



**Membership Application**  
**Alpha Kappa Delta**  
**The International Sociology Honor Society**

The application cycle to join Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society through your local chapter of AKD is now open. Membership is limited to undergraduate students in sociology who have maintained a record of high academic achievement. The criteria are described below.

Membership in Alpha Kappa Delta is an earned honor. Once you join, you become a lifetime member. Your membership may be used on your resume, applications for graduate school, and job applications.

Alpha Kappa Delta Society was founded in 1920 in the Sociology Department of the University of Southern California by Dr. E.S. Bogardus. The name, Alpha Kappa Delta, represents the first three letters of three Greek words: *anthropon* (mankind), *katamanthanein* (to investigate thoroughly or to conduct research) and *diakonesein* (for the purpose of service). The name, freely interpreted, signifies social research for the purpose of service. There are more than 700 chapters of the Society and more than 145,000 lifetime members. We hope to include you among the members.

**The membership fee is \$50.00.** This one-time fee provides you with lifetime membership, a membership certificate, a membership card, and one free year of online access to *Sociological Inquiry*, the official journal of the Society. When you are inducted into Alpha Kappa Delta, you are eligible to purchase and wear the Society's honor cord, lapel pin, and other paraphernalia. (Please note that your Chi of California \$65 fee includes the \$50 membership as well as the \$15 honor cord for graduation.)

To join Alpha Kappa Delta, please fill out the attached form and return it, and your payment, to your chapter representative. Please see [www.alphakappadelta.org](http://www.alphakappadelta.org) for more information.

**Member Eligibility**

- **Undergraduates** must be enrolled as a major in a sociology program within an official program of a host institution with a chartered chapter of the Society. Students must:
  - ✓ Be at least a junior
  - ✓ Rank in the top 35% of their class
    - If class rank is unavailable, must have an overall GPA of at least 3.3
  - ✓ Have a sociology major GPA of at least 3.0 at the host institution
  - ✓ Have completed at least four courses in sociology (the equivalent of 12 semester hours)

**Benefits of Becoming a Member**

- Membership is for a lifetime.
- Every new initiate receives a certificate of membership and a membership card.
- Members receive one free year of online access to *Sociological Inquiry*, the official journal of AKD.
- AKD sponsors undergraduate and graduate student paper contests for members with cash prizes and travel money to participate in the American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting.
  - Undergraduate student winners have the chance to participate in the ASA Honors Program
  - First place winners are eligible to have their papers published in *Sociological Inquiry*
- AKD funds students presenting at regional sociological meetings.
- AKD offers a Graduate Student Lounge (virtual)
- AKD hosts an Undergraduate Research Symposium (virtual)
- Members may purchase honor cords for graduation ceremonies, AKD pins, and other memorabilia.
- AKD members Alpha Kappa Delta members who become Civil Service employees meet one of the requirements for entrance at the GS-7 level (an increase in pay-grade) if they list AKD membership on their applications (providing they enter at the GS-5 level).

