing this shared responsibility, this housing exemption program was created by Syracuse University to assist chapters in meeting the financial obligations of operating a chapter house. This process allows qualified rising sophomore members of recognized social fraternity and sorority chapters to be exempt from the two-year University residency requirement, provided these individuals commit to live in the fraternity or sorority chapter house for one full academic year.

#### Eligibility to Receive Exemptions

To be eligible to receive a housing exemption, all of the following requirements must all be satisfied:

- A. The chapter house must be located within the Planned Institutional District (PID) of the City of Syracuse and recognized as a chapter house by Syracuse University and the (Inter)National affiliate organizational;
- B. The chapter must hold a minimum rating of **Chapter in Good Standing** through the Office of Fraternity Sorority Affairs accreditation process;
- C. Only initiated members in good standing may reside in the chapter house;
- D. **Juniors and seniors must fill a minimum of 70%** of the available beds or individual living units in the chapter house, and **sophomores may fill no more than 30%** of the available beds in the chapter house;
- E. Seventy percent of available beds or individual living spaces in the chapter house must be demonstrated to be filled to the satisfaction of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs for the chapter to be eligible for any housing exemptions;
- F. The student(s) identified for a housing exemption by the chapter must be (1) currently registered at the University, (2) an initiated member of the chapter, (3) hold a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5, (4) be in good judicial standing with the University.

#### Housing Exemption Processes

The fall semester housing exemption process is for current first-year students who are living in University housing and seeking to live in chapter house during their sophomore year.

- A. Rising sophomore members should never assume that they will be granted a housing exemption; therefore, chapters should advise all of their rising sophomore members that they should participate in housing assignment reservation process, including payment of the required housing deposit, coordinated by the Office of Housing, Meal Plan, ID Card Services. Those

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individuals who are granted a housing exemption will be permitted to cancel their housing agreement and will receive a refund of their housing deposit.

- B. In February, chapter presidents are required to attend a housing exemption information meeting where they are notified of the housing exemption policy and process and are provided with the necessary paperwork to submit a request for housing exemptions.
- C. Exemptions requested during the spring semester for the following academic year are dependent upon the chapter meeting the occupancy requirements for junior and senior members that will be living in the chapter house the following year. A chapter will be eligible for housing exemptions **only** if the 70% of the available beds or individual living spaces in the chapter house are occupied by junior and senior members during the following academic year (fall and spring) as demonstrated by signed housing agreements or other proof satisfactory to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. If the chapter meets this requirement, housing exemptions for rising sophomores will be provided for up to 30% of the available beds in the chapter house.
  - a. **Example: A chapter house has 40 beds in the house.** The house must be occupied by 28 juniors and seniors (70%) for the chapter to be **eligible for 12 housing exemptions** for rising sophomores (30%). If the chapter has 27 or fewer juniors and seniors living in the house, the chapter will receive no housing exemptions.
- D. A list of names respective SUIDs must be submitted to Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs by the date stipulated at the aforementioned exemption meeting. It is the responsibility of the chapter president and house manager to submit only the names of those students who meet the minimum GPA requirements. Any incorrect information submitted by the chapter will result in the chapter not being eligible for housing exemptions.
- E. Members whose names were submitted will be contacted by the Office of Housing, Meal Plan, ID Card Services with further instructions regarding their exemptions.
- F. Each student will be required to accept their exemption on MySlice and remove themselves from the housing lottery by the specified date to cancel their housing agreement for the following academic year. Failure to cancel the housing agreement by the specified date will result in loss of the housing exemption and the assessment of all charges applicable to student housing.
- G. Except for unforeseen and/or extraordinary circumstances, **no exemptions will be granted.** Chapter seeking additional exemptions outside this process must make a request in writing to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, which will determine whether, and to what extent, additional housing exemption assistance is appropriate.
- H. Syracuse University reserves the right to modify or terminate this program at any time.