



# *Individual Awards*

## 2026 SUBMISSION GUIDE

## AWARDS QUICK LINKS

To proceed directly to the application for each award, click on the blue hyperlinked name of each award in the lists below.

You can read more about each award's description and criteria starting on page 4.

### INDIVIDUAL ALUMNAE AWARDS

- [Alumnae Appreciation Award](#)
- [Award of Achievement](#)
- [Outstanding Dedication Award](#)
- [Real. Strong. Women. of Distinction Award](#)
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### INDIVIDUAL COLLEGIATE AWARDS

- [Amy DuBois Rieth Emerging Leader Award](#)
- [Estelle Leonard Outstanding Senior Award](#)
- [Outstanding Collegiate Chapter Advisor Award](#)
- [Outstanding Collegiate Positional Advisor Award](#)
- Outstanding Fraternity/Sorority Advisor Award (*no application*)

### LOCAL HOUSE CORPORATION AWARDS

- [Local House Corporation Collaboration Award](#)
- [Outstanding Local House Corporation Volunteer Award](#)

## INTRODUCTION

This guide includes everything you need to know about individual collegiate and alumnae awards and is your guide to the awards process. Full descriptions of each award and all application links are available throughout this guide.

## ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for an award, an Alpha Chi Omega member must be in good standing with the Fraternity and remain in good standing throughout the awards review and selection process.

Nominators must also be Alpha Chi Omega members in good standing.

## TIMELINE

**All applications must be submitted by Sunday, November 16, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. EST / 10:59 p.m. CST / 9:59 p.m. MST / 8:59 p.m. PST.**

Start early, save often! Don't wait until the last minute to work on award applications. Take the time allotted to answer the questions thoughtfully and thoroughly.

Individuals who have been selected as award winners will be notified throughout spring and summer.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applications must be completed through the Smarter Select system. Application links are available as quick links on page two of this guide, as well as with each award description throughout this guide. You will be prompted to create a Smarter Select account (or log into your existing account) when you click to create a new nomination for an award.

Carefully read the criteria and requirements for the various awards. These requirements are strictly followed.

Self-nominations are welcomed and encouraged!

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

If you have questions about **alumnae awards**, please contact [Laura Knobel](#), assistant director of lifetime engagement.

If you have questions about **collegiate awards**, please contact [Madison Smith Popa](#), associate director of education and leadership initiatives.

## INDIVIDUAL ALUMNAE AWARDS

### ALUMNAE APPRECIATION AWARD

#### **Award Description**

The Alumnae Appreciation Award recognizes an alumna who has given many volunteer hours to Alpha Chi Omega faithfully and unselfishly through the years. Nominees should have provided sustained and outstanding service to Alpha Chi Omega in areas such as collegiate advising, recruitment assistance, alumnae chapter leadership and participation, collegiate house corporation or property management team participation, or community involvement in the name of Alpha Chi Omega.

#### **Award Requirements**

Nominees must be Alpha Chi Omega alumnae members in good standing. Women who have served in elected or National Council-appointed positions at the national level are not eligible for this award for five years after completion of their national term(s) of office.

#### **Nomination Form Questions**

1. Please provide a summary of the nominee's service to Alpha Chi Omega over the years (volunteer roles, advisory board and house corporation involvement, Foundation participation, honors and awards received, etc.) – *500 words max*
2. In your own words, please share how you feel the nominee has served Alpha Chi Omega "faithfully and unselfishly." – *500 words max*
3. What would you say has been the nominee's greatest impact on Alpha Chi Omega as an organization? – *250 words max*
4. How would the nominee's Alpha Chi Omega sisters describe her as a person? – *250 words max*
5. Is the nominee currently serving Alpha Chi Omega in a volunteer capacity? If so, please list only her current volunteer role(s) below.

#### **Additional Details**

- This award shares a nomination form with the Outstanding Dedication Award, and nominees may be considered for either award.
- Nominators should be prepared to submit all justification for their nominee directly into the online nomination form fields.
- Nominations will be thoroughly reviewed by a selection committee of alumnae. Winners will be selected and each award recipient will be notified individually.

## AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT

### **Award Description**

The Award of Achievement recognizes outstanding alumnae who have made significant contributions resulting in national or regional recognition in their chosen professional fields, including but not limited to the fine and performing arts, literature, civic affairs, business, education and STEM.

### **Award Requirements**

Nominees must be Alpha Chi Omega alumnae members in good standing.

### **Nomination Form Questions**

1. Please share elements of the nominee's character that justify her recognition as an award winner. – *250 words max*
2. Please share an explanation of how you feel the nominee has set herself apart by rising above the status quo. – *250 words max*
3. Please highlight the nominee's most significant achievements in her chosen profession and/or field of study. – *250 words max*
4. Please list any prior honors or awards the nominee has received. – *100 words max*

### **Additional Details**

- This award shares a nomination form with the Real. Strong. Women. of Distinction Award, and nominees may be considered for either award.
- Nominators should be prepared to submit all justification for their nominee directly into the online nomination form fields.
- Nominations will be thoroughly reviewed by a selection committee of alumnae. Winners will be selected and each award recipient will be notified individually.

## OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AWARD

### **Award Description**

The Outstanding Dedication Award recognizes an alumna who currently gives many volunteer hours to Alpha Chi Omega faithfully and unselfishly. Nominees should currently be providing outstanding service to Alpha Chi Omega in areas such as collegiate advising, recruitment assistance, alumnae chapter leadership and participation, collegiate house corporation or property management team participation, or community involvement in the name of Alpha Chi Omega.

### **Award Requirements**

Nominees must be Alpha Chi Omega alumnae members in good standing. Alumnae who are currently serving on the National Council, National Housing Corporation Board of Directors, Foundation Board of Trustees or Pearl Stone Partners Board of Managers are ineligible for this award.

### **Nomination Form Questions**

1. Please provide a summary of the nominee's service to Alpha Chi Omega over the years (volunteer roles, advisory board and house corporation involvement, Foundation participation, honors and awards received, etc.) – *500 words max*
2. In your own words, please share how you feel the nominee has served Alpha Chi Omega "faithfully and unselfishly." – *500 words max*
3. What would you say has been the nominee's greatest impact on Alpha Chi Omega as an organization? – *250 words max*
4. How would the nominee's Alpha Chi Omega sisters describe her as a person? – *250 words max*
5. Is the nominee currently serving Alpha Chi Omega in a volunteer capacity? If so, please list only her current volunteer role(s) below.

### **Additional Details**

- This award shares a nomination form with the Alumnae Appreciation Award, and nominees may be considered for either award.
- Nominators should be prepared to submit all justification for their nominee directly into the online nomination form fields.
- Nominations will be thoroughly reviewed by a selection committee of alumnae. Winners will be selected and each award recipient will be notified individually.

## REAL. STRONG. WOMEN. OF DISTINCTION AWARD

### **Award Description**

Real. Strong. Women. of Distinction Award winners are Alpha Chi Omegas who are on the road to achieving their dreams – sisters who were inspired by their own Alpha Chi Omega experience to become the best versions of themselves. They are your sisters who are doing great things across the globe and down the street. They are difference makers, risk takers and dream chasers. They're out to make a positive impact on their own lives and on lives around them.

### **Award Requirements**

Nominees must be Alpha Chi Omega alumnae members in good standing.

### **Nomination Form Questions**

1. Please share elements of the nominee's character that justify her recognition as an award winner. – *250 words max*
2. Please share an explanation of how you feel the nominee has set herself apart by rising above the status quo. – *250 words max*
3. Please provide an explanation of how the nominee is making a positive difference in her own life and the lives of others. – *250 words max*
4. What would you say makes the nominee a real, strong woman? – *250 words max*
5. To what degree would you say the nominee attributes her Alpha Chi Omega experience to her success? – *Rank from one (very low) through five (very high) with descriptions*

### **Additional Details**

- This award shares a nomination form with the Award of Achievement, and nominees may be considered for either award.
- Nominators should be prepared to submit all justification for their nominee directly into the online nomination form fields.
- Nominations will be thoroughly reviewed by a selection committee of alumnae. Winners will be selected and each award recipient will be notified individually.

## YOUNG ALUMNA AWARD

### **Award Description**

The Young Alumna Award recognizes an alumna who has been initiated within the past 12 years for her service to Alpha Chi Omega. Nominees should have given outstanding service to Alpha Chi Omega on the local level in several of the following areas: member of a collegiate chapter advisory board; member of a collegiate chapter house corporation or property management team; officer of an alumnae chapter; active involvement in support of a collegiate chapter, in an altruistic project, and/or in community activities in the name of Alpha Chi Omega; submitter of recruitment information for prospective members; and/or participant in the alumnae Panhellenic community.

### **Award Requirements**

Nominees must be Alpha Chi Omega alumnae members in good standing who were initiated within the past 12 years.

### **Nomination Form Questions**

1. Please provide a summary of the nominee's service to Alpha Chi Omega over the years (volunteer roles, advisory board and house corporation involvement, Foundation participation, honors and awards received, etc.) – *250 words max*
2. In your own words, please share how you feel the nominee's service to Alpha Chi Omega has been "outstanding." – *250 words max*
3. How would the nominee's Alpha Chi Omega sisters describe her as a person? – *250 words max*
4. Is the nominee currently serving Alpha Chi Omega in a volunteer capacity? If so, please list only her current volunteer role(s) below.

### **Additional Details**

- Nominators should be prepared to submit all justification for their nominee directly into the online nomination form fields.
- Nominations will be thoroughly reviewed by a selection committee of alumnae. Winners will be selected and each award recipient will be notified individually.



## INDIVIDUAL COLLEGIATE AWARDS

### AMY DUBOIS RIETH EMERGING LEADER AWARD

#### **Award Description**

This award honors a newly initiated Alpha Chi Omega. This real, strong woman should have been initiated no more than 12 months prior to being nominated. This award is designed to honor an emerging leader who has embraced the ideals of Alpha Chi Omega and shows great potential to serve her chapter, her campus and her community.

#### **Award Requirements**

The member must be in good standing with Alpha Chi Omega and must have been initiated no more than 12 months prior to her nomination.

#### **Award Questions**

1. How has the nominee become involved in her chapter? (Remember, involvement in the chapter is not limited to holding a leadership position.) – *400 words max*
2. How is the nominee involved on campus outside of Alpha Chi Omega? – *400 words max*
3. How is the nominee involved in her local community? This can be near campus or her hometown. – *400 words max*
4. In what ways has the nominee demonstrated she has the potential to continue to seek the heights as a leader? – *400 words max*
5. Provide an example of the impact the nominee has already had on her chapter and its members. – *400 words max*

## ESTELLE LEONARD OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD

### **Award Description**

The Estelle Leonard Outstanding Senior Award honors an Alpha Chi Omega senior from a collegiate chapter who best represents the ideals of Alpha Chi Omega. This real, strong woman is actively involved in her chapter, on campus and/or in her community. She clearly lives the values of Alpha Chi Omega and is the personification of what it means to be a real, strong woman.

### **Award Requirements**

The member must be in good standing with Alpha Chi Omega and in her senior academic year.

### **Award Questions**

1. How does the nominee live out each of the five membership standards of Alpha Chi Omega? As a reminder, the five membership standards are academic interest, character, responsibility, leadership and personal development. – *500 words max*
2. How has the nominee demonstrated leadership within her chapter? (Remember, leadership is not limited to leadership positions.) – *400 words max*
3. What campus and community activities does the nominee participate in? – *400 words max*
4. Provide an example of the impact the nominee has had on her chapter and its members. – *300 words max*
5. Describe how the nominee embodies what it means to be a real, strong woman. – *300 words max*

## OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE CHAPTER ADVISOR AWARD

### **Award Description**

This award is presented to an Alpha Chi Omega chapter advisor who embodies our Real. Strong. Women. tagline. This award recognizes a chapter advisor who guides and supports the chapter. This individual should serve as a role model to the chapter while encouraging innovation and motivation.

### **Award Requirements**

The member must be in good standing with Alpha Chi Omega and currently serve as a chapter advisor.

### **Award Questions**

1. Why is the nominee deserving of this honor? – *300 words max*
2. How does this chapter advisor motivate members and encourage innovation? How does she encourage individual chapter members and the chapter as a whole to seek the heights? – *400 words max*
3. In what ways does the nominee serve as a role model for the entire chapter? – *300 words max*
4. Describe how the nominee embodies what it means to be a real, strong woman. – *250 words max*

## OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE POSITIONAL ADVISOR AWARD

### **Award Description**

This award is presented to an Alpha Chi Omega collegiate positional advisor that embodies our Real. Strong. Women. tagline. This award recognizes a positional advisor who guides and supports the chapter in the area that she advises.

### **Award Requirements**

The member must be in good standing with Alpha Chi Omega and currently serve as a positional advisor on a collegiate chapter's advisory board.

### **Award Questions**

1. Why is the nominee deserving of this honor? – *300 words max*
2. How does this positional advisor motivate members and encourage innovation? How does she encourage individual chapter members and the chapter as a whole to seek the heights in the area that she advises? – *400 words max*
3. In what ways does the nominee serve as a role model for the entire chapter? – *300 words max*
4. Describe how the nominee embodies what it means to be a real, strong woman. – *300 words max*

## OUTSTANDING FRATERNITY/SORORITY ADVISOR AWARD

### Award Description

The Outstanding Fraternity/Sorority Award is presented to a campus-based professional advising fraternity and sorority life at an institution with an Alpha Chi Omega chapter. *There is not an application for this award.* Candidates are nominated by Alpha Chi Omega headquarters staff members. If there's an outstanding fraternity/sorority advisor you think we should consider, please email Madison Smith Popa at [msmith@alphachiomega.org](mailto:msmith@alphachiomega.org).

## LOCAL HOUSING CORPORATION AWARDS

### LOCAL HOUSE CORPORATION COLLABORATION AWARD

#### **Award Description**

The Local House Corporation Collaboration Award is presented biennially to recognize a Local House Corporation that partners, collaborates and ensures a positive working relationship with the collegiate chapter.

#### **Award Requirements**

The LHC nominee must have a demonstrated positive working relationship with the collegiate chapter, have conducted work to address the facility needs of the collegiate chapter and have made a concerted effort to maintain a safe and competitive chapter facility.

This award will require a letter of support. If the LHC is nominating the LHC for the award they will need a letter of support from the chapter advisor/facility operations advisor or the chapter president/VP facility operations. If the collegiate chapter is nominating the LHC, they will need a letter of support from one of the LHC board members.

#### **Award Questions**

1. Describe the working relationship between the Local House Corporation and the collegiate chapter and the efforts taken to sustain the relationship. – *400 words max*
2. Describe the initiatives and accomplishments of this Local House Corporation in support of the local collegiate chapter it serves. – *400 words max*
3. Describe the efforts of the Local House Corporation to maintain a safe and competitive chapter facility for the collegiate chapter. – *400 words max*

## OUTSTANDING LOCAL HOUSE CORPORATION VOLUNTEER AWARD

### **Award Description**

The Outstanding Local House Corporation Volunteer Award is awarded biennially to recognize the outstanding volunteerism of an individual local house corporation board member. The volunteer would have demonstrated a positive impact on the work of the local house corporation and/or the collegiate chapter.

### **Award Requirements**

The member must be in good standing with Alpha Chi Omega and currently be a member of a local house corporation.

### **Award Questions**

1. Share why you are nominating this volunteer for this honor. – *400 words max*
2. Provide examples of how this volunteer has had a positive impact on the Local House Corporation and/or the collegiate chapter. – *400 words max*
3. Describe how this volunteer embodies a real, strong woman. – *400 words max*