

Read the OAK Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates



March 2020

Circle Operation Reminders

Spring Initiations and [COVID-19](#)

It is vitally important that circles maintain continuity with officers and circle operations. By completing the initiation process for this year and electing new officers for next year, your circle will be ready for the coming academic cycle. The recognition and development of leaders is more important than ever in this modern era. We encourage you to continue supporting your circle, its current and new members, and its legacy on your campus.

By now, you should have received the notice allowing virtual ceremonies for spring 2020 in response to campus changes related to the coronavirus and COVID-19. We know that many campuses are closed or have limited in-person activity. We understand that completing the selection and initiation process at this time is difficult, if not nearly impossible.

The National Headquarters staff is ready to assist you to complete your recruitment and membership process in the face of this unprecedented disruption. We have developed a number of ways in which the National Headquarters staff is prepared to help you complete the recruitment, selection, and initiation of members this spring. The details can be found at [this link](#). For those of you still in process or just starting for spring 2020, you will receive an email this week from your circle contact about assistance.

Circle Annual Report for FY 2019-20

The FY 2020 Circle Annual Report form is [now open](#).

The Circle Annual Report is required according to the OAK Policies and Procedures Handbook, and it must be completed by each circle. The Circle Annual Report is not just a formality to give circle advisors more work to do. It is a critical information-gathering tool for the Society.

The FY 2020 Circle Annual Report Form is provided through Survey Monkey. There is no password required. We have provided a PDF version of the full report form so circles can gather the necessary information before submitting the report.

In FY 2019, we only had 44% of active circles submit an annual report. We should have 100%, but our goal for FY 2020 is at least 75%.

The deadline for Circle Annual Reports has been extended to Sunday, May 31, 2020.

If you have any questions about the Circle Annual Report, please contact Tim Reed, tim@odk.org.

[Go to the Annual Report](#)

Prepare for Commencement



We know that campuses are still determining when and if they will be able to hold commencement programs. If your campus does have an in-person ceremony, we hope you will encourage your members to consider wearing OΔK regalia to demonstrate their commitment to your circle, the Society, and to principles of leadership.

The OΔK stores offer a great variety of ways for members to celebrate OΔK during and after commencement. Circles can bulk order cords or stoles and save shipping for members. If that is not an option, members can easily order cords, stoles, and spirit wear from our online stores. Tell your members to use the code SAVE10 on shopodk.com for 10% off their entire order when they order a cord or stole.

Shop now at <https://odk.org/odk-store/>.

[Bulk Order Cords and Stoles for Your Circle](#)

News from the National Office

National Headquarters Changes

The OΔK National Headquarters has embraced the national guidance to limit social interaction. Although we are a small staff, we want to honor this call.

From March 18 through April 3, the National Headquarters staff will be using a combination of staggered hours and virtual work strategies. We will make every effort to respond just as quickly to certificate orders, requests for membership assistance, and business inquiries as we do now. We are striving to provide the same quality service.

Our primary email, odknhdq@odk.org, will be monitored at all times as will our toll-free and main office telephone lines: (877) 635-6437 and (540) 458-5336, respectively. Do not hesitate to contact us.

Be safe, be healthy, be caring, and be kind in the days to come.

[OΔK Scholarships](#)

Remind your graduating students that OΔK provides scholarships for graduate and professional school.

We have been asked several times this year if the status of the circle can prevent initiates from applying. The answer is NO! Any initiated collegiate member (undergraduate or graduate) may apply for scholarship. It is a benefit of individual membership.



The deadline for all materials **has been extended to March 31, 2020.**

Help Us Celebrate Your Circle's Members

Has a current collegiate member or recent graduate of your circle received a significant award or honor? If so, please [complete this form](#) with the name of the person and information about the honor. We'll send the person a congratulations note and possibly recognize them in upcoming social media posts.

National Leadership Conference



2020 National Leadership Conference

The Board of Trustees met on March 15, 2020, in a special session and determined that for the benefit of volunteers, members, staff, and all concerned, the most prudent decision is to cancel the 2020 National Leadership Conference in Lexington, Kentucky.

We are currently working with the NLC Planning Team to determine if we could host a virtual conference later in the summer or early fall, drawing on the amazing talent of the presenters who were ready to elucidate, educate, and enlighten our membership. Look for more information in the coming months.

[See OAK Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Updates.](#)

2021 National Leadership Conference Planning Team

We are calling OAK circle advisors, active faculty/staff members, and interested post-collegiate members to serve on the 2021 National Leadership Conference Planning Team. The 2021 National Leadership Conference (NLC) will be held in Williamsburg, Va., jointly hosted by William & Mary and the University of Richmond. Consider joining the team to make the 2021 National Leadership Conference an experience to remember.

For information about positions or general requirements, check out the [NLC webpage](#) or contact:

[Alexis Martinez, 2021 NLC Planning Team Leader, alexismartinez97@gmail.com](mailto:alexismartinez97@gmail.com)

[Tim Reed, OAK National Headquarters, tim@odk.org](mailto:tim@odk.org)

[Apply Now for 2021 NLC Planning Team](#)

Award Nominations

Nominations for National Awards Open

In Omicron Delta Kappa, we believe in recognizing both individuals and circles that demonstrate exceptional leadership across the five phases of campus life and beyond.

We offer a series of awards that honor circles, both for their contributions to their campuses and for their dedication to supporting the national organization. At the individual level, we offer awards that honor students, circle advisors, dedicated members, and friends of OΔK.

Links to each award with nomination information are below:

- [John D. "Jack" Morgan Award for Lifetime Service to Omicron Delta Kappa](#)
- [Eldridge W. Roark, Jr. Meritorious Service Award](#)
- [Cheryl M. Hogle Distinguished Service Award](#)
- [Robert L. Morlan – Robert Bishop Outstanding Circle Officer Award](#)

Deadline for Award Nominations is Tuesday, March 31, 2020

For more information on the awards process, contact Tim Reed, tim@odk.org, (540) 458-5345.

Dates and Deadlines

Dates and Deadlines: March 15-April 14, 2020

- March 31 - Revised Deadline for [OΔK National Scholarship Applications](#)
- March 31 - Deadline for [National Award Nominations](#)
- April 9 - [National Day of Service/National Day of Giving](#) (these dates may change)
- April 10 - National Headquarters Closed

Have your members check out the new spirit wear including having OΔK logo on T-shirts and sweatshirts in your school colors!

<https://www.shopodk.com/>

10% off the entire order with the code "SAVE10"



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Omicron Delta Kappa
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