

Tennessee Checklist for Updating Chapter Rules
(September 2023)

Below is the new wording from adoption of amendments at the 2022 International Convention that are most likely to have a direct impact on chapter rules:

Membership

- Membership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International shall be by invitation. At the time she joins the Society, a member becomes a member of the international Society, a state organization, and a chapter.
- Reserve membership shall be granted only to a member who is unable to participate fully in the activities of the chapter because of medical disability, geographical location, and/or no technological connection/skill.
- A chapter honorary member shall be a woman not eligible for active membership who has rendered notable service to education or to women and is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service.
- Collegiate members shall be undergraduate or graduate students who meet the following criteria:
 - a. Bachelor student collegiate members shall
 - (1) be enrolled in an institution offering coursework leading to a career in education; and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education; and
 - (2) be enrolled within the last two years of their bachelor's education degree.
 - b. Graduate/Masters/Doctoral student collegiate members shall have Graduate/Masters/Doctoral standing in an institution offering coursework in the field of education; and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education.

When a collegiate member starts her career as a paid educator, she will pay active member dues and become an active member. If a collegiate member does not pursue a career as an educator, her membership will expire upon graduation or withdrawal from the education degree program.

Dues and Fees

- New members shall become members when dues are paid.
- New members who join between July 1 and December 31 shall pay full international dues for the current fiscal year.
- New members who join between January 1 and March 31 shall pay half dues.
- New members joining between April 1 and June 30 shall pay full international dues for the ensuing year.
- Reinstated members shall pay full annual dues whenever reinstated.
- Chapter dues may be pro-rated as the chapter determines.
- Remove Induction fees (Induction fees were eliminated from the *Constitution* - Article IV. B.1. and ISR 4.21).

Below is the wording from adoption of amendments at the 2018 International Convention for chapters which have not updated chapter rules since 2018:

State Organization Name

- The name of this state organization shall be **The Tennessee State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (hereby referred to as the Tennessee State Organization).**
- The link for the Tennessee State Organization website is: tndkg.org
- The name of the Tennessee State Organization newsletter is the *DKG Tennessee News*.

Membership

- Active members shall be women who are **or have been** employed as a professional educator at the time of her election.
- The chapter method for selecting candidates for membership must be stated in the chapter rules.
- The word initiation becomes **induction** wherever it appears in the document.
- The membership year is July 1 - June 30.
- Chapters will decide if they will have an induction ceremony.
- Reserve membership shall be granted only to a member who is unable to participate fully in the activities of the chapter because of medical disability, geographic location, and/or no technological connection/skill. Reserve status shall be granted by a majority vote of the chapter.
- Every Tennessee chapter shall maintain a continuous record of the status of each of its members. Chapter minutes must include the names of members terminated, those asking to resign, and those seeking reserve status, including the reason and date action was taken.

Dues and Fees

- Annual dues and fees must be paid to the chapter treasurer by June 30 for the following fiscal year.
- Non-payment of dues and fees will result in termination of membership.

Treasurer's Duties

- Chapter Treasurers will maintain an accurate and current membership roster.

Chapter Meetings

- Chapter meetings may be face-to-face, through electronic communications, or a combination of the two as long as members may hear and actively participate in the meeting.
- Matters needing immediate action may be voted upon by mail or electronically. A majority vote of chapter members is required for this action.
- Ratification of mail voting must be made at the next face-to-face meeting.
- No proxy voting.

International Committee Reports

- Reports requested from state organizations and chapters shall be submitted in the format specified by Society Headquarters.

Committees

- Projects - Delete CIEC (Children’s International Education Center).
- Projects – Delete the term “high school” in annual Essay Contest.
- Projects- change “Governor’s Books from Birth Initiative” to Governor’s Early Literacy Foundation”
- Communication – Delete “website” and insert “social media presence” since there are other effective means of communication such as Facebook, Twitter (X), or Instagram.
- Communication – change name of committee from “Communications and Publicity” to “Communications and Marketing” to align with state and international.

The Tennessee State Bylaws and Rules Committee recommends the inclusion of an automatic update statement to chapter rules. For example:

“ _____ Chapter (insert chapter name) rules shall be amended automatically by the _____ (insert the group responsible for making these changes in your chapter: chapter rules committee, executive committee, etc.) to comply with the *Constitution, International Standing Rules*, and the *Tennessee State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules*. Notice of automatic updates shall be published _____ (insert where the chapter will publish the updates, for example: the Fall Chapter Newsletter or on Chapter website or other chapter publication).”

Note: this addition requires a vote of the chapter membership.