

The University of Mississippi

Student Organizations Structured with Probationary Membership Statuses DSA.DS.400.006

Summary/Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to outline expectations for student organizations that utilize a probationary membership status. This policy defines when new member education may take place and requires adherence to affiliated national organizations' policies and expectations. This policy also outlines initiation/induction requirements for such student organizations.

Student organizations that utilize a probationary membership process are inherently designed to introduce new members to the organization in a structured way. Probationary membership is defined as a process where new members are guided through an orientation and/or educational training before receiving full benefits of membership.

NEW MEMBER EDUCATION: New member education may take place only during the fall and spring academic semesters when classes are in session. No activities shall take place before the first day of the fall and spring academic semesters, after the final day of classes during the fall and spring semesters, or during any University holiday break (i.e. Fall or Spring Break).

Students must also comply with expectations, deadlines, and programs determined by national organizations affiliated with the local organizations. This policy intends to ensure alignment between the practices of local organizations and the expectations of affiliated national organizations.

INITIATION/INDUCTION: All new members must be initiated or inducted and receive full benefits of membership either (1) by the end of the same semester they are recruited or (2) within an eight (8) week window, whichever is the shorter time.

Organizations may seek an exception to this policy to initiate the first week of the following academic semester if a formal request is submitted by the inter/national organization's Executive Director (or the equivalent) and is approved by the Ole Miss Student Union.