

Alpha Lambda Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi - Constitution

(Revised 10/75, 10/86, 10/90, 10/93, 12/95, 8/96, 12/97, 8/98, 8/99, 8/00, 10/01, 10/03, 10/04, 10/05, 10/07)

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Alpha Lambda Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Cooperative Extension Professionals' Organization.

Article II: Purpose

Section A

The purpose of this association shall be exclusively charitable and educational.

Section B

This purpose includes, but is not limited to:

1. Maintaining the standards and ideals, preserving the traditions and upholding the morale, prestige and respect of the Cooperative Extension Service; and,
 2. Developing an effective working relationship and a spirit of fraternal and professional fellowship among the present and past employees of the Cooperative Extension Service.
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Article III: Membership

Section A

Qualifications:

1. Duly elected faculty, professional and administrative staff who have held full or part-time Extension appointments for a total of five or more years (the five-year requirement does not apply to ESP members in other states transferring to Purdue); and,
2. Have displayed a professional, cooperative and helpful attitude toward fellow Extension employees, demonstrated competency in assigned fields of responsibility; and,
3. Exhibited ability in educational techniques essential to the conduct of an effective Extension program.

Section B

Classification:

1. Annual: Annual members are those who are engaged in professional Extension work and who have met all qualifications of membership;
2. Life: Annual Alpha Lambda Chapter members may become life members upon their retirement from Extension work.
3. Inactive: Those who are not actively participating in Extension work and/or who have not paid dues.

Section C

Membership Criteria:

1. Acceptance of membership by the newly elected member shall be acknowledged in writing and accompanied by the initiation fee, prior to the date of initiation; and,
2. A person may withdraw from membership by notifying the Secretary in writing; and,
3. Any member who fails to pay annual dues shall be dropped from membership in the organization and shall be so notified in writing by the Secretary; and,
4. Any member may be expelled from the organization for failure to observe the obligation or for conduct unbecoming a member of the organization; and,
5. Charges may be preferred in writing, signed by two members; and,
6. These charges shall be reviewed by the membership committee which will investigate the charges and report to the organization, making a recommendation; and,
7. An accused member shall have right of personal hearing and to file evidence in regard to preferred charges; and,
8. Expulsion from the organization shall require that three-fourths of all eligible

voters, as defined above, cast their ballots with a simple majority showing support of the motion to expel.

9. Reinstatement - Any member whose membership has lapsed may be reinstated by paying regular dues.

Article IV: Officers

The officers of this organization shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, and Annalist.

Article V: Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of this organization shall consist of the officers and of the Chairs of the Standing Committees (or their designee).

Article VI: Meetings and a Quorum

Section A

An annual meeting shall be at the time of the annual Professional Staff Development Conference.

Section B

Special meetings shall be held upon call of the President or upon written request of twenty percent of the members.

Section C

A Quorum - 15% of the paid membership shall be present to constitute a quorum at any called or special meeting of the membership.

Section D

A Quorum for a board of directors - 50% of the members of the board of directors.

Article VII: Initiation Fees and Dues and Changes

Section A

Initiation fee - For this chapter it shall be set annually and will include state and national dues for one year.

Section B

State and National Dues - Shall be payable to the Treasurer prior to the annual chapter meeting or by October 1 of the current year.

Section C

Changes - Made by the National Council in dues and/or fees will automatically apply to the local chapter.

Article VIII: Emblem and Membership Card

Section A

The official emblem shall be that adapted by the National Council of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Section B

Each member may be provided with a membership card signed by the local chapter secretary and the national organization secretary.

Article IX: Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any annual or special meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present providing members were mailed suggested changes thirty days prior to the meeting.