

# 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 95 colleges and universities in the United States.

The emblem of KTA 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.

## *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](http://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 of 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 received a framed Top Scholar certificate and KTA medallion.

**Student AEJMC Research Paper Awards.** Presented annually at the Kappa Tau Alpha/AEJMC Awards Luncheon to winners of AEJMC division student paper competitions. 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 \$1000 and a plaque. See [www.KappaTauAlpha.org/mott-cta.html](http://www.KappaTauAlpha.org/mott-cta.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  
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  
Long Island University  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Marquette University  
University of Maryland  
University of Missouri  
Murray State University  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
University of Nebraska-Omaha  
University of Nevada-Las Vegas  
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

University of Massachusetts  
University of Memphis  
University of Miami  
Michigan State University  
Middle Tennessee State University  
University of Minnesota  
University of Mississippi

Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Tech University  
Western Kentucky University  
West Virginia University  
Winthrop University  
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

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