



A Parents' Guide to Greek Life at McMurry University

Transitioning from high school, a community college, or another university can be challenging. Your student may be wondering:

- How can I make friends and find a sense of belonging?
- Will I succeed academically?
- How do I develop leadership skills?
- How do I prepare for my career?
- How can I get involved on campus?

Fraternities and sororities offer a time-tested support system, helping students find community, build leadership, and grow personally and professionally.

Benefits of Greek Life

Greek Life can:

- Provide academic support and structured study time
- Develop leadership through hands-on roles
- Foster meaningful relationships with faculty, staff, and alumni
- Encourage service and civic engagement
- Create a family-like support network

Greek-affiliated students often graduate at higher rates and report greater satisfaction with their college experience.

Common Parent Questions

Q: Aren't fraternities and sororities like what we see in movies?

A: While movies like *Animal House* or *Legally Blonde* show exaggerated stereotypes, real Greek organizations are values-based, emphasizing leadership, scholarship, service, and lifelong friendships.

Q: Will membership impact my student's grades?

A: Time management is a challenge for many new students. Greek Life supports academic success through study groups, peer mentoring, and access to resources like the library and the Academic Support Center.

Q: What is "Rush"?

A: "Rush" is a two-week recruitment period when students explore different chapters and attend events. At the end of Rush, students may receive formal invitations—called "bids"—to join.

Q: What does it mean to “get a bid”?

A: A bid is an official offer to join a chapter. On “Bid Day,” students may receive one or more bids and choose whether to accept.

Q: What is “pledging”?

A: Pledging, or new member education, is an orientation period where students learn the chapter's history, participate in service projects, and bond with other members before becoming active members.

Q: What are the long-term benefits?

Fraternity/sorority members:

- Gain a supportive group of friends
 - Develop leadership and networking skills
 - Engage in community service
 - Connect with alums for career guidance
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Q: Is hazing a concern?

A: Hazing is illegal in Texas and strictly prohibited at McMurry. All new and current members attend anti-hazing education and must sign a no-hazing agreement. Alleged violations are handled through the campus judicial process. For details, refer to McMurry's [Student Handbook hazing policy](#).

Q: Won't Greek Life take up too much time?

A: Like any meaningful commitment, Greek Life requires time. However, students learn valuable time management skills and often report higher satisfaction with their college experience due to their active involvement.

Final Note:

Greek Life at McMurry promotes academic achievement, leadership, service, and lifelong friendship. It offers students a supportive environment in which to thrive in and out of the classroom.