

A

Active: A collegiate, initiated member of a sorority chapter.

AGC: All Greek Council. Governing body over all of the University's Greek Life.

Associate Chapter: A chapter that is not a part of the National Panhellenic Council but is under the university's Panhellenic Council.

Alumni: An initiated woman who has completed her course of study and has graduated from the university.

B

Badge: An insignia of fraternity or sorority membership worn by initiated members. Each women's fraternity has a unique badge.

Bid Day: The last day of recruitment, when potential new members receive bids to join chapters and become new members.

Big Sister: An active member of a chapter who is paired with a new member as a mentor.

C

Chapter: The local collegiate membership of a national fraternal organization.

Colony: A newly-organized sorority or fraternity working towards an official charter from their national organization.

D

Dry Recruitment: Refers to the period before and during the recruitment process where the serving and/or presence of any alcoholic beverages at a recruitment event is considered illegal; all recruitment events at UNewHaven are dry.

Dues: Fees paid to a Greek organization for membership, they are often paid per semester.

F

Formal Recruitment: The major recruitment process employed by the Panhellenic Association; occurs at the beginning of the spring semester.

Founders: The founding members of a Greek Letter organization. There are both founders for your individual chapter and your women's fraternity as a whole.

Fraternity: A term used for men's Greek organizations; several women's Greek organizations are identified as fraternities in the official names, while others are considered women's fraternities.

G

Greek: A name/title applied to women who are members of a national sorority/fraternal organization.

H

Hazing: The University of New Haven has an absolute prohibition on hazing. The University's strict definition may be found in the Policies section of the university's website.

I

Initiation: A traditional ceremony that brings a new member into full membership of a sorority or fraternity. Once you are initiated into an NPC sorority, you are ineligible for membership in any other.

Informational: Opportunity for interested students to gather more information about MGC and NPHC fraternities and sororities.

L

Legacy: A daughter, sister or granddaughter of an initiated member of a women's fraternity. Typically, different groups have different definitions of legacies. Being a legacy does not guarantee a bid to a particular sorority.

N

New Member: A person who has accepted a bid from a sorority but is not yet an active member of that chapter. Chapters will have some sort of new member process during which the new members learn more about the sorority and prepare them for initiation.

NPC: The National Panhellenic Conference, or the umbrella body for 26 inter/national women's fraternities and sororities.

O

Open/Informal Recruitment: A period following Formal Recruitment with informal recruitment without scheduled parties. This is designated by the university Panhellenic Council.

P

Panhellenic Council: The collegiate governing body of all NPC sororities.

Philanthropy: A charitable service project/event sponsored by a sorority.

Potential New Member (PNM): A woman who is eligible to participate in recruitment.

Q

Quota: The number of potential new members to which each chapter can offer bids during recruitment.

R

Rho Gamma: Recruitment guide that helps women during the Panhellenic Association's formal recruitment.

Ritual: The private traditions and practices of a sorority deeply rooted in the shared values and purpose of the members. Ritual serves as a reminder to each member of her responsibilities and inspires her to fulfill them. Rituals connect the past with the present and the future.

S

Silence: The period of time when there is absolutely NO contact between potential members and sorority members.

Sorority: A Greek organization comprised solely of women. Also referred to as a women's fraternity.

T

Total: The allowable chapter size on a campus, as determined by the College Panhellenic, including new and active members.

