

National fellowships

Current Mortar Board members and alumni furthering their education in a post-graduate field are invited to apply for a Mortar Board fellowship. Since 1941, Mortar Board has granted more than \$500,000 in fellowships to deserving members. To be considered for a fellowship for the upcoming academic year, applications must be postmarked January 31. Applications are available at www.mortarboard.org.

Benefits of Mortar Board membership

Being a member of Mortar Board is an honor on any campus and carries additional benefits exclusively available to Mortar Board members:

- Academic recognition by your college or university
- Alumni networking to connect with alumni in your area or across the world
- Career and graduate school networking and assistance
- Federal government employment entrance at the GS-7 ranking for members, which can mean an instant pay increase for certain jobs
- Thousands of dollars in fellowships available only to Mortar Board members
- Access to a specialized Mortar Board job search engine to find career opportunities after graduation
- Subscription to Mortar Board newsletters and publications including a five-year subscription to the *Mortar Board Forum*
- Access to the Mortar Board Scholarship-Assistant, a search engine with easy access to more than a million scholarships with more than \$3 billion in awards
- Training and leadership opportunities, including an invitation to the annual national conference of Mortar Board

Discounts and services from Mortar Board's partners:

- GEICO auto insurance specials
- Bank of America credit cards
- Kaplan test preparation discounts
- Affordable student health insurance from UnitedHealthcare StudentResources

- Savings on everyday shopping, travel and entertainment with the GEICO Privileges program
- Washington, D.C. internship and scholarship opportunities through The Fund for American Studies, Washington Internship Institute and The Washington Center for Internships & Academic Seminars

National Office resources

The Mortar Board National Office is an affiliate of The Ohio State University and is located in Columbus, Ohio. It is the headquarters for financial and information resources for Mortar Board and the National Foundation.

Mortar Board's purpose

Our purpose is articulated within Mortar Board's national governing documents:

We, the undersigned, recognizing the advantage of a national union of senior honor societies, do hereby unite to form a national society whose purpose shall be to facilitate cooperation among these societies, to contribute to the self-awareness of its members, to promote equal opportunities among all people, to emphasize the advancement of the status of women, to support the ideals of the university, to advance a spirit of scholarship, to recognize and encourage leadership, to provide service, and to establish the opportunity for meaningful exchange of ideas as individuals and as a group.

National e-newsletters

Interested in learning more about Mortar Board? There are e-newsletters for members, alumni, friends of the organization, potential members and more. Sign up online.

Contact national Mortar Board

Address	Mortar Board National Office 1200 Chambers Road, Suite 201 Columbus, OH 43212
Phone	800-989-6266
Fax	614-488-4095
E-mail	mortarboard@mortarboard.org
Web site	www.mortarboard.org

E-mail addresses for national staff members, volunteers and collegiate chapters are available at www.mortarboard.org.

Mortar Board

National College Senior Honor Society



Scholars...Chosen for Leadership...United to Serve
www.mortarboard.org

Mortar Board prides itself on selecting the best and brightest scholars in the U.S., creating an organization that is rooted in devotion to scholarship, leadership and service.

Whether candidates are looking for service experience, an outlet for using your leadership skills, or a chance to bond with like-minded students, Mortar Board offers a variety of ways to actively participate.

A certain responsibility is paired with acceptance into Mortar Board, one that requires members to be an integral part of the future of the organization, contributing to both to the local chapter and the community. Membership in this organization is a great source of pride for nearly a quarter of a million initiates, and provides an experience that extends far beyond the college years.



A unique honor society

Although there are many honor societies worldwide, Mortar Board is truly one of a kind.

- Mortar Board was established as the first national organization honoring senior college women. Even after Mortar Board began accepting men in 1975, it remained loyal to its heritage with a commitment to the advancement of the status of women.
- The selection of Mortar Board members is based on honoring the best of the best, by tradition selecting first-rate members who exemplify the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service for nearly a century.
- Members are not an idle part of the organization, but are active and involved, accepting the responsibility and obligation to be devoted to their chapters.
- Mortar Board is governed entirely by the students, who set the purpose and direct the organization annually at the national conference.
- Mortar Board makes a commitment to the success of individual students and chapters by bringing students together for an annual conference, as well as supporting students with graduate fellowships as they further their education.
- There is a lifetime potential for involvement in Mortar Board, with considerable opportunities, both large and small, at numerous levels, including alumni chapters across the U.S.
- Mortar Board has a genuine interest in fulfilling our mission and epitomizing our ideals.

Mission

Mortar Board, Inc., a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for their achievements in scholarship, leadership and service, provides opportunities for continued leadership development, promotes service to colleges and universities and encourages lifelong contributions to the global community.

(Adopted July 1994)

A proud heritage

Mortar Board was founded in 1918 as the first and only national society for college senior women. It began through the efforts of four local senior women's honor societies at The Ohio State University, Swarthmore College, The University of Michigan, and Cornell University. The society's membership was opened to men in 1975. Mortar Board has been a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) since 1937. Today, Mortar Board boasts an initiated membership of nearly 250,000 with 223 chartered chapters on college campuses throughout the nation.

Active membership

Mortar Board functions as an honor society rather than an honorary. The difference is that while an honorary exists solely for the purpose of honoring its members, an honor society, although composed of members who have already distinguished themselves and been recognized for such, continues to make significant contributions to college and community life. Belonging to an honor society carries a commitment of individual and group participation.

Chosen for accomplishment

Mortar Board members are selected annually by their peers in recognition of their devotion to scholarship, leadership and service. Students are eligible for membership in their junior year and must meet specific grade requirements. Additionally, chapters may confer honorary membership upon persons who have contributed to their campus community but are not students and therefore ineligible for regular membership in the society.

Scholarship

Although the exact grade point requirement may vary on each campus, it is well-known that Mortar Board members are the best and brightest on their campus. Mortar Board selects members who have a 3.0 or are in the top 35 percent of their class, whichever is higher at the specified university. Mortar Board strives to honor outstanding students by chartering chapters at strong universities across the country. These universities, which are required to be an accredited four-year baccalaureate degree-granting institution, undergo an intensive application process to have the privilege of hosting a Mortar Board chapter.

Leadership

The pillar of leadership is an important quality that members possess, whether they express it in their personal, professional or academic lives. Members are frequently involved in numerous other organizations at their universities or in their communities, and hold leadership positions in such. With or without these positions, Mortar Board holds the personal characteristic of leadership in high regard.

Service

Perhaps the most unique ideal of Mortar Board, service is a large aspect of the organization's success. All chapters execute various service projects to benefit their campus or community. Most choose projects that support Mortar Board's national

project, the "Reading is Leading" literacy initiative, ranging from book drives to creating magical storybook lands for area children. Chapters also choose to associate themselves with local causes, build traditions or participate in national initiatives such as national Mortar Board Week held in February of each year.

Dedicated alumni

Graduation does not mean the end of participation in Mortar Board. There are many ways, both large and small, to stay involved, starting by joining one of many alumni chapters nationwide. Additionally, Mortar Board is continually seeking devoted individuals to carry on the Mortar Board legacy by serving at the national level, whether on the National Council, Mortar Board National Foundation, as a section coordinator or committee member. Alumni are also encouraged to keep in touch by becoming a lifetime or annual Alumni Sustaining Member and submitting their accomplishments for publication in national e-newsletters or the *Mortar Board Forum*.

Affiliation of new chapters

Mortar Board welcomes new chapters into its membership. Colleges, universities, campus leadership groups, and service organizations are encouraged to contact the Mortar Board National Office for information on expansion and an application.

Mortar Board National Foundation

The National Foundation was established in 1955 as the fundraising arm of Mortar Board, as well as to serve the educational aims of Mortar Board, Inc. The mission of the National Foundation is to support Mortar Board, Inc. in furthering its ideals of scholarship, leadership and service. Its primary goals are to provide fellowships to Mortar Board alumni pursuing graduate and professional degrees, grant funds to collegiate chapters for special projects that will enhance their contributions to their campus and community, and raise funds to support leadership and service initiatives through grants to Mortar Board.

