



UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (Please Print): _____

Major(s): _____ Minor(s): _____

Local Address: _____

Local Phone: _____ Email: _____

A#: _____ Graduation Semester (Projected): _____

Please list the Political Science courses you have taken, the grades you received in those courses and the number of credit hours earned. You must have completed 12 hours of political science courses and carried a department GPA of at least 3.2.

| Course Number & Name | Grade Received | Hours Earned |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Department GPA: _____

I am formally applying for membership in the Alpha Iota Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. I certify that the above information is complete and correct. My \$45.00 membership check, made payable to Pi Sigma Alpha is attached.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



What is Pi Sigma Alpha?

Founded in 1920 at the University of Texas, ΠΣΑ is the national honor society for undergraduate and graduate students of political science. There are now over 600 chapters established in colleges and universities in the United States.

Benefits of Membership

Membership in an honor society is a worthy distinction in itself, and as a measure of academic achievement can provide a tangible advantage in a competitive world. All members, regular and honorary, receive a certificate of membership and permanent enrollment in the society's membership rolls, maintained by the National Office. Upon request, the National Office will provide letters verifying membership to prospective employers or graduate schools. Because ΠΣΑ is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), the United States Office of Personnel Management allows its members to apply for federal government positions listed at a higher entry-level grade than nonmember candidates. Members are entitled to wear the ΠΣΑ key at any time or the medallion and honor cord with cap and gown at graduation and on other official occasions.

Members may apply for scholarships for both graduate study in political science and for Washington semester programs, and for Best Paper awards.

Pi Sigma Alpha gives students the opportunity for valuable administrative experience as chapter officers or organizers of chapter activities. Chapters can compete for the Chapter Activity Grants awarded each year by the National Office. Members are also eligible to compete for the ΠΣΑ Graduate Scholarship, the Graduate and Undergraduate Best Paper Awards, and a one-year student membership in the American Political Science Association, funded by the National Office for one student selected by each chapter each year.

For information about your chapter's activities, eligibility standards, and initiation process, contact your ΠΣΑ Chapter Advisor or see your department chair.

Membership Eligibility

The purpose of Pi Sigma Alpha is to stimulate scholarship and interest in the subject of government by providing recognition and benefits to students who have excelled in the field. Minimum standards for admission, established by ACHS and the ΠΣΑ national constitution, are:

For juniors and seniors:

- completion of at least fifteen quarter-hours or ten semester-hours of work in government, political science, international relations or public administration including at least one upper-division course
- maintenance of an average grade of B or higher in all political science courses
- overall academic standing in the upper one-third of the college class (junior or senior class).

For graduate students:

- completion of at least nine hours of graduate work in political science
- maintenance of an average grade of B or higher in all political science courses.

Individual chapters may adopt higher scholastic standards in their bylaws than these national minimum requirements, and these are binding on members. Membership is possible only through local chapters.

Programs

ΠΣΑ activities are carried on mainly at the chapter level with coordination by the National Office. The National Office also administers the following programs:

Programs for ΠΣΑ Chapters and Students:

- Annual Chapter Activity Grant Competition
- Scholarships for Graduate Study in Political Science
- Scholarships for Washington internships
- Scholarships for IEL internships for all members
- Student membership in APSA (1 per chapter per year)
- Best Chapter Awards
- Best Chapter Advisor Awards
- Best Undergraduate Class Paper Award
- Best Undergraduate Honors Thesis Award

National Programs:

- Publication of *Pi Sigma Alpha Newsletter*
- The ΠΣΑ Undergraduate Journal of Politics
- Recognition of excellence in undergraduate teaching Franklin P. Burdette Award for the best paper presented at the APSA Annual Meeting
- ΠΣΑ Best Paper Awards for regional political science association meetings
- Lectures at the ΠΣΑ Annual Meeting and regional ΠΣΑ political science association meetings
- Lectures at regional and state political science association annual meetings