



Mu Chapter, University of Rhode Island
Membership Application & Guidelines 2024-2025
Please make a copy of this application to fill out

The [mission](#) of Phi Lambda Sigma is to support pharmacy leadership commitment by recognizing leaders and fostering leadership development. The society has four major goals:

1. Ensure the continuing availability of student and practitioner leaders for the profession of pharmacy.
2. Acknowledge leadership achievement and award membership to leaders recommended by the Society.
3. Enhance the talent, skill, and effectiveness of leaders for the profession of pharmacy.
4. Support and encourage sustained leadership commitment.

Eligibility

Students at the University of Rhode Island (URI) College of Pharmacy may apply for membership in Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) after the start of their P1 fall semester. Applicants must be in [good academic standing](#) in the College of Pharmacy **at the time of application**.

Application Process

Students should submit their completed applications to the current student president of PLS via email. A completed application includes: name/year/email, letter of intent, essay, description of leadership/service activities and honors/awards, and two completed forms (one from a peer and one from pharmacy faculty/ staff/ supervisor/ advisor).

2024-2025 Contact Information

Megan Senecal, Student President, megan_senecal@uri.edu

Dr. Brothers, Faculty Advisor, tbrothers@uri.edu

Applications are due by Saturday, November 30th 2024

Evaluation Process

The Membership Committee of PLS will be composed of the executive committee plus current members. The committee will be split into four groups to evaluate Parts II, III, IV and V of the application. Each application will be blinded.

The URI College of Pharmacy Office of Student Affairs must confirm that the applicants are in good academic standing at the time of application.

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for choosing the winning essay from the top five essays selected by the PLS executive board. **Student Affairs will notify the winner via email.**

The list of applicants and their reviewed status (accepted or not) must be submitted to the voting members of the PLS Mu Chapter for a vote before applicants may be notified of their acceptance or rejection. The status of the applicants must be supported by two-thirds of their voting members, which includes collegiate, faculty, honorary, and alumni members.

Notification Process

At the end of the Evaluation Process, applicants will be notified via email from the student president as to whether or not they are accepted into the Mu Chapter. The Office of Student Affairs and PLS faculty advisor must be CC'ed on this email. The majority of accepted members are P2 and P3 students, due to evidence of long standing service and leadership to the profession of pharmacy. However, P1 students are still eligible to apply. Any applicant who is not accepted may apply again in the future. Expected notification date: **December 2024.**

Induction Process

Accepted applicants will be inducted in a ceremony attended by current collegiate, faculty, honorary, and alumni members of the Mu Chapter. The date for this event is **January 31st 2025 from 6pm-10pm.** New members will be presented with a pin and certificate from National PLS.

Membership

All accepted applicants will be required to pay a one-time fee of **\$107.50** to cover their membership, certificate, pin, and graduation cords from the National office. This will be due before the induction ceremony. There will be a new membership informational meeting during the week prior.

I. Application Cover Sheet

Please complete the following information:

Name:

Professional Year (P1- P4):

Email Address:

The following is to be completed by the PLS Executive Committee:

Applicant Number: _____

II. Letter of Intent

Please provide two short responses to the following questions. There is a maximum of 200 words per response.

- 1) What are you hoping to gain by becoming a member of Phi Lambda Sigma?*

- 2) What leadership qualities do you possess, and how do you demonstrate them?*

III. Essay

Please respond to the following question in 500 words or less.

- 1) Who has been the most influential leader in your life? What characteristics of a leader have you tried to replicate from this role model? Why are these leadership characteristics important to ensure success as a future pharmacist?*

IV. Leadership, Service, Honors, and Awards

Please delete the examples and complete the tables below to describe your accomplishments, beginning with your freshman year of college until present.

1) Leadership and Service:

Name of activity and/or organization	Role	Dates/Duration	Description
Example: APhA-ASP	Vice President	2021-2022	Worked with APhA president to create meeting agendas, committees, and plan activities for the year.
Example: Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk (APhA-ASP)	Walker/Fundraiser	October 2019 (3 hours) October 2021 (3 hours)	Raised funds and awareness for breast cancer.

2) Honors and Awards

Name of Honor/Award	Organization	Date	Description

V. References

Each applicant should have two references who can highlight their leadership and service to the profession of pharmacy. One reference can be a peer, and the other must be a pharmacy faculty staff member or advisor, or a pharmacy supervisor/employer.

Please provide the following Google Form link to your references so they can submit their recommendation: <https://forms.gle/gipUKtTBA7zqzAzr6>

Recommendations are due by November 30th, 2024. Please give sufficient time to any faculty member or employer to complete these and be mindful of the holiday season.

Please list the names of your references below:

1. Peer Reference:
2. Faculty/Staff/Advisor/Supervisor Reference:

Appendix A: Notes for Applicants

- PLS recognizes commitment to leadership in the profession of pharmacy.
- Some leadership positions may have more weight (i.e. president versus social chair).
- Students with fewer leadership positions (officers, chairs, etc.) can still certainly be accepted if they are very involved as committee members and in service activities.
- Examples of leadership positions:
 - Previous/current officer or committee chair in pharmacy or healthcare organizations
 - Chair/organizer of large pharmacy or healthcare event
 - Student liaison to local, state, or national organizations (i.e. RIPA, RISHP)
 - Student member of a College of Pharmacy committee (i.e. Assessment or Curriculum Committee)
 - Service Learning/IPPEs are required through the College of Pharmacy and should not be listed as volunteer service
 - Paid positions are jobs and are not considered leadership/service; however, you may hold pharmacy or health-related leadership roles and/or complete service activities through your position. For example, you may work for Rite Aid as a pharmacy intern but volunteer to represent Rite Aid at a health fair to raise awareness about hypertension.
 - Although tour guiding, resident assistant/SRA, orientation leaders, RAM, tutors, etc. are paid positions, you may still include them on your application. Not all of these positions are weighted equally due to leadership within each position and pharmacy service.

For PLS Executive Board Only

Appendix B: PLS Mu Chapter Essay Rubric

Rank each aspect of the essay on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the best. In the space below each numeric value you have chosen, explain your reasoning.

Organization and Focus (clear main ideas and supporting details, stays on topic)

1 2 3 4 5

Explanation:

Originality (vivid details, fresh word choice, risk-taking)

1 2 3 4 5

Explanation:

Writer's Voice (consistent throughout, engaging, conveys individual personality)

1 2 3 4 5

Explanation:

Freedom from Error (spelling, grammar, punctuation, usage)

1 2 3 4 5

Explanation:

Overall Success (interesting topic, clearly developed)

1 2 3 4 5

Explanation:

Threshold for acceptable essay: 18/25

Appendix C: PLS Mu Chapter Rubric for Leadership/Service Activities and Honors/Awards

Please rate the applicant with regards to each statement on a scale from 1-5:

1. Strongly disagree
2. Disagree
3. Neither disagree nor agree
4. Agree
5. Strongly Agree

- ➔ The applicant has a considerable amount of leadership experience
- ➔ The applicant has a strong presence within the College of Pharmacy
- ➔ The letters of recommendation include beneficial information to support induction into our chapter
- ➔ The letters of recommendation highlight how the PLS chapter can benefit from membership of the applicant
- ➔ The applicant on paper looks to be outgoing and active member of current professional societies
- ➔ This applicant would be a good fit for our chapter.

◆ *Explain: Why or why not?*

Total the score out of 30 possible points: _____

Average score for membership is 24; does the applicant meet criteria: Yes No

If the applicant is below criteria (score less than 24), please explain their areas of strength and areas for improvement. If you think overall the applicant should still be extended membership despite a score less than 24, please indicate and explain.

Notes: