



ALPHA GAMMA SIGMA HONOR SOCIETY

Alpha Kappa Chapter

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

Email: ags@occ.cccd.edu Phone: 714.432.5601

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Apply for **TEMPORARY OR INITIAL MEMBERSHIP** if you have never applied to Alpha Gamma Sigma before. Check with Garrison Honors Center staff before applying for any other membership level. You may only apply to a level of membership for which you meet ALL of the minimum requirements. **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.** See answers to frequently asked questions on page 2.
2. Complete the Garrison Honors Center Information Form (unless submitted earlier this semester) and this application.
3. Create an unofficial copy of your OCC and other transcripts to be used in determining your eligibility for membership. PDF is preferred. All transcripts must be current.
4. Make your fee payment at <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/honorsclubs> and email your entire application packet to: garrisonhonorscenter@occ.cccd.edu for processing.

*EOPS STUDENTS AND GUARDIAN SCHOLARS: Please DO NOT MAKE PAYMENT. Mark your affiliation with one of these programs in the space below. With your program's approval, we will bill them for your fee.

STUDENT ID	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	SCHOOL EMAIL (SAME AS MY OCC USER NAME)
C				@student.cccd.edu
PROGRAM AFFILIATION?	<input type="checkbox"/> EOPS	<input type="checkbox"/> GUARDIAN SCHOLARS	<input type="checkbox"/> CalWORKS	<input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT EQUITY

***** HAVE YOU INCLUDED *****

YOUR GENERAL INFORMATION FORM AND COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS?

Minimum criteria for TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP (first semester OCC students only):

- Current enrollment in OCC classes AND
- Graduated high school within the 12 months prior to submitting this application AND
- Minimum final high school GPA 3.50 for grades 9-12 - OR - Lifetime member of California Scholarship Federation AND
- First semester enrolled at OCC

Temporary Membership fee: \$40.00

Minimum criteria for INITIAL MEMBERSHIP (All full members start here):

- Current enrollment in OCC classes AND
- Completed 12 or more letter-graded units at any college cumulatively over the most recent three semesters enrolled AND
- Earned a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA in all college coursework being used to qualify for Initial Membership

Initial Membership fee: \$60.00

OR Advancement of Membership from Temporary to Initial: \$20.00

Minimum criteria for CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP (Not yet qualified for Permanent Membership):

- Current enrollment in OCC classes AND
- Completed at least 6 units of letter-graded college coursework in previous semester with a semester GPA of 3.0 or higher AND
- Maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 since last renewal or Initial Membership AND
- Has been a member in good standing of AGS continuously since Initial Membership (approved grace periods are OK) AND
- Has not met the requirements for Permanent membership

Continuing Membership fee: \$20.00

Minimum criteria for Approved GRACE PERIOD (Continuing Member in prior semester; no consecutive Grace Periods):

- Currently enrolled in OCC classes AND
- Completed fewer than 6 units of letter-graded college coursework in previous semester -or- Earned semester GPA below 3.0 AND
- Maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 while a Continuing Member

Approved Grace Period: No fee

Minimum criteria for PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP (ALL criteria MUST be met):

- Currently enrolled in OCC classes or completed final semester at OCC in previous semester AND
- Completed or will complete by the end of the current semester at least 60 units of college coursework with at least 30 units completed at OCC; up to 6 units of Pass/No pass coursework may be used to reach 60 units AND
- Earned a GPA of 3.25 or higher with at least TWO previous semesters of uninterrupted membership (Initial, Continuing, Approved Grace Period) - OR - Earned a GPA of 3.50 or higher with previous semester at Initial membership level

Permanent Membership Fee: \$25.00

OFFICE USE ONLY

Approved: Initial	Initials:	Date:	Amount due:
Approved: Continuing	Initials:	Date:	Date of receipt:
Approved: Grace:	Initials:	Date:	Bill Program:
Approved: Permanent	Initials:	Date:	Financial Records: Initials: Date:
			Records Office: Initials Date:

Units Compl Last Sem	Total OCC Units	Other Units	Total all Units comb	Total combined GPA
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ALPHA GAMMA SIGMA – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. When should I join AGS?

A. It depends:

1. **If you're joining in order to be actively involved, perhaps as a future leader or significant contributor** to AGS activities and events, for the experience and recognition (scholarships, elected positions, improved likelihood of transfer to top tier universities, etc.), join as soon as you're eligible. You'll be considered for recognition more often and have a great college experience as you meet other successful students and make a difference here at OCC. Start with Temporary or Initial membership and renew each semester until you reach Permanent status.
2. **If you're joining ONLY to earn a notation on your transcript or to graduate with honors, AND** your grades are generally high (3.50 or higher) but you don't think you can be actively involved with AGS activities and events, you might want to risk waiting to apply for membership until you've only got two full semesters left (no coursework has been begun) before you graduate or transfer. However, if you wait and then experience some unexpected academic set-backs, you may find that you're no longer eligible to begin a membership. On the other hand, you may discover that you're eligible to advance to Permanent Membership after just one semester of Initial membership if you're almost done with 60 units of college coursework. Check the criteria on the first page for Permanent Membership.
3. **If you're joining to strengthen your resume or applications for transfer admission**, you need to determine whether you'll be asked for more than the name of organizations in which you are enrolled. Many applications will expect you to describe your affiliations and experiences with your membership organizations in order for them to make a difference to your resume or application. If so, start with Initial membership and renew each semester until you reach Permanent status. If not, join close to the time that you'll be asked for a list of your current memberships. Initial membership may be enough for this purpose.

Q. If I can't afford the membership that I qualify for, can I join at a level that doesn't cost as much?

A. No, sorry. You will only meet the requirements of ONE level of membership at a time. Remember, you must be able to answer "YES" to ALL of the criteria set forth for a particular level. If you're having financial difficulties and want to apply for new or continuing membership in AGS, please contact the current president for information about whether or not **a fee waiver might be available** in exchange for a certain amount of service to the OCC chapter.

Q. It's my last semester, and I missed the opportunity to join AGS when I was first eligible, but I want to graduate with honors. Is it too late?

A. Not necessarily. Depending on your grades and the amount of coursework you've completed each semester, it may be possible to back-date your membership and catch up on the fees that you would have had to pay in order to reach the desired membership level you want now. Regardless of program affiliation, you will always be responsible for paying your back fees yourself (EOPS and Guardian, if you're enrolled in either of those programs, will NOT pay for fees that would have been due in a past semester). Ask the staff or advisor at the Garrison Honors Center to review your transcript. They'll let you know what you are qualified for and what fees would be due if you wish to move ahead with a back-dated membership.