

Becoming a member

Membership is open to those Extension personnel and retirees who exhibit excellence in Extension programming. Membership is established through state chapters that are chartered through the national organization. Most states and some territories have an Epsilon Sigma Phi chapter that develops and implements a program to promote the mission of the organization. Each chapter has its own requirements regarding years of employment prior to membership. In states in which an established chapter does not currently exist, application for membership is as a member-at-large.

Developing leadership capacity

Epsilon Sigma Phi's organizational leadership roles offer opportunities to unite with members from all levels, units and subject matter disciplines of the Extension System.

Epsilon Sigma Phi is a member of the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) which brings together the leadership of all the Extension professional organizations to support the Extension system at the national level.

Celebrating excellence

Since Epsilon Sigma Phi was established in 1927 at Bozeman, Montana, members have worked to strengthen the impact of the Extension System to address needs of individuals and communities through research based education.

The mission of Epsilon Sigma Phi is to foster standards of excellence in the Extension System and to develop the Extension profession and professional.

Members of Epsilon Sigma Phi are the personnel or retirees of the Extension System of the United States Department of Agriculture; 1862, 1890, 1994 institutions and counties (districts or parishes) or cities.

Members of Epsilon Sigma Phi commit to moving our Extension profession toward becoming a respectful, culturally inclusive educational system in response to the changing face of the nation and the awareness of the added richness, creativity, and resilience that cultural diversity brings to our communities and our Extension programs. Epsilon Sigma Phi is an equal opportunity/affirmative action organization.

Benefits of membership

- ◆ **Professional development conferences and distance learning opportunities.**
- ◆ **Extension personnel united across disciplines, units and program areas.**
- ◆ **National platform to give scholarly presentations.**
- ◆ **Building leadership, communication and teamwork skills.**
- ◆ **Connecting personnel and retirees to build networks, continuity, and support for the Extension System and related issues.**
- ◆ **Access to scholarships and mini-grants.**
- ◆ **Public Issues and Leadership Development Seminar held each spring in Washington, DC.**
- ◆ **Recognition system for excellence in Extension's personnel, retirees, clientele and supporters.**
- ◆ **Quarterly *ESP Connection* newsletter.**

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Epsilon Sigma Phi, Inc. is a not-for-profit scientific and educational charitable corporation. (IRS Code: 501-C-3)

**For Membership Information-
Contact your local chapter:**

Or, the National Office:

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espoffice@esnational.org

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Extension Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

E-mail: _____

Visit the web site:
<http://esnational.org/>

EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS' CREED

I Believe in people and their hopes, their aspirations, and their faith; in their right to make their own plans and arrive at their own decisions; in their ability and power to enlarge their lives and plan for the happiness of those they love.

I Believe that education, of which Extension is an essential part, is basic in stimulating individual initiative, self-determination, and leadership; that these are the keys to democracy and that people when given facts they understand, will act not only in their self-interest, but also in the interest of society.

I Believe that education is a lifelong process and the greatest university is the home; that my success as a teacher is proportional to those qualities of mind and spirit that give me welcome entrance to the homes of the families I serve.

I Believe in intellectual freedom to search for and present the truth without bias and with courteous tolerance toward the views of others.

I Believe that Extension is a link between the people and the ever-changing discoveries in the laboratories.

I Believe in the public institutions of which I am a part.

I Believe in my own work and in the opportunity I have to make my life useful to humanity.

Because I Believe these things, I am an Extension professional.

EPSILON SIGMA PHI
The Extension Professionals'
Organization



Membership:
An Invitation to Join

Website:
<http://esnational.org>