



2024-2025

**Fraternity and Sorority
Excellence Awards
Packet**

University of Missouri – Kansas City

All Nominations should be submitted online at:

<https://www.umkc.edu/get-involved/programs/greek-life/resources.html>

**ALL ONLINE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE DUE
FEBRUARY 28TH, 2024 by 11: 59 PM.**

List of Awards

Individual Awards

Fraternity Member of the Year

Sorority Member of the Year

Chapter President of the Year

Advisor of the Year

Neo/New Member of the Year

Chapter Awards

Excellence in Community Service

Excellence in Philanthropy

Excellence in Scholarship

Excellence in Campus Involvement

Excellence in Alumni Relations

Excellence in Greek Relations

Chapter of the Year

Fraternity/Sorority Member of the Year

Purpose: These awards are presented annually to the fraternity member and sorority member who are distinguished beyond their peers in all areas of Fraternity and Sorority Life including academics, service, social involvement, unity, dedication, leadership, and community involvement. This recognition is the highest individual honor a member can achieve within our community. One award will be given to a fraternity member and one to a sorority member.

Award Eligibility

1. Nominee must have been in good standing (academic and conduct) with their chapter and the University of Missouri – Kansas City.
2. Nominee must have been enrolled at UMKC as a full-time student during the 2024 school year.
3. Nominee must be a member of a recognized fraternity and sorority at UMKC.
4. A chapter may nominate only **one** of its own members but may nominate as many non-members as they see fit.

Award Criteria

Expectations for the Fraternity/Sorority Member of the Year are listed below. Individuals considered should meet MOST of the following:

- Has held an active role in their organization and/or Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council
- Exhibit participation in both community and University events
- High Scholastic Achievement
- Involvement in extracurricular Activities

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to nominate a member should complete the online form and explain why the member is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 1,000 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Detailed description of the nominee's contributions to the Fraternity and Sorority community, strong personal character, and actions of service within the campus and the UMKC community.
2. Attributes and actionable items detailing the nominee's demonstration and commitment to academics.
3. Evidence of the nominee's role in serving the community and participation in community activities and service.

Chapter President of the Year

Purpose: This award is presented to a fraternity or sorority chapter president who served during 2024 and demonstrates chapter leadership, motivational ability, strong character, and high ideals. This person is someone who is a positive role model, has sought to push their chapter to new heights, and left a legacy that will be remembered for years to come.

Award Eligibility

1. Nominee must have been in good standing (academic and conduct) with their chapter and the University of Missouri – Kansas City.
2. Nominee must have been enrolled at UMKC as a full-time student during the 2024 school year.
3. Must have held the role of President of a recognized fraternity or sorority during the 2024 school year (Spring 2024/Fall 2024).

Award Criteria

Expectations for the Chapter President of the Year Award are listed below. Individuals considered should meet MOST of the following:

- Dedication to promoting the UMKC Greek community values
- Dedicated to developing leaders within the UMKC Greek community
- Dedicated to promoting a values-based fraternity/sorority experience for members
- Promotes academic success among members and the chapter as a whole
- Promotes and role models ethical leadership
- Significant positive impact on their chapter

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to nominate a member should complete the online form and explain why the member is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 1,000 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Evidence and testimonies of the award criteria as well as the nominee's superior abilities and motivation in leading an individual organization.
2. Attributes to nominee's character and demonstration of leadership and values-oriented goals.
3. Description of nominee and chapter growth while representative was in office.

Advisor of the Year

Purpose: This award recognizes the efforts of a volunteer advisor who exemplifies the mission, values, and purpose of their organization. They contribute significantly to the success of the local chapter through their time and talents and demonstrate superb mentorship for members of the chapter.

Award Eligibility

1. Advisor must be registered with the chapter through Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.
2. Must have held the role of Advisor of a recognized fraternity or sorority during the 2024 school year (Spring 2024/Fall 2024).
3. Advisor must have served for a minimum of one year on the chapter's Advisory Board.

Award Criteria

- Expectations for the Advisor of the Year Award are listed below. Individuals considered should meet **MOST** of the following:
- Dedicated to promoting the UMKC Greek Community values and chapter values
- Dedicated to developing leaders within the chapter
- Promotes and role models ethical leadership
- Promotes academic success among members and the chapter as a whole
- Meets regularly with the chapter and with the chapter leadership team

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to nominate an Advisor should complete the online form and explain why the Advisor is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 1,000 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Examples of how the advisor meets any of the above award criteria
2. Testimonials from chapter member(s) outlining the support and value the advisor brings to the undergraduate chapter.

Neo/New Member of the Year

Purpose: This award is presented annually to a fraternity or sorority member in their first year of membership who has shown great leadership potential in their chapter or council. They have shown initiative, leadership, and dedication regardless of their role in the chapter and have inspired others with their desire to better the Fraternity and Sorority Life Community.

Award Eligibility

1. Nominee must have been in good standing (academic and conduct) with their chapter and the University of Missouri – Kansas City.
2. Nominee must have been enrolled at UMKC as a full-time student during the 2024 school year.
3. Nominee must have been a new member of a recognized fraternity or sorority chapter during the Spring of 2024 or Fall 2024 semester.
4. A chapter may nominate only one of its own members but may nominate as many non-members as they see fit.

Award Criteria

Expectations for the Neo/New Member of the Year Award are listed below. Individuals considered should meet MOST of the following:

- Has held an active role in their organization or council (either during the new member process or as an active)
- High Scholastic Achievement
- Has gone above and beyond the responsibilities of neo/new member's role
- Has made an effort to make contacts with other new Greek members

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to nominate a member should complete the online form and explain why the member is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 1,000 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Description of superior qualities of potential for future leadership within the organization.
2. Qualities of the member's commitment to bettering the chapter and new member class experience.
3. Details of the member's service and actions for the betterment of the UMKC and campus community.

Excellence in Community Service

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization who exemplifies the value of service and seeks opportunities to give back to the community. This initiative supported by a chapter of the Greek community encompasses everything that it can to support those in need. Those who are involved give a great deal to dedicate themselves to the cause at hand and help those in need.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters.
2. Community service events that will be considered are any event/activity organized and conducted by the organization as a means to provide hands-on service to people the chapter is helping. This may be either directly (working with community members), indirectly (working with agencies that help the community), or non-directly (helping a non-profit with their operations).
3. Community service must be unpaid and address or bring awareness to a social issue in the larger community.
4. Any planning or implementing of an event that your own organization hosts (such as philanthropy events) does not count as service.
5. Chapter must have reported service hours accurately, meeting service criteria, and on time to Fraternity and Sorority Affairs during the 2024 school year.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet ALL of the following:

- Creativity
- Majority percentage of chapter attending/participating in the initiative
- Must have occurred in the greater Kansas City area during the Spring or Fall of 2024
- Show that there was a positive impact on the community and/or those the initiative served

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Describe how your chapter communicates the value of service and giving back to the local community as well as how your chapter encourages involvement from members in service initiatives.
2. Describe the most significant service initiative/event that your organization coordinated or participated in. (Be sure to address when and where this occurred, and the percentage of members involved.)
3. From your organization's perspective, what was the impact you had on the community and/or those you served?
4. Describe the impact that this initiative had on your own members and chapter. Personal member testimonials are highly encouraged.
5. In addition to answering the above questions, chapters may also choose to submit one page (8.5" x 11") with a picture(s) from the event. (One side of page only.)

Excellence in Philanthropy

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization who goes above and beyond to make a positive impact in the community through philanthropic pursuits. The organization exemplifies the value of generosity and seeks to bring awareness to an organization benefiting those in need.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters.
2. Philanthropy Events that will be considered are any event organized and conducted by the organization as a means to raise funds and/or goods for a philanthropic effort. Co-sponsored organizations will be considered as long as there is clear evidence of the chapter's participation in the program. Programs that are results of judicial sanctions (either from the University or inter/national organization) will not be eligible.
3. Philanthropic donations/items form must have been completed for the program reporting the dollar amount or number of items raised.
4. Must have occurred in the greater Kansas City area during the Spring or Fall of 2024.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet ALL of the following:

- Creativity
- Majority percentage of chapter attending/participating in the initiative/event
- Show that there was a positive impact on the community and/or those the initiative/event served
- Show the impact on members in the chapter from participating in the initiative/event

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. Describe the most significant philanthropy initiative/event that your organization coordinated or participated in. (Be sure to address when and where this occurred, the percentage of members involved, what organization is benefitting, how much money/items were raised, etc.)
2. From your organization's perspective, what was the impact you had on the community and/or those benefitting from your donations?
3. Describe the impact that this initiative had on your own members and chapter. Personal member testimonials are highly encouraged.
4. In addition to answering the above questions, chapters may also choose to submit one page (8.5" x 11") with a picture(s) from the event. (One side of page only.)

Excellence in Scholarship

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization who demonstrates a high commitment to academics, promotes life-long learning, and engages with the academic mission of the University of Missouri – Kansas City. Excellence in Scholarship includes academic performance of the group's membership as well as supportive and accountability measures implemented by the group to promote high academic performance.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations, academic, and conduct) with Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and its respective governing council during both Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 semesters. Chapters falling below the required 2.5 chapter and/or new member GPA are not eligible for this award.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet ALL of the following:

- Dedication to the scholastic improvement of its members
- Utilizes innovative ideas to excel academic interests of members
- Rewards members for high scholastic achievement
- Assists members falling below grade requirements
- Chapter hosts regular academic programming

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) and should include the following:

1. How does your scholarship program recognize and reward student academic success within your chapter?
2. How does your chapter support members falling below grade requirements?
3. Share an example of an innovative program your chapter has used to promote and/or improve academics among your members.
4. Describe in detail how your academic program has changed or evolved in the last year to better assist your members (Please share an example or two).

Excellence in Campus Involvement

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization who takes the initiative to not only improve leadership within Greek Life but also with other organizations on campus. The members of the awarded group are active in groups outside of their fraternity or sorority, while still exceeding expectations of collaboration, philanthropy, service, and positive relationship with campus partners.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet ALL of the following:

- Must show how the chapter influences members to become involved students on campus.
- Have a large majority of members involved in other organizations/activities at UMKC or in the Kansas City community
- Chapter hosts programming/projects on campus that seek to improve the UMKC community and build relationships with students/faculty/staff outside of the Greek Community

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) (not including roster of members) and should include the following:

1. Why is important for members to be involved in campus? Describe how your chapter encourages members to become involved with other student organizations.
2. Please discuss any programming or projects your chapter has initiated or sponsored that have improved the UMKC Community. This may include any support given to other councils or groups within your council, including events with organizations outside of your council or the Greek community (i.e., teaming up with the Financial Wellness Center to provide a presentation to members and students on campus)
3. Please include a roster of your members and their involvement and positions in organizations outside of your chapter (this may be on campus or in the Kansas City community). Please be sure to include their first and last name, the student organization, and any positions held.

Excellence in Alumni Relations

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization for outstanding alumni relations, through programming, outreach, communication, etc. The award will be based on cumulative efforts of the group to build and maintain relationships with their alumni base.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters.
2. Chapter must host an alumni event or publish at least one major correspondence per academic year.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet MOST of the following:

- Has continuous contact with alumni throughout the year through various methods (i.e., newsletters, events, message boards, social media groups, mailing lists, etc.)
- Demonstrates creative ways of recruiting alumni interest and participation
- Emphasizes fundraising and support within alumni
- Alumni support forward movement and positive change within the chapter

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) and address the following:

1. Explain the importance of strong alumni relations and how your chapter assists in maintaining these relationships.
2. How has your alumni relations program developed over time? What changes have you made and why?
3. Explain one of your most significant methods of contact with your alumni, as well as its frequency and effectiveness.
4. Chapter may choose to submit a hard copy or example of a major correspondence within the Spring 2024 or Fall 2024 semester.

Excellence in Greek Relations

Purpose: This award seeks to recognize one Greek organization who exemplifies the concept of positive Greek relationships amongst the UMKC Greek community. This chapter is always supporting other chapters and individuals in their endeavors and recognizing those who are succeeding. This chapter is always there to lend a helping hand or supportive stance when other chapters or their members are in need.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered excellent should meet ALL of the following:

- Understand the importance of strong Greek Relations and building relationships with chapters in and outside of their respective Council.
- Must show how the chapter has been supportive of other chapters within the Greek Community.
- Must show how the chapter has collaborated with other Greek Organizations

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 750 words (single-spaced) and address the following:

1. Explain the importance of strong Greek Relations and how your chapter encourages members to build and maintain relationships with other Greek organizations.
2. How has your chapter impacted the Greek Community at UMKC through support and collaboration? Please share examples.
3. Has the organization ever partnered with another Greek organization for an event (i.e., programming, intramurals, community service event, etc.)? If so, which one(s)? What was the impact of this program/event? You may list as many events/partnerships as you wish. Examples should display how your chapter has benefited from relationships and partnerships with other Greek organization through supporting and collaborating in educational efforts, athletic/physical development, faith development, scholarship, service, philanthropy, etc. Events may not be sponsored or hosted by Fraternity and Sorority Affairs (Greek Week, Greek Day of Service, etc).

Chapter of the Year

Purpose: The chapter receiving this award exemplifies the four core values of the UMKC Fraternity & Sorority Affairs Community: Leadership, Scholarship, Service/Philanthropy, and Fellowship. They have gone above and beyond the minimum standards set for them and have excelled in an array of areas throughout our community.

Award Eligibility

1. Chapter must have been in good standing (Minimum Expectations, Academic, and conduct) with the University and its respective governing council during both spring 2024 and fall 2024 semesters. Chapters not meeting FSA Minimum Expectations or fallen below the required 2.5 active and/or new member GPA are not eligible for this award.
2. Chapters must have submitted at least 4 of 6 Excellence Awards to be considered for Chapter of the Year.

Award Criteria

Chapters considered for Chapter of the Year should meet ALL of the following:

- Demonstrated efforts toward Risk Management: Chapter provides safe living and learning environments for its members.
- Demonstrated efforts towards Diversity: Chapter provides opportunities for awareness of diversity.
- Free of discipline or sanctions by respective governing council and Office of Conduct & Civility.
- Chapter grade point average above all Greek average with demonstrated emphasis on academic improvement and/or success.
- Chapter delegates have been sent to leadership activities/retreats such as New Member Symposium, Emerging Leaders Retreat, or National/Regional Leadership/Officer trainings.
- Active relationship with chapter advisor, alumni, housing corporation (if applicable), (inter)national organization, and respective governing council.
- Timely submission of reports, including roster updates, officer updates, philanthropy forms, etc.
- Demonstrated efforts towards Community Service: Chapter provides unique and ongoing service opportunities for its members.
- Participation in campus activities (Greeks Give Back, Courtwarming, and other speakers/programs).

To Apply:

Chapters wishing to apply should complete the online form and explain why the chapter is deserving of the award. Nominations should be no more than 1,000 words (single-spaced) and address the following:

1. What do you feel was the vision your founders had for your organization and how do you make attempts to honor that vision?
2. How has your chapter met and/or exceed the expectations set forth by UMKC Fraternity & Sorority Affairs throughout the past year? Furthermore, how have you exceeded the expectations of being a values-based Greek organization through the four core values of Leadership, Scholarship, Service and Life-long friendship?
3. Why do you believe your chapter, above all others, should be considered for this award?
4. Explain a time in which your organization has overcome a difficult challenge in the past year and how the members learned from it.
5. Explain your chapter's greatest success of the year. (Spring 2024 – Fall 2024)
6. How has your chapter positively impacted UMKC and the surrounding community?