

Kappa Tau Alpha



Kappa Tau Alpha is the national honor society that promotes scholarship in journalism and mass communication and recognizes those who achieve academic excellence. Membership is a mark of high distinction and honor.

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

Founded at the University of Missouri in 1910, KTA is the seventh oldest national college honor society and the only one in journalism/mass communication recognized by the Association of College Honor Societies, of which KTA has been a member since 1951.

Kappa Tau Alpha chapters are located at 96 colleges and universities in the United States.

The emblem of KTA is the key, the oldest symbol of knowledge and communication. Its 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.

Membership

Membership in Kappa Tau Alpha is by invitation only through one of the Society's campus chapters. A list of the chartered chapters is on Page 3.

Only students majoring in journalism or mass communication are eligible. Juniors, seniors and graduate students must rank in the top 10 percent of their class based on overall grade-point-average. Chapters may set higher standards for membership.

Benefits of membership include: national recognition for academic excellence; lifetime membership; Certificate of Membership; a keypin/charm (see logo at top of page); a sense of community with fellow outstanding scholars in journalism/mass communication. Membership meets one of the requirements for entrance at the GS-7 Level in numerous professional and technical occupations in the U.S. government.

Evaluating Honor Societies

Outstanding students may receive invitations from several honor societies. The Association of College Honor Societies has prepared a tool to help students and parents evaluate the credibility of honor societies that have not been certified (www.achsnaatl.org/standards_alert.asp). Kappa Tau Alpha is a certified honor society.

Chapters

KTA chapters are located at four-year degree-granting institutions that offer a major in journalism or mass communication and are accredited by one of the regional agencies of schools and colleges (i.e., New England, Middle States, North Central, Southern, Western or Northwestern).

Key concerns in the consideration of the granting of a chapter include the quality of the student body, the qualifications and productivity of the faculty, the adequacy of facilities, the nature of the curriculum and the level of campus administrative support.

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

Awards

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

Top Scholar Award. Presented to graduating seniors or graduate students who achieve the highest grade-point-average in a chapter. Winners receive a framed Top Scholar certificate and KTA medallion.

Student AEJMC Research Paper Awards. Presented annually at the Kappa Tau Alpha/AEJMC Awards Luncheon to student winners of division paper competitions at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual convention. Winners receive a certificate and a check equal to the society's age.

Mott-KTA Research Book Award. Presented annually since 1944 for the best book on journalism/mass communication based on original research. The winner receives \$1,000 and a plaque. See www.KappaTauAlpha.org/mott-kta.html for more information.

Chapter Adviser of the Year Award. Presented to a chapter adviser for outstanding service to the Society and its goals. The winner receives \$500 and a plaque.

Outstanding Service Award. Presented through campus chapters to recognize persons of outstanding achievement or service, usually faculty or journalism/mass communication practitioners. Designees receive a certificate and KTA medallion.

Kappa Tau Alpha Chapters

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

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