

**CONSTITUTION OF
ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE**

- Section 1 The name of this organization is Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society (the “Society”).
- Section 2 Its purpose is to provide an association which recognizes academically outstanding adult* students in higher education who come together to celebrate scholarship and leadership.
- Section 3 This society shall be a non-profit organization devoted to the advancement of scholarship and leadership.
- *Each institution uses specific criteria to identify “adult” students on its campus. Each chapter is expected to apply the definition of “adult” student used by its own institution in order to select the appropriate candidates for membership.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1 Colleges and universities interested in establishing a chapter shall submit an application and a proposed chapter constitution to the Society’s Executive Director. Upon approval of the proposed constitution by the Society’s Board of Directors, a charter shall be granted.
- Section 2 To meet the standards for a charter from the Society, a chapter shall satisfy the following requirements for election of students to membership:
- a. Student members are typically adults engaged in balancing the multiple responsibilities of home, family, career, community, and education.
 - b. Residency Requirement: Student members must have completed a minimum of twenty-four (24) graded semester hour credits or the equivalent** and shall be matriculated students in an undergraduate degree program in an institution that is regionally accredited in the U.S or recognized by the Ministry of Education of the country in which the program operates. These college credits may not include transfer credits. All twenty-four credits must be taken through and graded at the matriculating institution and must be included in the student’s cumulative GPA.
 - c. Distribution Requirement: At least twelve (12) of the student member’s total credits must be earned in the Liberal Arts/Sciences. If the student has not earned twelve Liberal Arts/Sciences credits within the twenty-four credits completed at the matriculating institution, accepted transfer credits may be used to meet this requirement.
 - d. Student members shall be selected from the highest twenty percent of the students who have twenty-four graded credits and are matriculated in an undergraduate degree program.
 - e. Student members selected must have a minimum grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent. The cumulative scholastic record of the student as interpreted

by the institution where membership is to be conferred shall be the basis for computing scholastic eligibility.

**Thirty-six (36) quarter hours or an approved number of unit courses equal to twenty-four (24) semester hours.

Section 3 Local chapters may elect faculty and administrative officers to membership. Faculty and administrative personnel shall be exempt from all student membership criteria as outlined in Section 2 of this Article.

- Section 4
- a. Inducted members who transfer from one institution to another may transfer membership to the chapter of the transfer institution upon the approval of the Chapter Councilor.
 - b. Inducted members may continue membership in the Society upon commencement by completing a continuing membership application and paying a continuing membership fee.
 - c. Annual dues for Chapters and individual members shall be set and approved by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE III
REPRESENTATION AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Section 1 Each Chapter Councilor shall serve as, or appoint, a chapter advisor who will assist the chapter officers with planning and management of local activities.

- Section 2
- a. The Chapter Councilors shall be convened in an annual business meeting to review the business of the Society.
 - b. A minimum of five (5) Chapter Councilor or designee attendees at the annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

- Section 3
- a. The Chapter Councilors or designees shall vote on proposals submitted by the Board at the annual meeting or via online voting.
 - b. Votes taken at the annual meeting or online shall be approved by a simple majority of votes cast.

- Section 4 The Chapter Councilors shall elect the officers of the Board of Directors.
- a. Chapter Councilors may nominate candidates to serve as officers.
 - b. Nomination of officers may be by self-nomination or by Board Member nomination.
 - c. Election of officers shall occur annually.
 - d. Elections of officers will be on a staggered basis to allow for continuity of membership.
 - e. Officers shall be elected for two year terms.
 - f. Newly elected officers shall take office on January 1.

**ARTICLE IV
BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1 The Society's Board of Directors shall be comprised of elected and appointed members.
- a. The elected members shall include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large.
 - b. The Past President shall be retained on the Board to serve as counsel to the Board for the duration of the President's term.

- c. All elected board members shall be current or past Chapter Councilors.
- d. All elected board members and the past President shall have a vote on Society business.
- e. An Executive Director shall be appointed by the Board of Directors as a voting member.
- f. The Board of Directors may appoint additional nonvoting members as the need arises.

- Section 2 The Society's President shall serve as the presiding officer of the Board of Directors and as a member ex-officio of all committees.
- Section 3 The Society's Secretary shall record minutes of the annual business meeting and of meetings of the Board of Directors.
- Section 4 The Society's Treasurer shall be responsible for all fiscal matters.
- Section 5 The Member-at-Large shall perform tasks as assigned by the President.
- Section 6 The Society's Board of Directors shall be empowered to conduct the affairs of the organization between annual business meetings.
- Section 7 The actions of the Board shall require a quorum of five (5) voting members and approval by majority vote.
- Section 8 The Board shall have two physical meetings per year and additional meetings as necessary through telephone or electronic means.

**ARTICLE V
COMMITTEES**

- Section 1 Standing Committees
- a. Membership
 - b. Finance
 - c. Scholarship
 - d. Nominating
 - e. Constitution and By-Laws
- Section 2 Appointment to committees may be voluntary, by nomination, or through appointment by the President.
- Section 3 The Society's President shall appoint ad hoc committees as may be necessary to further the aims of the organization.

**ARTICLE VI
FINANCES**

- Section 1 The Society's fiscal year begins January 1 and ends December 31 of each year.
- Section 2 The Society's Board of Directors has the authority to establish dues and fees for Chapters and individual members belonging to the Society. The dues and fees for Chapters are for the purpose of supporting the operations and scholarships of the Society. Individual membership fees support administration costs of the membership forum.

Section 3 A non-refundable fee determined by the Board of Directors must accompany each new chapter application. This fee shall serve as the new chapter's pro-rated dues for the remainder of the year in which the application is approved. Annual dues for institutional membership shall revert to the full current fee on January 1 following the chapter's membership confirmation.

**ARTICLE VII
HOME OFFICE**

- Section 1 The Society is to be supported by a home office.
- Section 2 The Society shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the hosting institution.
- Section 3 The host institution shall be a Chapter member and will be selected as a result of a competitive bid.
- Section 4 The Executive Director appointed by the Board of Directors shall be affiliated with the host institution. The role of the Executive Director will be to manage the affairs of the home office.

**APPENDIX
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY**

To determine eligibility for membership, follow these steps in the sequence given. This example is based on the criteria established in Article II of the Society's Constitution. Individual chapter criteria may be higher.

Identify:

1. Adult Student Status according to the criteria outlined in Article I, Section 2 and Article II, Section 4 of the Society's National Constitution.
2. Residency Requirement: Matriculated undergraduate adult students who have earned 24 credits or more at the respective chapter's institution. (Must not include transfer credits.)
3. Distribution Requirement: Students who have 12 or more credits in Liberal Arts/Sciences. (May include transfer credits.)
4. Top twenty percent of the student pool remaining after completing steps 1, 2, & 3 of these instructions.
5. Students who have a GPA of 3.2 or above after completing steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 of these instructions.