

**ALPHA PHI OMEGA
STANDARD CHAPTER ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of Alpha Gamma Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, National Service Fraternity, chartered on the campus of Frostburg State University, and established for the purpose of assembling college students in the fellowship of the principles of the Boy Scouts of America as embodied in its Scout Oath and Law, to develop Leadership, to promote Friendship and provide Service to humanity, and to further the freedom that is our national, educational, and intellectual heritage, do adopt these Chapter Articles of Association.

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this organization is the Alpha Gamma Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega.

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSE AND POLICY**

This chapter shall be conducted as a Service fraternity under the policies, principles, and provisions set forth in the National Articles of Incorporation, the National Bylaws, and these Standard Chapter Articles of Association of Alpha Phi Omega.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1 - OPEN MEMBERSHIP. Membership in this chapter of Alpha Phi Omega shall be open to students of every race, color, and creed (1), irrespective of their course of study or other fraternal affiliation. Membership in this chapter shall be granted only upon the approval of the applicant by this chapter and after the applicant has fulfilled the membership requirements prescribed by the National Fraternity and this chapter.

SECTION 2- PLEDGE MEMBERSHIP. Pledge membership in this chapter shall be conferred upon students enrolled in the institution where this chapter is located who are selected to participate in a period of preparation and training in the ideals and purposes of Alpha Phi Omega. The pledge ceremony shall be according to the official ritual of the Fraternity. This chapter shall determine the content and duration of the pledge period in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the National Bylaws, and the operating policies of the National Fraternity.

SECTION 3 - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP. Active membership in this chapter shall be conferred upon students enrolled in this educational institution who are in fellowship with the principles of Alpha Phi Omega and the Boy Scouts Of America as embodied in the Scout Oath and Law; who, to the satisfaction of this chapter, are so oriented; who are encouraged, but not required by this chapter upon activation to be registered members of any Boy Scout movement recognized by the International Association; and who have successfully completed the period of pledge membership. Active membership shall carry all rights and responsibilities in this chapter, except that this chapter shall

determine the degree of participation of members in graduate school. Active membership shall continue so long as the member remains in good standing in this chapter, does not become an associate member, and continues enrollment in this educational institution,

SECTION 4 - ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP. The chapter may confer associate membership on an active member who finds it necessary to cease full involvement in chapter affairs, because of other commitments of time and effort, and who petitions for such membership. This chapter shall determine the procedures for conferring associate membership, the rights and responsibilities thereof, and for reinstatement to active institution.

SECTION 5 - ADVISORY MEMBERSHIP. This chapter may confer advisory membership upon persons approved to serve in its Advisory Committee and they shall have all rights and privileges of active membership, except those of voting or holding office in the chapter other than Chairman of the Advisory Committee. Such membership may not be conferred upon undergraduate students

SECTION 6 - HONORARY MEMBERSHIP. This chapter may confer honorary chapter membership upon persons who have contributed significantly to the ideas and purposes of Alpha Phi Omega. Persons so honored shall have all rights and privileges of active membership except those of voting or holding office. Honorary chapter membership may be bestowed upon undergraduate students, the approval by a vote of at least three-fourths vote of this chapter's membership shall be required for the conferring of honorary chapter membership.

SECTION 7 - ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP. Upon leaving this chapter, without having been suspended or expelled by this chapter of the National Fraternity, all who have held active, advisory or honorary membership in this chapter shall be recognized as alumni members, advisory members shall be recognized as alumni members when they become Life Members or upon leaving their respective chapters.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

This chapter shall elect a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and other such officers, as the chapter deems necessary. Such officers shall be elected at least annually. Such officers shall be properly installed by a traditional ceremony according to the official ritual book and as added to by the chapter. This chapter may remove an officer for not meeting assigned responsibilities only in a method prescribed by this chapter's bylaws.

ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This chapter shall have an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall meet between chapter meetings as deemed necessary by the chapter. Membership shall consist of the Chapter President, all Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, Chairman of the Advisory Committee, and other members selected by the chapter.

ARTICLE VI ADVISORS

This chapter shall have Advisory Committee consisting of one or more Scouting Advisors, three or more advisors from the faculty or administration of this educational institution, and any other advisors which it deems necessary. One of the advisors shall be elected by the chapter as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee and shall serve on the chapter's Executive Committee. Advisors shall have all privileges of active membership, except those of voting and holding chapter office.

**ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS**

There shall be a minimum of two chapter meetings per month throughout the academic year as permitted by the college calendar. The type of meeting shall be determined by the chapter.

**ARTICLE VIII
INITIATION**

All prospective members meeting requirements for active membership in this chapter shall be initiated into membership according to the official ritual of the National Fraternity. All rituals shall be shared with members only.

**ARTICLE IX
SUSPENSION**

This chapter shall have the authority to suspend members for just cause and after due deliberation. Upon the suspension of a member, the chapter may, at its discretion, petition the National Board of Directors for a letter of suspension to be affixed to the individual's membership record.

**ARTICLE X
REGISTRATION OF PLEDGE AND ACTIVE MEMBERS**

The officers of this chapter shall cause pledge applications and the required national pledge fees to be mailed to the national Office not later than ten days after the pledge ceremony.

The officers shall also cause applications for active membership and the required national active initiation fees to be mailed to the National Office not later than ten days after the initiation ceremony. In addition, the officers of this chapter shall submit the required annual active membership dues no later than November 15.

Any initiation not followed by the registration of pledges or active members with the National Office shall be considered null and void.

**ARTICLE XI
MEMBERSHIP RECORDS**

This chapter shall maintain a permanent record of all of its members. To the extent that such records are practically available, these records shall include: 1) a permanent file of each duplicate pledge and/or active membership form, beginning with the charter members and including all subsequent members; and 2) a current roster of all pledge, active, associate, advisor, honorary, and alumni members.

**ARTICLE XII
PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS**

This chapter shall maintain a post office box or permanent chapter mailing address.

**ARTICLE XIII
CHAPTER DUES**

This chapter may establish reasonable chapter initiation fees, dues, and assessments, in addition to those established by the National Fraternity.

**ARTICLE XIV
HAZING**

There shall be no hazing (2) or informal initiations in connection with the functions of this chapter. Any mistreatment of pledges, members or other persons at any time shall be considered a violation of the purposes of this chapter and of the National Fraternity.

**ARTICLE XV
HOUSING POLICY**

As a Service Fraternity, this chapter does not operate nor maintain a fraternity house as lodging quarters for members nor for any other persons. It maintains rooms for meetings at the discretion of its members.

**ARTICLE XVI
POLICY ON ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

This chapter of Alpha Phi Omega shall not seek nor accept membership in any association consisting solely of social fraternities, except on approval of the National Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE XVII
AUTHORITY OF CHAPTERS**

This chapter may adopt bylaws, rules, or regulations not in conflict with the National Articles of Incorporation, the National Bylaws, these Standard Chapter Articles of Association, or the rules, regulations, or policies of the educational institution at which this chapter is located.

**ARTICLE XVIII
FINANCE AND PROPERTY**

The officers of this chapter shall, annually cause the appropriate local, state, and federal income tax forms to be filed. The financial records of each chapter shall be audited annually by an official approved institution in which the chapter is located; and a confirmation of the audit will be sent to the National Office upon request of the National Executive Director.

Upon the dissolution of this chapter a written report of any money or property on hand shall be filed by its officers with the educational institution and a copy with the National Executive Director of Alpha Phi Omega. Such money or property shall be held by the educational institution, or by the National Office of Alpha Phi Omega, until the reactivation of this chapter, and delivered to the chapter at such time.

Should reactivation not be accomplished within five years of dissolution, such funds shall then be paid to an organization tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**ARTICLE XIX
AMENDMENTS**

The National Convention shall have the sole power to amend these Standard Chapter Articles of Association. The procedure for amendments shall be the same as that prescribed for amending the National Articles of Incorporation and the National Bylaws.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the Alpha Gamma Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, chartered on the campus of Frostburg State University, acknowledges receipt of the Standard Chapter Articles of Association and understands these are part of the National Bylaws and that the chapter is required to abide by them and certifies its willingness to do so, subject to amendments adopted at subsequent National Conventions.

Dated this _____ day of the month of _____, 19 .

Chapter President

Other Chapter Officer

Chairman, Advisory Committee

- (1) Including national origin, ethnic background, sex (including sexual preference), religion, age, disability, or veteran's status in connection with any University programs, activities or services as stated in the latest edition of the **FSU PASSPORT**. (Formerly, *The Pathfinder*.)
- (2) As stated in the latest edition of the **FSU PASSPORT**. (Formerly, *The Pathfinder*.)