

Psi Upsilon

Accreditation Report
2023-2024

Leadership & Member Development

- Psi Upsilon emphasizes the development of its members in various ways such as leadership positions, the New Member Education Program, and involvement in campus organizations.
- The fraternity's New Member Education plan focuses on educating new members about its history, values, and operations, fostering friendships, promoting individual growth, and instilling core values. Activities include weekly meetings, study hours, service projects, and alcohol safety discussions.
- Psi Upsilon's Brotherhood Development plan aims to create well-rounded members who contribute positively to the chapter and the broader Lehigh community. Workshops and events cover topics such as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), career development, and bonding activities.
- The chapter benefits from the support and resources provided by its IHQ, participating in events such as conventions and officer roundtables to enhance chapter operations and facilitate networking opportunities. These events not only offer valuable insights into fraternity management but also foster connections among chapters nationwide.
- Psi Upsilon's Officer Transition Program ensures smooth leadership transitions by facilitating shadowing opportunities, providing comprehensive position binders, and organizing mandatory meetings between incoming and outgoing officers.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- In what ways can the chapter improve the New Member Service Project to offer more meaningful community engagement opportunities for new members?
- How can the chapter further integrate DEI principles into the Brotherhood Development Plan to create a more inclusive environment?
- Are there any specific workshops or events that the chapter should consider adding to the New Member Education and Brotherhood Development plans?

In the area of **Leadership & Member Development**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Organizational Operations

- The fraternity prioritizes responsible social conduct and risk management, evidenced by educational efforts, increased event monitors, and participation in safety training events. The leadership sets an example for the members and commits to continuous improvement.
- The Standards Board serves as the judiciary body of the fraternity, responsible for various tasks, including handling disciplinary cases, ensuring the chapter's adherence to bylaws, and overseeing officer performance.
- Psi Upsilon employs a house points system to recognize and incentivize members' contributions, including academic excellence and community service involvement. The system aims to foster engagement and participation among members and has resulted in increased community service participation.
- Weekly chapter and executive board meetings are conducted to discuss operational matters, share updates, and plan events. These meetings follow structured agendas, and minutes are recorded to promote transparency and accountability amongst members.

- Psi Upsilon employs a committee system to involve members in various areas such as philanthropy and recruitment. These committees provide input and support officers' initiatives, fostering collaboration and engagement among members.
- The treasurer plays an important role in ensuring financial integrity and transparency through consistent communication and collaboration with the executive board and alumni association. The treasurer manages finances effectively, implements flexible payment plans, and utilizes technology like LegFi for efficient financial management.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- How can the chapter ensure that all members understand and adhere to the BYOB policy and other social policies in the future?
- How can the chapter further improve its risk management practices moving forward?
- Are there any areas where the Standards Board could enhance its effectiveness?
- How can the chapter improve upon the committee system so that it includes the participation of new members?

In the area of **Organizational Operations**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Community Service & Engagement

- Psi Upsilon continues to display a commitment to service by raising the mandatory community service hours from 10 to 12 per year at the start of the 2023-2024 academic year. The fraternity implemented this change to encourage increased involvement in community activities and positive impacts.
- Brothers are incentivized to complete their community service hours, with rewards such as cash donations to the philanthropy of their choice and house points for top contributors. Those who fail to meet the requirements may face fines and point deductions, which are enforced by the Standards Board.
- After a chapter-wide discussion, Psi Upsilon has chosen mental health awareness to be the focus of its philanthropic efforts. Members have participated in events like the Out of Darkness Walk and organized activities to support organizations like Active Minds.
- Psi Upsilon, led by the Green Chairman, has been actively involved in sustainability initiatives. They participate in events like the LU Eco Reps' Trashion Show and host presentations to educate members on sustainability practices.
- Due to an alcohol violation in the spring 2024 semester, Psi Upsilon was placed on Disciplinary Probation through the end of the semester. As a result, the House Manager and Chapter President spoke with the chapter about the importance of the BYOB policy. In this conversation, chapter leadership emphasized that having a chapter house is a privilege, not a right, and it is the responsibility of all members to ensure the facility is kept up to standard and all rules are followed. As a follow-up, chapter leadership invited LUPD to host a safety talk at the chapter house.
- Psi Upsilon invited Fraternity & Sorority Life to host "The Perfect Party" program in their chapter house. This program is an opportunity for members to engage in a practical learning experience to address various scenarios commonly encountered at events involving alcohol and equips participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to promote safety, responsibility, and good decision-making.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- In what ways can Psi Upsilon facilitate more intentional collaboration with other organizations, both within and outside the Greek community, to organize philanthropy events and fundraisers?
- How does the fraternity approach the selection of philanthropic causes and organizations to support, and what criteria are considered in making these decisions?
- How has Psi Upsilon ensured accountability and compliance with community service requirements, particularly regarding the seniors in the chapter?

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Psi Upsilon was ranked fifth out of ten IFC fraternities in the fall 2023 semester with a GPA of 3.35, an increase of .01 from the spring 2023 semester. The 3.35 GPA placed the chapter below the All Greek average and above the All IFC and All Fraternity averages.
- Psi Upsilon was ranked sixth out of ten IFC fraternities in the spring 2024 semester with a GPA of 3.35, which is equivalent to the fall 2023 semester GPA. The 3.35 GPA placed the chapter below the All Greek average and above the All IFC and All Fraternity averages.
- Psi Upsilon's spring 2024 new member class GPA was 2.84 ranking tenth out of ten chapters conducting spring recruitment.
- Psi Upsilon had 46.6% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2023 semester and 38.4% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the spring 2024 semester.
- The Academic Big Brother Program pairs senior members with new members to provide guidance, mentorship, and academic support, fostering unity and personal growth within the chapter.
- Psi Upsilon's Academic Plan is a structured framework designed to enhance academic excellence within the chapter. It consists of four main components: Plan for Brothers on Probation, Major Advisor Program, Utilization of External Resources, and Brother Accountability Program. Each component is meant to promote accountability and provide academic support to members as needed.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- Are there any specific areas within the Academic Plan that require further refinement based on feedback from chapter members?
- What measures can be taken to prevent members from reaching probationary status due to academics?
- In what ways can the chapter expand its intellectual engagement initiatives beyond Career Day to provide ongoing opportunities for learning and development?
- What are ways in which the chapter can encourage the use of academic resources on campus such as the Center for Academic Success?

In the area of **Academic & Intellectual Development**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Facilities Management

- Psi Upsilon had no common area damages for the 2023-2024 academic year.

- Psi Upsilon had no issues with openings or closings for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Psi Upsilon had no major life safety violations for the 2023-2024 academic year, but had one minor life safety violation in the spring 2024 semester due to
- Psi Upsilon has had minor issues throughout the 2023-2024 academic year related to the cleanliness of the party room and garbage in front of the house, but overall has had a good year. In response to these issues, the chapter implemented routine common area checks conducted by the House Manager to ensure the house is well maintained.
- Psi Upsilon was unable to meet Lehigh's occupancy requirement of 27 brothers living in the house during the fall 2023 semester, but met the requirement in the spring of 2024.
- Though they did not meet the occupancy requirement in the fall 2023 semester, the chapter continues to implement its 2022-2023 occupancy plan to ensure consistent occupancy. The plan requires at least ten returning juniors to live in the chapter house. Juniors who want to live off-campus must find another member willing to take their place.
- The undergraduate classes continue to undertake projects to improve the house's condition. This year, the Class of 2024 has restored the chapter pool table to promote the use of the space for brothers to socialize and bond in a recreational setting.
- The House Manager is one of six Executive Board positions within Psi Upsilon. The House Manager's role is to act as the liaison between the fraternity and Lehigh University Housing Services regarding all matters pertaining to the chapter house.

Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- How can the chapter further enhance the preservation efforts of the house and foster a culture of collective responsibility among members?
- In what ways can the chapter refine the internal room selection process to ensure fairness and transparency while accommodating the needs of all members?

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall, Psi Upsilon has been rated an Accredited chapter by the 2023-2024 Accreditation committee, the chapter meets expectations set forth by Lehigh University. The chapter is successful and is an active contributor to the Greek and Lehigh communities.

Psi Upsilon continues to place great emphasis on leadership development, organizational development, community service, academic advancement, and facilities maintenance. The chapter takes a proactive approach to ensuring that they are performing satisfactorily in all areas by implementing robust academic plans, fostering a culture of accountability and continuous improvement, engaging in meaningful house improvement projects, and narrowing in on one area to focus future philanthropic events and initiatives. Looking ahead to the upcoming school year, it is imperative that they build upon these foundations and further enhance their efforts. One critical area of growth lies in the realm of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). While the chapter has made strides in creating a welcoming environment, there is still work to be done to ensure that all members feel valued, respected, and represented. This includes actively seeking out diverse perspectives, fostering open dialogue on DEI topics, and implementing initiatives that promote equity and inclusivity within the fraternity.

Chapter Development Questions

- In what ways can the chapter improve the New Member Service Project to offer more meaningful community engagement opportunities for new members?
- How can the chapter further integrate DEI principles into the Brotherhood Development Plan to create a more inclusive environment?
- Are there any specific workshops or events that the chapter should consider adding to the New Member Education and Brotherhood Development plans?
- How can the chapter ensure that all members understand and adhere to the BYOB policy and other social policies in the future?
- How can the chapter further improve its risk management practices moving forward?
- Are there any areas where the Standards Board could enhance its effectiveness?
- In what ways can Psi Upsilon facilitate more intentional collaboration with other organizations, both within and outside the Greek community, to organize philanthropy events and fundraisers?
- How does the fraternity approach the selection of philanthropic causes and organizations to support, and what criteria are considered in making these decisions?
- How has Psi Upsilon ensured accountability and compliance with community service requirements, particularly regarding the seniors in the chapter?
- Are there any specific areas within the Academic Plan that require further refinement based on feedback from chapter members?
- What measures can be taken to prevent members from reaching probationary status due to academics?
- In what ways can the chapter expand its intellectual engagement initiatives beyond Career Day to provide ongoing opportunities for learning and development?
- How can the chapter further enhance the preservation efforts of the house and foster a culture of collective responsibility among members?
- In what ways can the chapter refine the internal room selection process to ensure fairness and transparency while accommodating the needs of all members?

Best Practices

- A program has been implemented to ensure consistent occupancy, requiring at least ten juniors to live in the house. If a junior wants to move off campus, they need to find another junior member to replace them.