

Davidson College Patterson Court Office

New Member Program Guidelines

These guidelines were established to ensure that new member education enhances the academic progress of each Patterson Court organization member and assists their interpersonal development while providing the history and information necessary for viable membership in the Patterson Court community.

- Every new member will receive a copy of the *Davidson College New Member Bill of Rights* that shall be reviewed with him/her at the onset of the organization's new member orientation program. The *New Member Bill of Rights Confirmation Form* must be signed by all new members of an organization and filed with the Patterson Court Office **within the first week of the new member program.**
- Each organization will uphold the *Davidson College Anti-Hazing Contract*, educating all members on this policy at the onset of every new member program. Every member of the Patterson Court community is responsible for upholding a zero tolerance for hazing. The *Anti-Hazing Contract Confirmation Form* must be signed by all new members of an organization and filed with the Patterson Court Office **within the first week of the new member program.**
- **All new member programs must be completed by the deadline established and announced by the Patterson Court Office.**
- Each organization's new member program must be submitted in writing and approved by the Patterson Court office **prior to Self-Selection Night. A copy of this written program must be provided to each new member by his/her organization at the onset of the new member program.** Written programs must include all dates, beginning and ending times, locations and descriptions of each activity. **This includes initiation date, time and location** (where applicable).
- Any changes to new member calendars must be discussed with and approved by the Patterson Court advisor **at least 72 business hours** in advance.
- Scavenger hunts, or other similar activities by any other name, are prohibited.
- New member activities must end by Midnight and may not start again till 8 AM.
- For organizations with required study halls or study hours, flexibility must be given to those individuals who need to study alone, in the library or computer lab, with a study group or in a separate location. **Only academic coursework may be completed during required study halls** (no fraternity/eating-house information/history, etc.)

- Organizations wishing to hold off-campus new member activities including initiation, retreats or road trips, must have **prior** approval from the Patterson Court Office.
- Organizations wishing to hold events that require an overnight stay (**on or off campus**) as part of their program must file an *Overnight Request Form* **and** an *Overnight Participant List* with the Patterson Court Office **no later than 5 PM Tuesday for that weekend. Overnight activities may only occur on Fridays or Saturdays.**
- All organizations must follow their own inter/national new member programs, where applicable. In cases where Davidson College and inter/national policies differ, Davidson College policy will always take precedence.
- New member educators are encouraged to meet regularly with the Patterson Court Advisor as well as their organization's alumni and campus advisors for feedback. Questions or concerns should be directed to the Patterson Court Office in Belk Hall or 704/894-2188

This list is not all-inclusive. Organizations should familiarize themselves with the Davidson College Red Book (specifically sections on Hazing, Alcohol and Patterson Court life), North Carolina State Law, and their own inter/national policies (where applicable) related to new member activities.

Questionable incidents may be reported by calling the Patterson Court Office at 704/894-2188.