

# SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR RESCINDING AN INVITATION

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## I. Rescinding an Invitation

- A. Invitation for membership in the society may be rescinded between the time of invitation and induction by the inviting chapter for just cause and after due process.
- B. The determination of the inducting chapter shall be final and binding.
- C. Sigma Theta Tau International does not discriminate. Candidates are qualified for membership so long as eligibility requirements are met.
- D. The inducting 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 candidate is notified in advance of the rules of procedure so established.

## II. Determination of Just Cause

Sigma Theta Tau International, as the International Honor Society of Nursing, is committed to certain values, beliefs and principles that support its mission of excellence in nursing scholarship and leadership as expressed in the purposes of the society. These values are upheld through the selection of members who, among other qualifications, maintain high standards of superior academic achievement, academic integrity, and professional leadership potential.

Behavior which is not consistent with these foundational principles and standards can adversely affect the integrity of the society and provides just cause for rescinding an invitation. Behaviors/actions inconsistent with the principles include but are not limited to:

- Material fraud in connection with the application for membership;
- Conviction of a felony committed while enrolled in the undergraduate or graduate school of the inducting chapter or while a registered nurse;
- Academic dishonesty or plagiarism

## III. Due Process

### A. Rescinding an Invitation Process

- 1) Action to revoke an invitation may be initiated by a member or officer of the inducting chapter.
- 2) The process begins upon written notice to the chapter governance committee regarding the alleged violation
- 3) For determination of just cause, the member or officer involved provides written documentation of alleged behavior to the governance committee.



- 4) In the event of academic dishonesty, the chapter should initiate action when due process of the institution of higher learning has been completed and the candidate has been proven guilty. If induction is scheduled prior to the time that due process will be resolved, the candidate will be notified via registered letter that their induction cannot occur until a verdict is reached. For more guidelines and information about academic integrity sign on to the Web site of The Center for Academic Integrity,  
<http://www.academicintegrity.org/assessGuide.asp>.
- 5) If just cause is supported, the case shall be forwarded to the chapter board of directors for final consideration.
- 6) Notification to the affected candidate shall be by certified mail addressed to the last known address of such affected candidate.
- 7) When the revocation of invitation is final, the chapter must contact headquarters to ensure that the candidate's name is removed from all membership and mailing lists. If previously paid, the candidate's fees will be returned at that time.

