

HOW TO MARKET FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE ON YOUR RESUME

When applying for internships, graduate/professional schools, or full-time employment, one of the most common questions that students ask is whether they should include their Fraternity or Sorority on their resume. The answer is yes! Research indicates Fraternity and Sorority members are more intellectually and emotionally connected in their work and are loyal and productive in their positions.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF HAVING THE ORGANIZATION ON YOUR RESUME?

Joining a Fraternity or Sorority provides students with a remarkable opportunity to expand their social network and become more engaged with their campus and its surrounding community. These experiences allow members to cultivate a variety of **college competencies** and skills that employers seek in prospective talent. In addition, you might even interview with a member of your respective organization or another fraternity/sorority.



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COLLEGE COMPETENCIES

1. Career Design & Management:

Talk about how you used a strength to assist the chapter with an issue.

Example: You possess negotiation, interpersonal, and communication skills, which you used to help recruit alumni/ae for a panel.

2. Intercultural & Global Fluency:

Be specific and demonstrate your ability to gain different perspectives by working with diverse student populations in order to accomplish “X” goal/s. With an increasing international population, how did you advocate inclusivity in your organization?

3. Leadership:

Explain how you coordinated/managed chapter committees/programs or council activities. Demonstrate how you educated team members or led them to make decisions

4. Oral & Written Communication:

Express your ability to communicate or present effectively to a group. How did your experiences enhance your communication skills when conveying policies and procedures, marketing chapter programs, reporting data from activities, etc? This type of description maximizes your experiences for your audience rather than simply mentioning that you posted flyers around campus for events.

5. Adaptability & Resiliency:

Articulate how you structured chapter activities in order to comply with new policies and procedures enforced by the university/international organization. Illustrate how you implemented new strategies to promote membership in your organization. If your chapter developed an improvement plan, discuss how you created that framework.

6. Teamwork:

Demonstrate how you collaborated with members or different organizations to perform and/or coordinate community service projects or social and professional development events. Be descriptive and discuss how you participated in collective efforts, generated ideas together, delegated tasks, etc.

7. Critical Thinking & Problem Solving:

Convey how you strategized and increased membership enrollment or participation at organization events. Talk about the ways you helped to increase the chapter budget or create alternative options to assist members with dues.

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MAXIMIZING YOUR RESUME

- Put the legal name of your organization, and include the chapter. If your organization is incorporated, mention that.
- When describing responsibilities, steer clear of pronouns.
- Be specific and detailed in your job description. This helps your audience better understand your strengths and potential contributions. Utilizing action oriented verbs makes these descriptions more powerful.
- Limit your responsibilities to 1-3 bullets for your responsibilities depending on position and space.
- Use strong action verbs on your resume.

Sample Strong Action Verbs:

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|-----------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| • Achieve | • Provide | • Chair | • Create |
| • Appoint | • Publicize | • Collaborate | • Organize |
| • Arrange | • Serve | • Coordinate | • Oversee |
| • Assist | • Sponsor | • Create | • Participate |
| • Attend | • Train | • Design | • Perform |
| • Budget | • Volunteer | • Manage | • Plan |

Sample Positions that could be included on the resume:

Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Recruitment Chair, Marketing Chair, Technology Chair, Philanthropy Chair, New Member Chair/Educator, Dean of New Members/New Member Educator, Sergeant of Arms, Parliamentarian, Council Representative, Recruitment Counselor, Academic Chair, Alumni Relations Chair, Equity and Inclusion Chair, etc.

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SAMPLE RESUME DESCRIPTIONS

General Member

University of Rochester Rochester, New York Member, Chi Omega Fraternity - Xi Mu Chapter
October 2017 - Present

- Attend weekly meetings to learn about chapter and national organization news.
- Assist the chapter in the decision-making process regarding programs, service activities, and sponsorship.
- Participate in 10 hours of community service working in a soup kitchen as part of Xi Mu's local philanthropy project.
- Demonstrate communication and relationship building skills while participating in recruitment events for the chapter.

Officer

University of Rochester Rochester, New York President, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. - Mu Sigma Chapter
August 2017 - Present

- Direct meetings, correspond with the Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and other university administration, and plan chapter events for the calendar year.
- Complete and submit reports with the assistance of the chapter advisor.
- Apply time management, communication, and organizational skills serving as the chapter's leader.

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Multiple Roles

University of Rochester Rochester, New York Risk Management, Psi Upsilon Fraternity - Upsilon Chapter August 2017 - Present

- Assist with the development of a comprehensive risk management plan for the chapter.
- Make certain that all members are knowledgeable about risk management policies and their adherence.
- Follow and impose the local, state and national organization and applicable policies.
- Conduct weekly inspections of the house and perform sporadic fire drills.

Social Chair, Psi Upsilon Fraternity - Upsilon Chapter August 2015 - May 2017

- Oversaw a budget of \$6,000 for recruitment, social, and service events.
- Created and planned events by communicating with establishments, vendors, and transportation businesses and negotiated deals.
- Assisted with the enforcement of risk management policies and campus regulations during chapter social functions.

WANT TO MEET WITH US?

For further assistance, please visit the
Gwen M. Greene Center for Career Education and Connections:

<https://careereducation.rochester.edu/>

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM

Drop-In Hours: See website

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