

ESP Alpha Delta Chapter Constitution

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Alpha Delta Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Extension Fraternity.

Article II - Purpose

Section A

The purpose of this association shall be exclusively charitable and educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

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 fellowship among the present and past employees of the Cooperative Extension Service.

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 three or more years (the three-year requirement does not apply to ESP members in other states transferring to Florida); and,
2. have displayed a 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. Active: Active members are those who are engaged in professional Extension work and who have met all qualifications of membership;

2. Life: Active Alpha Delta Chapter members may become life members upon their retirement from Extension work.

Section C

Election:

1. Membership shall be on the basis of a ninety percent (90%) favorable vote by the eligible voters who properly mark and cast their ballot.

Section D

Eligible Voters - All active members.

Section E

Voting:

1. Membership voting may be taken by mail, an alternative method or at any annual or called meeting or a combination in compliance with the requirements stated below; and,

2. The vote shall be reported not later than at the next annual meeting of the fraternity after the membership has been proposed.

3. Alternative provisions for the process of the membership to cast their votes shall be adopted at the discretion of the board of directors.

Section F

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 fraternity and shall be so notified in writing by the Secretary; and,

4. Any member may be expelled from the fraternity for failure to observe the obligation or for conduct unbecoming a member of the fraternity; and,

5. Charges may be referred 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 fraternity, 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 fraternity 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 and a reinstatement fee of \$10.00. Retirees are exempt from paying the reinstatement fee.

Article IV - Officers

The officers of this organization shall consist of a President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Annalist, Chaplain and Immediate Past President.

Article V - Meetings and a Quorum

Section A

An annual meeting shall be at the time of the annual Extension Professional Associations of Florida, Inc. meeting.

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.

Article VI - 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 Secretary prior to the annual chapter meeting.

Section C

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

Article VII - 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 will be provided with a membership card signed by the local chapter secretary and the national organization secretary.

Article VIII - Amendments

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

History:

Changes approved 10/19/09