MIT recognizes 37 fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs). Of these, 23 are nationally affiliated fraternities and two are local. There are also five living groups, four of which are coed and one is for women only. All seven sororities are nationally affiliated; five are residential. Most FSILGs have residential facilities owned by the respective organization's house corporation located off campus in Boston, Brookline, and Cambridge. The Interfraternity Council (IFC) acts as the governing body for the fraternities, the Panhellenic Association (Panhel) represents the sororities, and the Living Group Council (LGC) represents the living groups.

The oldest fraternity on campus was founded at MIT in 1873. More than 40 percent of the undergraduate population is affiliated with a fraternity, sorority, or living group. FSILGs play an active role on campus, and members hold leadership positions in various clubs and organizations. FSILG members also take part in a number of intramural sports, as well as volunteer their time with many charitable and nonprofit organizations.

The espoused values of the FSILG community are leadership, scholarship, citizenship, and service. Each organization is self-governing, manages all its operations and maintenance, and develops its own academic, social, membership, recreational, and external policies and programs. These organizations provide a unique experience in leadership, community planning, and group interactions.

Each residential fraternity, sorority, or living group has a live-in resident advisor who is a graduate student. Graduate Resident Advisors serve as mentors, guides, and resources for students and act as a liaison between the undergraduate chapter, the alumni, and MIT.

MIT students have opportunities to learn more about each of the fraternities, sororities, and living groups throughout the academic year. The primary recruitment period for fraternities and sororities is usually held in September. However, many fraternities, sororities, and ILGs host recruitment events year round. In addition, incoming students receive information about the FSILGs during Orientation and Campus Preview Weekend. For more information about FSILGs, contact the Fraternity, Sorority, and Living Group Office (FSILG-Office@mit.edu), located in W59-200, 617-253-7546.