



Mu Alpha Theta

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND TWO-YEAR COLLEGE
MATHEMATICS HONOR SOCIETY

c/o University of Oklahoma, 3200 Marshall Ave., Suite 190, Norman, Oklahoma 73019
PH 405-325-4489 FX 405-325-7184 matheta@ou.edu

Mu Alpha Theta is an organization whose purpose is to stimulate interest in mathematics by providing public recognition of superior mathematical scholarship and by promoting various mathematical activities. It is co-sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year

Colleges. There are now over 2000 chapters in the United States and nineteen foreign countries. Colleges and major universities recognize membership in Mu Alpha Theta as an important part of a student's academic resume. Topics presented during club meetings, participation in our free mathematics competitions, and the interest generated by these activities help members to gain a greater understanding and enjoyment of mathematics.

I. Purpose of the Organization

The National High School and Junior College Mathematics Club, Mu Alpha Theta, was formed in 1957 to engender keener interest in mathematics, to develop sound scholarship in the subject and promote enjoyment of mathematics among high school and two-year college students.

National policy is determined by a twelve-person Governing Council consisting of three national officers (President, President-Elect or immediate Past-President, and Treasurer), four governors elected for four year terms, and representatives appointed by our sponsoring partners. An executive director runs the day-to-day functions of the organization and is an Ex-Officio member of the Governing Council. Officers and governors serve without remuneration.

Chapters are encouraged to make suggestions to the national officers concerning additional projects which they would like to see implemented. A sincere effort is made by the Governing Council to listen and act on suggestions from our chapters.

Mu Alpha Theta provides the following:

1. Individual membership certificates, membership cards and school charters issued by the National Treasurer. Member names remain in the National Database for membership verification.

2. Members are eligible for scholarships, awards, and grants. Active chapters and their sponsors are also eligible for awards and grants.

3. A *Handbook for Sponsors* sent free to new chapters.

4. The newsletters containing current chapter news, news of regional and national meetings, ideas for chapter meetings, and items of interest to students.

5. Insignia pins, buttons, charms, patches, banners, small seals, medallions, tassels, graduation honor cords, t-shirts, and a tote bag are available from the National Office.

6. Free mathematics competitions are offered by the National Office throughout the year for participation right at your school. Regional and state meetings are frequently arranged by chapters.

7. A national convention is held annually during July with lectures by outstanding mathematicians, as well as by students. Many individual and group math contests are held during the National Convention.

8. *Math Horizons*, an MAA publication, is available at reduced prices to chapters. The magazine includes articles, math puzzles and problems of interest to high school and college students interested in mathematics.

II: School Qualifications for Chapters

Any high school, with accreditation from a recognized accrediting agency and offering courses in mathematics, may petition to have a chapter, provided it meets the following minimum requirements:

1. High schools must offer at least two years of algebra and one year of geometry, or their equivalent, and a minimum of one year of more advanced mathematics. These requirements cannot be fulfilled by courses in general mathematics, general business mathematics, or arithmetic.

2. The school must employ at least one teacher whose primary teaching field is mathematics and who has completed an undergraduate mathematics major or its equivalent at an accredited college or university. The equivalent of a mathematics major shall be understood to include courses in differential and integral calculus, and at the very least, six mathematics content courses above that.

3. The principal, or other chief administrative officer of the institution, must approve the petition.

4. An initial charter fee of \$15.00, along with a one-time registration fee of \$10.00 for each member, must accompany the petition for a charter. (These fees will be returned if the institution is ineligible for membership.) Applications are approved by the President and the Governor of the appropriate region. Should either deny a petition for membership, the school may appeal the decision to the Governing Council for consideration, where a two-thirds vote of the Governing Council shall be required to approve the chapter.

5. The petition should be submitted on the form provided by the National Office. A list of mathematics courses offered by your school, including textbooks used, and a brief description of topics covered in each course *must* be submitted with each petition.

III. Qualifications for Individual Membership

Each chapter shall have a faculty-student committee which will recommend possible members for the chapter's consideration. No student shall be recommended for consideration who does not meet the minimum qualifications. Additional requirements may be imposed by individual chapters; however, no student will be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual preference and/or physical disability.

(a) Member: High school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed the equivalent of two years of college preparatory mathematics and in addition have completed or are enrolled in a third college preparatory mathematics course are eligible for membership providing their mathematical work was done with

distinction. On the 4-point grading scale, this shall mean at least a 3.0 grade point average.

(b) Associates: High school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed one year of algebra, or its equivalent, with distinction and are currently enrolled in a higher math course. Note that associates are not members of Mu Alpha Theta but are likely candidates for membership. Associates do not pay the initiation fee but are eligible to be listed with the National Office, should they wish to participate in our national math contests. While they are not entitled to vote nor hold office in their chapter, they are entitled to attend and be heard at meetings. A student may remain an associate for only one year and then, if eligible, must be inducted as a member of Mu Alpha Theta.

IV. National Finances

There shall be no national annual dues. A one-time registration fee of \$10.00 per member shall be paid to the national Treasurer for each person initiated into membership, whereupon the Treasurer shall issue a membership certificate to that member and place his name in the National Database of members. A \$15.00 charter fee shall be charged each new chapter at the time

the official charter is first issued to the school. Finances are supervised by the Controller's Office of the University of Oklahoma. Council approval is required for expenditures, and the Treasurer must make a complete accounting to the Governing Council twice yearly.

V. Local Organizations, Officers, and Finances

Each chapter is free to set up its own by-laws, regulate its finances, and select its officers with the following restrictions:

1. Each chapter must have a semi-permanent faculty-sponsor and the National Office (Treasurer) must be kept informed of the current faculty sponsor's name, address, and email address.

2. The minimum membership requirements set forth by the National Office must be met by all initiates.

3. A complete and accurate list of all member initiates, accompanied by their \$10.00 registration fee, must be received by the office of the Treasurer within one month of the date when initiation takes place. Failure to notify the National Office of new members in a timely manner can lead to cancellation of the chapter's charter.

4. Each chapter must hold regular meetings at periodic intervals and not merely consider itself an honor society for high grades. At the minimum, we recommend one meeting every month.

5. Local chapters are encouraged to participate actively in the life of the school, providing stimulation of an interest in, and appreciation of, mathematics for all students.

6. Either the name National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society or Mu Alpha Theta may be used as desired by a chapter, as long as it submits new members at least once every two years.

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High School Petition for Charter

Email, fax, or mail everything to us. (Addresses and numbers listed above.) Since we must see the original signatures on this page, please scan, fax, or print and mail with check. Check should be sent with the petition or arrangement for payment must be made so that once the chapter is approved, certificates and materials can be sent out. Check should be made out to: Mu Alpha Theta.

The undersigned hereby petitions to be granted a chapter of Mu Alpha Theta:

(School Name)

(Address)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

(Phone Number) (Fax Number)

(Sponsor's Name) (Email Address)

The following information is submitted to guide the president and governor in determining the eligibility of the school.

1. On separate sheets, list all mathematics courses from Algebra 1 and above, a paragraph summary of topics covered in each course, and the textbooks used for each, including the authors and year of publication. Also include a few sentences telling us how you heard about Mu Alpha Theta. As a student, were you ever a member? What grades does your school serve? Mu Alpha Theta membership is for 9th – 12th grade students.

2. Approximate school enrollment and the total number of students graduated from the high school in the last three years.

Year	Total Students in the School	Total Graduating

3. Fill in the following information for the sponsor listed above. If the sponsor listed above is not the faculty member whose primary teaching field is mathematics or who has not completed an undergraduate mathematics major or its equivalent, list the name of the teacher at the school meeting this requirement and their information. Name of teacher, if different from the sponsor: _____
Major Field of teacher: _____ Highest degree completed: _____ Year Completed: _____
Graduated from: _____

List courses by title this teacher has taken **above** the calculus sequence: (If more than six courses are involved list only six)
Courses above calculus: _____

4. Attached is a certificate order giving names of all member initiates. The charter fee of \$15.00, plus \$10.00 initiation fee for each member, totaling _____, is enclosed.

(Signature of Faculty Sponsor)

This petition is approved by the principal of the school.

(Signature of Principal or Chief Administrative Officer)

**Order Blank for
Membership Certificates**
(Allow two weeks for processing)

Date of Order _____

(School Name)

Teacher's Email Address _____

Number of Initiates: _____

Amount Enclosed (\$10/student): _____

Names should be emailed to matheta@ou.edu and typed below. Type them exactly as you want them to appear on the certificates. Group by year of graduation.

I hereby certify that the above named students meet all of the qualifications for membership in Mu Alpha Theta and have been declared charter members.

Please make sure all of the following are included with your charter:

- School statistics
- Principal or chief administrative officer's signature
- Paragraph description of math classes with textbook information
- List of charter student members with year of graduation
- Your signature certifying student's eligibility
- Check for \$15 charter fee plus \$10 per member
- Answers to two questions in #1 of the petition