

Frequently Asked Questions – Alpha Epsilon Rho

Q: What is Alpha Epsilon Rho?

A: Alpha Epsilon Rho is the honor society for electronic media students, and it is the only one recognized by the Association of College Honor Societies.

Q: How does AERho membership relate to membership in the National Broadcasting Society? If I'm an NBS member, am I automatically an AERho member?

A: AERho membership is related to but separate from NBS membership. Members of AERho emphasize superior scholarship and creative participation in broadcast, corporate, and digital media production and activity. AERho membership exemplifies excellence of work, demonstrated leadership qualities, and service to the organization, the community, and the industry. AERho members will be members of an NBS or AERho campus chapter or the National Chapter, but not all NBS members will qualify for AERho membership. Those qualifying for AERho membership who are not at a campus NBS or AERho chapter will become members of the National Chapter.

Q: What are the qualifications for student membership in AERho?

A: Undergraduate candidates (a) shall have completed at least the equivalent of three semesters or five quarters of full-time college work, (b) shall not rank lower than the upper one third of their college class in overall scholarship, as indicated by a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher in all courses as well as a GPA of 3.25 in all electronic media studies courses (on a 4.0 scale) and (c) shall have completed at least three semester courses or five quarter courses in communication, each of at least three credit hours or the equivalent, that may be credited toward a program emphasizing electronic media. Local chapter Bylaws may specify higher minimum requirements for undergraduate candidates and may specify the minimum scholastic standards for undergraduate candidates in terms of the local grading system.

Q: Can graduate students be members of AERho?

A: Yes. Graduate students of programs emphasizing electronic media shall also be eligible for invitation to Alpha Epsilon Rho membership. Graduate student candidates either (a) shall meet the requirements for undergraduate candidates, based upon their undergraduate records, or (b) shall have completed at least one year of graduate work, meeting departmental standards for satisfactory progress toward an advanced degree.

Q: Can faculty or other interested people who are not students be members of AERho?

A: Yes. Faculty members, research staff members, and other qualified individuals, either in or nearby the institution in which the AERho chapter is located, who are in programs emphasizing electronic media shall be eligible for invitation to AERho membership based on their professional record. Individuals seeking professional membership and who are not former student members of NBS must demonstrate an interest in the field of electronic media. Professional members of NBS are involved in the operation of collegiate chapters. They may be chapter advisers, faculty or staff members of collegiate chapters but may not be full-time undergraduate students at schools where a collegiate chapter exists. Professional members may be members of the National Chapter while affiliated with college chapters.

Q: What do I have to do to join AERho?

A: The invitation to AERho membership shall be extended by the active members of the AERho chapter and/or its advisor. Once a person has accepted the invitation to membership by a local chapter, an application must be submitted to the national office, along with the appropriate dues before official membership is conferred at the national convention. The membership application can be found on the NBS website at nbs-aerho.org. For those who are not located at a collegiate chapter, the executive director of NBS or the President of Alpha Epsilon Rho may extend an invitation to AERho Membership. Those persons would then become members in the National Chapter.

Q: Why should I join AERho?

A: Receive tangible proof of your achievement. AERho members receive a membership certificate, membership pin, and honor cords following their initiation at the national convention. Honor cords may be worn at the member's commencement and other academicceremonies in accordance with policies of the member's academic institution.

Advance in your career. You'll be able to list your AERho membership on your resume, which signals to potential employers or internship hosts that you have achieved standards of excellence in your academic discipline, which sets you apart from others who may be applyingfor those same positions. Plus, those who do the hiring who were AERho members when theywere in school recognize what AERho represents, and that you share that common bond.

Receive federal employment benefit. In a letter dated April 13, 1973, the US Civil Service Commission stated, "Membership in a national honor society meets one of the requirements for entrance at the GS-7 level in numerous professional and technical occupations in the Federal service. However, applicants must meet all of the requirements as described in the particular Federal Job Announcement covering the positions for which they apply." This is a tangible acknowledgement of merit.