



OT Request- Professional
Development Travel

CENTER FOR FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

FY 25-26



FY2026 One-Time Request #4- Professional Development Travel

The Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life is seeking a one-time funding allocation of \$5,830.00 to support travel for professional staff and fraternity/sorority members to attend leadership development conferences, particularly the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values (AFLV) Central Fraternal Leadership Conference. This funding will ensure that our staff and student leaders gain access to national best practices, are able to engage with diverse peer institutions, and bring back knowledge that will enhance the fraternity and sorority experience at the University of Houston.

Justification

The AFLV Central Fraternal Leadership Conference is one of the premier student leadership conferences for the fraternity/sorority community, offering position-specific training, leadership development, and networking opportunities. Attendance at such conferences is critical for students and staff to remain engaged in national conversations, learn innovative strategies, and bring back actionable insights to their respective councils and chapters.

In addition to benefiting from participation, CFSL professional staff members will also contribute to the educational experience of conference attendees by presenting workshop sessions. These workshops will cover topics such as leadership development, recruitment & retention, member development, and strategies for promoting positive behavioral change with fraternal organizations. Presenting at AFLV Central not only enhances the reputation of CFSL and UH, but also allows us to share our institutional successes and innovative programs with a broader audience. The CFSL External Review included information that staff and students should receive regular training, so attendance and participation at AFLV Central aligns with the recommendation.

Many UH fraternity/sorority members have expressed that these off-campus leadership experiences are invaluable for personal growth and community development. Furthermore, professional staff attendance supports both the guidance of these student leaders and the continuous improvement of the CFSL's offerings.

Currently, the Center has funds for campus-based programming, but attending external conferences presents an opportunity for staff and students to gain broader perspectives, develop leadership capacities, and build a strong network of peer institutions with similar goals. Peer institutions, such as those in the Big 12, Iowa State, Texas Tech University, University of Utah, Texas Christian University, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, University of Missouri, and the University of Texas-Austin, have prioritized sending representatives to AFLV Central. By aligning our travel opportunities with these peer institutions, UH will further solidify its standing as a leader in fraternity and sorority life.

Strategic Alignment

This request directly aligns with the Division of Student Affairs' Strategic Initiative for Student Engagement. By investing in student leadership development and professional staff growth, CFSL

will enhance the overall student experience and promote positive behaviors within the fraternity/sorority community. The inclusion of professional staff presenting workshops will increase UH's visibility in national leadership conversations and will demonstrate our commitment to leading the charge in fostering responsible and innovative student leadership. This investment supports our long-term goals of fostering leadership, responsibility, and accountability among fraternity/sorority members.

Funding Request

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| • Lodging (<i>3 nights/4 days for 3 professional staff attendees</i>): | \$3,000.00 |
| • Flight & Transportation (<i>airfare and ground transportation</i>): | \$1,500.00 |
| • <u>Administrative Fees:</u> | <u>\$270.00</u> |

Total: \$4,770.00