



Rho Chi Special Ballot Frequently Asked Questions

September 10, 2020

Process for Voting on Bylaw Changes

- Q1. What is the chapter delegate registration deadline for voting?**
September 16, 2020
- Q2. When is the voting on the bylaw changes taking place?**
The online ballot will be sent to chapter delegates on Sept 25, 2020 at 8am Eastern. The ballot will remain open until Sept 30, 2020 at 11:59pm Eastern. A reminder will be sent to non-respondents on Sept 27 and Sept 30.
- Q3. Should chapter members meet to discuss the bylaw changes and the vote that will be cast by their chapter delegate?**
Yes, if possible. Use the webinar, recorded Q/A session from Sept 10, and this FAQ document to help your chapter members review and evaluate the proposed bylaw changes.

Bylaw Change Questions

- Q4. Why are we changing bylaws for eligibility in the Rho Chi Society?**
The bylaw changes are intended to meet the needs of diverse and evolving pharmacy programs. Some schools/colleges have moved away from traditional GPA for evaluating students' performance while others would like to incorporate activities that are reflective of Rho Chi's mission into their eligibility determination. The Rho Chi Society recognizes chapters' needs and wants to be inclusive of all institutions. These bylaw changes maintain the mission of the Rho Chi Society and provide chapters flexibility in selecting new Rho Chi members.
- Q5. Does a chapter have to change their definition of top 20%?**
No. The bylaw change will give schools/colleges the flexibility to do so, but it is not required.
- Q6. We have used professional GPA to identify the top 20% at the time of eligibility. Can we continue to do that?**
Yes. If the bylaw change passes, you may use any one or a combination of the approaches outlined in Article III, Section 3, a), 3.
- Q7. Is the number of students inducted into Rho Chi Society increased or different because of this bylaw change?**
No. All chapters are still limited to an "n" of new inductees each year that is equivalent to no more than 20% of the class size at the time of first eligibility. Your chapter may adjust the definition of 'top 20%', if this bylaw change passes. For example, if you have 100 students enrolled in the class at the time when fifty percent of pre-APPE curriculum is completed, then only 20 students can be admitted. The number of admitted students does **NOT** change. The specific 20 students who are invited into Rho Chi may change, dependent upon your chapter's agreed upon and documented eligibility criteria.

Q8. If we change the eligibility criteria for our chapter, are the individuals submitting applications for Rho Chi membership required to be in the top 20% of their class?
If a school/college chooses GPA + application then the school **defines** the required GPA and application criterion. It is possible that the 20% GPA could be relaxed slightly because additional important criteria will be considered. The application must include student activities that are explicit, observable, and measurable and consistent with Rho Chi's mission of critical inquiry and/or intellectual leadership. Importantly, there would be a 'new' definition of Top 20% at the school which must be standardized and documented.

Q9. If a chapter wants to use a non-GPA application system to determine its members, does it have to create a plan for eligibility and submit it to the National Office?
Yes. The application and review process must be documented and standardized as determined and approved by the school or college. It must align with the guidance from the National Office of the Society, and the National Office must review and approve it.

Q10. Will the National Office have to approve the new eligibility criteria if a chapter adopts to use an application for membership?
Yes. The criteria included in an application for membership as outlined in Article III, Section 3, a), 3, d will need to be submitted to the National Office and be approved prior to implementation.

Q11. If a chapter decides to change its definition of top 20%, what is the recommended timeline for implementation?

The National Office recommends the following timeline.

Sept 30, 2020	Bylaw vote
Oct 2020-May 2021	Chapter develops new criteria, adopts into chapter bylaws, and publishes the new criteria to students
May to June 2021	Submission and approval by National Office
Fall 2021	First use of new criteria

Q12. Our chapter decided to use an application as part of its eligibility determination. Is leadership in a pharmacy organization only deemed a sufficient criterion?

No. Leadership in pharmacy alone is recognized by other organizations. Additional criteria in an application for the Rho Chi Society must be explicit, observable, and measurable and related to the Rho Chi mission of critical inquiry and intellectual leadership.

Q13. Does the bylaw change leave room for subjectivity in the eligibility criteria?

No. Criteria used for Rho Chi Society eligibility must be explicit, observable, and measurable.

Q14. What are some examples of critical inquiry and intellectual leadership that may be used as criteria in an application process?

Examples of critical inquiry may include scientific publications, posters or podia, and examples of intellectual leadership may include project/program content development for research and conferences as well as school/college-wide seminars or student debates.

Q15. Do schools/colleges have to be accredited to have a Rho Chi chapter?

Yes, the school/college must have Accredited or Accreditation status.