***Information & Membership Application Form – Nurse Leader***

**Philosophy and Purpose**

**I. Philosophy of Membership Eligibility**

Philosophy of membership eligibility is consistent with the purposes of Sigma Theta Tau. Awarding membership encourages, fosters and actively supports further professional development, thus promoting nursing scholarship, leadership, research, creativity, and commitment to nursing, fulfilling the purposes of the honor society.

The honor society endeavors to seek out and recognize all students in baccalaureate or higher degree nursing programs who have demonstrated ability in nursing as evidenced by superior academic achievement. Personal achievement of the purposes of this society is a developmental process; therefore, individuals who do not meet the eligibility requirements as undergraduate students may emerge to meet the requirements later in their graduate program or professional careers as nurse leaders. The growth of the society and its continued support of the purposes are reflected through the membership selection process.

**II. Purpose of the Honor Society**

A. Recognize superior achievement and scholarship
B. Recognize the development of leadership qualities
C. Foster high professional standards
D. Encourage creative work
E. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession.

(*Extracted and reviewed 9/26/11 from www. 
http://www.nursingsociety.org/Membership/ApplyNow/Pages/mem_criteria.aspx)
Candidates shall have demonstrated superior scholastic achievement, evidence of professional leadership potential and/or marked achievement in the field of nursing.

Candidates shall be elected from students, 1) enrolled in baccalaureate and masters programs which have been accredited by the nationally recognized accrediting body for professional nursing, 2) post-master, doctoral and post-doctoral nursing programs, 3) outstanding community nursing leaders.

In the basic programs students shall have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point scale or its equivalent. Basic students who are elected shall rank not lower than the highest 35% of their class in scholarship.

Candidates of graduate study are eligible for membership if they have achieved a grade-point average significantly higher than the minimum requirement for graduation (3.5).

Nurse leader candidates must be legally recognized to practice nursing in his/her country, have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, and demonstrate achievement in nursing.

All candidates are required to be present at the induction ceremony to be inducted.

Candidates shall be considered without regard to race, age, sex, creed, or color.

Candidates shall pay all Honor Society fees before admission to membership. After your application is accepted you will receive a form to complete and send in along with dues. There are both (1.) National dues and (2.) Local dues

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Complete application form; obtain two letters of endorsement, and official transcription of your grades sent from the Registrar directly to the Nursing Office.  
*For consideration all materials must be in the Nursing Office by the February 15th deadline.*

Students who meet the application criteria will be invited to join the Pi Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

**NOTE: You will be notified in March of your eligibility by letter and email and invited to join the International Organization of Sigma Theta Tau.**

**You must respond to the email, by joining and paying dues and induction fee in order to be inducted.**
Examples of Nurse Leader Achievements in Nursing:

- Creativity/Innovation in clinical practice
- Leadership qualities contributing to improved health care
- Teaching
- Administration
- Curriculum development
- Improvement of the status of nursing organizations
- Innovative student-focused learning approaches
- Research development utilization
- Entrepreneurial skills
- Staff development
- Mentoring of colleagues
- Innovative professional recognition of programs

List of Sample Achievements from Previous Candidate Forms:

- Nursing faculty member for 23 years
- Writing articles for Nursing Spectrum magazine
- Recognized for outstanding care of treating special patients in Saudi Arabia
- Adjunct instructor, write monthly health columns for local newspaper
- Began precepting newer nurses
- Developed classes to help educate the staff on certain areas
- In charge of a 24 bed open heart surgery unit
- Team leader of a critical care ambulance
- Care of indigent, homeless, migrant patients
- Developed and ran nursing health education services for rural education
- Increased nursing services with Medicaid grants
- Team researcher in Distance Learning Project
- Reviewer of "The Journal of Nursing Education"
- Forensic nurse who forged collaboration between police, rape crisis interviewers and medical teams
- Expert witness in area of forensic medical evaluations
- Senior leadership as a nurse in the Navy for 33 years
- Received military medal for excellence
- Spoke at a convention of a national organization
- Advocates for the profession in state government
- Received award from AANP (or other national organization)
- Nominated as Nurse of the Year by ________ organization
- Served on various task forces, staff retention teams, and councils
- Held executive offices in nursing organizations
- Served as an undergraduate curriculum committee representative
- Experienced lecturer on topic of expertise
- Developed cancer screening programs to meet the needs of the under insured and those in rural communities
- Serve on the board of directors of nursing or other organization
- Worked on developing policy, procedures and nurse position statements to improve patient care

Membership Intent Form
Pi Epsilon at Large Nursing Honor Society

NURSE LEADER

CRITERIA: Nurses legally recognized to practice nursing in his/her country, have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, and demonstrate achievement in nursing.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

(Last) (First) (Middle initial)

Present Address: ___________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ E-mail Address:____________________

FORMAL EDUCATION: Education (include basic preparation through highest degree earned).
Note: This application should not be submitted if you are currently enrolled in a nursing degree program, do not hold a baccalaureate degree or equivalent or are not legally recognized to practice nursing in your country.

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

EXPERIENCE: Describe your professional experience and achievements in nursing, plus how you have contributed to the honor society's vision to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people.

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Candidate’s Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Please submit this form and:

1. Membership Vitae, which includes formal education, professional work experiences, community participation, publications, papers presented, grants received, teaching activities. Please include a description of present and most recent contributions in nursing and future professional goals.

2. Two letters of endorsement
   The letters of endorsement can be from nursing faculty, other nurses in leadership roles, or active Sigma Theta Tau International members.
Membership Vitae

Name: ____________________________________________

(Last)  (First)  (Middle Initial)

Schools Attended:  Degree  Year

Work Experience (Past 10 Years):

Professional Memberships:

Recent Research, Publications:

Scholarly Activities

Type of Activity  Form of Dissemination

(Please feel free to use extra pages to complete Membership Vitae.)
Endorsement for Membership
Pi Epsilon-at-Large Nursing Honor Society

NURSE LEADER

DEFINITION: An endorsement is a letter supporting an individual for membership* in the nursing honor society. Two endorsements per individual are necessary in order for an application to be considered by the Honor Society Eligibility Committee. At least one of the two endorsements is required to be from a member of the nursing faculty.

This endorsement enables the candidate to be considered for membership. The Eligibility Committee of the honor society invites your letter of endorsement supporting the following individual for membership:

_____________________________________ is applying for membership in the
_____________________________________ Nursing Honor Society

On the basis of this individual’s achievement and my knowledge of the purposes of the honor society, I heartily endorse this individual for membership in the nursing honor society.

Signature ____________________________ Date ______________

Position ___________________________________________________________________

Relationship to Applicant _____________________________________________________

Are you a member of Sigma Theta Tau International?  Yes ________  No___________

If yes, please indicate the chapter ____________________________________________

Comments: (if desired) _______________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

* THE NURSE LEADER CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE AS FOLLOWS: Nurses legally recognized to practice nursing in his/her country, have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, and demonstrate achievement in nursing.

11/6/11 pg:jd
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11/6/11 pg:jd