



Greek Enhancement Dues Frequently Asked Questions

Texas A&M University will implement a Fraternity and Sorority Life Greek Enhancement Due for implementation beginning spring 2020. The purpose of this due is to provide the members of fraternities and sororities with a sustainable advising and programming model to create a membership experience that is congruent with both the university's and the organizations' mission, purpose and values. The \$25 due will be assessed to Greek affiliated students housed under the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life each semester on their student billing account throughout the duration of their membership in a fraternity or sorority at Texas A&M University.

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) will hold a town hall meeting that will allow the Aggie Greek Community to ask questions about the Greek Enhancement Due. The opportunity is open to all students and stakeholders. If you have more questions, please direct them to aggiegreeklife@tamu.edu.

1. Why start now?

Texas A&M University recognizes the need to support the Aggie Greek community. Additionally, students in the fraternity and sorority community have consistently asked for additional support to strengthen development of our Aggie Greek chapters. Membership in the community has grown steadily, and today more than 5,500 students belong to over 55 inter/nationally affiliated and university organizations. The due will enable the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and recognized chapters to establish a long-term funding model and sustainable budget for the fraternity and sorority community.

2. What is the due?

Beginning January 2020, an enhancement due will be charged to all Texas A&M fraternity and sorority members at a rate of \$25.00 per student, per semester. The dues will assist with efforts to meet the current needs of our growing fraternity and sorority community and continue to build a sustainable, value-added fraternity and sorority experience at the university.

3. Who will be charged the due?

The due will be charged to **all members** as determined by the chapter and as indicated on membership rosters on file with headquarters and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Each semester your chapter will submit updated rosters verifying the status of every member.

4. How will the due be collected?

The dues will be collected twice per year, in January and August respectively. This will happen for the duration of your membership while enrolled at Texas A&M University. The \$25 due will appear on your student bill, accessed through the "Tuition Payment" portal in Howdy. Review your individual student billing statement at <https://howdy.tamu.edu> for detailed information.

Have more questions about student billing? Visit <https://tamusbs.custhelp.com/> for further assistance.

5. How will the due be used?

The Greek Enhancement Due will be used for program initiatives and accountability mechanisms necessary to account for the anticipated participation and growth in fraternity and sorority community over the next decade. Simply put, the due will supplement the current budget that is allocated to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, which is part of the University Advancement Fee (UAF). The money generated will go towards providing increased trainings, leadership development opportunities, staff salary, assessment, and developmental programs for the 5,500 plus-member community.

6. How did the decision to start a Greek Enhancement Due come to fruition?

The Texas A&M Fraternity and Sorority Life Excellence Committee comprised of several staff and students, was charged with determining next and best practices for the Aggie Greek community (more information can be found at tx.ag/fslexcellence). The committee deliberated for almost a year and produced a timeline of initiatives for the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life to implement. The committee unanimously agreed upon the Greek Enhancement Due as an important component for Texas A&M University fraternity and sorority members. Approved by President Michael Young and Dr. Daniel Pugh, Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life has been working on an implementation plan.

7. Who will oversee how the dues are disseminated?

This will be a joint endeavor between staff and students. The Department of Student Activities and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will serve as the account administrators. Additionally, a portion of the dues will specifically go towards Greek programming and educational initiatives. There will be a board comprised of active Greek affiliated students with staff oversight. The board members will make strategic decisions regarding the allocation of the educational and programming funds generated by the dues each year.

8. What about new members?

The Greek Enhancement Due will be reflected on their student bill the semester after they join. Membership status will be verified by the chapter.

9. What if I'm studying abroad, conducting an internship or co-op, will I still be charged a semester due?

No, because you will not receive direct services and benefits from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

10. If I am no longer a member of a fraternity or sorority, will I be assessed the due?

No, dues are assessed for services rendered for the current semester of membership. It is the responsibility of your chapter to remove non-members from the roster to prevent future billing.

11. If my chapter is suspended, and I am still enrolled at Texas A&M, will I still be charged the due?

No. Your chapter will not receive any services from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, so you will not be charged throughout the duration of the suspension

12. If I am suspended from my chapter as an individual, will I still be responsible for the due?

No. However, it depends on the timing. It is the responsibility of your chapter to remove suspended members from the roster to provide accurate records.

13. Will members in Greek organizations that are not attached to a council have to pay the due?

No, these organizations do not receive services from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Only students who are members of chapters receiving services from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will be charged the due.

14. What about students with financial need?

Any financial aid and/or scholarships can be applied towards the cost of the Greek Enhancement Due. Please contact Financial Aid for more information at financialaid@tamu.edu or 979-845-3236.

The Department of Student Activities and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life are working on a waiver process for those with a financial need.

15. Will an annual report be shared with the Greek Community on the use of the enhancement due?

Yes. The OFSL staff will publish a report at the end of the fiscal year.

16. Are there other dues like this at Texas A&M?

Yes. The Corps of Cadets currently requires \$75 per cadet each semester. Conversations are occurring to develop a fee for students involved in music activities (i.e. university bands, choral activities, and university orchestras). Another example is the fee paid by students who are members of various sports clubs.