

National Honor Societies with Chapters at USU

Alpha Lambda Delta

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national society honoring academic excellence during a student's first year in college. Founded in 1924 at the University of Illinois, Alpha Lambda Delta has more than 240 chapters across the United States and has initiated more than 750,000 students. The mission of Alpha Lambda Delta is to encourage superior academic achievement, to promote intelligent living and a high standard of learning, and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals in society.

Alpha Lambda Delta membership is open to all freshmen who meet the academic qualifications. Students must be registered for a full course of study leading to a bachelor's degree and must rank in the top 20 percent of their freshman class. The minimum scholastic average required for membership is a 3.5 GPA. Eligibility is based on grades for the first full semester. Once initiated, the student becomes a lifetime member of Alpha Lambda Delta. Members may remain active in the chapter throughout college. Offices are held by members while they are sophomores.

Chapter Advisors: Joyce A. Kinkead, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Research, Main 114, (435) 797-1706; and Mary Heers, Instructor, Honors Program, Merrill Library 375, (435) 797-2715.

Beta Gamma Sigma

Beta Gamma Sigma international honor society was founded in 1913 to recognize superior scholarship in business. It is the highest international recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive. The USU chapter was established in 1975.

Membership is by invitation only and is limited to the top 20 percent of business graduate students, the top 10 percent of seniors with business majors, and the top 7 percent of juniors with business majors. Candidates must have completed one year of study at Utah State University.

Chapter Advisor: Isobel Roskelley, Academic Advisor, Business 309, (435) 797-2143.

Golden Key International

Founded at Georgia State University in 1977, this academic honors organization recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement among students from all academic fields. The society unites talented undergraduate students with prominent faculty members and administrators who are active in Golden Key at the chapter and national levels. Scholarships are awarded annually by each chapter to outstanding juniors and seniors.

Membership, by invitation only, is limited to no more than the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors enrolled at USU. Part-time and full-time students qualify, as do traditional and nontraditional students.

Chapter Advisor: Karen Curtis, Student Center 220, (435) 797-1712.

Mortar Board

The Order of the Acorn chapter of Mortar Board has existed at USU since 1970. It was founded in 1918 as the first national organization honoring senior college women. Mortar Board opened its membership to men in 1975.

Mortar Board recognizes college seniors for distinguished abilities in scholarship, leadership, and service. Members continue to magnify these traits throughout membership by developing and carrying out activities, events, and service projects. New members are chosen during spring semester and must be in the top 35 percent of their class.

Chapter Advisor: Nellene Howard, Assistant Director for Service and Leadership, Student Involvement and Leadership Center, Student Center 326, (435) 797-7482.

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars is an honors organization founded on the principles of scholarship, leadership, and service. Each plays an important role in one's personal development. Society members are encouraged to pursue each of these ideals with a sense of passion and dedication. The society's mission is to:

1. Recognize and celebrate high achievement among first- and second-year college and university students across all academic disciplines.
2. Encourage and promote high standards throughout the collegiate experience.
3. Provide opportunities for personal growth and leadership development.
4. Organize and encourage community service.
5. Foster an overall appreciation for the value of higher education.

Chapter Advisor: D. Kim Openshaw, associate professor of Family, Consumer, and Human Development, FCHD West 120, (435) 797-7434, d.k.openshaw@usu.edu.

Phi Alpha Theta

Phi Alpha Theta is a professional society whose purpose is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication, and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. It seeks to bring students, teachers, and writers of history together, both intellectually and socially; and it encourages and assists historical research and publication by its members in a variety of ways. The History Honor Society, Inc., Phi Alpha Theta, was organized at the University of Arkansas on March 17, 1921. Since that time, it has grown to more than 820 chapters and has initiated more than 275,000 members. The USU chapter was established in 1952.

Membership is open to those students who have completed 12 credits of history courses, with a 3.1 GPA in history coursework. A 3.0 overall GPA is required. Students need not be history majors to become Phi Alpha Theta members.

Chapter Advisor: James Sanders, Assistant Professor of History, Main 323E, (435) 797-1294, jsanders@hass.usu.edu.

Phi Kappa Phi

Phi Kappa Phi is a national honor society, founded in 1897 to recognize and encourage superior scholarship in all academic disciplines. Membership is based upon academic achievement and is proffered to undergraduate and graduate students who obtain a grade

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point average in the highest 10 percent of those graduating from each college at USU. The national organization awards 50 graduate school fellowships each year to students from throughout the country and sponsors undergraduates for internships and study abroad programs. Each year, the USU chapter also awards two to three scholarships to outstanding juniors and recognizes faculty members for their achievements.

Chapter Advisor: Mary E. Leavitt, secretary/treasurer, (director, College of HASS Advising Center), Student Center 302, (435) 797-3883.

Phi Sigma Iota

Phi Sigma Iota is an international foreign language honor society for juniors, seniors, and graduate students who excel in a foreign language, have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and have earned a grade of *B* or better in a 3000- or 4000-level language course. Copies of transcript must be verified by the chapter advisor.

Phi Sigma Iota recognizes outstanding ability and high standards in the fields of foreign language, English as a second language, literature, and culture.

As the highest academic honor in the field of foreign languages, Phi Sigma Iota promotes international communication and understanding, as well as a sentiment of unity among nations. The society also helps students learn about themselves and their cultural heritage as they increase their understanding of other people.

Phi Sigma Iota stands for freedom of mind and democracy of learning. The society stimulates and supports scholarly programs nationwide, and also offers scholarships and graduation honors nationwide. To help members to further their training in foreign languages, the society promotes trips abroad. The USU chapter provides a job and internship list.

Chapter Advisor: Sarah Gordon, Assistant Professor of French, Main 204, (435) 797-8213, sgordon@cc.usu.edu.

Pinnacle

Pinnacle was founded at Murray State University in Kentucky in 1989 for the purpose of recognizing the achievements of adult and nontraditional students. The USU chapter was established that year, and the first members were inducted in 1990. Membership is open to no more than 15 percent of the junior and senior student population. Initiates must be 26 years of age or older, must have earned an overall USU GPA of 3.0 or higher, and must have been involved in campus and/or community activities. Applications are available at the Reentry Student Center.

Chapter Advisor: Janet L. Osborne, director, Women's Center/ Reentry Student Center, Student Center 315, (435) 797-1728.

Tau Sigma

Tau Sigma, founded at Auburn University in 1986, recognizes the academic achievement of students transferring to an institution of higher learning from another academic institution. This society encourages and promotes students' involvement in the institution to which they are transferring. Membership is offered to undergraduate students who transfer to USU with the equivalent of at least one full year of academic credits (24 semester credits) from an institution of higher learning and who have at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average during their first year at Utah State.

Chapter Advisor: Rachel D. Lewis, Program Administrator for Articulation and Transfer Services, University Advising and Transfer Services, Student Center 304, (435) 797-3373, rachel.lewis@usu.edu.