

## INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society is a non-profit organization devoted to the advancement of scholarship and to the recognition of nontraditional students continuing their higher education. The Society was established in 1945-46 to honor superior scholarship and leadership in adult students.

Today, with more than 310 institutional chapters throughout the United States, AΣΛ, presents institutions with a truly prestigious opportunity to recognize the special achievement of adults who accomplish academic excellence, while facing competing interests of family, community, and work.

For the nontraditional student, the Society stands as an inspiration for continuing scholastic growth, a builder of pride through recognition, and an invitation to associate with similarly motivated students. For the chapter institution, the Society serves as a vehicle for imparting appreciation for adult students' academic achievements and contributions. Also, the society has been found to aid immensely in the recruitment, and retention of nontraditional/adult students.



In the winter of 1945, Dr. Rollin B. Posey, Dean of University College at Northwestern University, realized that a measure of encouragement and recognition accorded an evening student's scholastic achievement at an early stage of his/her program could provide the thrust of desire to their educational objectives.

To this day, Alpha Sigma Lambda is not only the oldest but also largest chapter-based honor society for full - & part - time adult students.

## MISSION STATEMENT

"Alpha Sigma Lambda is an honor society which partners with colleges and universities to celebrate the scholarship and leadership of adult students in higher education."

### Contact Information

#### *ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA HONOR SOCIETY*

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*Alpha Sigma Lambda*



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# Thank you

for accepting this information brochure about the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society. Our purpose is to provide a means of recognition for adults who accomplish academic excellence while facing competing interests of home and work.

Included in this brochure are a number of items which we feel will be most helpful to you. After reading this information, we encourage you to establish an ASLHS chapter at your institution. We will be happy to assist you in any way. We can be reached weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CST). Applications are reviewed as they are received making it possible for new chapters to be established throughout the year. The process can take less than two weeks when your completed materials are submitted electronically. The application form and constitution template, as word documents, are available by email or on our website in the "Chapter Councilor/Establish a Chapter" section. Electronic submission of your materials is the preferred method as it allows us to process your request much more quickly. Once you are ready to apply, submit completed documents electronically to [alsiglam@eiu.edu](mailto:alsiglam@eiu.edu).

Please view our award-winning website to learn more at [www.alphasigmalambda.org](http://www.alphasigmalambda.org). More information can be found by reading our online newsletter, The Midnight Oil found via a link on our website.

Again, thank you for your interest. We look forward to welcoming your institution as our newest member chapter.

# Alpha Sigma Lambda

## BENEFITS OF JOINING



- ◆ The premier recognized honor society for full-and part-time adult students.
- ◆ Motivation for students to achieve academic and leadership excellence.
- ◆ A home office and staff dedicated to the service of the chapters and their student members.
- ◆ Publication of a free semi-annual online newsletter.
- ◆ Chapter Councilors for each chapter.
- ◆ A forum for the exchange of ideas on activities and programs for adult students.
- ◆ Enhancement of the image of adult and continuing education at your institution.
- ◆ Annual scholarship opportunities.
- ◆ Availability of insignia pins, honor cords, and other academic regalia.
- ◆ Esprit de corps among nontraditional/adult students.
- ◆ Improved retention of adult students.
- ◆ Recognition of the achievements of your adult students.

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

To attain chapter membership, your institution must be a regionally accredited college or university that offers two- or four-year degrees to nontraditional/adult students. Upon acceptance into Alpha Sigma Lambda, your institution will then induct qualified students into a nationally recognized chapter.

For more information about establishing an Alpha Sigma Lambda chapter, please visit our website: [www.alphasigmalambda.org](http://www.alphasigmalambda.org)

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FOR NEW CHAPTERS

In order to gain support for ASLHS chapters, it is important to demonstrate to higher education senior management the value added in having an ASLHS chapter at their college/university. This can be accomplished in several ways:

- ◆ Provide a statement regarding the fact that many of the honorees at most colleges/universities are not available to adult nontraditional students (e.g. part-time students).
- ◆ Provide information on the size and scope to the adult education program and the number of adult students your college/university is serving.
- ◆ Emphasize the point that honorees bring, not only honor to the student, but also to the college/university in demonstrating that the institution is committed to high quality programming/student achievement.
- ◆ Emphasize the good public relations value of the program to the adult citizens in the region.
- ◆ Increase student commitment to the college/university and to the continuing education program. Over time they will be more loyal alumnus and potential financial resource to the college/university.
- ◆ Provide public recognition of your adult students and their achievements
- ◆ Promote additional visibility for your unit and its programs and services.