

SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP

I. Revocation of Membership

Bylaws of Sigma Theta Tau International state (Article III Section 6):
“Membership in the society may be revoked at any time by a chapter to which the member belongs for just cause and after due process. Revocation of membership shall be determined at a meeting, at which a quorum is present, by at least three-fourths vote for revocation by those present.”

II. Determination of Just Cause

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is committed to certain values, beliefs and principles which support its mission of excellence in nursing scholarship and leadership as expressed in the purposes of the society. The foundation of love, courage and honor is central to all activities of the society. Behavior which is not consistent with these foundational principles and purposes can adversely affect the integrity of the society and its membership. When such behavior occurs, membership may be revoked for just cause. Just cause for revocation of membership includes behaviors/actions inconsistent with the principles—purposes of the society including but not limited to:

- showing material fraud in connection with the application for membership;
- conviction of a felony committed while enrolled in the undergraduate or graduate school or while a registered nurse;
- non-completion of baccalaureate in nursing or higher entry nursing program; or
- behaviors inconsistent with the principles and purposes of the society.

III. Due Process

Initiating Action

Action to revoke membership may be initiated by a member or officer of a chapter to which the member belongs. The due process is initiated upon written request to commence such action supported by a written specification and documentation of the behavior which constitutes just cause for revocation of membership. Such written

request shall be delivered to the president of the chapter. The chapter board of directors shall promptly review and consider the written request to commence revocation of membership proceedings. The decision to pursue revocation of membership proceedings rests with the chapter board of directors following a fair and careful review of the request and supporting documentation.

Notification of Headquarters

Following the determination to pursue revocation of membership, a chapter must notify Chapter Services at headquarters and any other chapters to which that member belongs of its intent. In addition, the chapter should provide information regarding the allegations supporting the revocation proceedings.

Notification of Member

After consulting with Chapter Services, the chapter board of directors shall provide a reasonable opportunity for the affected member to respond, in person or in writing, to show cause why membership should not be revoked. Prior to any vote for revocation of membership, the affected member shall be notified of the nature of the behavior giving rise to the request to commence revocation of membership proceedings not less than 30 days in advance of the date set for a vote on revocation of membership. Notification to the affected member shall be by certified mail addressed to the last known address of such affected member.

Chapter Meeting and Vote

The chapter shall hold the revocation vote at an in-person meeting of the current active membership of the chapter. A three-fourths vote for revocation of membership by a quorum of members present shall be required to affect revocation of membership. Present means in attendance whether physically, electronically or teleconferencing.

Notification of Member

The affected member shall be notified in writing via certified mail by the chapter of the results of the vote to revoke membership within seven (7) days of the tabulation of votes. Unless the determination to revoke membership is appealed in writing within fourteen (14) days of the date of mailing the notice of the vote, the determination of the chapter shall be final and binding.

Appeals Process

In the event of a timely appeal to the International Board of Directors, following revocation by the chapter, the board of directors shall provide the affected person with a reasonable opportunity to be heard in person or in writing to show cause why the determination of the chapter should be reversed or the International Board of Directors shall consider all relevant facts and circumstances in deciding the appeal.

The appeal shall be decided by majority vote of the International Board of Directors present and voting. The affected person shall be notified in writing with fourteen (14) days of the vote of the International Board of Directors as to the decision on appeal. The decision of the International Board of Directors shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to judicial review of any kind.

Removal of Name from Membership Records

When the revocation of membership is final, the chapter must contact Chapter Services to ensure that the former member's name is removed from all membership and mailing lists.

An expelled member shall not be eligible for subsequent readmission to the honor society.

Neither the chapter nor the board of directors shall consider an individual's race, age, gender, creed, color, national origin, disability or other legally protected categories dependent on jurisdiction in making any determination under these guidelines.

Rules of Procedure

The chapter board of directors and the International Board of Directors shall have the authority to establish reasonable rules of procedure to carry out the responsibilities imposed by these guidelines, provided such rules of procedure are not inconsistent with these guidelines and the affected member is notified in advance of the rules of procedure so established.