



Sigma Delta Pi

Sociedad Nacional Honoraria Hispánica  
(National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society)

# SIGMA DELTA PI NATIONAL BY-LAWS

(Revised in 1997. Last amended in 2009.)

## Article I. Name

The official name of this society shall be: Sigma Delta Pi, National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society. In Spanish: Sigma Delta Pi, La Sociedad Nacional Honoraria Hispánica.

## Article II. Purposes

The purposes of this society are:

1. To honor those who attain excellence in the study of the Spanish language and in the study of the literature and culture of the Spanish-speaking peoples;
2. To honor those who have made the Hispanic contributions to modern culture better known in the English-speaking world;
3. To encourage college and university students to acquire a greater interest in and a deeper understanding of Hispanic culture;
4. To foster friendly relations and mutual respect between the nations of Hispanic speech and those of English speech;
5. To serve its membership in ways which will contribute to the attainment of the goals and ideals of the society.

## Article III. Membership

### Section 1.

The society shall receive into its membership, irrespective of membership in or affiliation with other organizations, only those who attain its standards of high

academic achievement in the study of the Spanish language, the literature and culture of Hispanic nations, and other college-level subjects. Membership may also be granted to those persons who give evidence of professional merit, proficiency, or special distinction in the fields of Hispanic study and culture or who have made significant contributions to these fields of endeavor. Membership shall be conferred in strict accordance with the standards established by the Association of College Honor Societies. The bases of selection shall be: (1) the scholastic or professional record of the candidate; (2) the distinction the candidate has achieved in the field of Hispanic studies; (3) the candidate's demonstrated support of the goals and ideals of the society; (4) the character of the candidate. Reception into membership shall be without formal pledge or secret order training.

Individual chapters may increase, but not decrease, the membership criteria outlined in this article. All chapter requirements for membership must be clearly articulated in the chapter's own published by-laws as approved by the chapter, the corresponding college or university and Sigma Delta Pi's Executive Secretary-Treasurer (see Article XI, Section 2).

Section 2. There shall be three classes of membership: active, alumnus, and honorary.

Section 3. Active Membership.

Active membership shall be limited to college students who have demonstrated high scholarship in general and excellence in the academic study of Spanish. Specifically, they must meet the following requirements:

1. Each must have completed three years of study of college-level Spanish (eighteen semester credit hours) or the equivalent thereof, including at least three semester hours of a course in Hispanic literature or Hispanic culture and civilization at the junior (third-year) level. A student may be admitted to active membership while still enrolled in the second junior-level course if all other requirements have been met and if the instructor of the course certifies that the student's work is of "B" or "A" quality.
2. The candidate for active membership must have a minimal grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 point scale in all Spanish courses taken.
3. The candidate must rank in the upper 35% of his/her class--sophomore, junior, or senior--and must have completed at least three semesters or five quarters of college work.