




Council Compass Master Question List

The Master Question List is comprised of every potential question that may appear within the different level ranges of the Council Compass award categories: Accountability, Collaboration, Education and Innovation. Within each category, there are three levels: one star, two star, and three star.

Each level will include 3 to 5 open-ended, self-reflective essay style questions. As the council prepares, please note all the questions in this master list won't appear on the actual application form. Rather, we want to ensure every council can put their best foot forward by understanding the level distinctions to ensure each council applies for the level that best suites the council's achievements. Please note, to apply for a specific level, the council must achieve all accomplishments associated with the level.

As you review, take note of the questions that require supporting documentation confirming the information shared through the council's essay submission. The supplemental materials should confirm and enhance what is disclosed in the open-ended essay to acknowledge the council's hard work and achievements.

Lastly,  denotes the start of each star level within the four different Council Compass categories. Again, the expectation is a council achieved all questions within the specific category star level. This tool should help a council determine the level achievements within each of the four categories that best aligns their achievements within the academic year.

Basic Council & University Information

Please note all councils must include the below information in their application.

Contact Information

- Awards Applicant
- Council President
- Fraternity/Sorority Life Advisor

Council Constitution & Bylaws

Institution Specific Statistics

- Academic Statistics
- Number of local/national/international organizations
- Housing information, if applicable

Council Position Descriptions

Council Meeting Schedule

Letter from the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office recognizing the council as a student organization in good standing with the university



Compass Point: Accountability



- Identify the minimum standards for members to serve the council in a leadership capacity.
- Describe what the council has established as minimum standards for chapter to be considered in “good standing.”
- Define the tailored academic success plan the council created to meet the needs of the council.
- Describe the crisis management process the council has created. Please include how officers and member chapters receive education about the crisis management process.
- Illustrate the outlets/ways member chapters and chapter leadership provide feedback to the council.



- Explore the ways in which the council provides positive recognition to member chapters and leaders.
- Describe the council’s practice of providing peer-to-peer feedback, evaluation, and/or communication. This can include formal and informal methods of feedback.
- Identify how the council assists chapters in completing educational expectations.
- Describe how the council standards/judicial board is trained.



- Explore the accountability methods the council utilizes outside of punitive measures. Please include measures outside of fines, non-involvement, etc.
- Describe the different training opportunities provided to chapter standards/judicial boards.
- Illustrate how the council holds chapters accountable to university expectations.
- Describe the scope of responsibility associated with the council standards board. Within this response, please illustrate how peer governance is interwoven.
- Explore how the council assesses internal policies and programming to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community.



Compass Point: Collaboration



- Describe how the council collaborated with another campus organization to provide co-sponsorship in some capacity (ex. time, financial support, resources, volunteers, etc.)*
Documentation can include proof of co-sponsorship such as logos on marketing materials, receipt or thank-you card from an organization, documented money or resources provided, etc.
- Describe the ways the council collaborates with peer governing councils to ensure that all council members can attend regional leadership conferences (ex. AFLV Central, AFLV West, IFC Academy, College Panhellenic Academy, etc.)*
Documentation could include receipt from funds donated, application requesting scholarship funding support, etc.

- Illustrate how the council creates opportunities to connect like officers from all member chapters to share ideas and resources.*
Documentation could include roundtable meeting agendas, shared online folders, email communication for said opportunities, etc.
- Define the methods the council uses to collect and communicate chapter member events.*
Documentation could include a shared community calendar.
- Explore the forums the council provides chapter presidents to share ideas and resources.*
Documentation can include a shared community calendar, etc.
- Describe a way in which the council promotes and highlights, through council website or social media pages, individual member chapter websites, or social media pages.*
Documentation should include links or screenshots.
- Describe the printed and/or electronic marketing materials the council created the showcases all peer councils.*
Documentation could include flyers, screenshots of social media posts, etc.
- Describe an event in which the council provides financial co-sponsorship, the marketing campaign to encourage student attendees, and level of participation from member chapters.*
Documentation could include evidence of financial co-sponsorship and evidence of attendance/encouragement of attendance.
- Explore how the council works with peer councils and/or other organizations on campus to host a community service event for members.*
Documentation could include evidence of planning and implementation of service event and evidence of attendance/participation at event.
- Describe how the council works with the service office on campus and/or local non-profit agencies to educate chapter officers and members on the purpose and value of community service.*
Documentation could include evidence of partnership, method of education on topic, and/or attendance/involvement of chapter officers/members.
- Illustrate how the council encourages member chapters to collaborate in the planning and execution of events with other member chapters to decrease over-programming.*
Documentation could include evidence of encouragement and/or evidence of collaboration implemented.



- Identify and explore ways the council collaborates with faculty, campus professionals, university police, and/or other university department to provide programs or events for members.*
Documentation could include communication/request and evidence of the planning/implementation of program and/or attendance at event/program.
- Describe how the council collects accurate information about member chapters for use on council website and/or social media platform.*
Documentation could include method of regular collection and/or evidence of edits/updates.
- Describe how the council collaborates on events or programs by contributing financial support and/or resources in addition to helping plan, implement, and execute the event or program.*
Documentation includes collaborative planning and implementation of events, financial contribution, and/or follow up assessment.
- Describe how the council partners with qualified fundraising professional(s) to educate member chapters on ways to enhance their philanthropic or fundraising efforts.*
Documentation could include communication with fundraising professional, training provided, and/or attendance by member chapters.
- Explore how the council utilizes partnerships with campus based professionals and offices to develop a long-term strategic plan.*
Documentation could include the planning and implementation of strategic planning development sessions.
- Describe how the council assesses the current academic climate with specific initiatives for improvement and support.*
Documentation could include the planning and/or implementation of an assessment tool.
- Identify and describe the council partnerships with non-profit agencies around the community to provide ongoing service opportunities to members/member chapters.*
Documentation could include regular/ongoing communication with local agencies and community partners, and/or of regular/ongoing opportunities shared with members/member chapters.
- Explore how the council fosters and enhances relationships within the fraternal community.*
Documentation/example can include minutes from an open forum provided to all members to solicit feedback on issues facing the fraternity/sorority community.



- Describe how the council advocates for its members and member chapters within the university and/or local community.*

Documentation/example can include emails or meeting minutes of how your council advocated to the University Police Department for additional emergency lights within the fraternity/sorority residential community.

- Describe how the council works to maintain meaningful ongoing relationships with university partners and within the university community.*

Documentation/ example could include documentation such as emails or meeting notes demonstrating how the council works with the University Alumni Affairs Office to better engage alumni members of the fraternity/sorority community.



Compass Point: Education



- Describe the educational initiatives the council is most proud of, and why.
- Explore the ways in which the council educates member chapters, including: educational topics, content, and delivery.
- Identify and explain the educational resources the council utilize to ensure member development.
- Define how the council educates members about laws and policies. Please include council policies, university policies, state and federal laws.
- Explain a development experience the council provided. Response should explore the entire experience including what the membership gained as well as what the council learned through the process.
- Describe the ways in which the council educates potential members and their families on pertinent information pertaining to the membership experience.



- Identify the way in which the council fosters membership development for upperclassmen members.
- Describe how the council incorporates technology into educational programming.
- In what way does the council support member organizations to provide educational opportunities for their respective members.
- Explain how the council educates members about national trends and topics specific to the fraternity/sorority experience.
- Define the ways in which the council educates member chapters about risk behaviors and risk management (ex. alcohol abuse, drug use, sexual assault, etc.)
- Describe the methods the council used to determine the most relevant and necessary educational programming for your constituents.



- Explain how the council incorporates cross cultural competencies into leadership development.
- Explore how the council educates members about preventative measures as they relate to campus needs.

- Illustrate the ways the council evaluates the effectiveness of educational programs provided to member chapters or the community. Please include what was learned through the evaluation process and how the information led the catalyst to change and/or advance the educational programming offered.
- Identify and define the council's programmatic priorities. Please include how the council identified each priority and ways the council created change-enabling experiences to address each priority.
- Explore how the council uses national trends to inform and advance educational programs.
- Describe something the council has done, supported, or implemented in the area of education that fostered change-enabling experiences and an overarching positive impact within the council community and beyond.



Compass Point: Innovation



- Describe a program or initiative the council implemented this year. If the new program is in year two or three, use this space to describe how the program has evolved into a success. What evaluation process was implemented to analyze and advance the program?*
Documentation of program/initiative.
- Identify and explore the innovative or unique approaches the council infuses into the recruitment/intake process.*
Documentation of recruitment/intake guidelines.
- Illustrate how council programming changes or evolves from previous years.*
Documentation of evolution.
- Explore how the council has taken a new approach to service projects/events.*
Documentation of evolution.
- Describe how the council infuses innovative technology into organizational operations.*
Documentation of the use of technology.
- Explore how the council works with university administration or community members to provide students with innovative programs or initiatives.*
Documentation of relationship and of program/initiative.
- Describe something the council supports or implements that creates a positive impact on the campus, community, or within the council.*
Documentation of program/initiative.



- Describe something the council attempted that didn't work out as planned or wasn't successful. Please include what was learned through the process.*
Documentation attempting a new program and what the council learned from the process.
- Describe the program(s) the council developed that catered to a new or previously unmet need(s) of the council.*
Documentation of program.
- Describe how the council provides programming that caters to the various needs of the community.*
Documentation acknowledging the community needs and proof of program.
- Identify and illustrate the marketing techniques the council utilizes to reach a diverse audience.*
Documentation of techniques used.
- Explore how the council advocates for its members and constituents within the university setting and the larger community.*
Documentation the council advocates for its members/constituents.
- Explore how the council has continued to improve and refine on-going programs and commitments.
- Describe how the council has demonstrated opportunities for members to contribute as a global citizen.



- Define how the council utilizes assessment tools to influence practices, to understand the needs of their community and constituents, and better inform their brand.*
Documentation of assessment, results and rationale of practices.
- Explore how the council garners feedback from constituents and stakeholders in order to improve.*
Documentation of feedback and rationale of practices.
- Describe what the council learns from the process of trying and creating new programs and initiatives that may have been unsuccessful along the way.