

PETITION PROCEDURE TO (RE)ESTABLISH A ΣΠΣ CHAPTER

The following materials should be completed and returned by email to sigmapisigma@aip.org.

Sigma Pi Sigma chapters can exist only at accredited institutions that offer a bachelor's degree in physics, astronomy, astrophysics, applied physics, or a closely allied major. There must also be a chapter of SPS at that institution. This petition form is relevant for chapters that did not petition for a chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma when they petitioned for their SPS chapter. It can also be used to petition for reactivation of a Sigma Pi Sigma chapter which has fallen into an extended period of inactivity.

1. Fill out the petition form attached. Petitioners should be eligible for induction into the honor society as laid out in Article VII of the [SPS and ΣΠΣ Constitution](#).
2. A current copy of the SPS Chapter Bylaws is required to review a petition for establishing a ΣΠΣ chapter. The section dealing with the selection of inductees and all other processes for your Sigma Pi Sigma chapter must comply with the SPS and ΣΠΣ Constitution. [Sample chapter bylaws](#) are available.
3. A copy of the course catalogue of the petitioning institution, or a link to the online catalogue. If the institution's course catalogue is online, it is not necessary to send a physical copy with the petition. The catalogue is used to document that the institution meets requirements for Sigma Pi Sigma chapters as defined in Article VII of the SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma Constitution.
4. A letter from the Chair of the Physics or Astronomy Department (or of the department responsible for physics and/or astronomy instruction) indicating willingness to support a Sigma Pi Sigma chapter and appoint an appropriate faculty member or advisor.



Processing of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Petition & Important timelines

- Once the completed petition packet is received by the SPS National office, the petition will be routed for approval as described by the SPS National Constitution: the documents will be reviewed either by the SPS & Sigma Pi Sigma Director, or by the SPS Executive Committee.
 - The petitioners will be notified with a decision within two weeks of receipt of the completed petition packet.
 - Upon approval of the chapter, the chapter advisor will be provided chapter administration instructions, including login information. **At least three weeks before the induction ceremony and chapter installation is scheduled**, the advisor will enter inaugural members of the honor society chapter in the Sigma Pi Sigma online induction system portal and arrange for payment of induction fees:
<https://students.aip.org/sigma-pi-sigma/induction>
NOTE: Each Sigma Pi Sigma inductee receives one full year of membership in the Society of Physics students (or an additional year if already a member)
 - The SPS National Office will arrange for a charter document to be prepared. The charter document will be presented to the chapter at the time of the inaugural induction and chapter installation.
5. Once the inductees are entered into the Sigma Pi Sigma induction portal and have completed all required information and payment arrangements are made, the SPS National Office will prepare a set of induction reception items for each inductee. The set (for each inductee) includes:
- An official Sigma Pi Sigma lapel pin
 - An official Sigma Pi Sigma membership card with chapter name and induction date
6. A membership certificate (shingle), suitable for framing
- Materials elucidating the benefits of Sigma Pi Sigma membership

Action	Recommended lead time before date of chapter installation and inaugural induction ceremony
Submit complete petition for review	Minimum of 6 weeks <i>This allows time for review of petition and preparation of chapter charter and for arrangements for a representative of the SPS National office to be present to serve as the installing officer at the chapter installation</i>
Enter names of inaugural inductees into online induction portal	Minimum of 8 weeks <i>This allows time for inductees to accept the invitation and for induction materials to be prepared and shipped to the institution.</i>

QUALIFICATION SHEET FOR INSTITUTIONS PETITIONING TO ESTABLISH A SIGMA PI SIGMA (ΣΠΣ) CHAPTER

Contact Information

1. Name of Institution _____

2. Department Name _____

3. Institution Address _____

Please indicate preferred mailing AND shipping address (if different) Include City, State and Zip

4. Departmental Phone _____

Institutional Information

Highest degree in physics or astronomy offered by the Institution ☐ AAS ☐ BS/BA ☐ MS ☐ PhD

Type of Institution (university, four-year college, two-year college, etc.)

By what accrediting agencies is the Institution approved?

Approximate number of majors (or equivalent) by status:

Undergraduates _____

Graduate Students _____

Number of students on campus:

Undergraduates _____

Graduate Students _____

Number of faculty members in the department: _____

Check all that apply about the institution (for demographics data collection only) (optional information)

- ☐ Historically Black College / University (HBCU)
- ☐ Minority Institution
- ☐ Native American-Serving, Nontribal Institution
- ☐ Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution
- ☐ Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI)

- ☐ Alaska Native-Serving Institution
- ☐ American Indian Tribally Controlled College/University
- ☐ Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI)
- ☐ High Hispanic Enrollment Institution
- ☐ Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)

Chapter Administration Information

Is the Physics or Astronomy Department (or the department responsible for physics and/or astronomy instruction) willing to sponsor the chapter and have the appropriate institutional groups given approval? _____

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Advisor appointed by the Department Chair: Contact information

(please print or type)

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Advisor Name: _____

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Advisor Phone _____

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Advisor E-mail Address _____

Sigma Pi Sigma Advisor Signature _____

Department Chair: Contact information

(please print or type)

Department Chair Name: _____

Department Chair Phone _____

Department Chair E-mail Address _____

Department Chair Signature _____

The Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Officers Contact Information:

Note: Officers must be eligible for Sigma Pi Sigma induction, to be inducted as inaugural members upon chapter installation

Please print names and list preferred email contact

President: _____ email address: _____

Vice President: _____ email address: _____

Secretary: _____ email address: _____

Treasurer: _____ email address: _____

Signature of Chapter Secretary

PETITION TO THE SIGMA PI SIGMA NATIONAL OFFICE

I, the undersigned representative of the instruction staff, alumni, or student leader at

(Name of Institution)

, sharing an interest in physics and astronomy and believing in the worth and objectives of the Sigma Pi Sigma, the national physics and astronomy honor society, do hereby signify our desire to be granted a charter of this Society. If this charter is granted, we do hereby agree at all times to comply with and abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of Sigma Pi Sigma in the organization and conduct of the chapter.

Signed, this _____ day of _____, 20__

Signature

(print or type name under signature)

Classification

*Faculty - academic title; Student – Graduation
year; Alumni - Position*