

The Alpha Beta Academic Assistance Plan Of Beta Theta Pi



Proposed for adoption: 1-16-2006

Adopted: 1-23-06

Revised: _____

- Mission
 - The mission of this document, the Academic Assistance Plan of the Alpha Beta chapter of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, is to assist the chapter and its members in promoting the Men of Principle Initiative's devotion to the cultivation of the intellect.
- Vision
 - The vision of the Academic Assistance Plan of the Alpha Beta chapter of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity is to define guidelines which the chapter will obediently follow resulting in the consistent achievement of the quantitative requirements set forth herein and elsewhere with regards to academics, and to assist members in the achievement of their greatest intellectual potential in areas which cannot be numerically measured.

I Definitions

1. Academic Standing (see note 2)

- a. **Exceptional**
 - i. Grade Point of 3.5 or greater
- b. **Good**
 - i. Grade Point of 2.75 - 3.49
- c. **Probationary I**
 - i. Grade Point of 2.5 - 2.74
- d. **Probationary II**
 - i. Grade Point of 2.01 - 2.49
- e. **Deferral**
 - i. Grade Point of 2. or lower

2. Other Terms

- a. **Academic**
 - i. Grade Point refers to the weighted Grade Point Average which, if necessary, will be rounded up to the hundredth.
 - a. Weighted means grades from classes worth more semester hours have greater influence than grades from classes with fewer semester hours.
 - b. Term Grade Point refers to the weighted average of grades acquired over a given grading period (i.e. semester).
 - c. Cumulative Grade point refers to the weighted average of all grades acquired over a student's post-secondary career.
 - ii. Term refers to a grading period, which for most classes is one semester.
 - iii. Study Buddy (/study buddies) refers to one or more individuals with whom a member meets regularly and works on homework. These individuals should, but are not required, to have courses in common.
- b. **Chapter**
 - i. Advisor, if ambiguously used, refers to a non-undergraduate chapter advisor.

II Criteria

1. Qualification

a. Academic Standing

- i. The five academic standing definitions are based on Grade Point Averages which are weighted appropriately for classes worth varying credit amounts (as indicated in **I.2 (a)**).

2. Academic Counseling

a. Automatic

- i. The Scholarship Chairman will receive a grade report for each member following every term.
 - ii. A student's standing is to be defined by the most recent term's grade point. However, for the Probationary and Deferral definitions to take effect, the student must achieve a grade point below 2.75 two consecutive semesters; one semester at or above 2.75 will classify the student as Good or Exceptional, depending on the grade point. However, after any single semester below 2.75, the student must meet with the Scholarship Chairman and a chapter advisor..
 - a. This meeting will be used to determine the course of action most appropriate for this student in order to promote their academic success.
 - b. The measures incorporated into this plan of action may include but are not limited to: assigned study hours, acquisition of a tutor (see **V.2 (b) i**), mandatory regular meetings with professors.
 - iii. After the earning of good or exceptional standing, the student will be returned to good or exceptional status as fit.
- b. Requested**
- i. Any member can at any time request a meeting with the Scholarship Chairman. The Scholarship Chairman will draft a plan for the member following the guidelines suggested by **II.2 (a) ii: a-b**.

III Incentives

1. Financial

a. Chapter Discounts (see Note 3)

- i. Any member whose cumulative Grade Point is 3.5 or higher will receive an automatic \$50 credit towards their chapter fees.
- ii. Any member whose cumulative Grade Point is greater than or equal to 3.25 and lower than 3.5 will receive an automatic \$25 credit towards their chapter fees.

b. Gift Certificates

- i. The chapter is encouraged to begin a system of gift certificate rewarding for exceptional academic achievement.

2. Symbolic

a. Cultivation of the Intellect Award (see Note 4)

- i. Members who achieve no grades below A giving them a 4.0 or better are awarded the Cultivation of the Intellect Award.

IV Sanctions

1. Probationary I

a. One time duties

- i. All members classifying as Probationary I are required to submit an article to the Chapter Newsletter on a topic to be determined by the newsletter's executive editor.
 - a. This topic has no specific parameters.

b. Repeated duties

- i. All members classifying as Probationary I are required to present a grade report to the Scholarship Chairman on a monthly basis.

c. Other Restrictions

- i. There are no specific restrictions for Probationary I members.

2. Probationary II

a. One time duties

- i. All members classifying as Probationary II are required to submit an article to the Chapter Newsletter on a topic to be determined by the newsletter's executive editor.
 - a. This topic is to be related to one of the nine goals of the Men of Principle Initiative.

b. Repeated duties

- i. All members classifying as Probationary II are required to present a grade report to the Scholarship Chairman on a monthly basis.
 - c. **Other Restrictions**
 - i. Members classifying as Probationary II are restricted from running for executive offices.
 - ii. Additional sanctions can be enacted as seen fit upon the Kai Committee and Scholarship Chairman meeting with the student.
 - a. This meeting also allows the member to defend himself if extenuating circumstances of some kind led to his performance.
- 3. Deferral**
- a. **One time duties**
 - i. All members classifying as Deferral are required to submit an article to the Chapter Newsletter on a topic to be determined by the newsletter's executive editor.
 - a. This topic is to concern the Cultivation of the Intellect goal of the Men of Principle Initiative.
 - b. **Repeated duties**
 - i. All members classifying as Deferral are required to present a grade report to the Scholarship Chairman on a monthly basis.
 - ii. All tests, quizzes, and papers of members classified as Deferral are to be reviewed with the scholarship chairman or another individual designated by the Scholarship Chairman as fit for the job.
 - iii. Members classified as Deferral are to attend academic seminars regarding improvement of grades as seen fit by the Scholarship Chairman.
 - c. **Other Restrictions**
 - i. Members classifying as Deferral are restricted from running for cabinet or executive offices.
 - ii. Additional sanctions can be enacted as seen fit upon the Kai Committee and Scholarship Chairman meeting with the student.
 - a. This meeting also allows the member to defend himself if extenuating circumstances of some kind led to his performance.

V Scholarship Chairman Duties

1. Financial

a. Scholarships

- i. The Scholarship Chairman is to assist any brother in need of scholarships in finding applicable ones.
- ii. The Scholarship Chairman shall submit to the newsletter's executive editor a list of scholarships with upcoming deadlines which are relevant to brothers.

2. Academic

a. Study Buddies

- i. The Scholarship Chairman is to find study buddies for any member who requests them.
- ii. If no one is available and qualified, the Scholarship Chairman must find a non-member or himself study with the member.

b. Tutoring

- i. The Scholarship Chairman is to assist struggling brothers by providing tutors when possible from within the chapter.
 - a. The tutor will be paid by 'points' at no cost or penalty of any kind to the member being tutored.

c. Informational Sessions

- i. The Scholarship Chairman shall keep track of seminars relating to academics around the University.

VI About This Document

1. Amending

a. Promoting a Functional Document

- i. It is encouraged very strongly that any line in this document preceding Article VI be amended, struck, or otherwise changed whenever seen fit by the chapter for the betterment of the group.
 - ii. No line in this document is restricted from editing if edits are approved by a chapter majority with the exception of 6 (six) lines.
 - a. Those six exceptions are the six lines constituting Article VI.
- Note 1: The format of the preceding document is thus: Articles are defined by upper case Roman numerals; Sections are defined by Western numbers; Subsections are defined with lowercase Western letters.
 - Note 2: A differentiation is made between Good and Exceptional standing but is not utilized within this draft. The purpose of this differentiation is to allow later awarding based on predefined terms.
 - Note 3: **III.1 (a)** is to be enacted no later than four semesters after the official charter of the Alpha Beta chapter of Beta Theta Pi and no sooner than the first full semester after the charter is obtained.
 - Note 4: **III.2 (a)** is to be struck if the Cultivation of the Intellect Award is never established. If it is, the desired format of this award is a display in a prominent area of the chapter house of recipients' names and why the award was earned. An example is a plaque in the Great Hall describing the award, its importance to the Fraternity, and a list of engraved names. Being a direct representation of the Men of Principles 'Cultivation of the Intellect' goal, this is a great honor and should be treated as such.
 - Note 5: Chapter is used in place of Colony in this document as the status of 'colony' is temporary and if used, would quickly be antiquated; until the charter is acquired, Chapter is to refer to 'Colony'.