

What is Kappa Tau Alpha?

Kappa Tau Alpha is a national college honor society that recognizes academic excellence and promotes scholarship. Membership is a mark of high distinction and honor.

Membership must be earned by excellence in academic work. Only those students who rank in the top 10 percent of their classes are considered for membership. Kappa Tau Alpha is not a social fraternity, a professional organization or a recognition society.

The seventh oldest of national honor societies, Kappa Tau Alpha was founded at the University of Missouri in 1910. It is the only journalism/mass communications society recognized by the Association of College Honor Societies.

Kappa Tau Alpha chapters are located at 91 colleges and universities throughout the United States.

The emblem of Kappa Tau Alpha is the key, the oldest symbol of knowledge and communication. The Greek letters *Kappa, Tau, Alpha* stand for Knowledge, Truth, and Accuracy. The Society's colors are light blue, significant of truth, and gold, emblematic of worth and high standards.

The Society, as part of its efforts to promote scholarship, co-sponsors the Kappa Tau Alpha/AEJMC Awards Luncheon at the annual convention and initiated its annual award in 1945 for the best book in the field of journalism or mass communications.

Membership

Membership in Kappa Tau Alpha is by invitation only through one of the Society's campus chapters. A list of the Society's chartered chapters appears on the back.

Only students majoring in journalism or mass communication are eligible.

Juniors and seniors must rank in the upper 10 percent of their class based on overall grade-point-average, have at least a 3.0 GPA in upper-level journalism/mass communications courses and have completed at least nine semester hours of credit in professional courses in journalism/mass communication. Chapters may set higher standards for membership. Outstanding graduate students also may be selected.

Initiates receive a Certificate of Membership and a Kappa Tau Alpha key, which may be worn as a pin or as a key/charm. The initiation fee is \$30. Some chapters require a modest additional fee. There are no annual dues.



Chapters

Kappa Tau Alpha has chapters at 91 colleges and universities.

Chapters are located at four-year degree-granting institutions accredited by the appropriate regional agency (New England, Middle States, North Central, Southern, Western or Northwest Association of Colleges) that offer a major in journalism or mass communication.

The quality of the student body, the scholarly productivity and qualifications of the faculty, the adequacy of the facilities, the nature of the curriculum and the level of campus administrative support are key concerns in the consideration of applications for new chapters.

Most of the chapters are in programs accredited by the Accrediting Council of Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC).

Applications for chapter membership, after a satisfactory preliminary review by the Executive Committee, are submitted to the National Council for consideration. Majority approval is required.

Information about how to apply for a chapter is available at the Society's website: www.kappataualpha.org
Click the link for Starting a Chapter.

Awards

Kappa Tau Alpha's program of awards is directed toward its goal of promoting scholarship. Among the Society's awards:

Mott/KTA Research Book Award. Presented annually since 1945 for the best-researched book in journalism/mass communication. The winner receives \$1000 and a plaque. Entries due in early December. Named for Frank Luther Mott, noted historian and KTA leader.

Student Research Paper Awards. Presented annually at the AEJMC/KTA Awards Luncheon to winners of AEJMC division student academic paper competitions. Winners receive a check equal to the Society's age (\$99 in 2009) and a certificate.

KTA Top Scholar Award. Presented to the graduating senior or graduate student with the highest grade-point-average. Winners receive plaques and medallions.

KTA Outstanding Service Award. Presented through local chapters to recognize persons of outstanding accomplishment, usually faculty or journalism/mass communication practitioners.

Outstanding Adviser Award. Presented to a chapter adviser for outstanding service. Named for William H. Taft, who served the Society for 30 years as executive director. Winner receives \$500 and a plaque.

Visiting Scholar Award. Up to \$750 is given to enable a chapter to bring an outstanding scholar to campus.

Kappa Tau Alpha Chapters

Abilene Christian Univ.	Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln
Univ. of Alabama	Univ. of Nebraska-Omaha
American Univ.	Univ. of Nevada-Las Vegas
Univ. of Arizona	Univ. of Nevada-Reno
Arizona State Univ.	Nicholls State Univ.
Univ. of Arkansas-Little Rock	Univ. of North Carolina
Arkansas State Univ.	North Carolina A&T Univ.
Ball State Univ.	Northeastern Univ.
Baylor Univ.	Northern Illinois Univ.
Bowling Green State Univ.	Univ. of North Texas
Brigham Young Univ.	Northwestern Univ.
California State Univ., Fresno	Ohio State Univ.
California State Univ., Fullerton	Ohio Univ.
California State Univ., Long Beach	Univ. of Oklahoma
California State Univ., Northridge	Oklahoma State Univ.
Univ. of Central Florida	Univ. of Oregon
Univ. of Central Oklahoma	Pennsylvania State Univ.
Univ. of Colorado	Rutgers University
Colorado State Univ.	Saint Bonaventure Univ.
Drake Univ.	Saint Michael's College
Duquesne Univ.	Samford Univ.
Eastern Illinois Univ.	San Diego State Univ.
Eastern Kentucky Univ.	San Jose State Univ.
Univ. of Florida	Univ. of South Carolina
Florida A & M Univ.	South Dakota State Univ.
Florida International Univ.	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Univ. of Georgia	Univ. of South Florida
Hampton Univ.	Southern Methodist Univ.
Univ. of Hawaii-Manoa	Syracuse Univ.
Univ. of Illinois	Temple Univ.
Univ. of Iowa	Univ. of Tennessee-Chattanooga
Iowa State Univ.	Univ. of Tennessee-Knoxville
Univ. of Kansas	Univ. of Texas-Arlington
Kent State Univ.	Univ. of Texas-Austin
Long Island Univ.	Texas Christian Univ.
Louisiana State Univ.	Texas State Univ.-San Marcos
Loyola Univ.-New Orleans	Texas Tech Univ.
Marquette Univ.	Univ. of Utah
Univ. of Maryland	Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
Univ. of Massachusetts	Virginia Tech Univ.
Univ. of Memphis	Western Kentucky Univ.
Michigan State Univ.	West Virginia Univ.
Univ. of Minnesota	Winthrop Univ.
Univ. of Mississippi	Univ. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Univ. of Missouri	Univ. of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Murray State Univ.	

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National Honor Society
in Journalism
and Mass Communication