

Sigma Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi

University of Wisconsin-Madison

February 18th, 2021

Dear Pledges,

Welcome to Beta Alpha Psi, an honorary professional accounting organization! Allow us to acquaint you with some of the functions of Beta Alpha Psi and give you an idea of what this organization can do for you...

First, Beta Alpha Psi provides you with an opportunity to meet and build friendships with your accounting classmates and faculty members in a relaxed and social atmosphere.

Second, Big Four accounting firms, regional accounting firms, and industry firms sponsor Beta Alpha Psi's professional events. At these events, representatives from the field discuss different career paths and answer questions about their firms or the business world in general. These events provide a great source of information about the accounting profession outside of the classroom. In addition, it is a perfect time to network and get to know various professionals in the accounting field.

Third, Beta Alpha Psi provides many chances for you to get involved in the community through various service projects. Examples include many volunteering opportunities with different firms and tutoring students enrolled in introductory accounting courses.

The information session on February 9th, will hopefully answer many of your questions or concerns about joining Beta Alpha Psi. The first pledge event will be **February 22nd**. We hope this will allow you to get to know more about Beta Alpha Psi and your fellow pledges.

We are confident, and hope you agree, that Beta Alpha Psi has a great deal to offer you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Jasmin Kiani or Jadyne Syverson the Spring 2021 Pledge Co-Chairs. We look forward to seeing you at the first pledge event and at the many Beta Alpha Psi events throughout the semester.

Sincerely,

Spring 2021 Executive Board

Questions?

Email us at: syverson3@wisc.edu or jkiani@wisc.edu

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PLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be met in order to be eligible to successfully pledge the Sigma Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi:

1. All pledges must meet the following initial requirements:
 - a. Must be enrolled in or have completed AIS 301 (or equivalent)
 - b. Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all accounting courses taken

1. Pledge dues are \$95.00 payable to Beta Alpha Psi. **Dues must be paid by the second professional meeting on March 18th.** Pledge dues can be paid through the Beta Alpha Psi website on madison.bap.org. Pledges who do not pay by March 18th will be dropped from the pledge class and may re-pledge the following semester, if they qualify.

2. All pledges are required to attend **all of the pledge social events, a general member social event, the four professional meetings, and elections** during their pledge semester. Once they have satisfied the requirements, pledges are required to attend the **initiation ceremony**, which is held in the following semester. For information on absences, please see below.

3. All pledges are required to complete **eight hours** of community service prior to the time of elections (specific date TBD). There are several opportunities to satisfy this requirement; they will be discussed at the information session and touched upon at each professional meeting. Additional information can be found in the following pages of this packet.
 1. 2021 COVID Update: 4 hours only of community service required.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

If, for some reason, you find it impossible to attend any of the events, you **MUST** inform the Pledge Co-Chairs, at the email found at the bottom of the page, **AT LEAST 48 HOURS** prior to that event.

All pledges are allowed only **TWO** excused absences, with the exception of the initiation ceremony, which may not be missed. For each excused absence, **two** additional hours of community service are required. Any **unexcused** absence will need to be made up with **three** additional hours of community service. If you miss more than two events or fail to complete your additional community service hours, you will be dropped from the pledge class and will be asked to re-pledge the next semester.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

As part of the requirements for pledging Beta Alpha Psi, each pledge must complete eight community service hours during the semester, prior to the end of November (specific date TBD). These hours may be fulfilled in the following manner:

1. Five hours must be fulfilled by participating in a community service activity sponsored by Beta Alpha Psi.
1. The remaining hours may be filled by participating in a variety of activities, with appropriate documentation. Examples include:
 - a. Tutoring business students (outside of Beta sponsored tutoring)
 - b. Additional participation in a community service activity sponsored by an organization other than Beta Alpha Psi.

Opportunities for completing pledge hours will be announced at Thursday professional meetings as they become available, and will be on the Beta Alpha Psi website, www.madisonbap.org. Opportunities will also be announced via email.

Again, please note that all pledges MUST complete all hours by **the time of elections (specific date TBD)**. Pledges who fail to do so will be dropped from the pledge class. For the hours completed outside of Beta Alpha Psi sponsored events, pledges must fill out an online form that can be found in the 'Members & Pledges' section of madisonbap.org. If you have any questions, please contact Roth Mizell, rmizell@wisc.edu the Spring 2021 Community Service Chair.

PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Beta Alpha Psi holds four professional meetings throughout the semester. Each meeting is sponsored by a Big Four accounting firm, regional accounting firm, or industry firm. These events are normally one to two hours long, and are great opportunities to network and interact with future employers. This year all meetings will be held on a virtual platform and will not last as long as the typical semester. It is also recommended that you do light research on the firm, so you have topics to discuss while networking. **Business professional attire is required for all professional meetings. Even from a virtual platform we expect to be on video as much as possible and want to look professional.**

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All pledges must arrive online to the Professional meeting NO LATER than 6:45 p.m. Please All meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Remember, **ALL** professional meetings are **MANDATORY** for pledges.

MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

After completing your semester as a pledge, you will become a member and be required to complete the following requirements to maintain membership status:

- A) Member Criteria – Degree-seeking **undergraduate** students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison shall be eligible to become a member of Beta Alpha Psi when the following conditions are met:
- 1) The candidate has been admitted to the Wisconsin School of Business,
 - 2) The candidate has officially declared a major in accounting,
 - 3) The candidate has completed an upper-level accounting course, AIS 301, AIS 701, or higher,
 - 4) The candidate has achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all accounting courses taken,
 - 5) The candidate has either achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all courses taken or achieved a 3.25 GPA on most recent 30 credits taken.
- B) Member Criteria – Degree-seeking **graduate** students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison shall be eligible to become a member of Beta Alpha Psi when the following conditions are met:
- a) The candidate has enrolled in a masters degree level accounting program,
 - b) The candidate has completed at least one graduate level accounting course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison,
 - c) The candidate has achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all courses taken as a graduate students

Note: The above requirements will be assessed after you have successfully completed your pledge semester. (For example, if you are pledging during the Fall, the GPA requirements will be evaluated after grades for that Fall have been finalized to determine your eligibility for membership.)

Once you are initiated, you are a member for life. Current chapter member dues are \$40.00 per semester, and must be paid every semester until graduation. If you choose to resign any time after becoming a member, you must notify the Faculty Advisor and President, in writing, and hand in all organization items, including the membership certificate.

Questions?

Email us at: syverson3@wisc.edu or jkiani@wisc.edu

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ELECTIONS AND INTERVIEWS

Pledges may run for Executive Board positions in the elections during their pledge semester or interview for an Executive Board position during their pledge semester. All prospective Executive Board members must meet the pledge **and** member requirements (or be reasonably expected to do so). Please contact Igor Marjanovic (marjanovic@wisc.edu) with questions regarding Executive Board positions.

Spring 2021 Beta Alpha Psi Event Schedule

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Pledge Kickoff Meeting	Zoom Meeting	Thursday, February 4th, 6pm
Professional Meeting 1	Virtual Platform <i>Online Applications due</i>	Thursday, February 18th, 7pm
Pledge Event 1	Virtual Platform	Monday February 22nd at 8pm
Professional Meeting 2	Virtual Platform <i>Pledge Dues (\$95) due</i>	Thursday, March 4 @ 7pm
Professional Meeting 3	Virtual Platform	Thursday, March 18 @ 7pm
Pledge Social #2	Virtual Platform	Monday, March 22nd at 8pm
Pledge Social #3	Virtual Platform	Monday, April 5th at 8pm
Professional Meeting 4	Virtual Platform	Thursday April 22 @7pm
Board Elections	Virtual Platform	End of April Date TBD
Board Interviews	Virtual Platform	End of April, Date TBD

Please note that all pledge and member social events are still being organized. Keep an eye out for emails from the Beta Board regarding events. Thanks!

Questions?

Email us at: syverson3@wisc.edu or jkiani@wisc.edu

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THE BETA BOARD

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Questions?

Email us at: syverson3@wisc.edu or jkiani@wisc.edu