

Procedures & checklist for visiting other chapters FarmHouse Fraternity

To make a chapter visitation enjoyable and rewarding for both the visiting chapter and the host chapter, FarmHouse Fraternity hereby recommends the following procedures to establish and maintain good relations between undergraduate chapters of the Fraternity:

1. The visiting chapter or colony should contact the president of the host chapter or colony a minimum of three weeks in advance to request and plan a visit. The visiting chapter shall have an active member responsible for the trip. This leader shall identify himself to the chapter president during the planning call and immediately upon arriving at the chapter. This leader is responsible for the conduct of all the visiting delegation during their stay.
2. Approval of the host chapter or colony must be received, ideally at least two weeks in advance of the visit. It is the right of the chapter or colony selected for the visit to deny permission to the inquiring group.
3. During the trip and while visiting, the chapter must obey local laws, chapter rules, and International Fraternity Policy concerning the use of alcohol and drugs. Drinking can be the direct cause for unacceptable behavior and the bad feelings that inevitably arise. The Alcohol Policy still applies regardless of what campus you're visiting.
4. The host chapter shall appoint an officer of the chapter to act as guide for the visiting chapter. As guide, the officer will explain to the visiting chapter upon its arrival all the necessary local, city, chapter and campus laws concerning alcohol, quiet hours, proper conduct and any other items deemed appropriate by the host chapter. The visiting chapter will be expected to live up to the wishes of the host chapter.
5. Policies regarding lodging should be established. The availability of floor space and/or bed space should be determined and communicated in advance of the visit. The host chapter shall provide suitable sleeping arrangements for the visiting chapter or notify the visiting chapter in advance that such arrangements are not possible. Areas of the house considered off-limits should also be stated.
6. The host chapter and visiting chapter should discuss some activity geared towards a positive blending of both chapters. If there is a cost to an agreed upon activity, it should be shared by both chapters. While social activities may well take place, the host chapter should consider taking the visiting chapter on a campus tour as well. A tour of the host chapter's housing and a full explanation of the chapter's operation, traditions, achievements, officers and plans for the future is always appreciated.
7. The host chapter is not expected to provide meals, beverages, or transportation for the visiting chapter, unless previously arranged and agreed to by both chapters. If the visiting chapter is to pay for only food or supplies, the arrangements need to be made before the visit.
8. The visiting chapter should serve as good will ambassadors for their chapter, their school, and the Fraternity. All visiting members should be aware of local customs and the rules of proper respect and good behavior. Do not enter the house of other fraternities, sororities, or dormitories unless specifically invited.

Such chapter visits can be very enjoyable and rewarding if these guidelines and common sense rules of good conduct are followed. The members and pledges of your chapter are representatives of FarmHouse Fraternity. Whether visiting or hosting a chapter, the impression you leave will establish your chapter's idea of brotherhood.