

Exception Guidelines For Membership Eligibility

I. Students in Basic Program

Reference 2007-2009 International Bylaws, Article III, Section 2: Membership eligibility is determined by participation in a baccalaureate or equivalent nursing degree program, achieving academic excellence (defined as having a grade point average [GPA] of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale when GPA systems are used), a ranking of not lower than the top 35% and completion of one-half of the nursing curriculum. Students must demonstrate academic achievement, academic integrity and professional leadership potential.

- A. Exception Clause - Exceptions may be made to one of the following membership criteria at the discretion of the chapter's governance committee when all other criteria have been met.
1. Academic Achievement – Students that have a cumulative grade point average below 3.0 or an equivalent of this measure but have a *nursing* major grade point average of 3.0 or higher or the equivalent of this measure.
OR
 2. Class Rank – Students that have a grade point average that is below the upper 35%.
OR
 3. Curriculum – Students that fall slightly short of completing at least one-half of the required curriculum.
- B. Time Limitation Exception - Students in the basic program may be considered under the student criteria up to one year following graduation.

II. Students in Graduate Programs

Reference 2007-2009 International Bylaws, Article III, Section 2: Membership eligibility is determined by participation in an accredited program of graduate study in nursing including master, post-master, doctoral and post-doctoral, having achieved academic excellence (defined as having a GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale when GPA systems are used) and completion of a minimum of one-quarter of the graduate curriculum. Students must demonstrate academic achievement, academic integrity and professional leadership potential.

- A. Exception Clause - Exceptions may be made to one of the following membership criteria at the discretion of the chapter's governance committee when all other criteria have been met.
1. Academic Achievement – Students that have a cumulative grade point average slightly below 3.5 or the equivalent of this measure.
OR
 2. Curriculum – Students that lack a few credits of completing at least one-quarter of the required curriculum.
- B. Time Limitation Exception - Students in the graduate program may be considered under the student criteria up to one year following.

- III. **Exception Limit** – In any one induction period, exceptions may not exceed ten (10) percent of the total number of inductees.