



Eta Sigma Alpha

National Home School Honor Society

www.etasigmaalpha.com

208 E. Edgewood Dr.
Friendswood, TX 77546
(281) 922-0472

Information about starting a new ESA Honor Society Chapter

Thank you for your interest in starting a new chapter of ESA Home School Honor Society. Here some of the most common questions I am asked:

- 1) ***What are the chapter requirements?*** First is a sincere interest in the goals of the organization: to form integrity in students through four key areas: leadership, community service, networking, and scholarship. The only other requirement we have as a national organization is that each student member has achieved the required score (see below) on a nationally recognized test. Each chapter can have additional requirements as meets their needs. Yearly you are asked to send us a list of all your members with the following information: full name, city, state, when inducted, and if he/she has graduated (when). We try to maintain a national registry of all ESA members.
- 2) ***How often do you meet?*** How often you meet will be up to your chapter. I recommend you meet at least once a month, more is better.
- 3) ***What about the service project?*** Again, what or how many service projects you do is up to the chapter and what is available in your area. Suggestions: you may adopt a charity organization and work with them or identify a need in your community and start solving it. The project should be beneficial to the community, group, and/or individual and be a positive learning experience for the ESA members.
- 4) ***Why did we choose Eta Sigma Alpha for the name?*** In short, Eta is the Greek alphabet letter for H and Sigma is the Greek letter for “S” and Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet. Put them together ΗΣΑ and it stands for the “first home school” honor society.
- 5) ***Why do we require national testing?*** We get this question a lot. The testing is required to establish a standard in a totally non-standard educational environment. As Joanne Juren says, “The test scores provide an accepted method of measuring the homeschooled student’s achievement against national and standardized norms.”
- 6) ***What are the testing requirements?*** A candidate must have taken one of the nationally recognized, age appropriate tests and scored at least: 1200 (SAT), 26 (ACT), 96 (CLT), or 1200 (SAT 8/9, 10, and PSAT); 90% on the composite battery on the IOWA or Stanford achievement tests; 90% on Terra Nova 2 (CAT6) 2nd Ed.

- 7) ***Do we have to see the test scores?*** *The chapter sponsors take responsibility for verifying each member's qualifications and should let the parents know that if there is a conflict or question, they may also have to verify the scores to us.*
- 8) ***How do we get started?***
- a) *First look over the application and discuss the project with other adults and students that might help form and support the start of the chapter.*
 - b) *Decide on a chapter name; it is usually the name of the sponsoring group or location area. **We will assign the ESA Chapter letters** when we approve your application. **For example:** our Home Education Partnership Honor Society **is the** ALPHA CHAPTER **of the** Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society*
 - c) *Complete the application and send it to us.*
 - d) *Start contacting potential members and supporters to organize. As soon as we approve your application we will send you your Chapter Letters (ID) and you can add it to any printed information you want to distribute.*
 - e) *Stay in touch with me, via email if possible. jjuren@heptx.com*

I hope this information is of some help to you. Please keep us informed about what steps you take.

Joanne E. Juren, National Executive Director
(281) 922-0472
jjuren@heptx.com (Best way to contact me is via e-mail.)
Gerda Arnold, National Administrative Assistant
garnold@heptx.com



Eta Sigma Alpha
National Home School Honor Society
APPLICATION FOR A NEW CHAPTER

Chapter Name: _____
National will assign the ESA name, however you may list the name of your umbrella group, sponsor group or co-op.

Contact Sponsor's Name: _____	Co- Sponsor's Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City,St,Zip _____	City,St,Zip: _____
Phone: _____	Phone: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____

ESA Test Score Requirements:

- A test score of 96 (CLT-11th/12th), 88 (CLT10-90th/10th), 88 (CLT8-7th/8th); 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); 23 (Pre-ACT 8/9) 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. Section scores from different tests may not be combined to achieve the required test score for membership. All test scores must be from a single testing session; superscores are not admissible.
- 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. A private tester's statement to that effect should be attached with test scores.
- Test scores must not be more than 1 year old.

Additional Requirements you plan to have: _____

Description of the area you will draw members from. This will be the area listed on your page of our website. It could be a town, a city, or a regional area (i.e., southwest Houston): _____

ESA Chapter Requirements:

- Will meet the mission of the ESA Honor Society; "... to form integrity in students through four aspects: leadership, community service, networking, and scholarship.
- There must be two adult sponsors.
- A recommended minimum membership of 5 students. If you do not have at least 3 members to begin a chapter, we recommend they join the national Omega chapter instead.
- All ESA members must meet the ESA Standard Test Requirements listed above.
- Yearly report of membership information to the national office.
- There is a one-time \$15 chapter application fee and a \$25 yearly membership fee, **paid to HEP of Texas**. Also, chapters must collect \$15 per member and send one payment along with the transmittal form listing each member. All fees are due before the charter is granted. Payments can also be made with credit card by telephone. Our hours are Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm.
- For subsequent school years, both chapter dues and member dues are billed in December and payable February 15st of each year, no matter the month of your charter date. Your invoice will not reflect the correct amount for member dues unless you have sent us the transmittal form with member names.
- Failure to meet the above requirements may result in the withdrawal of the ESA Home School Honor Society National Chapter approval and recognition.

I have read and agree with the above information and submit this application for approval.

Signature of Sponsor

Date

Signature of Co-Sponsor

Date

**Send application to:
c/o HEP Partnership of Texas, Inc.
ESA Honor Society
208 E. Edgewood Dr.
Friendswood, TX 77546
(281) 922-0472**