



ETA SIGMA ALPHA
National Home School Honor Society

Lambda Gamma Chapter
York County, SC

INFORMATION

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society is to recognize and encourage scholarship among home educated students. To achieve this purpose, the society provides opportunities for the development of leadership and service.

Eta Sigma Alpha encourages the development of an intellectual climate that stimulates the exchange of ideas and ideals, fosters scholarship and promotes academic excellence. ESA also advocates home education as a viable and successful educational methodology and acts as a liaison for home schooling to the general public, colleges and universities, and the media.

History

Eta Sigma Alpha is the first honor society established exclusively for home educated students. Founded in 1999 by Joanne E. Juren, M.Ed, Executive Director of the Home Education Partnership of Texas, it has grown into a national organization.

As a former public school administrator, Mrs. Juran contacted the National Honor Society with the intent of forming a Homeschool chapter for her own sons and others in a local support group in 1997. When told that NHS did not accept home educated students, Juren decided to start a new honor society for home schooled students. Over the next two years, the idea for Eta Sigma Alpha was refined and the “Alpha” chapter was started in 1999 through the Home Education Partnership of Texas.

Today there are over 150 active chapters in 36 states. York County’s first chapter is Lambda Gamma and was established in the summer of 2003 by Cynthia Spratley.

History of the Name

Eta, the Greek letter that is shaped like an “H” and Sigma, the letter shaped like an “S” were chosen along with Alpha, the first letter in the Greek alphabet. Thus the name means “first home school” honor society.

Current Adult Leadership

Martha Andersen is the Senior Advisor. (803) 366-9553. Tonya Conrad is the Parent Sponsor. (803) 324-5251.

Code of Conduct and Ethics

I will show respect and courtesy at all times to all adults (especially parental advisors and sponsors) and fellow members that are volunteering their time and resources to assist the Eta Sigma Alpha National Honor Society. (1 Peter 2:17)

I will use communication (both verbal and nonverbal) that is decent, honoring and kind towards all fellow members and adults involved with this society. (Romans 12:10)

In private and public service, I will seek to set an impeccable example of integrity, honesty, and unselfishness as a representative of the Lambda Gamma Chapter. (1 Thess. 4:11-12 and Ps 19:13)

I will hold to the ideals of this organization's goals and purposes, which are to stimulate academic thought and endeavor, to build partnerships in the local community for service, and to exhort others to a higher standard of success in knowledge, wisdom and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)

I will seek to apply the principles of devotion and service to others before self and to God first of all. (Col. 3:23)

Mandatory Requirements

- 1.) Test Scores (until July 11, 2009– 1800 on the SAT 1 or
26 on the ACT or
180 on the PSAT verbal/math or
90% on the composite battery portion of IOWA,
Stanford, California, MAT, or other nationally recognized achievement test

Test scores should be no more than 2 years old and will be recorded one time only. These scores will be kept at the local chapter.

Please note the following changes to test score requirements in admission as of July 12, 2009

Test Scores -- 1800 on the SAT 1 or
26 on the ACT or
180 on the PSAT verbal/math or
90% on the composite complete battery on the IOWA or Stanford
nationally normed standardized achievement test administered in a group setting. Parent
administered tests are not acceptable.

Test scores must be 1 year old or less.

MAT, Woodcock Johnson, PASS, THETA and COMPASS tests are not acceptable. No acceptations will be made.

- 2.) Grade Point Average – High School
3.5 grade point average requirement on a 4.0 scale. Parent or accountability association produced transcript must be submitted at time of application.
This average is to be maintained on a semester by semester basis and must be submitted one month after the semester is completed.
Seniors must be members for their entire senior year, making application by August 30, in order to graduate as a member of the honor society.
- 3.) Letters of Recommendation
Send 2 letters directly to Martha Andersen at 2930 Brookridge Dr, Rock Hill, SC 29732, or email at andersen@comporium.net. One of the two letters may be from a family member outside the applicant's immediate family (no parent or sibling.)
- 4.) Applicant Essay
A brief essay (no greater than 200 words) by the applicant stating why they would like to join Eta Sigma Alpha Honor Society and what service or leadership they are willing to bring to the chapter.
- 5.) Code of Ethics and Conduct
The Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society, Lambda Gamma Chapter was chartered as a Christian Chapter for all of York County, SC, in August 2003. Each member is accepted for membership based on their academic merit, service and character, and is not required to be a professing Christian. However, all applicants must sign the Code of Ethics and Conduct stating that the Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society, Lambda Gamma Chapter, is a Christ honoring group, which requires all members to reflect strong Christian principles in their conduct, words and deeds. In addition, members are required to agree to the by-laws of our chapter.

Revised 11/14/08