



## **GOLD Star Program FAQ (Fall 2018)**

### **What is the purpose of a Chapter Evaluation Program?**

To improve the management of, inspire the growth and development of, and evaluate the quality of fraternity and sorority chapters at Florida International University, the following evaluation and awards system has been implemented. This will allow FIU Fraternity & Sorority Life to longitudinally evaluate chapter performance—both overall and in various categories—ensure chapters are meeting basic expectations, and provide chapters with feedback, particularly in areas of potential improvement.

### **When will the requirements be due/submitted and how?**

Some requirements will be tracked throughout the year—like attendance at your governing council's general body meetings, Presidents' Roundtable Meetings, or all-Greek educational.

Some requirements, like chapter rosters, will still be required to be submitted with the Beginning and End of Semester Reports via Panther Connect (formally known as OrgSync).

The remaining requirements will be submitted in through a comprehensive packet; chapters will be given an easy-to-use template to help create this packet. The final submission will be due mid-November via email; for most chapters, this encourages officers to reflect on their term, prior to transitioning, and allows outgoing chapter officers to submit the packet—without place undue burden on the incoming officers.

### **How do I access Panther Connect (formally known as OrgSync)?**

Once you've accessed your chapter's portal, you will find all Beginning of Semester and End of Semester Reports under the Forms section. You will then be able to submit on behalf of you chapter.

### **How is this different and similar than previous GOLD Standards?**

GOLD Standards did not measure chapters in different, specific areas and only ensured that chapters were submitting data to the FIU FSL office. Both programs will have Beginning and End of Semester Reports. However, the biggest difference is there are no monthly reports in our new program and, instead, chapters will submit a comprehensive packet in November.

### **Who will be reviewing these submissions and assigning points?**

FIU FSL will be reviewing all submissions and assigning points. Each staff member will evaluate each submission and the chapter will receive the average (whole numbers only) score. This will ensure consistency across reviews.

**What does the first submission in Fall 2018 look like?**

FIU FSL recognizes that these new standards and requirements are being released halfway through many officers term—and fully understands that all chapters may not meet all expectations just within the Fall 2018 semester. However, submission and compliance with the program will still be required and all chapters will need to submit their final submission packet. However, chapter statuses, particularly those with Two Star Status and below, will not be used to create sanctions or probationary statuses until Fall 2019. This will allow chapters to go through the new chapter evaluation process—without undue stress—and will allow FIU FSL to pilot the program and make any necessary changes prior to the full implementation in the 2019 calendar year.

**Will chapter statuses be made public?**

Yes, chapter statuses will be made public via the FIU FSL website and a community-wide update via email. This will promote a spirit of transparency within our fraternal community and will allow up to publically celebrate the successes of our chapters.

**How will awards work with this new program?**

Many end of the year awards will also be determined by this evaluation program. The top three highest-scoring fraternities and sororities will be in the running for the Fraternity/Sorority of the Year awards. Additionally, “Excellence in ...” awards in Safety & Wellness, Member Development & Leadership, Scholarship, University & Community Relations, Chapter Operations, and Recruitment Intake & Retention will be determined based on submissions and scores.

Individual awards, like Chapter President of the Year, Fraternity Man/Sorority Woman of the Year, etc. will still have a traditional nomination/review process.