

Bylaws of the Omicron Beta Chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha

Preamble

The Omicron Beta chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha National Homeschool Honor Society recognizes scholarship among homeschooled students and provides members with opportunities to develop leadership skills, contribute to their community through service projects, and socialize with other high-achieving peers.

Article I: Membership Requirements

Section I.1: Eligibility for Membership

To be eligible for membership, students must submit a qualifying test score with their application and dues. A qualifying test score is defined as a score equal to or exceeding 1200 on the SAT, 1200 on the PSAT, 26 on the ACT or a 90% composite score on the IOWA or Stanford tests.

All tests must be administered in a group setting (parent-administered tests are not acceptable) and taken within a year of the member's application to Omicron Beta.*Members must reapply when they enter 10th grade.

Applications for membership will be accepted from July 1st through December 31st.

Section I.2: Membership Requirements

Students must attend at least two student-led meetings and participate in at least two Omicron Beta community service projects during the year to successfully complete their annual membership requirement. Members who join after half the meetings for that year have already occurred are only required to attend one meeting and one service project to successfully complete the year.

Members may be expelled from the membership due to poor conduct upon submission of a petition signed by 20% of the membership and a yes vote by 75% of the membership. If the unruly member is an officer, the petition may not be initiated by another officer.

Article II - Organization

Section II.1: Officers

The elected officers are as follows:

President - Represents ESA to the public. Chairs the meetings using a simplified version of Robert's Rules of Order by refereeing debates and protecting the majority rule/minority opinion while keeping the meetings orderly, efficient, and friendly. Presides over the officer meetings and provides support to the appointed positions and committees.

Vice President - Chair meetings when the President is absent. Compiles the agenda for each meeting and notifies all members of the agenda at least a week before the meeting. Answers member questions regarding agenda items and makes general announcements at each meeting.

Secretary - Processes member applications, deposits membership dues, and maintains the membership roster. Acts as liaison relating to matters regarding the chapter's meeting locations. Takes attendance at each meeting and determines if a quorum is present. Conducts a roll call vote should the President request it.

Treasurer - Maintains the chapter's bank account. Writes checks as necessary for ESA business purposes. Prepares a detailed report of the activity in the chapter's checking account for presentation to the membership at each meeting. Signs the report and obtains a witness to check the report against the related bank statement. Recommends to the officers the amount to be charged for membership dues in the following year.

Communications Officer - Communicates important or time-sensitive information to the membership through media such as newsletters, emails, blogs, or website entries.

In order to seek the office of President or Vice-President, a member must be entering the 10th, 11th or 12th grade and must have successfully completed one year of membership in the Omicron Beta chapter.

As a team, the elected officers will be responsible for:

Selecting members to serve in appointed positions such as Alternate Officer, Community Service Liaison, Events Director, Media Director, Sergeant-at-Arms, Snack Coordinator(s), Speaker Coordinator, or any other position of responsibility deemed necessary for the smooth operation of the current year's activities.

Coordinating the calendar of events for the ESA year.

Establishing dues for the following year.

Section II.2: Elections, Special Elections, Vacancies and Impeachments

The membership will elect officers by secret ballot, and two members and/or parents who are not running for office nor related to persons seeking a position will verify the votes.

Officers may be expelled from the membership due to poor conduct upon submission of a petition initiated by a non-officer and signed by 20% of the membership and a yes vote by 75% of the membership.

Article III - Chapter Activities

Section III.1: Administration

An ESA activity will take place each month from September to April.

Eta Sigma Alpha's funds are to be kept in a bank account. The Treasurer has the responsibility to explain all transactions to the membership. Financial records are open and accessible at the request of members, parents, or sponsors.

If ESA ever disbands, the money in the bank account will be donated to a service organization.

Section III.2: Meetings

Items for student approval will be placed on an agenda and members will be notified of the agenda at least a week in advance. Only student members present at the meeting may vote on that meeting's agenda.

For the purpose of official meetings and the conduct of chapter business, a quorum of 50% of the membership must be present.

A simplified form of Robert's Rules of Order are followed at the meetings. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes speaking time.

A member arriving more than fifteen minutes after the start of the meeting will be counted absent for that meeting.