

CHAPTER EXCELLENCE CHALLENGE POLICY AND PROGRAM

As a means of holding chapters accountable to the high standards to which FarmHouse aspires, FarmHouse Fraternity hereby establishes the following policy and program to help regularly gauge the health of each chapter. Chapters not meeting a minimum of 70 percent of the criteria set forth in the **Chapter Award of Excellence** will be placed on the "Chapter Excellence Challenge Period" as defined below. The Chapter Excellence Challenge Program replaces the previous Chapter Challenge Program.

1. Upon confirmation that a chapter has fallen below the 70 percent level on the application, the International President and staff shall automatically provide notification to the chapter and association president that they've been placed on the Chapter Excellence Challenge (no Board action is required). Notification shall be in the form of a phone call, followed by a letter outlining expectations.
2. Within 30 days of the date of the letter from the International President that the chapter is not meeting 70 percent of the criteria, the chapter and its association must jointly submit a written plan of action outlining to the International Executive Board the steps they jointly propose to take to meet at least the minimum standards.
3. Upon receipt of the plan of action, the International President and/or staff will provide a personalized written acknowledgement of receipt with feedback on the plan.
4. FarmHouse International will help conduct an Association/Advisor support visit as soon as possible (within 60 days) of a chapter being placed on Challenge. FarmHouse International will assist the Association with mailing a letter to alumni in the area encouraging them to attend. A 1-page chapter data trends sheet will be included with the mailing.
5. The Excellence Challenge Period will be in effect for at least two full years from the date of notification - unless the chapter meets the minimum of 70 percent of the criteria the following year after being placed on the Challenge.
6. A progress report and draft of the new year's Chapter Award of Excellence application is to be submitted by the chapter and association six months after the chapter's plan of action is due and every six months thereafter, until the Excellence Challenge Period is removed by the Board. Additionally, a member from the Board or staff must make personal contact once a month with chapters, associations and/or advisors of chapters on the Excellence Challenge Period.
7. If the Challenge has not been met after two years as specified in Item 2, the International Executive Board will send a representative of the Board or staff to meet with the chapter and association and give them a choice of being placed on probation until the following year or of proceeding to reorganize** the chapter.
 - a. If the chapter and association choose the probation option, a representative of the Board will facilitate a review and discussion by undergraduates, alumni and appropriate resource people of the terms of the probation and develop plans and programs to meet these terms by addressing the need to develop programs detailed in the Chapter Award of Excellence.
 - b. If the chapter and association choose to proceed with reorganization,** the International Executive Board, in consultation with the chapter and association, will determine an appropriate time frame and schedule for the reorganization.
8. If the chapter and association choose the probation option and if, at the end of the probation period, the goals of the probation period have not been met, the International Board may suspend the chapter's charter or determine an appropriate time frame and schedule for reorganization.

** Reorganization of a chapter as used in this policy is defined as a process wherein the International Executive Board or its representatives review the membership status of undergraduates, the appropriateness and suitability for continued service by chapter officers, and prescribe plans and programs for the chapter. If the Board finds just cause when investigating the reorganization option, a chapter may be suspended instead of being reorganized.

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