

## Epsilon Sigma Phi – Alpha Zeta Texas Chapter Recognition Requirements & Eligibility

**Note:** This year the forms have been modified so that the number of words will be limited in the various sections. The limitations are actually characters rather than words. The number of words used for limits are based on an average of 8 characters per word plus a following space. For example a 200 word limit is actually a total of 1,600 characters. Once the limit is met, no further characters will be recorded. (To count words or characters - in MS Word highlight the text, go to "Review," go to ABC Word County, and review the results.)

**Chapter Distinguished Service Recognition** (up to two state awards) - Designed to pay the highest chapter tribute to an experienced Extension professional who has consistently exhibited leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation, in program and/or administration over a career of more than 20 years. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination.

**Chapter Friend of Extension Recognition** (up to two state awards) - Nominees are non-Extension employees. This friend must have given outstanding public service and support to Extension programs at regional or state level. Friend is the highest chapter award given to a non-Extension (lay) person. Note: Friend of Extension Recognition required a support comment from our Agency Director, Dr. Steele. Contact Rebekah See-Hruska at: [Rebekah.SeeHruska@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Rebekah.SeeHruska@ag.tamu.edu) or ph. 979.845.7800.

**Chapter Administrative Leadership Recognition** (up to two state awards) – Recognizes an Extension Professional who has shown noteworthy administrative enthusiasm, performance, and accomplishment during their Extension careers (10 years or more). Administrative leadership may be at county, regional, chapter, program, department, or national level. Documentation of the candidate's work in meeting the needs and furthering the efforts of supervised faculty, staff and/or program should be primary in this recognition.

**Chapter Multi-Cultural Diversity Recognition** (one individual and one team award) - Nominees who's innovative programming reinforces the organization's commitment to reaching diverse audiences. Majority of team must be ESP members (50%).

**Chapter Mid-career Service Recognition** (up to two state awards) - Designed to pay the tribute to an experienced Extension professional who has consistently exhibited leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation, in program and/or administration for over 10 years and less than 20 years. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination. Nominee must be an ESP member who has contributed significantly (over 10 and less than 20 years) to Extension programs in her/his work area. She/he must have had at least 10 years of service but not have passed their 20th year on October 1, 2017.

**Chapter Early Career Service Recognition** (up to two state awards) - Designed to pay the tribute to a new Extension professional who has exhibited the potential for leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation, in program and/or administration during the first 10 years of their career. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination. Nominee must be an ESP member who has

shown ability to plan and deliver Extension programs in her/his work area. This award recognizes our rising professionals. She/he must have less than 10 years Extension experience as of October 1, 2017.

**Chapter International Service Recognition** (up to two state awards) - Available to ESP members who have contributed significantly to the development and/or expansion of an Extension program in another country or countries through in-state and/or overseas work.

**Chapter Distinguished Team Recognition** (up to one award) - Designed to recognize outstanding efforts of Extension staff teams (two or more individuals) for responding to and incorporating into a specific educational program one or more critical issues. Consider agents, specialists, county directors, district administrators, regional program directors, administrators (or combination of these) who have contributed to latest initiatives. Critical issues may be defined by local, regional, state or national need. A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the nominees for the Team Recognition must be active ESP members.

**Chapter Continued Excellence Recognition** (up to two state awards) Designed to recognize an experienced Extension professional with more than twenty years of experience who has exhibited continued leadership, initiative, and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation in program or administration, on a state, regional or national level five years after receiving the chapter Distinguished Service recognition. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination.

**Chapter Meritorious Support Service Recognition** (several, no limit specified) - Nominee must be a staff member (Extension or county) who has demonstrated outstanding support for the Extension mission, program, or faculty. Staff includes secretaries, assistants, clerks, and others.

**Chapter Retiree Service Recognition** (one award) - Nominee must be a retired ESP member who continues to contribute to the mission and programs of Extension.

**Chapter Tenure 25 Year Recognition** (As many as are eligible and submitted) - Nominee must have 25 years of service in Cooperative Extension (as of October 1, 2016) and be a current ESP member. The 25 year requirement does not include Military or other government (Civil) services but can include any state or national Extension position. Service does not have to be only in Texas. It is not required that the nominee has been a member of ESP for the entire 25 years, but they must be current members.

**Chapter Visionary Leadership Recognition** (one award) – Nominee must be an Extension professional whose visionary leadership has enabled Extension to anticipate significant new opportunities and develop support to implement changes necessary to achieve success.

**Diversity Multicultural Recognition – Individual** (one award) - Acknowledges outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining:

- *Extension programs and/or audiences in our diverse and multicultural society.*
- *Diversity refers to the fact that our community, both locally and nationally, is comprised of many individuals, each having unique attributes based on a variety of social, physical, and cultural characteristics.*
- *Multiculturalism is a philosophy that recognizes, accepts, and integrates the contributions and achievements of all people into the social and economic fabric of the community in which they exist.*

- *Multiculturalism requires an understanding of and respect for the historical bases of the belief systems and traditions of various groups to develop their members socially, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, and physically.*
- *Nominations should show understanding, valuing and celebrating differences among people relative to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status and sexual orientation (List is not all- inclusive and not limited to those mentioned.)*
- *The diversity/multicultural program must have been implemented in the past three years.*

**Criteria:**

- Program description addresses significant diversity/multicultural issues for a period of at least one year.
- Makes innovative efforts to attract and reach diverse and/or multicultural audiences.
- Demonstrates collaborative efforts.
- Utilizes creative and unique strategies to market or publicize the program to reach diverse and/or targeted audiences.
- Makes efforts above and beyond affirmative action program requirements.
- Demonstrates potential for replication by others

***Diversity Multicultural Recognition – Team*** (one award) - *Acknowledges outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs and/or audiences in our diverse and multicultural society.*

- *Diversity refers to the fact that our community, both locally and nationally, is comprised of many individuals, each having unique attributes based on a variety of social, physical, and cultural characteristics.*
- *Multiculturalism is a philosophy that recognizes, accepts, and integrates the contributions and achievements of all people into the social and economic fabric of the community in which they exist.*
- *Multiculturalism requires an understanding of and respect for the historical bases of the belief systems and traditions of various groups to develop their members socially, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, and physically.*
- *Nominations should show understanding, valuing and celebrating differences among people relative to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status and sexual orientation (List is not all- inclusive and not limited to those mentioned.)*
- *One team (two or more individuals) recognition per chapter per year*
- *A team or individual may submit applications.*
- *The team nomination should include all staff (full- time and part-time academic professional and classified) that had a primary role in planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating the program.*
- *The diversity/multicultural program must have been implemented in the past three years.*
- *At least 50% of team members eligible for ESP membership must be ESP members whose dues are paid for the previous and current years.*

**Criteria:**

- Program description addresses significant diversity/multicultural issues for a period of at least one year.
- Makes innovative efforts to attract and reach diverse and/or multicultural audiences.
- Demonstrates collaborative efforts.

- Utilizes creative and unique strategies to market or publicize the program to reach diverse and/or targeted audiences.
- Makes efforts above and beyond affirmative action program requirements.
- Demonstrates potential for replication by others.

**Distinguished Service Ruby Recognition:** This is the most prestigious recognition presented by ESP and is designed to recognize truly outstanding thinking, performance, and leadership in Extension at the **national level**. Note: This not a chapter award. The ESP-AZ Board nominates a qualified individual that will compete on the national level..

**Qualifications:**

- It is understood that the recipient has made highly significant contributions on the state, regional, national, and (when applicable) international Extension scenes in a variety of ways and over a career that spans a lifetime.
- The narrative summary statement must be limited to 50-75 words and the entire application should be no more than 1,000 words.
- One nominee per chapter per year.
- The recipient gives the Ruby Lecture at the National ESP Conference.
- One recognition annually to an ESP member whose dues are paid for the previous year and the current year (by February 1, 2017).
- Gold ESP insignia pin, inset with ruby stone and one diamond per 10 years of service, and plaque presented to recipient during the National ESP Conference Recognition Event.
- The cost of the diamond insets is the responsibility of the sponsoring chapter.

*Rev. July 6, 2017*

**Return Electronic Nominations in MS Word format to:**

Vincent Mannino, CED-Fort Bend County,  
2016-17 Award Committee Chair  
E-Mail: [vmannino@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:vmannino@ag.tamu.edu)