Values in Action Accreditation Program

In order to maintain recognition each year, the organization is required to participate in the Values in Action Accreditation Program. Organizations that fail to complete the Values in Action Accreditation Program can lose campus recognition and will no longer receive the benefits of a campus organization, including recruitment privileges.

The purpose of the Values in Action Accreditation Program is to provide comprehensive quality assessment of the fraternities and sororities at Villanova University while allowing the organizations to demonstrate the value they provide to campus. This process is designed to ensure fraternities and sororities are committed to providing the highest quality experience to its members.

Values in Action Accreditation is a two-stage program. In the first stage, chapters submit a final report documenting the chapter's efforts, including supporting documents outlined in the final report. The second stage requires chapters to provide a presentation to a panel of evaluators, allowing the chapter to creatively demonstrate their achievements, provide further clarification from the final report, and positively interact with members of the Villanova community.

Further, the Values in Action Accreditation Program serves as a recognition process through which campus recognition of a Fraternity or Sorority is determined. By clarifying a minimum set of standards, organizations can work to ensure they are performing to expectation. Further, the Values in Action Accreditation Program celebrates the achievements of organizations, recognizing fraternities and sororities exceeding expectation and performance.

Each fraternity and sorority will be provided feedback at the mid-year point and after the report and presentation are completed to ensure the continual growth of the chapter and the overall fraternity and sorority community. This program will evaluate the social Greek organizations on their work for the academic year, from May 2018 to April 2019, with final presentations from April 3th, April 12th.

Each stage of the Values in Action Program (final report and final presentation) allows for organizations to illustrate how they excel in the areas of: Civic Engagement, Wildcat Community, Scholarship and Academic Development, Membership Development, Chapter Management.

The final packet will be disseminated at the President's Roundtable on **Tuesday, October 9, 2018** to ensure the chapter can review and plan adequately. The final report is due in completion on **Friday, March 29, 2019 to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life no later than 5pm. The report should be submitted electronically via email. No paper reports will be accepted.** The final report will ask for additional documents required by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life as well as the different programs, events and endeavors completed by the chapter. There is paperwork and requirements due before the completion date, however, to ensure organizations are participating in the program year-round.

The chapter presentation will be a 30-minute presentation prepared by chapter representatives for a panel of five evaluators invested in Fraternity and Sorority life. The presentation is to be given by no more than 5 chapter

representatives, one of which must be the current chapter president. The others may be determined at the chapter's discretion, but it may be most helpful to utilize those chairs in charge of each area being assessed (academic chair for scholarship and academic development, etc.). All other members of the chapter are invited and strongly encouraged to attend the presentation, as they can be called upon by the panel to answer questions and provide insight. Chapter advisors, both alumni and on campus, are also encouraged to attend, to see what the chapter has done throughout the year. The final report for the Values in Action Program will be a year-long process. So please maintain your documents, events and programs throughout the year – waiting until March to complete the report may be difficult and could result in the chapter receiving a lower accreditation score than they deserve.

Five Pillars of Values in Action

Civic Engagement:
Civic engagement details community service and philanthropic efforts and initiatives of organizations and examines how the organization addresses issues of local and national concern. Organizations should participate in direct service, raise money for philanthropy as well as be a platform for tackling pressing issues that may arise in the Villanova community and the surrounding area.

Questions to consider:
- How does your organization participate in community service? Please include information relating to community service events sponsored by the organization or events collaborated with another organization.
- How does your organization participate in philanthropy? Please include information relating to philanthropy events sponsored by the organization, events collaborated with another organization or philanthropy events your organization participates in.
- Does your organization have set expectations for community service and philanthropy involvement for your members? If so, what are those expectations, and do you ensure members uphold those expectations.
- How does your organization show it is a positive organization within the Villanova community?
- How does your chapter establish a positive relationship with the campus and community?
- How does your organization utilize service and philanthropy events as a learning opportunity?
- How does your organization instill community service and philanthropy as an important element in your organization?
- How does your organization remain current with local and national initiatives relevant to your organization?

Wildcat Community:
Wildcat Community encompasses the organizations involvement with the greater Villanova community. Organization's should maintain involvement with all three councils within the Greek community and encourage members to expand participation to other avenues on campus.

Questions to consider:
- How does your organization interact within your Council?
- Do you have representation on the Council Executive Council or members who ran for positions?
- How do you support larger council initiatives?
- How does your organization interact and support the Inter-Greek Council (IGC)?
- How do your organization interact with the other councils within the fraternity and sorority life community?
- Do you partner with another fraternity or sorority to sponsor programming? If so, what was this programming?
- How does your organization interact with the larger Villanova community?
- Is there an expectation for campus involvement with your members? What is this expectation if it exists?
- Does your organization collaborate with non-Greek organizations or departments at all? What does this collaboration look like?
- What does community mean to the members of your organization?
- What does Greek unity mean to your chapter members?

Scholarship and Academic Development
Scholarship and academic development details the academic and scholastic achievements of the organization. There should be set expectations for GPA requirements and scholarship plans that help struggling members improve academically and recognizes well-performing members. Further, fraternities and sororities should be a platform for learning outside of the classroom.

Questions to consider:
- What was the organization's GPA each semester?
- Does the organization have a person appointed or elected as the academic chair?
- Does the organization have a staff/faculty advisor?
- Does the organization have academic (GPA) requirements for its members and chapter leadership?
- Is there an academic or scholarship program for the organization?
    o How does this program help members who are struggling academically?
    o How does this program reward and continue to incentivize members who are performing well?
- How does your organization use peer-to-peer level in its academic programming?
- How does the organization connect its membership to academic resources and opportunities?
- How does the chapter engage its members in opportunities to continue to learn outside of the classroom?
- How does your organization ensure your new members have academic success?
- How does your organization use your faculty/staff advisor as a resource?

Membership Development
Membership development includes new member education, continual development after initiation/crossing, leadership development, transitional leadership and programming efforts with alumni. Organization's should be a foundation for personal growth and foster lifelong belonging.

Questions to consider:
- How does your organization develop it new members?
    o How does the chapter provide leadership opportunities to new members?
- How does the chapter continue to develop its members after Crossing/Initiation?
- What internal developmental programming does the organization offer its membership?
- How is leadership understood and developed within your chapter?
- How does the chapter ensure all chapter members are engaged in the process of goal setting and making decisions for the everyday actions of the organization?
- Does your organization sponsor an annual retreat?
- How does your organization support leadership development programming on campus?
- Does the organization participate in any larger programming sponsored by the regional or inter/national headquarters? Please include the name of the conference and who attended from the organization and what they gained from their experience.
- How does the organization ensure successful transitions between leadership?
- How does the organization instill lifelong membership into its members?
- How does the chapter build relationships with alumni in a meaningful way?
- How are alumni relationships developed where alumni are perceived as a valued resource?

Chapter Management
Chapter management is inclusive of all required programs, events and deadlines sponsored by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. These requirements are meant to support the chapters, develop Fraternity and Sorority Life presidents and members who hold leadership roles, and foster collaborative interactions within the Greek community. For an organization to maintain recognition at Villanova University, the chapter must not only

participate in the Values in Action Accreditation Program but also adhere to the below standards. These standards must be attained and upheld for a recognized organization to remain in good standing with the university:

Excel Chapter Roster	1. Must be submitted by August 31st and December 14th. 2. Must be submitted by January 18th and May 3rd.
Post Recruitment Paperwork	1. All new members must complete new member paperwork (grade release, hazing form and MRABA- Panhellenic only)
Advisor	1. Each chapter must have an alumni advisor and a faculty/staff advisor. The advisor names and contact information should be shared with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, and listed on the excel chapter roster.
Leadership Retreat	1. The current chapter president must be present each semester. 2. Council e-board members must be present every semester. • Must be present on September 8th. • Must be present on February 23-24th.
Chapter On-on-One Meetings (1:1)	1. Chapter presidents should attend a monthly one-on-one meeting with the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff to update them on programs, initiatives, and progress with the Values in Action Program.
Inter-Greek Council Meetings	1. Attendance by a selected representative or chapter president at meetings is required. • September 24th • November 13th • February 12th • March 18th
GPA	1. Chapter GPA must meet the required Regional or (Inter) national Organization standard and be no lower than council standards. 2. Potential New Member GPA to begin new member process must meet your Regional or Inter(national) organization and be no lower than council standards.
President's Roundtable	1. Chapter Presidents and Council Presidents are required to attend two times a semester. • October 9th • December 5th • January 15th • April 25th

OFSL Annual Programming	1. Chapter support and participation in OFSL annual events are important, and essential to build community and support Villanova Fraternity and Sorority Life.
	   • OFSL Community Halloween Party- October 29th
	   • OFSL Community Easter Egg Hunt- April 14th

Bystander Intervention	1. All new members in recognized fraternities and sororities are required to attend a bystander intervention training supported by the Office of Health Promotion.
	   • November 30th (Fall)
	   • Chapter specific (Spring)

Initiation	1. All chapter new member processes and initiations must be completed in one semester, unless otherwise noted by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
	   • November 11th (IFC Council)
	   • December 13th (Panhellenic and MGC Council)
	   • May 2nd (Panhellenic, IFC, and MGC Council)

Service and Philanthropy Forms	1. Each semester, chapters are asked to report chapter service and philanthropy hours by using the form provided by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
	   • Due December 14th
	   • Due May 3rd

Chapter leadership training	1. Chapters are asked to send their respective officers to attend training sessions held by OFSL for position specific information.
	   • January 25th
	       ○ Communication/PR Chair Training
	       ○ Treasurer Training
	   • January 28th
	       ○ Risk/Social Chair Training
	   • January 30th
	       ○ Philanthropy Chair Training

Accreditation	1. The Values in Action Accreditation Program will be used in determining continued recognition. Receiving a "Zero Star" rating will result in immediate loss of recognition. Receiving two "One Star" ratings in a consecutive year frame will also result in loss of recognition.

Evaluation and Scoring:
Once the final report completed and submitted, it will be reviewed by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life professional staff and shared with the committee members sitting on the chapter panel of evaluation. Both the final

report and the presentation will be evaluated by a group of approximately five panel evaluators. This panel will include diverse representation from the Division of Student Life, Academic Affairs, alumni volunteers, on campus advisors, council executive board, and unaffiliated undergraduate students. The diverse panel is to allow for a variety of perspective and feedback provided to the organizations.

The evaluators will provide chapters with a score from zero to four in the categories of Civic Engagement, Wildcat Community, Scholarship and Academic Development, Membership Development, Chapter Management. Each category will be evaluated separately.

Stars	Meaning	Description
Zero	Unaccredited or unrecognized organization.	If an organization fails to participate, it will receive a zero and immediately lose campus recognition.
One	Poor Standing	An organization receiving one star will have to develop a chapter improvement plan. If an organization receives one star for two consecutive years, it will immediately be suspended and lose campus recognition.
Two	Accredited	The organization is recognized and maintains the basic benefits of a student organization.
Three	Performing	The organization is meeting most expectations and exceeding in some.
Four	Excelling	The organization is overall excelling and exceeding expectation.

Along with the Values in Action Star rating each year, the evaluators will provide feedback that recognizes the strengths of the organization as well as opportunities for improvement. This feedback will allow the organization to gain an understanding of how their organization is perceived and develop plans and goals for continued growth. Scores and feedback will be provided to organizations by **July 15** of each year.