Start a Chapter!

Sigma Tau Delta chapters can be established in colleges and universities that grant baccalaureate or higher degrees and are accredited by the appropriate national or regional accrediting agencies. Institutions interested in chartering a Sigma Tau Delta chapter must apply for a charter and pay a one-time fee of $50.

If you are interested in chartering a chapter at your institution, please request a charter petition packet by contacting Sigma Tau Delta at sigmatd@niu.edu.

Member Fees

Each new member pays a one-time induction fee of $37 for a lifetime membership. Local chapter dues may vary.

Induction fees are waived for faculty members who serve as Chapter Sponsor.

Other English Honor Societies

**Sigma Kappa Delta**
National English Honor Society
(for two-year colleges) [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org)

**NEHS**
National English Honor Society
(for high schools) [www.nehs.us](http://www.nehs.us)
What is Sigma Tau Delta?

Sigma Tau Delta is the International English Honor Society. A member of the Association of College Honor Societies, it was founded in 1924 at Dakota Wesleyan University.

The Society

• confers distinction for high achievement in English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies;

• provides, through its local chapters, cultural stimulation on college campuses and promotes in surrounding communities interest in literature and the English language;

• fosters all aspects of the discipline of English, including literature, language, and writing;

• promotes exemplary character and good fellowship among its members;

• exhibits high standards of academic excellence; and

• serves society by fostering literacy.

There are over 750 chapters located in the United States, Europe, and the Caribbean.

What are the benefits of Sigma Tau Delta membership?

Publications

Each new member receives a one-year subscription to Sigma Tau Delta’s newsletter and its two journals, The Sigma Tau Delta Rectangle and The Sigma Tau Delta Review, which feature members’ creative and critical writing.

Annual Convention

The convention provides students opportunities to present their creative and critical writing, to attend panels on professional matters and chapter activities, and to listen to presentations by noted authors. Featured speakers at recent conventions have included Amy Tan, Billy Collins, Ted Kooser, Sharon Olds, Suzan-Lori Parks, and Neil Gaiman.

Awards and Scholarships

Sigma Tau Delta commits thousands of dollars each year to awards and scholarships for its members and chapters.

Service Opportunities

Sigma Tau Delta encourages local chapters to make service to their communities a central feature of their missions. Through their local chapters, Sigma Tau Delta members have become involved in a number of service projects, including adult literacy programs, book collections for the needy, and tutoring programs for children.

Who is eligible to join?

Student membership is available to undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at a college or university with a Sigma Tau Delta chapter.

Undergraduate Membership

Candidates must have completed at least three semesters or five quarters of college work and a minimum of two college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English. They also must have a minimum of a B or equivalent grade point average in English, and rank at least in the highest 35 percent of their class in general scholarship. (Chapters may raise, but not lower, these criteria.)

Graduate Membership

Candidates must be enrolled in a graduate program in English or one of its specializations, have completed six semester hours of graduate work or the equivalent, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.

Faculty Membership

Membership is available to faculty members and administrators at a college or university with a Sigma Tau Delta chapter, who have a degree in English. Induction fees are waived for faculty members who serve as Chapter Sponsor.

Promotion of Quality … Recognition of Excellence