



Individual Chapter Membership Growth Plan – Best Practice (Approved May 2018)

The National Panhellenic Conference adopted a membership growth plan for college chapters in 1998. Three different approaches are available: reorganization, re-establishment and recolonization.

Reorganization is an inter/national membership management technique by which the inter/national organization develops a recruitment plan for a chapter and:

- Provides special assistance for the chapter recruitment process.
- May solicit Panhellenic support, cooperation and possible involvement.

A vote of the College Panhellenic Council is not required for a chapter to reorganize.

Re-establishment is a procedure by which an inter/national organization rebuilds a chapter within a specific time frame and:

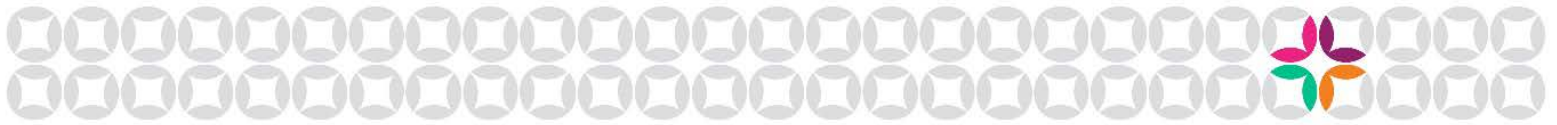
- Provides a development strategy and plan for a chapter.
- Shares the development strategy with the College Panhellenic.
- May solicit Panhellenic support, cooperation and possible involvement.
- Establishes a definite timeline for implementing the strategy of the plan.
- Reviews progress of the plan, which, if not met, allows the College Panhellenic to consider extension.
- Completes the plan within 12 months.
- Meets the institution's membership requirements for a recognized student organization.
- Determines the status of chapter members.

A vote of the College Panhellenic Council is not required for a chapter to develop and implement a re-establishment strategy and plan.

Recolonization is the process by which an NPC member organization returns to a host institution where it previously had an installed chapter. The invitation to recolonize comes from the College Panhellenic Council or the host institution.

If a chapter is closed by an NPC member organization:

- The NPC member organization's recolonization proposal, timeline and conditions for return must be mutually agreed on by the NPC member organization and the College Panhellenic Council.
- The recolonization proposal and timeline should be formulated no more than six weeks after the chapter closes.
- The chapter must be closed for at least 12 months before recolonization is implemented.
- The NPC member organization shall send a copy of the recolonization proposal and timeline to the NPC Extension Committee.
- The recolonization proposal must be approved by a majority vote of the College Panhellenic Council. The College Panhellenic Council must send a copy of the Council minutes, documenting the approval of the recolonization proposal, to the NPC Extension Committee. (See [Sample Resolution to Approve Proposal for Recolonization](#))
- The NPC member organization and the College Panhellenic Council must have an annual discussion about the status of the recolonization agreement. The discussion should result in a mutual agreement to renew (continue under existing terms and timeline), edit (alter



the terms and timeline), terminate (end the agreement) or implement (start the process of the NPC member organization's return to campus according to the recolonization proposal and timeline) the recolonization agreement. The College Panhellenic Council will determine whether the annual discussion will take place in person or by electronic means.

- The College Panhellenic Council must document the outcome of the annual discussion in the College Panhellenic Council meeting minutes and the Council must send a copy of the minutes to the NPC Extension Committee.
- The College Panhellenic Council should keep the timing of the proposed recolonization in mind when extension is being discussed.
- One academic term prior to the proposed return date, the NPC member organization may provide an update to the College Panhellenic Council on their recolonization plan. This may be done in person at the invitation of the College Panhellenic Council.

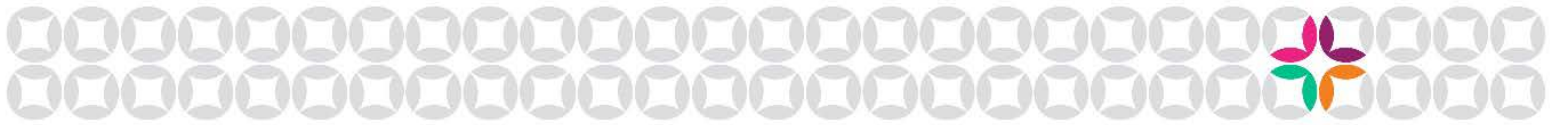
If the host institution closes a chapter:

- The host institution and the NPC member organization will mutually agree to the sanctions and terms outlined by the host institution required for the NPC member organization to return as well as the timeline for the NPC member organization to return. The terms of the recolonization agreement be documented in writing and signed by both parties.
- The recolonization agreement must be submitted by the NPC member organization to the NPC Extension Committee no later than six weeks after the chapter is closed. A copy of the agreement must be provided to the College Panhellenic Council if there is a College Panhellenic Association.
- The chapter must be closed for at least 12 months before recolonization is implemented.
- NPC recommends the NPC member organization maintain regular contact with the host institution to discuss the status of the recolonization agreement.
- The host institution administration should keep the timing of the proposed recolonization in mind when extension is being discussed.
- One academic term prior to the proposed return date, the NPC member organization may provide an update to the host institution on their recolonization plan at the invitation of the host institution. This may be done in person at the invitation of the host institution. If there is a College Panhellenic Council on the campus, the NPC member organization must inform the College Panhellenic Council about their recolonization plan and return date.
- It is recommended the host institution issue an invitation in writing to the NPC member organization when it is time to implement the recolonization.
- The NPC member organization shall send documentation of the host institution's approval to return to campus to the NPC Extension Committee. If there is a College Panhellenic Council, the NPC member organization must also confirm with the NPC Extension Committee that the member organization has coordinated with the College Panhellenic Council and informed the Council of the recolonization plan and return date.

The College Panhellenic Council and the host institution will allow for a reasonable period of time, a minimum of two primary recruitment periods, to establish stability for an NPC member organization that has reorganized, re-established or recolonized its chapter before extension is considered.

Rationale:

This change is being proposed to bring current practice with regard to recolonization agreements into alignment with the Individual Chapter Membership Growth Plan resource in the NPC Manual of Information. This revision provides guidance for two common scenarios: when an NPC member organization closes a chapter and when a college/university (host institution) closes a chapter. The second scenario is not covered under the existing best practice and there have been several instances where the NPC member organization and/or the host institution have



sought clarity about how to move forward with recolonization agreements. In addition, the NPC Extension Committee is asked to track data about recolonizations and current notification practices are not being followed.

This proposal establishes clear documentation requirements and makes it clear which party is responsible for notifying the NPC Extension Committee about the status of a recolonization proposal. It also brings clarity to the vote required by College Panhellenics to approve a recolonization proposal, the framework and required documentation for the annual discussion that College Panhellenics are to have with NPC member organizations and the options available (renew, alter, terminate or implement) for acting on the recolonization agreement. Furthermore, the proposal extends from four weeks to six weeks the amount of time the NPC member organization has to negotiate the terms of the recolonization.

Terminology:

The “recolonization proposal” outlines the terms of the recolonization as presented to the College Panhellenic Council or the college/university within the six week deadline for approval. The NPC Extension Committee refers to this as the “recolonization agreement” when it is approved by the two relevant parties (i.e., the College Panhellenic Council and the NPC member organization or the college/university and the NPC member organization). The “recolonization plan” is the “how” of the recolonization agreement (timing, logistics, etc.).