



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ΠΣΑ The National Political Science Honors Society, founded 1920  
ΘI Chapter, California State University, San Bernardino, founded 1977

### **History**

Pi Sigma Alpha was founded in 1920 at the University of Texas for the purpose of bringing together students and faculty interested in the study of government and politics. Professor C. Perry Patterson was an early leader of the first chapter and served as national president of PSA from 1920 until 1932. The success of the honor society at the University of Texas prompted other institutions to apply for chapters, with the Universities of Oklahoma and Kansas establishing chapters by 1922. In March of that year the society held its first national convention at the University of Oklahoma.

Growth in the honor society was gradual throughout the 'twenties and 'thirties and accelerated after the Second World War; today there are over 600 chapters throughout the country. There is at least one college or university with a Pi Sigma Alpha chapter in every state and the District of Columbia and, as of 1995, the U. S. territory of Guam.

### **Purpose**

The Articles of Incorporation of Pi Sigma Alpha state as one of its purposes "to stimulate scholarship and intelligent interest in political science." The society functions at the national level, sponsoring programs and events of value to the profession and teaching of political science, and at the chapter level. Each chapter is encouraged to provide a framework for enriching the exposure of its members and the wider university community to the study of government and issues of public concern. The goals of Pi Sigma Alpha are consistent with the aims of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) as set out in the ACHS Booklet of Information. This material provides a good framework for understanding the meaning and value of a political science honor society and its place on an American campus, and makes worthwhile reading.

**Qualifications for Membership**

- junior or seniors (at least 90 credits)
  
- at least 15 quarter hours or 10 semester hours of work in government, political science, international relations, or public administration including at least one course at the 300-level or above
  
- for juniors (90-134 credits): 3.25 G.P.A. overall and in the major
  
- for seniors (135 credits and above): 3.0 G.P.A. overall and in the major

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student # \_\_\_\_\_  
(new Coyote ID)

Class Level \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a printed copy of your PAWS report. Students can get reports from the MyCoyote site <https://mycoyote.cms.csusb.edu/>. Make sure the PAWS is the version one sees by selecting “expand all” on the PAWS site.**

**Please return this application, with \$40.00 (check or money order only, made payable to Pi Sigma Alpha), to the Political Science Department (Erler Box). Your dues will be returned if your application is denied for insufficient progress or grade point average in the major. This is a one-time membership fee. If accepted, you will NOT pay annual dues.**