

CHARTER OF LAMBDA EPSILON CHI

*a national honor society
in paralegal/legal assistant studies*

I. NAME Lambda Epsilon Chi (LEX)

Lambda Epsilon Chi (hereinafter LEX) is a national honor society in paralegal/legal assistant studies.

II PURPOSE

The purpose of LEX is to recognize persons who have demonstrated superior academic performance in an established program of paralegal/legal assistant studies offered at an institution that is an Institutional member in good standing of the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE).

III ELIGIBILITY OF INSTITUTION FOR CHAPTER OF LEX

In order to confer membership in LEX upon its students, an institution must comply with the provisions of the Charter and must be an Institutional member in good standing of the American Association for Paralegal Education at the time it wishes to confer LEX membership upon any of its students. A “member in good standing” means that the institution is in substantial compliance with the ABA Guidelines for approval of legal assistant programs, is institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by Commission on Higher Education of the United States Department of Education or the comparable agency in the country where the program is located and is eligible to vote at the annual or any special meeting of AAfPE pursuant to Sections 2.1 and 2.4 of the AAfPE bylaws.

IV. INDIVIDUAL CHAPTER OF LEX AT AN INSTITUTION

1) Each institution that qualifies under Article III of this Charter is entitled to

maintain a Chapter of LEX. Such qualification is determined by the AAFPE Board of Directors. The Chapter at such institution must be officially known as: “The (name of institution) Chapter of LEX, a National Honor Society in Paralegal/Legal Assistant Studies.”

2) Every institution that maintains a Chapter of LEX must submit the sum of \$100.00 at the time such institution files the application to establish its Chapter. Thereafter, the institution must remit the sum of \$30.00 for each student the institution wishes to induct into its Chapter of LEX, which must be paid at the time the institution submits the names of the students to the National Coordinator. All fees are to be remitted payable to “AAfPE”.

A portion of the fees collected hereunder will be used to fund the annual AAFPE scholarship awards of which there will be one scholarship award made in each region each year.

An institution may induct students into LEX at any time or times during the year as it chooses.

V. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN LEX

In recognition of the broad diversity of institutional members of AAFPE, each institution at which a chapter of LEX is established is free to determine the specific criteria and qualifications for membership in its chapter on condition that such criteria and qualification be within the National Standards for Membership in LEX (hereinafter the “National Standards”). The National Standards are as follows:

1) Membership in LEX is limited to students in good standing at the institution who are enrolled in a program of Paralegal or Legal Assistant Studies. An institution may apply for a one-time exemption to this limitation for the sole purpose of inducting alumni who would have qualified for induction if the institution had established a chapter of LEX at the time the alumni graduated.

2) A student may not be eligible for induction into LEX unless the student, at the time of induction, has completed not less than two-thirds of the program requirements to complete such program as determined by the institution.

3) The student to be inducted must demonstrate “superior academic performance” which is evidenced by a cumulative grade point average 3.5 or higher to make membership in LEX a true and meaningful academic honor within the institution and a recognizable

indication of superior academic achievement to members of the legal profession in the geographical area served by the institution.

4) Each institution must submit the following to the National Coordinator at the time it submits the names of students to be inducted into LEX:

A written description of the method by which the institution calculates “two-thirds of the program requirements” to complete its program as required in paragraph (2) above for determination of the total number of students who are eligible for induction.

VI. OPERATION, STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION OF LEX

The national office of LEX is located at the business office of AAFPE. The Board of Directors will designate (from time to time as it sees fit) a person or persons to be the National Coordinator of LEX. Unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer of AAFPE is the National Coordinator.

The duties of the National Coordinator include, but not be limited to the following:

1) Reviewing the request of each institution desiring to have a Chapter of LEX, and if all of the requirements of the Charter are satisfied granting the request.

2) Transmitting to each institution the decision made on the request to establish a Chapter of LEX. If the decision is to deny the request, the Coordinator must inform the institution of its right to appeal the denial to the Board of Directors. Upon written request from an institution, the Board of Directors will review the Coordinator’s decision to deny an application.

3) Maintaining the official national register of all persons inducted into LEX by each chapter and ensuring that certificates of membership for all such persons inducted are forwarded to each chapter in a timely manner.

4) Reporting on the status of LEX to the Board of Directors and the membership of AAFPE at the Annual Conference of AAFPE.

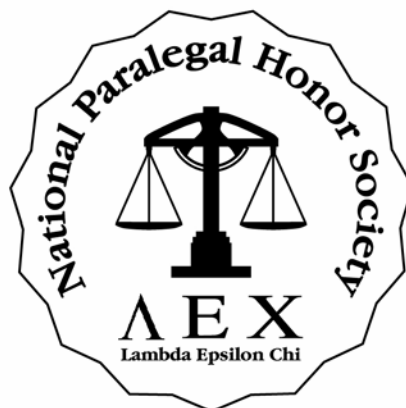
5) Confirming the status of membership in AAfPE and the payment of the administrative fee for the chapter of LEX of any institution that maintains a chapter, on an annual basis.

VII. NATIONAL SYMBOL

The National Symbol of LEX is the symbol annexed to the Charter.

VIII. CHARTER REVISIONS

The Charter may be revised by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of AAfPE at any duly constituted meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present.



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