Removal of Chapter Members or Officers

Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education, was founded in 1911 to foster excellence in education. Today, more than 100 years and 1.2 million members later, the Society still strives to advance quality education by inspiring teachers to prepare all learners for future challenges.

Both students of education and educators are selected for membership in Kappa Delta Pi based on their academic achievement and leadership skills. Members make a pledge to uphold the timeless ideals and values of the Society, which include integrity and a commitment to high standards. During their induction into the Society, members also state that they will “live, so that we may guide young and old to know the truth and love the right. To the fulfillment of these objectives, we pledge our efforts and our faith.”

Given Kappa Delta Pi’s legacy of a membership consisting of individuals who are committed to upholding high standards and serving as role models in the profession, any behavior that is in violation of these values is deemed unacceptable. If at any point a member or officer violates an institution’s student code of conduct, this is cause for dismissal.

If you have concerns that a member or officer may need to be removed from the chapter or chapter office because he or she is not fulfilling a commitment to the chapter or Society, please consult with your chapter officers, counselors, and Regional Chapter Coordinator. KDP Headquarters staff will work with you to mediate the situation or advise you on the proper steps to take. If issues exist that affect a student’s status on campus, including ethical or criminal complaints, those should be brought to the appropriate institutional governing bodies, such as the police or student affairs office.

Removing a Chapter Member

Chapters may enforce an involuntary suspension of membership for cause. According to the KDP Constitution and Bylaws, a 2/3 vote of the chapter executive committee is required for suspension of chapter membership. The KDP Executive Council may further suspend the Society membership with a 2/3 vote of the Council. Inform KDP Headquarters of any actions taken or proposed against a chapter member.

See KDP Constitution and Bylaws, Article VI, Section 3.
Process to Impeach an Officer

1. Three or more officers/members must bring the petition to the attention of the Counselor.

2. The officer in question must be sent an official letter outlining the reasons, approved and signed by the Chapter Counselor, informing him or her that the chapter leaders are asking the officer in question to step down. The letter also states that if the officer does not step down, the impeachment process will begin. The reasons for impeachment must be based on established criteria (refer to the chapter guidebook).

3. The officer must have the opportunity to respond to the charges in writing and/or in person and declare their intention to either step down or proceed to a hearing.

4. If the officer decides not to step down, he or she must have the right to appeal his or her case before an Impartial Committee. The Impartial Committee is comprised of the Chapter Counselor(s), two Executive Committee members, and one or two (to create an odd-numbered committee) faculty members who preferably are Society members. Based on the procedures of Kappa Delta Pi, the only people in attendance at the hearing outside of the Impartial Committee are the counselor, the facilitator, and the officer in question. This committee must decide whether the charges are warranted to proceed with the impeachment process. Individuals who participated in the impeachment request may not serve on this committee. If the committee determines the proposed impeachment to be unwarranted, the process is terminated. A vote for impeachment by the Impartial Committee will pass with a three-fourths majority vote. Consideration must be based only on the documented criteria. The Impartial Committee’s decision is final.

5. Headquarters must be sent an official letter stating that the chapter has voted to impeach the officer or that the officer has chosen to step down or, in the case of a hearing before an Impartial Committee, the outcome of the hearing. This letter also must include the name of the member who will fill the vacant position.