

## What do I need to know about joining Phi Kappa Phi?

**Q: When is the deadline?**

A: Because we are starting the invitation process quite late in the term, we are leaving our online acceptance site open until **Friday, June 30, 2023**. You must accept your invitation and pay the membership fee by that date or you will forfeit your invitation. Regardless of what might be indicated on the national website, there will be no extensions if you miss this deadline.

**If the following recognitions are important to you, you must join earlier.**



Our induction ceremony will be held on Thursday evening, March 30, 2023, in the Magnolia Ballroom. If you would like to participate in this ceremony, you must accept your invitation and pay the membership fee by **Wednesday, March 29, 2023**, to give us time to prepare programs and other materials for the ceremony.



Phi Kappa Phi is typically indicated in the commencement program with a mark by your name. If you are participating in May commencement and would like this mark included in the program, you must join no later than **Friday, April 14, 2023**, in order for us to meet our deadline with the printer. We will not be able to make any updates after that date.

**Q: I get a lot of invitations to honor societies. What makes this one different?**

A: The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest all-discipline honor society in the country and one of the most recognized collegiate-level honor societies. It is one of four members in the elite national Honor Society Caucus, two of which – Phi Kappa Phi and Omicron Delta Kappa – have chapters on our campus.

**Q: How were new members selected?**

A: Graduate students must be in the top 10% of their class by college and have earned at least 18 graduate hours at Georgia College to qualify for membership. Seniors must also be in the top 10% of their class by college and have earned at least 24 hours at Georgia College and 90 hours overall. Juniors must be in the top 7.5% of their class by college, have earned 24 hours at Georgia College, and have earned at least 72 hours overall.

Each year, the exact gpas required to join are different because they are based on the students currently in each class. The minimum gpas that were required to join in Spring 2023 were:

College	Juniors (7.5%)	Seniors (10%)	Graduate (10%)
Arts & Sciences	3.93	3.90	4.0
Business	3.87	3.80	4.0
Education	4.0	3.90	4.0
Health Science	3.95	3.88	4.0

**Q: I'm graduating in May or August. Can I still join?**

A: Yes, that is actually the case for most of our invited students. It is perfectly acceptable to join the same term you are graduating

**Q: What kind of time commitment does PKP require?**

A: Phi Kappa Phi is, above all else, an honor society. Our purpose is to recognize you for your impressive academic accomplishments. Our chapter holds a meeting each Fall and Spring semester, primarily for the purpose of sharing information about scholarships and other opportunities from Phi Kappa Phi. These meetings are not required. There is no other requirement of membership.

The Phi Kappa Phi National Office provides some excellent leadership development programs for students who would like to pursue them. You can learn more about these opportunities on the national website: [www.phikappaphi.org](http://www.phikappaphi.org)

**Q: I already joined Phi Kappa Phi at a different institution. Do I need to join again?**

A: No. Once you're a member of Phi Kappa Phi, you're always a member, so there's no need to join again. However, if you want to apply for any award that requires our chapter's sponsorship, you will need to change your membership from the college where it was awarded to our chapter. There

is an option in the members area of the Phi Kappa Phi national web site that allows you to make this change.

**Q: Should I choose the year-long membership or the member-for-life option?**

A: For most students, the year-long membership is adequate. If you are considering a career in academia, you might be interested in the member-for-life option. If you work at any institution that has a Phi Kappa Phi chapter, this will allow you to transfer your membership to that institution's chapter and will likely save you money in the long-run. You can also switch to a member-for-life option later in your career.

**Q: I cannot afford to pay the induction fee. Is financial assistance available?**

A: Yes, there is. Please send a short email explaining your situation to our chapter president, Dr. John Swinton at [john.swinton@gcsu.edu](mailto:john.swinton@gcsu.edu). The chapter typically provides stipends for up to four students each year. If you are requesting assistance, do not start your acceptance online until you receive a special code from Dr. Swinton.

**Q: When is the induction ceremony?**

A: The ceremony will be Thursday, March 30, 2023, in the Student Activities Center Magnolia Ballroom. Inductees must check in at the Maple Room (behind the Magnolia Ballroom) by 6:00 PM. We will explain the ceremony to you at that time, and we will also make sure we know how to pronounce your name.

Again, please note that you must accept your invitation to membership by Wednesday, March 29, in order to participate in the induction ceremony.

**Q: How long does the induction ceremony last?**

A: Our induction ceremony is usually fairly short. Most end after about 30 minutes. We will have some light refreshments and social time afterwards, but if you have invited out-of-town guests, you might want to plan an activity, like dinner downtown, afterward.

**Q: What should I wear to induction?**

A: Induction is business-casual, so no t-shirts or shirts with product graphics, jeans, flip-flops, or shorts.

**Q: Can I invite others to attend the induction ceremony?**

A: Yes, even if you did not note it on your acceptance form. We have plenty of room for guests.

**Q: I can't attend the induction ceremony. Can I still join the society?**

A: Yes, you can still join. You are not required to attend the induction ceremony.

**Q: If I do not accept this invitation, will I have another opportunity to join Phi Kappa Phi in the future?**

A: Maybe, but maybe not. Georgia College invites members each Spring semester. If you will be enrolled as a degree-seeking student during another spring term and your grade point average meets the minimum required at that time, you will receive another invitation.

**Q: Do I receive honor cords or recognition at commencement?**

A: Yes. You will receive a medallion that you may wear as part of your regalia. If you participate in induction, you will receive your medallion then. You may also pick it up beginning Friday, March 31, 2023, in the Registrar's Office, Parks Hall 107, by bringing a printed copy of your membership acceptance receipt with you. (Your invitation to membership will not be sufficient. We need to see that you accepted the invitation.) You may also give someone else written permission to pick your medallion up for you. Any medallions that are not picked up in person will be mailed at the beginning of July. We are very sorry, but we currently do not have the staff available to track or mail individual medallions prior to that date.

**Q: I see that there are additional recognition items available on the website. Can I order those too?**

A: Yes, if you are an undergraduate. Graduate students typically do not wear stoles or cords, so it would be highly unusual to wear anything more than your medallion.

**Q: When do I receive my certificate and pin?**

A: These will be mailed from the national office of Phi Kappa Phi after you complete your membership acceptance online. Our local chapter does not distribute certificates or pins, regardless of what might be indicated on the national website.

**Q: How can I tell if my membership fee was accepted?**

A: You will receive an email confirmation from Phi Kappa Phi within at least one business day after completing the registration. Be sure to check your spam filter and junk folders for the confirmation email.

**Q: I am having problems with the website (cannot tell that my payment went through, issues accessing my account). What do I do?**

A: Contact the National Office at [join@phikappaphi.org](mailto:join@phikappaphi.org).

## Contact Information

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