



Mu Alpha Theta

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND TWO-YEAR COLLEGE
MATHEMATICS HONOR SOCIETY

c/o University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm Ave., Room 1102, Norman, Oklahoma 73019-3103
405-325-4489, FAX 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 1700 chapters in the United States and eleven 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 Secretary-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.

Mu Alpha Theta provides the following:

1. Individual Membership Certificates, membership cards and School Charters issued by the National Secretary-Treasurer. Member names remain in the National Database for membership verification.
2. Full 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 is sent free to new chapters.

4. The Spring and Fall Newsletter containing current chapter news, news of regional and national meetings, ideas from chapter meetings, and similar items of interest to the membership.

5. Insignia pins, buttons, charms, patches, banners, small seals, medallions, ID holder and key chain, 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. Chapters are encouraged to make suggestions to the national officers concerning additional projects which they would like to see carried out. A sincere effort is made to be as helpful as possible.

9. 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 may petition to have a chapter, providing it meets the following minimum requirements:

1. At least six semesters of mathematics including geometry and more advanced topics must be offered. These requirements can not be fulfilled by courses in general mathematics, business mathematics, shop mathematics, or arithmetic.
2. During the two semesters preceding that in which a petition is submitted, the school must have employed 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.
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 full 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 a chapter fail to be approved; the chapter can still be approved by a favorable two-thirds vote of the Governing Council. Each petitioning institution will be notified as soon as possible whether or not a charter has been granted. This takes a week or less.

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) Full Membership: High school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed the equivalent of four semesters of mathematics, Algebra 1 and up, and in addition have completed or are enrolled in a still more advanced course, are eligible for full membership providing their mathematical work was done with

distinction (on a 4 point grading scale this shall mean at least a 3.0 average).

(b) Associate Membership: High school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed two semesters of algebra or their equivalent with distinction and who have enrolled in a third semester of mathematics are eligible for associate membership. Associate members do not pay the \$10.00 Registration Fee but should be registered with the National Office, if they wish to compete in national contests or our convention. They are not entitled to vote on national policy. They are entitled to attend and be heard at meetings and, presumably, are likely candidates for full membership.

IV. National Finances

There shall be no national annual dues. A one-time Registration Fee of \$10.00 per full member shall be paid to the national Secretary-Treasurer for each person initiated into full membership, whereupon the secretary-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 Secretary-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 (Secretary-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 full member initiates, accompanied by their \$10.00 Registration Fee, must be received by the office of the Secretary-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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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 charter is approved, certificates and materials can be sent out.

The undersigned hereby petitions that _____
(School Name)

(Address)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

(Phone Number) (Fax Number) (Email Address)

be granted a charter. The following information is submitted to guide the President and Governor in determining the eligibility of the school.

- 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.
- 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

- Name of sponsoring faculty member whose primary teaching field is mathematics and who has completed an undergraduate mathematics major or its equivalent.

Major field of teacher: _____

Highest degree completed: _____

Year: _____ 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: _____

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

This petition is approved by the principal of the school.

(Signature of Faculty Sponsor)

(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 can be emailed to matheta@ou.edu or 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 full membership in Mu Alpha Theta and have been declared Charter Members

Faculty Sponsor

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