

(updated November 2019)

**Laws of the Epsilon Lambda Chapter of the ETA SIGMA ALPHA National
Homeschool Honor Society**

Article I – Name and Purpose:

1. The name of the organization shall be the Epsilon Lambda Chapter, hereafter referred to as the EL Chapter of the Eta Sigma Alpha National Homeschool Honor Society.
2. The purpose of the chapter shall be to encourage students toward excellence in scholarship and to provide the opportunity for students to render service and develop and use effective leadership skills.

Article II – Advisors: There will be 2 adult advisors from separate families.

Article III – Officers: The EL Chapter will be governed by a council of students with the following positions and duties for a one-year term.

Officers:

2.1 President

Qualifications: Must be a junior or a senior if possible.

Duties: Preside at meetings, organize a meeting agenda, schedule speakers, provide a calendar of meetings and speakers for the membership, and oversee responsibilities of the officers. The president shall also work with the advisors to make decisions to benefit the chapter members.

2.2 Vice President-Service

Qualifications: Must be a junior, or senior if possible.

Duties: Assist the President, fill the president's chair in his/her absence, direct the service project, maintain a book of contact information for projects, and provide reporting forms to members and maintain a service record of each member's service hours. The vice president shall also work with the advisors to make decisions to benefit the chapter members.

2.3 Vice President-Social

Qualifications: Must be a junior or senior if possible.

Duties: Plan and induction ceremony including location, activity, date, time, speaker, decorations, and refreshments, and any other social activities. The Vice-president may delegate responsibilities to other members to accomplish this. Assist the President and fill in if needed.

2.4 Secretary

Qualifications: Must be 8th grade through high school if possible.

Duties: Record and distribute minutes of meetings to be approved by members and fulfill any clerical duties that may arise; create and maintain membership roster.

2.5 Treasurer

Qualifications: Must be 8th grade through high school if possible.

Duties: Work with the adult advisors to maintain financial records including the collection and recording of all dues. All receipts and disbursements will be administered by an adult advisor and the Treasurer. Year-end records will be given to an advisor.

2.6 Communications Chairman

Duties: Compose and place announcements in local newspapers. Send out announcements and reminders within the group.

2.5 Historian

Duties: Take pictures for the scrapbook, yearbooks and any promotional material; create a scrapbook of meetings, activities, speakers, and members. **Photographers** will assist the historian.

2.6

The sponsors may appoint additional Student Officers as it deems necessary, with such authority and duties as they designate. In the event that there are not enough members to fill all the officer's positions, positions may be combined.

Article IV – Meetings:

- 4.1 The EL Chapter will meet once a month as determined in the beginning of each school year with a calendar of dates being provided at the October meeting if possible.
- 4.2 Members are required to attend meetings, except in case of illness or other excused absence.
- 4.3 Special meetings may be held as deemed necessary by the President.
- 4.4 Standard rules of order will be used.

Article V – Service Projects:

- 5.1 At least one yearly group service project will be performed. The members will vote on proposals to determine the yearly project.
- 5.2 Each member will be required to participate in the group service project in some capacity, as well as accumulate 10 additional service hours either with other members or individually.

Article VI – Membership Requirements

- 6.1 Prospective members must be homeschooled and in grades 7-12.

6.2 Provide a photocopy of the test scores for one of the following tests which was not parent administered: A test score of 88 (CLT), 97 (CLT 10), 97 (CLT 8); 1200 (SAT), 1200 (PSAT), 1170(PSAT 10), 1090 (PSAT 8/9 for a 9th grade student), 1020 (PSAT 8/9 for an 8th grade student); 26 (ACT), 26 (Pre-ACT 10); a 90% composite score on the Iowa ITBS or ITED); 90% on the total battery (the score listed under the National PR-S or PR column) on the Stanford; or 90% total score (listed under the NPR column) on the Terra Nova 2 (CAT 6) 2nd Edition nationally normed standardized achievement tests is required for ESA membership. ***When taking the Iowa ITBS, Iowa ITED, Stanford or Terra Nova 2 (CAT 6) the complete battery including science, social studies, language arts, spelling, reading, mathematics, and vocabulary must be taken. We do not accept the basic battery or core battery for admission.*** The test score must come from one test. Section scores from different tests may not be combined to achieve the required test score for membership. Although some college scholarship applications accept super scoring, we do not. Test must not be more than one year old. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE FOR ANY ONE! *With the continuing technology changes, online testing is currently being offered more frequently in lieu of hard copy testing. Online testing may be used if given at a testing center or at a private tester's facility. Parents must not have access to the student, computer, or test materials while the test is being administered. Students must not have access to other electronic devices which may connect to the internet, email or texting during testing.

6.3 Fulfill the service project requirements.

6.4 Turn in grade transcript showing a GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

6.5 Have no more than two unexcused absences from the monthly meetings.

6.6 Pay annual dues.

Article VII – Applications: Applications for membership will be accepted at any time.

Article VIII – Induction: To participate in the induction ceremony, the application must be submitted one month prior to the ceremony.

Article IX– Dues:

9.1 The EL Chapter may charge membership dues.

9.2 Dues will be set by a majority vote of advisors and officers.

9.3 All EL Chapter members must meet Hope2 yearly membership requirements.

c coach Article X – Amendments:

- 10.1 These by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting, provided the amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting, or have been given in writing to all members at least one week in advance.
- 10.2 These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 majority of the votes cast.

Article XI – Conduct:

“3 Strikes Policy”

A student who demonstrates inappropriate behavior such as, but not limited to, a lack of respect for others, or improper treatment of property or equipment made available to the Epsilon Lambda Chapter, will be held accountable. The Epsilon Lambda advisors will be notified and the student in question will be required to comply with the “3 Strikes Policy”. This policy allows for a maximum of three instances of inappropriate behavior. If a student does not comply with the “3 Strikes Policy”, the Advisors will have no other recourse but to dismiss the student from membership in Epsilon Lambda. If property is damaged or other circumstances warrant repair, replacement, or retribution of any kind as a result of said behavior, the student and his/her family will be responsible for rectifying the situation under the supervision of the advisors and will be responsible for any expense incurred in said incident. The parents of the student in question will be notified by an advisor expressing concern and offering support to help their student demonstrate the type of behavior that exemplifies an honor student and member of Epsilon Lambda.

Please Note: ESA is limited to home school students; this is the only limitation we have. Homeschool Eligibility – Only those students who meet the HSLDA definition of a home schooler are eligible for ESA membership. This rule states that a student must complete 50% of his/her studies at home under the direct supervision of the parent. Co-ops, group classes, and even community college courses are acceptable as long as the 50% rule is followed. Students enrolled in public school programs, charter school programs, full-time college programs, or other programs where more than 50% of the school time is spent in the supervision of a school setting or where the public school receives 50% funding for the student's attendance or where the public school system, umbrella school, on-line school assigns the grades without parent participation, are not eligible for ESA membership. (See HSLDA's webpage at www.hsllda.org for more information.)