

# How to Start a Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho

## Qualifications for a Chapter

A chapter of Mu Sigma Rho may be chartered only in an academic institution whose standards are excellent in all departments and particularly so in statistics. In order to qualify for a chapter, the petitioning institution must have high standards as indicated by the quality of its faculty, academic standards and equipment, and must be capable of maintaining the standards of the Society and spreading its scholarly spirit and ideals. Several institutions in the same geographic area may jointly apply as a petitioning institution. Specifically:

- The Petition must be initiated by a statistics club or similar organization that has been an active scholarly body at the academic institution for at least one year.
- The average total number of upper class students (juniors, seniors and graduates) majoring in statistics at the institution shall be at least five.
- If an undergraduate curriculum in statistics exists at the petitioning institution, then this curriculum in statistics shall require at least 14 semester hours (or 21 quarter hours) for a major.
- The section or department of statistics at the petitioning institution shall have on its staff at least one person with a Ph.D. in statistics or a related field.
- The petition shall have the endorsement of the chair of the section or department of statistics in the petitioning institution.
- At least five persons at the institution shall be eligible for membership and shall become charter members.

## Qualifications for an Affiliate Chapter

Affiliate chapters exist as a vehicle to enable isolated qualified students to be inducted into Mu Sigma Rho. Any Chapter of the American Statistical Association is automatically granted Mu Sigma Rho Affiliate Chapter status and need not petition for this. Besides these, any group of statisticians at a non-academic institution or comprising a chapter or section of a statistical society may apply for an affiliate chapter of Mu Sigma Rho provided that the following requirements are fulfilled:

- The petitioning organization shall have at least one person holding a Ph.D. degree in statistics or a related field on its staff.
- The petition shall have the endorsement of an executive officer of the institution, if any.
- At least five persons of the organization shall be eligible for membership and shall become charter affiliate members.

## Election of New Chapters

The candidate organization shall petition the Society through the Secretary-Treasurer, submitting the names of its proposed charter members together with a statement of

information as to its qualifications to be a chapter. This petition shall be submitted to the Council, which shall consider whether the institution fulfills the requirements set forth in Section 2 of this article. If a majority of the Council decide in favor of the institution, the petition shall then, upon payment of the petition filing fee (currently \$10), be submitted to the chapters together with majority and minority reports from the Council.

The chapters shall be allowed a period of one month in which to report their vote to the Secretary-Treasurer. If during that time a majority of the responding chapters have voted in the affirmative, the petition shall be granted; otherwise the petition shall be rejected, and another petition shall not be considered from the same institution for a period of three years.

Please send all documents to Mu Sigma Rho  
Secretary/Treasurer Lynne Seymour: [seymour@uga.edu](mailto:seymour@uga.edu) with a copy also sent to  
President Ananda Jayawardhana: [ajayawardhana@pittstate.edu](mailto:ajayawardhana@pittstate.edu).