

Zeta Beta Tau

A Brotherhood of Kappa Nu, Phi Alpha, Phi Epsilon Pi, Phi Sigma Delta, Zeta Beta Tau

Standards of Excellence – Full Details

This document outlines the various components of chapter experiences and expectations as they relate to the Fraternity's accreditation and awards program. Each aspect is scored on a star system, which addresses both required and suggested items.

Items in bold reflect accreditation standards. Chapters must complete at least 12 of these 16 standards to be eligible for awards.

Chapter Advisors, Faculty Advisors or Executive Trustees may be required for verification of some elements of application.

All SOE criteria will be coded to indicate how they are submitted and tracked. The codes are:

- **H**eadquarters-tracked: no further information needed from the chapter.
- **C**ampus professional: your fraternity/sorority advisor should provide HQ with this information.
- **S**tandardized: the chapter will submit a standardized form provided by the Fraternity.
- **U**nique: the chapter will submit its own supporting documentation.

Materials such as samples and standardized forms can be found at www.zbt.org/SOE and should be used for submissions. Each submission should include any relevant supporting documentation, such as philanthropic contribution receipts, meeting minutes, retreat agendas, event pictures, etc. Submissions will not receive credit if they have insufficient supporting documentation, such as “we did this” or no evidence of an event or policy. Submissions can be made on a rolling basis by criteria or as a bulk upload for the entire section.

The [submission portal](#) will open on September 1, 2019 and close on May 3, 2020, followed by an appeals window to review submissions with staff.

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Academics

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter achieves a GPA of at least 2.70 in all academic terms. (C, U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-6 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 6 of the following items.

1. The chapter has an academic chairman listed in Vault. (H)
2. The chapter has engaged a faculty advisor. (U)
3. The chapter has an academic enrichment program for all brothers. (U)
4. The chapter utilizes campus resources to help brothers improve their academic performance. (U)
5. The chapter has a functioning scholarship committee. (U)
6. The chapter GPA is above the all-men's average. (C, U)
7. The chapter GPA is above the all-Fraternity average. (C, U)
8. The chapter GPA ranks among the top 25% of fraternities. (C, U)
9. The faculty advisor gives a chapter presentation about academic performance. (U)

Note

Please submit your community's 2019 grade reports. This will ensure consistency across chapters, as many schools may not have Spring 2020 grade reports by the submission deadline.

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Alumni and Parent Engagement

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter engages alumni and parents through at least one newsletter and/or event. (U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-5 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 5 of the following items.

1. The chapter hosts at least two parent events. (U)
2. The chapter hosts at least two alumni events. (U)
3. The chapter hosts at least three alumni events. (U)
4. The chapter website has an alumni tab with a spotlight alumnus, option to subscribe to newsletters and archived newsletters. (U)
5. The chapter sends at least two alumni and parent newsletters. (U)
6. The chapter sends at least three alumni and parent newsletters. (U)
7. The chapter invites alumni to attend and participate in the Initiation Ritual. (U)

Notes

Suggested themes for alumni events may include “Brotherhood for a Lifetime,” with events related to Founders Day, school homecoming, chapter founding day, etc., or “Giving Back,” with events related to service or philanthropy.

The Fraternity can provide chapters with a list of alumni email addresses upon request.

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Campus Involvement

1 star – Accreditation

- **Each brother is involved in a registered student organization outside of Zeta Beta Tau or holds a job on/off campus. (S, U)**
- **The chapter is a registered student organization (RSO) on campus. (C, U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-4 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 5-8 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 8 of the following items.

1. The chapter meets IFC meeting attendance requirements as set by the Council. (U)
2. The chapter actively attends campus events like sporting events, speakers, or homecoming. (U)
3. The chapter sponsors or co-sponsors a campus-wide event other than philanthropy. (U)
4. The chapter fields at least one intramural team per academic term. (U)
5. At least one intramural team places in the top three in their division. (U)
6. At least one brother serves on an IFC committee. (U)
7. At least one brother serves as an IFC officer. (U)
8. At least one brother holds a leadership role in another RSO or event. (U)
9. At least 10% of the chapter holds a leadership role in another RSO or event. (U)
10. At least one brother receives local recognition for his involvement on campus. (C, U)
11. The chapter receives local recognition for involvement on campus. (C, U)
12. The chapter submits their score/review for any campus-based accreditation program. (C, U)

Note

If the school does not recognize fraternities, “good standing” with IFC will satisfy the RSO accreditation criteria.

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Conduct and Risk Prevention

1 star – Accreditation

- **Each brother agrees to the Fraternity's risk management and insurance policies in myZBT. (S)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-5 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 5 of the following items.

1. The chapter submits a letter of review from the campus fraternity/sorority life professional, including indicating whether or not the chapter is in good standing with the institution. (C)
2. The chapter hosts a workshop reviewing the Fraternity's risk management policies. (U)
3. The chapter hosts a training on hazing prevention. (U)
4. The chapter hosts a workshop on health and wellness. (U)
5. All new brothers complete GreekLifeEDU (or equivalent campus program.) (H, U)
6. The chapter hosts at least one alcohol-free social event each term. (U)
7. The chapter was not found responsible for any risk management violations in the academic year. (C, U)
8. The chapter completes all required sanctions by their deadline, if sanctioned. (H, U)

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Education

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter meets the attendance expectation for all Fraternity-required programs. (H)**
- **The chapter uses the JOURNEY audit to ensure compliance with Fraternity policy. (S, U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-2 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 3-4 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus all 5 of the following items.

1. The chapter attends at least one Fraternity-organized program. (H)
2. The chapter hosts at least one Fraternity-sponsored program. (H)
3. The chapter has a Big Brother application process. (U)
4. The chapter hosts at least one presentation and/or workshop focused on brother development. (U)
5. The chapter hosts at least one additional event or program specifically for graduating seniors. (U)

Notes

Fraternity-required programs are International Convention and Regional Officer Institutes.

Fraternity-organized programs are Recruitment University; Emerging Leaders Institute; James E. Greer, Jr. Presidents Leadership Academy and the Israel Advocacy Summit.

Fraternity-sponsored programs are Words to Action, Safe Smart Dating, the National Coalition Building Institute and the Alcohol Skills Training Program.

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Finances

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter submits a copy of its IRS Form 990 confirmation from the 2019 fiscal year. (S)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-4 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 5-8 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 8 of the following items.

1. The chapter shares its 2019 calendar year budgets. (S, U)
2. The chapter has a finance committee. (U)
3. The chapter uses an outside service for dues collection. (U)
4. The chapter uses promissory notes for brothers, if needed. (S, U)
5. The chapter has a written policy for bad debt. (U)
6. The chapter verifies its EIN reported. (S)
7. The chapter operates without a financial loss. (U)
8. The chapter is current on payments to the International Headquarters HQ. (H)
9. The chapter contributes at least 3% of its annual budget to savings. (U)
10. The chapter contributes at least 5% of its annual budget to savings. (U)
11. The chapter conducted a financial review (e.g. by an advisor) within the last year. (U)
12. The chapter collects at least 90% of its dues. (U)

Notes

Check this [IRS page](#) to ensure you file the proper 990 Form. Your EIN is required for your 990. If you believe your chapter's EIN in Vault is incorrect, please contact the Headquarters.

Outside services for dues collection may include Vault Billing through OmegaFi, an accountant or similar services.

Peer-to-peer payment systems such as PayPal, Venmo, Zelle, QuickPay, Pay Club, or other platforms are prohibited by the Fraternity.

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Heritage

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter demonstrates relationships cultivated within the Jewish community. (U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-6 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 6 of the following items.

1. The chapter has a heritage chairman listed in Vault. (H)
2. The chapter hosts or co-hosts at least one program dedicated to exploring ZBT's heritage. (U)
3. The chapter applies for a Heritage Grant and executes the program successfully. (H)
4. The chapter hosts a Founders Day event. (U)
5. The chapter hosts a Roger Williams Day event. (U)
6. The chapter has an active partnership with Hillel, Chabad or another Jewish community partner. (U)
7. The chapter hosts at least one program connected to a Jewish holiday. (U)
8. The chapter hosts 2-5 programs connected to a Jewish holiday. (U)
9. The chapter hosts more than five programs connected to a Jewish holiday. (U)
10. The chapter hosts an Israel advocacy, education or celebration event. (U)

Notes

Programs related to Jewish holidays should allow brothers to experience, understand and/or discuss the relevance of the holiday.

Jewish holidays in this category would include but not be limited to Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hanukkah, Passover or Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Programs related to ZBT's heritage should focus on enriching brothers' understanding of ZBT's founding as a Jewish organization borne out of discrimination, the Fraternity's relevance today as an inclusive Jewish organization, the importance of religious freedom and intercultural awareness, and/or hate prevention education.

Heritage Grants are made possible through generous support from the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation.

To learn more about the Heritage Grant program, click [here](#).

Founders Day may be observed on December 29 or the first Saturday in March.

Roger Williams Day should be celebrated on March 22. More information is available [here](#).

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Operations

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter submits a copy of its most updated constitution and bylaws. (U)**
- **The chapter has a chapter advisor on record with the Fraternity. (H)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-4 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 5-7 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 7 of the following items.

1. The chapter fully utilizes the Fraternity's director-based officer structure as reflected in bylaws and officer contacts in Vault. (H)
2. The chapter uploads its Brotherhood Quality Standards. (U)
3. The chapter reviews all governance documents annually. (U)
4. The chapter holds at least one brotherhood retreat. (U)
5. The chapter properly executes the Semiannual Brotherhood Review Vote (SBRV) and reports results at least twice per academic year. (S)
6. The chapter documents weekly chapter meetings. (U)
7. The chapter has a functioning committee structure with each brother on at least committee. (U)
8. The chapter submits its Standards Board processes. (U)
9. The chapter shares its overall programming calendar. (U)
10. The chapter submits the dates and outline of its most recent officer transition meeting(s). (U)
11. The chapter submits a nominee for at least two of the Fraternity's individual awards. (H)

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Recruitment

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter initiates at least eleven new brothers. (H)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-6 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 6 of the following items.

1. The chapter reports its new initiates in Vault within 72 hours of initiation. (H)
2. The chapter submits its recruitment activity schedule for all terms. (U)
3. The chapter has at least 30 active brothers or is at least equal to the median campus chapter size. (H, C)
4. The chapter is among the top 25% on campus in terms of size. (C, U)
5. The chapter meets its annual recruitment projection. (H)
6. The chapter exceeds its annual recruitment projection. (H)
7. The chapter hosts at least one recruitment workshop. (U)
8. The chapter retains at least 85% of its new brothers through the 30-day disaffiliation period. (H)
9. The chapter retains at least 90% of brothers from the previous year, excluding graduates. (H)
10. The chapter provides each recruit with a summary of time, financial and academic requirements. (U)

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Ritual

1 star – Accreditation

- **The chapter executes the Zeta Beta Tau Initiation Ritual. (S)**
- **The chapter submits an inventory of its ritual regalia. (S)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-5 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more 5 of the following items.

1. The chapter holds a Pre-Initiation meeting as the first new brother education activity. (S)
2. The chapter holds the Big/Little Ceremony for each new brother class. (S)
3. The chapter holds the Officer Installation Ceremony for each new executive board. (S)
4. The chapter holds the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony. (S)
5. The chapter holds the Graduation Ceremony for each graduating class. (S)
6. The chapter integrates the Mission, Ritual and Credo into programs and decision making. (U)
7. The chapter holds a dress rehearsal for all ceremonies. (U)
8. The chapter reviews the Initiation Ritual with each new brother class. (U)

Note

A summary, or tangible examples, of Mission, Ritual and Credo integration should be provided.

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Service and Philanthropy

1 star – Accreditation

- **Service: Each brother completes at least ten hours of community service. (U)**
- **Philanthropy: The chapter demonstrates financial support of each of the Fraternity's official philanthropic partners: Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Jewish Women International, Zeta Beta Tau Foundation. (H, U)**

2 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 1-3 of the following items.

3 stars – Achieves accreditation plus 4-5 of the following items.

4 stars – Achieves accreditation plus more than 5 of the following items.

1. The chapter averages at least 25 hours of community service per brother for the year. (U)
2. The chapter creates or maintains ongoing a relationship with a local volunteer organization. (U)
3. The chapter hosts a Gift of Life bone marrow registry drive. (H, U)
4. The chapter raises at least \$18 per brother for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. (H, U)
5. The chapter raises at least \$18 per brother for Jewish Women International. (H, U)
6. The chapter raises at least \$18 per brother for the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation. (H, U)
7. Total fundraising for the calendar year exceeds \$36.00 per brother. (U)
8. Total fundraising for the calendar year exceeds \$72.00 per brother. (U)

Note

Campus-based fundraisers such as Dance Marathon, Relay for Life, etc. would be unique submissions.

Chapter-based fundraisers such as Get on the Ball and Green Light: Go! would be Headquarters-tracked through the official fundraising portals for each program.

Start a [Get on the Ball](http://zeta-beta-tau-fraternity.everydayhero.do) fundraiser for CMNH: <http://zeta-beta-tau-fraternity.everydayhero.do>

Start a [Green Light: Go!](http://greenlightgo.squarespace.com) fundraiser for JWI: <http://greenlightgo.squarespace.com>

Contact the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation to discuss programming options:

foundation@zbtnational.org

Start a [Gift of Life](https://www.campusambassador.org/page/content/zbt) swab drive: <https://www.campusambassador.org/page/content/zbt>