



CHAPTER OF MERIT RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The participation and activity at the chapter level are the strength of Epsilon Sigma Phi. Those states having a strong chapter, which provides meaningful opportunities for their members, are the states with growth in our organization and strong memberships.

The Chapter of Merit recognition program was developed by the National Board to provide some recognition for those chapters who have put forth an exemplary effort to forward the cause of the Extension system and to provide professional development opportunities for their members.

Quite often members or potential members when approached to renew membership or to become members ask the question, "What is in it for me?" Those chapters with a strong program can provide an answer to this question that will demonstrate to individuals a good reason to either become members or to continue membership in ESP at the local level.

The purpose of the Chapter of Merit Program is to provide a way for the National Board to recognize those chapters who have excellent programs to service their members in harmony with the national goals and objective of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

The National Board recognizes that not all chapters have the same opportunity to serve their members and as such have created a recognition system that will recognize chapters for their efforts without regard to the number of members or the resources available.

By categorizing the recognition in a Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze group, chapters have an opportunity to be recognized by their effort not necessarily based on the number of members or resources available. The categories evaluated reflect areas identified as important to develop and maintain a strong chapter within the states.

The following page serves as an application for consideration as a Chapter of Merit and at the same time serves as a guide of the important chapter activities and programs to insure well rounded professional development opportunities that would appeal to members.

The time frame for the ESP Chapter of Merit recognition is March 1 – February 28th of each year. The report form should be submitted to the National ESP Office electronically at espoffice@espnational.org by May 1. The form requires the name of the individual submitting the form.

