

# Valparaiso University Fraternities

- Lambda Chi Alpha
- Phi Delta Theta
- Phi Kappa Psi
- Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
- Phi Sigma Kappa
- Pi Kappa Alpha
- Sigma Chi
- Sigma Phi Epsilon
- Sigma Pi



*Experience the Tradition of  
Fraternity Life at Valpo!*



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# A Parent's Guide to Fraternity Life at Valparaiso University



# You have a son coming to Valpo!

- Will he be an outstanding student?
- Will he be a leader and role model on campus?
- Will he be involved in campus life?
- Will he make some of his closest and lifelong friends?

YES! One of the best ways to ensure that these things happen is for your son to consider fraternity membership during his time at Valparaiso University.

## Debunking the Myths

**MYTH:** My son will not have time for his studies if he joins a fraternity.

**FACT:** Fraternities were founded upon the ideal of academic excellence, and the fraternity men at Valpo perform better academically than the non-affiliated men. In the spring 2017 semester, the average GPA of a fraternity man was a 3.205. Every man joining a fraternity must have a 2.50 cumulative GPA and 12 completed college credits to be eligible for membership.

**MYTH:** Men join fraternities to “buy their friends” during college.

**FACT:** The costs of fraternity membership are not related to “buying friends.” Membership dues pay for the programming, leadership development and other benefits that members receive on both the local and national level.

**MYTH:** My son will be hazed if he joins a fraternity.

**FACT:** Valparaiso University has a zero tolerance policy regarding hazing. All fraternity men are educated about the plague of hazing, sign an agreement stating their understanding of the policy and a commitment to not hazing. All alleged violations of the University hazing policy are fully investigated. It is our priority to create a safe and healthy environment for all fraternity men at Valparaiso University.



**MYTH:** We cannot afford for our son to join a fraternity.

**FACT:** Joining a fraternity does have costs associated with membership. Semester chapter dues range from \$350 - \$500 and all chapters offer a payment plan. If your son chooses to live in a fraternity house the housing costs are less than living in an on-campus residence hall.

**MYTH:** My son will be required to live in a fraternity house if he joins.

**FACT:** None of the fraternities at Valpo require all of their members to live in the fraternity house. Typically men will live in the fraternity house during their sophomore and junior years at Valpo.

**MYTH:** If my son joins a fraternity he will spend all of his time partying.

**FACT:** Fraternity membership does include an optional social aspect, and Valpo fraternity men take a great deal of pride in providing a safe and healthy environment for their guests. All fraternity men are trained annually on risk management and harm reduction efforts to ensure safe social activities.

Fraternity men also spend a great deal of time participating in service opportunities in the community. In the 2016-2017 academic year, Valpo fraternity men contributed over 5,000 hours of community service and raised over \$30,000 for philanthropic organizations.

**MYTH:** My son will be stereotyped like a character in the movie “Animal House.”

**FACT:** Fraternity membership at Valpo is nothing like “Animal House.” Fraternity men are leaders on campus and currently serve as members of Student Senate, Ambassadors in Admissions, varsity athletes, and so many more. The fraternity community offers a place for men from all majors, backgrounds, and lifestyles.

**MYTH:** Fraternity membership has no benefits after graduation.

**FACT:** Fraternity membership is not for four years, it is for life. Each man that joins a fraternity agrees to be an active member well beyond his undergraduate years at Valpo. While the collegiate years are the most highly associated with fraternity membership, alumni men actively serve as chapter advisors and mentors to the undergraduate men. Undergraduate fraternity chapters benefit greatly from the lifelong involvement of members.

Following graduation, fraternity men benefit from their membership through extensive networking opportunities with brothers around the world.